

## Deer Hunting Success begins with Preparation



You may be basking in the last days of warm summer sun or dipping your toes in a cool body of water, but some of you are already dreaming about and planning for deer season. It may be a while before you have a buck in your sights, but there's plenty you can do now while still in the off-season to prepare for great hunting in the fall. In fact, experts say deer hunting success begins with pre-season preparation.

Here are some things you can do to help ensure a successful deer season:

- **Scout your hunting area.** It's a great time of year to position your game cameras and do a herd survey. Keep in mind deer may still be in their summer routines and travel patterns, so don't panic if you don't see a lot of activity.
- **Check deer stands.** If you hunt in an area where deer stands are common, proper maintenance is crucial. Make sure your steps and ladders are in good repair. Check stand straps and harnesses to ensure the weather hasn't weakened them, and mice and squirrels haven't been nibbling on them.
- **Make final food plot preparations.** If allowed where you hunt, you may have planted in the spring, but you can fill in thin spots or plant plot perimeters with a fall-specific seed blend to add variety.
- **Organize your gear.** Launder your camo with scent-eliminating detergents and line dry. Spray down binoculars, camera arms, safety harnesses and store them. Make sure guns or bows are in good condition and ready for use.
- **Check out sporting goods stores.** Now's the time to see what's on sale or what new products are available.
- **Practice, practice, practice!** Make sure you're skilled with the weapon of your choice whether it's bow or rifle. Take advantage of shooting ranges or enjoy target shooting where allowed.

Fall is right around the corner, so be sure you also have the perfect hunting property. If you're interested in purchasing your own land for hunting or other recreational use, Potlatch Preferred Brokers are ready to assist you. Visit [www.PotlatchLandSales.com](http://www.PotlatchLandSales.com) for more information.