

Macon County Conservation District
3939 Nearing Lane, Decatur, IL 62521, (217) 423-7708
Archery Deer Herd Management 2018 RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Deer hunting is by archery method only, **October 19, 2018 to December 13, 2018**. Hunting is not allowed during the Illinois shotgun deer seasons. Firearms and pursuing wildlife other than deer are prohibited on District property. **Hunting outside of the designated dates, using firearms, or pursuing wildlife other than deer will result in a lifetime ban from hunting on District properties.**
2. All hunters must sign in and out daily at designated sign in locations at area to be hunted. Sign in box locations are as follows:
 - Rock Springs:** Mailbox at entrance to maintenance facility, 3740 Banton Lane
 - Sand Creek:** Mailbox at maintenance facility, 946 E. Elwin Road
 - Fort Daniel:** Mailbox at site entrance, 4975 Fort Daniel Road
 - Friends Creek:** Mailbox at Bethel School parking lot, 13723 Friends Creek Park Road
3. All hunters must complete the information indicated on the sign in/out form. Harvested deer must be reported on the form along with IDNR confirmation number. **Harvested deer must also be documented on District trail cameras mounted near each mailbox. Further instructions are located on back of parking permit.**
4. Scouting will be allowed through October 14, 2018. After this date, hunters may scout from 11am - 2pm the day before their hunting period begins.
5. Tree stands and ground blinds may be placed in the field from 11am - 2pm the day before your hunting period begins. They may be left in the field throughout your hunting period, but must be removed by the end of your hunting period. **Any stand found after the hunter's period is over will result in a 1-week ban from hunting on District properties. Any stand found after December 16 will be disposed of immediately. Any person found tampering with stands will receive a lifetime ban from hunting on District properties.**
6. Only portable tree stands or ground blinds may be used. No screws, nails, or any other device which pierces the bark of the tree are allowed. Hunters are limited to one tree stand or ground blind in the field at a time. The original stand tag issued by the District must be attached to the tree stand or ground blind. Stand tags must be located eye-level and visible when you are not occupying your stand/blind. It is recommended that the owner's name and contact information be permanently etched or written on the tree stand or ground blind. Any untagged stand/blind will be removed by District staff. Tree stands removed by District staff due to rule violations will be held for a period of 30 days, after which the stand will be considered abandoned property and disposed of. **Any stand found before or after the District's season will be disposed of immediately. It is not the District's responsibility to notify owners of pulled stands. A fee of \$50 will be charged to recover pulled stands.**
7. Hunters are required to use fall-arrest systems (FAS) when using tree stands. Failure to use a fall-arrest system will result in the revocation of hunting privileges on District property.
8. An antlerless deer must be harvested on District lands before pursuing a buck. Each hunter is limited to one antlered deer (antlers 3 inches in length or greater) on District lands per year. **Failure to harvest an antlerless deer before taking an antlered deer will result in a lifetime ban from hunting on District properties.**
9. All hunters must comply with the Illinois and Federal Game Codes and must carry the permit issued by the Macon County Conservation District at all times while hunting.
10. No hunting is allowed within 75 yards of any building or official hiking trail. No shooting is allowed toward any building or across any official hiking trail or road.
11. Hunting may only take place within designated hunting areas. **Harvesting a deer in a non-designated hunting area will result in a lifetime ban from hunting on District properties.** Hunters walking through any non-hunting area to reach a permitted area must have their bows unstrung, cased, or locked. **Crossbows may be cocked while walking to your stand, but must be unloaded. Crossbows must be loaded and de-cocked from your stand. Walking with a loaded crossbow will result in revocation of hunting for the remainder of the season.**
12. Target shooting or shooting at random is prohibited.
13. Vehicles must be parked in locations designated by the Conservation District. A parking permit issued by the District must be placed in the windshield. **Prior arrangements can be made with District staff if a hunter does not have a vehicle. Failure to park in designated location will result in a 1-week ban from hunting on District properties. The second violation will result in revocation of hunting for the remainder of the season.**
14. Any person who wishes to track a wounded deer outside District property must first obtain permission from the private land owner.
15. Driving or stalking of deer by any person is prohibited.
16. No vegetation may be cut, broken, or removed for any reason. **Trail markers may be used but must be removed at the end of the hunter's period.**
17. Field dressing of deer is not allowed on hiking trails, next to roads or in parking lots. Please cover entrails with leaves, grass, etc.
18. The District reserves the right to suspend hunting at any time, in any area, for any reason.

Violations

Violation of any of the above rules may result in the suspension or revocation of hunting privileges on District property. The District reserves the right not to issue a permit to any person.

A ban from the Deer Herd Management Program consists of no participation in hunting on District properties, including participation in drawings, assisting a minor, retrieval of deer, etc.