

Hunting and Fishing Fee Increase

One of the recommendations of the 2009 Conservation Congress was to pass an immediate funding bill, raising license fees that in some instances have remained the same price for more than 35 years. The increases would generate \$3 million, all dedicated to benefiting Illinois' fish and wildlife.



With these protections in place, Senate Bill 1846 brings the charges for Illinois licenses and fees to a level comparable with other Midwestern states.

■ **Migratory Waterfowl Fee**—The State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp will increase from \$10 to \$15, with the funds dedicated to improving and maintain-

ing waterfowl areas.

■ **Deer Hunting Permit Fee**—For approximately 25 years, the Resident Deer Hunting Permit fee has been \$15. Additional revenues will support hiring a number of professional wildlife managers. Youth deer and Chronic Wasting Disease permit fees remain unchanged, at \$10 and \$5, respectively. A doe-only permit will increase by \$2.50, to \$17.50, while an either sex deer permit will increase by \$10 to \$25.

■ **Fishing License Fees**—The last fishing license increase was more than 10 years ago. The additional revenue will support fish and aquatic management efforts. Increases are as follows:

- resident fishing licenses from \$12.50 to \$14.50
- non-resident 10-day fishing license from \$12.50 to \$19.50
- non-resident annual fishing license from \$24.50 to \$31.50

■ **Hunting License Fees**—Resident hunting license fees have remained

unchanged since 1974. The additional revenue will fund an increase in professional wildlife managers as funds become available. Increases are as follows:

- resident hunting license from \$7 to \$12
- non-resident annual hunting licenses from \$50 to \$57
- non-resident 10-day hunting licenses from \$28 to \$35

DNR is striving to be good stewards—of Illinois' natural resources and your money. The additional revenues generated by the increase will be used for two purposes: to support wildlife programs and begin rebuilding the agency.

Critical positions—some vacant for the better part of a decade—will be filled. To address the need for trained professionals responsible for administering our wild turkey, deer and grassland wildlife programs, we will be hiring wildlife biologists.

For decades, sportsmen and women have supported conservation programs and services through their purchases of licenses and fees. While we will strive to recruit other users and beneficiaries of DNR programs, your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Through your generous support, this department will survive and continue to grow.

Marc Miller, Director