

MASSWILDLIFE'S HUNTERS SHARE THE HARVEST

VENISON DONATION PROGRAM



The Hunters Share the Harvest Program allows hunters to donate harvested deer and have the venison shared with Massachusetts families in need.

Program impact

Since 2022, over 60,000 healthy meals have been donated and distributed through partnering food programs, including:

- Food Bank of Western Massachusetts
- Greater Fall River Community Food Pantry
- Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
- Northampton Survival Center
- Nourishing Nantucket
- Worcester County Food Bank

Get involved

- **Donate deer** by bringing your whole field dressed deer to an approved processor.
- **Donate money** to help cover processing and packaging costs.
- **Spread the word** to hunters, processors, and hunger relief agencies.

More details on the back.

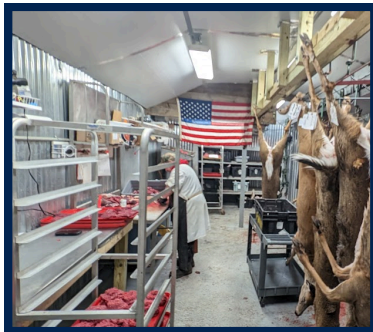


mass.gov/sharetheharvest

Use the QR code or link for donation instructions and to see a list of participating processors and food partners.

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How to donate deer

Hunters can donate a part or all of their deer. For inclusion in the program, deer must be:

- Recovered and field dressed within 4 hours after shot unless the ambient air temperature stays below 37°F.
- Dropped off whole and field dressed to a participating processor within 24 hours after shot.
- Legally reported and tagged with a confirmation number.

With the support of donors, hunters who donate their full deer pay no processing or packaging fees. Hunters who donate part of their deer will pay a discounted rate, depending on the amount donated.

How to support the program

Donations help cover processing and packaging costs for donated meat. A \$50 donation will provide about 75 servings of meat for families in need.

Monetary donations can be made online or by mail. Find instructions at www.mass.gov/sharetheharvest.

Deer and forest health

- Deer abundance is increasing statewide.
- In areas where there are too many deer, they overbrowse vegetation and cause habitat damage.
- MassWildlife uses regulated hunting to manage the deer population and support healthy habitats.



Use the QR code or link for more information about
MassWildlife's Hunters Share the Harvest Program.
mass.gov/sharetheharvest