

NYSERDA opens archery deer hunting at the WNY Nuclear Service Center

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority will offer its annual deer hunting program at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center in the town of Ashford Oct. 1 through Nov. 15.

Approximately 1,500 acres will be open for hunting; participants must register for archery hunting online. Scouting will be available Sept. 21, 25 and 28; participants must register online for scouting. Crossbows will be allowed the last two weeks of archery season (Nov. 2 through 15).

NYSERDA's program is open to anyone with a valid 2019-20 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Big Game or Sportsman License and allows up to 10 hunters per area per day to hunt each scheduled day on a first-come, first-served basis.

Hunters must complete an online West Valley Deer Hunting Application to participate in this year's program from NYSERDA's West Valley deer hunting website.

An application must be completed to participate in NYSERDA's program; preapproval is mandatory. As per DEC regulations, licensed Junior bowhunters (aged 12-13) must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or "youth mentor" who is at least 21 years of age. Junior Hunters (aged 14-15) must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or person 18 years or older. No minors under age 12 will be allowed in the field.

For additional information regarding this program, visit NYSERDA's West Valley deer hunting website NY or contact the Deer Hunting Coordinator, Alita Dueringer, at 942- 9960, extension 4990.