



Buckeye Buckmasters Chapter
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To Whom It May Concern:

Our local conservation club, located in Belmont County, would like to express our concerns regarding the issue of "Increasing Non-Resident Hunting Licenses and Deer Tags".

Many of our members travel out of state and also to Canada in pursuit of deer and bear. We know firsthand the costs associated with such trips and realize that the DNR in the great state of Ohio has fallen behind in keeping up with other states when it comes to Non-Resident licenses and tags. We think the best option is reciprocity. Ohio should change their laws to reflect charging a Non-Resident the same as it would cost an Ohio Resident for a license and/or whitetail deer tag in that state. Why is it fair for a resident of Illinois to come to Ohio and shoot a trophy buck for \$150 when it would cost an Ohio hunter \$450 to go to Illinois and do the same?

In saying this, we are also of the opinion that some states do go overboard with fee structures that make it unaffordable for the average hunter to justify. If reciprocity is too complicated then we feel that the quality of whitetail deer hunting that Ohio has to offer would justify charging Non-Residents \$250 for a license and tag combo. Check some other Midwestern states like Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota and Wisconsin. They have similar whitetail hunting and trophy potential and all charge over \$250.

The fees need updated, but please use some common sense and keep the common man in mind.

Sincerely,
The Buckeye Buckmasters Chapter