

1 **Hunting Whitetails Throughout the Seasons**9 **Whitetail behavior and vocalizations change during the season**

So should your hunting tactics

10 **Why Call Deer?**

Deer are social animals and vocalize to locate, attract, and intimidate each other

When calling deer, their natural aggression and curiosity

- Brings them to you
- Gives you an opportunity at deer you might otherwise not see

11 **Types of Calls**

- Grunts
- Rattling
- Snort wheeze
- Bleats/Whines

12 **Early Season Patterns****Mid September 15th thru mid October**

- Heavily concentrated food
 - Clover, corn, bean leaves
- Rub lines
- Later – community scrapes
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13 **Early Season Calling**

- Techniques:
 - Social buck grunts
 - Light rattling or sparring with antlers or small rattle bag

14 **The “October Lull” Patterns****Mid- to Late October**

- Mature bucks are conserving energy for rut – shorter travel
- As close to bedding areas as possible
- Oak stands
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15 **October Lull Calling**

- Deer don't respond much

- Techniques that may work:
 - Social grunts
 - Soft challenge grunts

16 **Pre-Rut Patterns**
~October 25th - November 10th

- Bucks will be:
 - where the does are (food)
 - Staging areas
- Deer response to calling creates many options
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17 **Pre-Rut Calling**

- Techniques:
 - Long drawn out buck fights with challenge grunts.
 - Aggressive tending grunts
 - Adult doe estrus whine with/wo tending grunt
 - ❖ Snort-wheeze

18 **Rut Patterns**
~ November 10th – 20th

- Midday 10 am-2pm
- Staging, travel corridors, funnels
- Water
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19 **Rut Calling**

- Techniques:
 - Estrus whines and bleats with tending grunts

Rattling and dominance calls generally not as effective

20 **Late Season Patterns**
~ November 20th to Close

- Hunt winter food sources
 - Brassicas
 - Winter wheat/rye
 - Remaining corn/beans

21 **Late Season Calling**

- Techniques:

- Social vocalizations – doe bleats, buck grunts
- Light sparring

22 **Learning to Call**

- Deer vocalization recordings
 - CD/video/YouTube
- Basics – grunts, bleats and whines
- Practice at home, then try it in the woods
- Watch deer reactions and learn from mistakes