

# Venison Donation Programs

Chemung County



## Information for Hunters

Deer season is here, and for those fortunate enough to harvest one or many, there is an urgent need for fresh venison donation in the Chemung County community and beyond.

Each year, DEC partners with Feeding New York State to facilitate the donation of 50-70,000 pounds of venison from deer harvested by hunters to those in need. If one out of every 100 deer were donated, the program could easily reach 100,000 pounds of venison each year.

Help join the fight against hunger by donating your deer harvest through a local processor:

## **CHEMUNG**

### Caton Butcher Shop

Pine City, NY 14871  
(607) 524-6988

### Pedricks's Deer Processing

Pine City NY 14871  
(607) 426-9290

## **TIOGA**

### Sweeney's Market

Apalachin, NY 13732  
(607) 625-3341

## **STEUBEN**

### Payne's Processing

Campbell, NY 14821  
(607) 383-0021

### Switzer's Processing

Avoca, NY 14809  
(607) 382-8923

## Information for Processors

If you have a NYS Article 20-C Food Processing Establishment [license](#), you can apply to be a venison donation processor.

In our region, there are two main programs working with meat processors to get donated venison to those in need.

[Feeding New York State](#) is an organization working to unify effort for a hunger-free New York State by supporting regional food banks. This includes working with meat processors to secure and distribute donated venison.

[Venison Donation Coalition](#) has been working since 1999 toward their mission of transforming a renewable natural resource into nutritious food for those less fortunate and in need.

### Hitching Post Meats

Canisteo, NY 14823  
(607) 377-1821

### Becker Meats

Wayland, NY 14572  
(585) 303 0746

**For those donating through participating processors, call ahead of dropping off deer for donation to make sure they are available, so they have time to prepare, and for instructions on where to go.**

Paperwork? Complete the log sheet when you drop off your deer at the processing facility.

*Receipts are available for hunters that wish to claim their deer as a charitable contribution on income taxes.*

Hunters may also donate their meat directly to anyone they choose by following New York State Department of Environmental Conservation [Processing Guide](#). There, you can find a comprehensive processor list and important facts to consider for proper handling and sharing of your harvest.

If you do not know how to process your own deer and are interested in learning, reach out to Jeremy (jwk255@cornell.edu) for info on upcoming workshops.

## Information for Recipients

In our region, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier is working to distribute donated venison and other food resources to community members.

There are currently 24 food pantry locations in Chemung County and many will serve

anyone, regardless of your county of residence.

View participating food pantries and meal sites + operating hours in Chemung County here: [Find food help near you | Food Bank of the Southern Tier](#)

For community members looking for information on food resources in Chemung County, check the [County Food Resources | Chemung County, NY](#) web page.

An important consideration when choosing to consume wild game is the risk of lead exposure. To learn more about this risk, read the [DEC best practice](#) considerations.

Visit the [Wild Harvest Table – Cornell Cooperative Extension](#) page for information on cooking and nutritional value of wild game.

### Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County

<https://chemung.cce.cornell.edu/>

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### References and Resources:

All the links within this fact sheet can be accessed with the link or QR below:

<https://cornell.box.com/s/7h94hmq3x4u9nugh07werkuak1tvlg53>

