

New 2024 Hunting Game Tag

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Manitoba government has developed and will be distributing new 2024 Hunting Game Tags for use in the fall 2024 hunting season. The new game tag now includes a **biological sample** section to help further enhance Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) monitoring in Manitoba.

I just received green game tags. Can I still use my yellow game tags?

Yes. Game tags, whether green or yellow, are **VALID** provided they have not expired. The expiry year is noted on the right side of both the green and yellow game tags. Hunters cannot use game tags (whether green or yellow) that have expired.

I just received new yellow game tags that show 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027. Are they still valid?

Yes. If you have recently received yellow game tags with the years **2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027** noted on the right side, these are still **VALID** for future hunting seasons and can be assigned to a licence that you are purchasing online.

When can I expect my new green game tags?

The new green game tags are expected to be available in July 2024.

Other than the colour change, what else is new about the new game tag?

Other than the colour change, there is a new biological sample section of the game tag attached at the bottom. The biological sample section of the new game tag will further assist the Wildlife Branch in monitoring for CWD.

I hunt in an area where I am not required to submit any samples of my big game animal. Am I required now required to submit parts of my harvested animal?

No. The biological sample section of the new game tag is for use on harvested deer and elk in province's CWD surveillance zone only. A map of the CWD surveillance zone can be found on page 4 of this FAQ.

I want to hunt deer in the CWD surveillance zone. Does filling out the biological sample section of the new game tag replace the mandatory sample submission receipt form I fill out when I drop off my sample?

No. The new game tag's biological sample section is complementary to the sample submission receipt form. Information regarding the harvest is mandatory. The biological sample section of the new game tag provides hunters an opportunity to record the required information immediately after the kill while still in the field, and is supported by filling out the Wildlife

Sample Receipt Form when the sample is being submitted to a drop-off depot. The hunter's copy of the completed receipt should be retained and is proof that they submitted both the required harvest information **and** the required biological sample.

If I am filling out a mandatory sample submission receipt, why do I need to fill out the new biological sample section of the new game tag?

This biological sample section of the new game tag provides the Wildlife Branch with a quick reference to information regarding the hunter, the animal harvested and the location where it was harvested. By filling out the biological sample section on the new game tag and adding it to your sample when you submit, the Wildlife Branch can scan the barcode to obtain certain information needed for the testing of the sample. The Wildlife Branch can then provide test results quicker to the hunter.

What is the difference between the biological sample section of the new game tag and the mandatory sample submission receipt?

The biological sample section of your game tag is provided as a quick and easy method for you to make note of the required information for CWD sample submission immediately after your harvest. It also provides staff with a simple method to access your contact information through use of a barcode on the game tag. Unfortunately, the information hunters record on the biological sample section of the tag can be difficult to read, especially if it is dirty or covered in blood. The sample submission receipt that hunters fill out at the drop-off depot is proof that you, the hunter, submitted the mandatory information and tissue requirements for elk and deer samples harvested in the sample submission area. This receipt also acts as a back up for the very important information regarding your harvest.

Is it mandatory to submit the biological sample section of the new game tag for elk and deer samples in the CWD surveillance zone?

No. Filling out the biological sample section of the new game tag is voluntary. However, the Wildlife Branch encourages all hunters who are hunting in the CWD surveillance zone to complete and submit the biological sample section of the new game tag. In doing so, you are helping us to improve and enhance CWD monitoring in the province.

If the biological sample section of the new game tag is optional, do the other portions of the game tag still need to be attached?

Yes, the remainder of the game tag must still be completed and attached to the harvested game animal. There are no changes to any other portion of the game tag for 2024.

Is there any part on the biological sample section of the new game tag that I am required to complete?

Yes, you must write the licence number and the species in ink on all portions of the game tag before you go hunting.

Because it is a game tag, does that mean I should only be bringing the entire head in with this tag attached for CWD testing?

No, you are not required to bring in the entire head, only the collected tissues of the biological sample. The biological sample section of the new game tag, once filled out, can be placed inside the sample bag that the collected tissues (retropharyngeal lymph nodes for deer, the obex for elk and the entire lower jaw for both) are placed in, if you have chosen to remove these samples yourself. Alternatively, hunters can bring in the entire head with the game tag attached.

Do I need to use the biological sample section of the new game tag for bear and turkeys in the CWD surveillance zone?

No. The biological sample section of the new game tag is for big game animals (deer and elk) where the mandatory CWD surveillance zone is in effect. If you are hunting a species that doesn't require a sample submission or in an area where no mandatory sample submission is required, you can simply remove that portion of the game tag or leave it blank.

What information should I include on the biological sample section of the new game tag?

You should include the game hunting area (GHA), sex, date of kill and kill location on the biological portion of the new green game tag.

Where can I get more information?

More information on the new 2024 Game Hunting Game Tag can be found by visiting Manitoba.ca/wildlife or by calling 204-945-6784 in Winnipeg or toll free at 1-800-214-6497. Information will also be available in the 2024 Hunting Guide.

CWD Surveillance Zone (Map)

