

1  **Timing of Deer  
Vocalizations and Rattling**

9  **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

10  **How to Call Deer**

- Types of Calls
  - Grunts
  - Rattling
  - Snort wheeze
  - Bleats/Whines
- When to Use Them
  - Changes with phases of breeding season

11  **Phase 1**

**Season Opener to approximately one week after deer rub off velvet**

- Calls:
  - Fawn bleats and whines
  - Social buck grunts

12  **Phase 2**

**~September 15<sup>th</sup> thru 1<sup>st</sup> week of October (early season)**

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

13  **“October Lull”**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of October
- Deer don't respond much

14  **Phase 3**

**~October 25<sup>th</sup> - November 12<sup>th</sup> (pre-rut)**

- Calls:
  - Long drawn out buck fights with antlers or heavy horn rattle bag along with challenge grunts.
  - Aggressive tending grunts

- Adult doe estrus whine with/wo tending grunt
- ❖ Snort-wheeze

15  **Phase 4**

~November 12<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> (peak rut)

- Calls:
  - Estrus whines and bleats with tending grunts
- Rattling and dominance calls generally not as effective

16  **Phase 5**

**December 5<sup>th</sup> thru end of season (post-rut)**

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

17  **Learning to Call**

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