

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) TESTING INFORMATION

NOTE: For the **2016** hunting season, test fees will be waived for hunters submitting **DEER** from Game Management Units 62, 64, 65 and 591.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife offers CWD testing to hunters throughout the state of Colorado. Heads must be submitted during business hours at a designated submission site. There are NO self service submission sites available.

Deer, elk and moose CWD testing is VOLUNTARY in ALL units in Colorado. The voluntary test is \$25 per head when submitted at a CPW submission site and may be submitted at any submission site regardless of where in Colorado the animal was harvested. Animals harvested in states other than Colorado will NOT be accepted at Colorado submission sites. Animals from other states may be tested at Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Test results for deer and elk usually require 10 business days from the date the sample is received at the laboratory. Moose require 15 business days (three weeks minimum) from the time the sample reaches the laboratory. At times there may be additional time required for heads/samples to be transported from submission sites to the laboratory. As soon as results are known they will be available on the Colorado Parks and Wildlife web page.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

HARVEST DATE AND LOCATION INFORMATION:

When you submit the head from your harvested animal you will be asked to provide specific information about when and where the animal was harvested. You will be asked for the number of the game management unit from which you harvested the animal and the date of harvest. You may show the harvest location on a map or on a GPS unit.

ANIMAL PARTS REQUIRED FOR TESTING:

Hunters should avoid shooting the animal in the head when possible as tissues may be destroyed, rendering the animal unsuitable for testing. Remove the animal's head from the neck 2 to 4 inches below the skull. If you wish to have a mount made of the head, you (or a taxidermist) may skin the head and remove the skull cap with the antlers attached. Please wrap the exposed brain and skull with cheese cloth or other material to prevent the brain from falling out of the skull. Lymph nodes are used for testing but the brain stem or tonsils may also be used if lymph nodes are unavailable.

GUIDELINES TO ENSURE SUITABLE SAMPLES:

Avoid shooting the animal in the head.

Cut the head from the neck 2 to 4 inches below the base of the skull.

Whole brains or pieces of brain are not accepted for testing.

Keep heads cool and avoid freezing if possible.

Submit heads as soon as possible (within 5 days is recommended).

Hunters may remove the antlers/skull cap, but remember to comply with all antler point regulations.