



CWD Voluntary Herd Certification Program Standard Summary

Participation Requirements:

- Must have a Premises ID and pass the initial inspection done by the herd veterinarian.
- No commingling of non-participant cervids.
- Animal Identification
 - All animals over 12 months of age.
 - Two unique forms are required, with one being an official ID.
- Adequate Fencing
 - Minimum of 8 feet tall.
 - Must be structurally sound and maintained.
 - Must be adequate to keep animals in and others out.
- Accurate Record Keeping
 - Complete inventory maintained for at least five years.
 - Inventory records must include animal IDs, age, sex, species, animal origin, animal disposition with date, date of death and/or buyer information and CWD test results.
- Animal Escapes
 - Must be reported to the state immediately upon discovery.
- CWD Surveillance and Sampling
 - Report any suspected CWD cases.
 - Animal mortality
 - Testing of all animals greater than 12 month of age, including slaughter and hunting preserves under the same ownership.
 - Must submit samples within seven days of death.
 - CWD Testing
 - Only accredited veterinarians, State and Federal officials, or certified CWD sample collectors can submit samples.
 - Both medial retropharyngeal lymph nodes and obex must be tested.
 - Missing samples = Samples not submitted for testing.
- Purchased additions/new animals must have equal to or greater CWD status or the status will be reduced.



- Annual Site Inspection – Herd Veterinarian
 - **11-13 months after the last annual inspection.**
 - Inspect fencing to ensure it is acceptable, structurally sound and in good repair.
 - Visual inspection of the herd observing for signs of CWD.
- Annual Record Review – CWD Coordinator
 - Verify all sampling requirements are met.
 - **100% mortality testing on all animals greater than 12 months of age.**
 - **Samples are submitted within seven days of death.**
 - Inventory records are examined and reconciled.
- Physical Herd Inspections – Herd Veterinarian
 - Conducted no more than three years after the last physical inventory.
 - Visual verification of ALL IDs and compared to herd inventory in addition to the annual inspection.

CWD Certified sample collection and submission

- Both medial retropharyngeal lymph nodes (MRPLN) and Obex need to be submitted.
 - Fixed
 - Obex
 - Place into 10% Formalin Jar that is clearly and appropriately labeled.
 - Medial Retropharyngeal Lymph Nodes (MRPLN)
 - Longitudinally cut (1/2 of left, 1/2 of right) and place in the 10% formalin jar with the obex.
 - Fresh
 - Medial Retropharyngeal Lymph Nodes (MRPLN)
 - Longitudinally cut (1/2 of left, 1/2 of right) and place in the 10% formalin jar with the brain stem trimming.
 - Official ID and skin
 - Place ear or other skin (1” by 1”) with official ID attached into the whirl pak with the MRPLN and brain stem.
- Samples need to be submitted to a NAHLN laboratory for testing **within seven days of death.**
- NAHLN laboratories may only use USDA approved CWD diagnostic assays.
- IHC is the approved CWD testing method for standard CWD surveillance. NAHLN laboratory must be approved to conduct CWD immunohistochemistry (IHC) for standard CWD surveillance.
- ELISA testing only used for slaughter surveillance.



Herd Veterinarians

- Maintain accurate inventory records of the animals.
- Perform annual inspection.
 - **11-13 months after the last annual inspection.**
 - Inspect fencing to ensure it is acceptable, structurally sound and in good repair.
 - Visual inspection of the herd observing for signs of CWD.
- Physical Herd Inspections – Herd veterinarian
 - Conducted no more than 3 years after the last physical inventory.
 - Visual verification of ALL IDs and compared to herd inventory in addition to the annual inspection.
- Ensure that animals have two forms of ID, with one of the forms being an official ID.