

Maine Deer Spy

Data Entry Instructions

1. Data should be collected between August 1st and September 30th during daylight hours. Please review your printed data entry form before collecting data and please read the “Important Notes” at the end of this instructions sheet. For examples of how to report data correctly on your data form, check out the PDF with data reporting examples on the Deer Spy project page.

Required data for you to record include:

- a. Date: Date of observation (MM/DD).
 - b. WMD: Wildlife Management District of observation. If unsure, see the map in this document or the interactive WMD map found in the Hunting Laws and Rules section on the website.
 - c. Habitat Type: Habitat type in which the deer were observed. In mixed cover types, cite the dominant cover type. Use the options below:
 - i. Forest: This is any type of forested cover.
 - ii. Wet: This may be a bog, wetland, or other wet cover type.
 - iii. Field: This includes agricultural, hay, and fallow fields and other open areas dominated by grass and forbs.
 - iv. Residential: This includes developed areas such as yards and lawns around homes, public parks, and in towns.
 - v. Roadside: This habitat type should be used for deer seen in a road right-of-way or other habitat immediately adjacent to roads.
 - d. # Does w/ Fawns: The number of yearling or older does seen in a group alongside fawns.
 - e. # Fawns w/ Does: The number of fawns seen in a group alongside yearling or older does.
 - f. # Does w/out Fawns: The number of does seen that were not in a group with any fawns.
 - g. # Fawns w/out Does: The number of fawns seen that were not in a group with any yearling or older does.
 - h. # Bucks: The number of yearling or older bucks seen.
 - i. # Unknown: The number of deer seen of unknown sex or age.
2. Any time you view deer groups and can conveniently record data during the data collection period, August 1st – September 30th, please do so. If possible, try to watch deer for long enough to determine sex and age and group relationships. It may be difficult when viewing large numbers of deer in a common location to determine social groups. **New in 2022-** if you are viewing a large group of deer and you can determine social groupings, please fill out one row of data for each different social group. See the “Data Reporting Examples” for directions on how to do this. If you completely fill a data entry form, you are encouraged to print and submit additional data forms.

3. If you have questions, please send an email to Nathan.R.Bieber@Maine.gov. Once the data collection period has ended, please send completed data form(s) to:

ATTN: Nathan Bieber, Maine Deer Spy
Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
106 Hogan Road, Suite 1
Bangor, ME 04401

4. Important Notes:
 - a. Avoid observing the same group of deer multiple times. Do not count deer again that you are certain you've already seen and recorded.
 - b. Record only deer that are at ease or uninfluenced by your presence. For example, do not record deer that run in front of your vehicle or that you flush while walking through the woods.
 - c. Do not include the results of trail camera surveys in your data.

Maine Wildlife Management Districts (WMDs)



