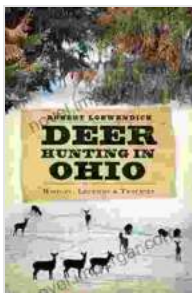


# Deer Hunting in Ohio: History, Legends, and Trophies



## Deer Hunting in Ohio: History, Legends & Trophies

by Robert Loewendick

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Deer hunting is a popular pastime in Ohio, with over 500,000 hunters participating each year. The state has a long and rich history of deer hunting, dating back to the days of the Native Americans. In fact, the word "Ohio" is derived from the Iroquois word "ohi-yo," which means "great river." The Ohio River was a major source of food for the Native Americans, and deer were one of the most important animals they hunted.

The first European settlers to Ohio also hunted deer for food. In the early 1800s, deer were so plentiful in Ohio that they were often considered a nuisance. Farmers would often shoot deer to protect their crops. By the late 1800s, however, deer populations had declined significantly due to overhunting. In 1903, the Ohio legislature passed a law that made it illegal to hunt deer for five years. This law helped to protect deer populations, and by the early 1900s, deer numbers had begun to rebound.

Today, deer hunting is a major industry in Ohio. The state has a population of over 1 million deer, and hunters harvest an average of 200,000 deer each year. Deer hunting is an important part of the Ohio economy, generating over \$1 billion in revenue each year. It is also a popular recreational activity, and many hunters enjoy the challenge of pursuing these elusive animals.

## **Deer Hunting Legends of Ohio**

There are many legends and stories about deer hunting in Ohio. One of the most famous is the story of the "Big Buck of the Black Fork." This deer was a legendary whitetail buck that was said to weigh over 300 pounds. The

deer was killed in 1914 by a hunter named John Baker. Baker's story about killing the buck is still told today, and the deer's antlers are on display at the Ohio State Museum.

Another famous deer hunting legend from Ohio is the story of the "Ghost Deer." This deer was said to be a ghostly white buck that haunted the woods of southern Ohio. The deer was said to be invincible to bullets, and it was said that it could only be killed by a silver bullet. The Ghost Deer was eventually killed in 1921 by a hunter named John Smith. Smith's story about killing the Ghost Deer is still told today, and it is considered one of the most famous deer hunting legends in Ohio.

### **Record-Breaking Deer Trophies from Ohio**

Ohio has produced some of the most impressive deer trophies in the world. The state record for the largest whitetail deer was set in 1943 by a hunter named John M. Helton. Helton's buck weighed 287 pounds and had a rack that scored 225 inches. The current state record for the largest non-typical whitetail deer was set in 2012 by a hunter named Michael F. West. West's buck weighed 270 pounds and had a rack that scored 295 inches.

In addition to these state records, Ohio has also produced a number of world record deer trophies. The Boone and Crockett Club, the official record-keeping organization for big game animals, lists a number of Ohio deer on its list of world records. These deer include the "Pope and Young Buck," which was killed in 1918 and had a rack that scored 213  $\frac{6}{8}$  inches, and the "Buckeye Buck," which was killed in 1964 and had a rack that scored 212  $\frac{4}{8}$  inches.

### **Tips and Techniques for Deer Hunting in Ohio**

If you are planning to deer hunt in Ohio, there are a few things you need to know. First, you need to get a hunting license. You can Free Download a hunting license online or at any sporting goods store. You will also need to choose the type of deer you want to hunt. Ohio has three types of deer: whitetail deer, mule deer, and blacktail deer. Whitetail deer are the most common type of deer in Ohio, and they are found in all parts of the state. Mule deer are found in the western part of the state, and blacktail deer are found in the southeastern part of the state.

Once you have chosen the type of deer you want to hunt, you need to find a place to hunt. There are a number of public hunting areas in Ohio, and you can also hunt on private land if you have permission from the landowner. When you are looking for a place to hunt, it is important to consider the type of terrain you want to hunt in. Whitetail deer prefer to live in wooded areas, while mule deer and blacktail deer prefer to live in more open areas.

Once you have found a place to hunt, you need to decide what type of hunting method you want to use. There are a number of different hunting methods that can be used to hunt deer, including still hunting, stalking, and driving. Still hunting is the most common type of deer hunting, and it involves sitting or standing in one place and waiting for deer to come to you. Stalking involves moving slowly and quietly through the woods in search of deer. Driving involves a group of hunters working together to drive deer towards a waiting hunter.

No matter what type of hunting method you choose, it is important to be patient and to have a good understanding of deer behavior. Deer are very cautious animals, and they are easily spooked. If you want to be successful

at deer hunting, it is important to be prepared to spend a lot of time in the woods and to be patient.

Deer hunting is a popular pastime in Ohio, and it is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and to harvest some delicious venison. If you are planning to deer hunt in Ohio, it is important to do your research and to be prepared for a challenging but rewarding experience.

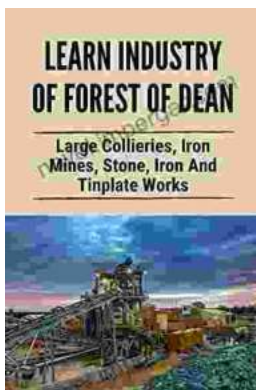


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