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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 Dec. 29, 2020

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2021 hunting, fishing licenses on sale

2021 resident hunting, fishing and other licenses are now on sale. The menu of license options includes the popular Outdoor Combo annual resident hunting/fishing/habitat combo license for \$55; the Angler's Special three-year fishing license for \$62; and the Hunter's Special three-year hunting license with habitat included for \$101.

Also available is the Bonus Line option for \$14 letting resident and nonresident anglers to fish with one more line in addition to the two lines allowed with the regular fishing license.

Upgrade your paper license to a durable hard card with custom art from Iowa artists for only \$5.

Download the GoOutdoorsIowa mobile app for iPhone and Android devices to buy and access your license information, no matter where you are. Sync your hunting and fishing licenses on the app to show in the field. You may download multiple customer licenses to offer one secure digital license document location for families, groups, and more.

Licenses are also available at 700 locations across the state, and on the DNR website at www.iowadnr.gov/GoOutdoorsIowa.

Licenses purchased for 2020 expire on Jan. 10.

Hunting seasons begin closing soon

Hunting seasons will begin closing soon, starting with pheasant, archery turkey and deer seasons, and late muzzleloader deer season on Jan. 10. The staggered goose seasons begin closing in the north zone first on Jan. 9, followed by the south zone on Jan. 16, and the Missouri River zone on Jan. 23.

The season for quail, partridge, ruffed grouse, and squirrels closes Jan. 31. Rabbit season closes Feb. 28.

The furbearer hunting and trapping seasons also close on Jan. 31. Furharvesters can continue trapping beavers until April 15.

It's almost New Year's! Join the First Day Hike Challenge

It's time to start 2021 the right way – in an Iowa state park! Join the 2021 First Day Hike Challenge through the digital State Park Passport. The challenge takes the place of traditional guided hikes due to COVID-19.

With the First Day Hike Challenge, park visitors can check into any of more than 50 participating state parks on the passport from Friday, Jan. 1 through the end of Sunday, Jan. 3. Every check-in will qualify for a prize drawing of a **2-night stay at a 2-bedroom cabin at Lake Darling State Park**. Restrictions will apply on the cabin stay, with reservation fees and other business rules applying.

Visitors can go to as many parks as they wish during the weekend -- every check-in counts as a contest entry. Additionally, visitors will find trail suggestions and directions from park staff under the "More Info" tab for each park entry on the passport.

For more details on First Day Hikes in Iowa's State Parks, and to find links to sign up for the Parks Passport, visit www.iowadnr.gov/firstdayhikes.

Iowa DNR plants more than 100,000 trees on public lands in 2020

The Iowa DNR reached a milestone goal to plant at least 100,000 trees on state-managed lands in 2020. The tree plantings commemorate the 100th anniversary of the National Association of State Foresters, as well as the 100th anniversary of Iowa state parks.

Native Iowa trees are being supplied by the State Forest Nursery and planted in Iowa's four state forests, dozens of wildlife management areas and 23 of its state parks.

The National Association of State Foresters (NASF) is a non-profit organization representing directors of forestry agencies in the states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. Members of NASF participated in the 2020 Centennial Challenge to plant millions of trees across the United States.

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The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is working with state and local officials to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and has transitioned employees to work remotely. DNR offices are closed to the public during this time and only available by appointment.

In other efforts to further reduce the spread of Covid-19, the DNR is encouraging the use of the online services for purchasing licenses, submitting applications, payments and other daily tasks and interaction with DNR staff.

The FREE Go Outdoors Iowa app is available at the App store and Google Play. The Go Outdoors Iowa app allows users to purchase and view hunting and fishing licenses and submit harvest and quota reports, all from your cell phone.

Full list of DNR's online services: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/about-dnr/about-dnr/online-services-databases>.

Up-to-date information on DNR services, facilities and events impacted by Covid-19: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Covid-19>.

Technical information for regulated businesses in regards to Covid-19: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Social-Media-Press-Room/Disaster-Assistance#3057321-covid---19-outbreak>.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time. If you need to contact DNR staff you can reach them by email or phone or by calling (515) 725-8200.



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