

New YORK STATE SENATOR Edward A. Rath III

## Senator Rath Highlights Safest Hunting Season

EDWARD A. RATH III February 24, 2022

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The DEC recently released data noting that 2021 was the safest hunting season for New Yorkers. The report also noted that there were no incidents involving the expansion of youth hunting.

"The recent report by DEC provided evidence confirming that hunting is a safe and enjoyable outdoor recreation activity. I was especially encouraged by the fact that there were no incidents involving new youth hunters. This is a testament to the effectiveness of our hunter safety programs and the responsible sportsmen and women who prioritize safety and mentoring our next generation of hunters. I would encourage the Erie County Legislature to once again pass the bill and I am urging the County Executive to reconsider his veto of this legislation. Hunters in Erie County should have the same access to hunting opportunities as so many other residents across the state," said Senator Ed Rath.

"Yet another record-breaking year for Hunting safety. Last season we added the Mentored Youth Big Game Hunting Program and the change in legal hunting hours, this is further evidence that our "First in the Nation" Hunter safety programs excellent training program and individual sportsman's diligence to safety afield, is a great combination," said Jeff Jondle, President, Erie County Sportsmen's Club Inc.

Senator Rath is a strong proponent of expanding youth hunting opportunities. The full report is available on the DEC website, https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife\_pdf/hrsisummary2021.pdf