

****New Rules for 2009/2010 are indicated by underlining.****

SUPPLEMENTAL RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING PUBLIC DEER HUNTING ON LANDS MANAGED BY THE MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM AS ADOPTED BY THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF RECREATION COMMISSIONERS ON AUGUST 24, 2009, BY RESOLUTION NO. R-09-8-24 =335.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners that the following rules and regulations are hereby adopted for the regulation, operation, and control of white-tail deer in accordance with the Board's Monmouth County Park System Deer Management Program so as to assure a healthy forest on the property controlled by the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners. The Deer Management Program is managed by the employees of the Monmouth County Park System (hereafter referred to as the Park System). These rules and regulations are supplemental to the Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of County Park and Recreation Areas adopted by the Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners by Resolution No. R-04-7-6=210 as the same may be from time to time amended, and which are incorporated herein by reference and which, together with these rules and regulations, are collectively hereinafter referred to as "the Rules and Regulations."

State Game Code:

1. All New Jersey codes, rules, regulations, zones, license and permit requirements applicable to the hunting of deer and administered by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife shall apply. Where Park System rules, regulations, and procedures are more restrictive, they shall be enforced, in addition to all applicable New Jersey codes, rules, and regulations.
2. In addition to State requirements for hunter orange, bow hunters shall be required to wear hunter orange to and from their tree stands if the season overlaps with a shotgun or muzzleloader season at that park location.

Permit Requirements:

3. An annual access permit issued by the Park System shall be required for any person wishing to hunt on designated Park System-managed land. The access permit shall indicate the type of hunting allowed by the permit (shotgun, muzzleloader, and/or bow). An individual shall not be issued more than one access permit per season.
4. The Park System's annual access permit shall be carried on a permitted hunter's person while hunting in a designated Park System hunting area. In addition, in accordance with State requirements, a current New Jersey state hunting license and/or current applicable New Jersey state deer hunting permits shall be displayed on a permitted hunter's person while hunting in a designated Park System hunting area.
5. The Park System's access permit shall not be issued to any person under the age of 18.
6. A permitted hunter shall not be accompanied by a non-permitted person while hunting.

Permissible Hunting:

7. Harvesting shall be restricted to antlered/antlerless deer, as specified by the Park System Deer Management Program. No other animals shall be injured or killed in any Park System area at any time.
8. Driving of deer by a hunter or any other individual shall be prohibited.

Safety Zones:

9. A hunter shall be responsible for being aware of all Park boundaries, safety zones, and restricted areas.
10. A hunter shall obey all posted signs. Hunting shall be prohibited in any safety zone or restricted area.

Hours:

11. A hunter shall not be in the park for more than 60 minutes before the legal shooting time, and for more than 60 minutes after the legal shooting time.
12. A hunter who must remain in the park for more than 60 minutes after the end of permitted hunting in order to track a deer or find a lost person shall inform a park ranger directly by cell phone or in person, or shall leave a visible, legible note at his or her parked vehicle.

Handling of Firearms:

13. A firearm or bow and arrow shall not be discharged across maintained Park System service or access roads. Firearms and bows and arrows may be discharged across marked trails within a hunting area only if specified on the deer hunting map for that area.
14. A firearm and crossbow shall be unloaded and cased or socked, except when the hunter is in the tree stand. No arrow shall be nocked, except when the hunter is in the tree stand.
15. A firearm, ammunition, bow, arrow, or bolt shall not be left unattended at any time.

Tree Stand Requirements:

16. Hunting shall be from elevated tree stands only, which shall be attached to the tree at least six feet above the ground.
17. Only commercially manufactured hang-on, climbing, and ladder tree stands shall be permitted. Such stands shall be attached to the tree by use of a cable, chain, or strap to minimize injury to the tree.
18. A tree stand shall not be located within 50 feet of maintained Park System service or access roads, marked trails, or public roads.

19. The hunter's Park System access permit number for the current season shall be affixed to the platform of the tree stand in letters at least 2" in size, visible and legible from the ground, on rigid plastic, wood, or metal backing.
20. A hunter shall not use another hunter's stand, unless written permission has been given by the tree stand owner and is in the hunter's possession.
21. A tree stand and access devices shall be permitted to remain in a tree for the duration of the Park System hunting season. No stand or access devices shall be placed in a tree for more than two weeks before the season begins, nor shall any stand or access devices remain in a tree for more than two weeks after the last day of hunting at a Park System area or after the revocation of a hunter's access permit.
22. A hunter may leave only one tree stand and access devices in a Category 1 hunting area per map. A hunter may also use one additional hang-on, climbing, or ladder tree stand and access devices in that Category 1 hunting area, which shall be removed on a daily basis. A hunter shall leave or use only one tree stand and access devices in a Category 2 hunting area.
23. Access to and from a tree stand shall be limited to commercially manufactured screw-in steps, strap-on steps, or climbing sticks. Tree gaff climbers, spikes, and nail-on steps shall not be permitted. A hunter shall adhere to the manufacturer's safety recommendations when using a tree stand, access devices, and safety equipment.
24. A hunter shall use a safety harness while in the tree stand, and shall use a haul line to raise and lower the firearm and/or bow.

Vegetative Clearing and Marking:

25. Selective removal of vegetation shall be limited to flush hand pruning of brush and small limbs to gain access, improve line of sight, or hang a stand. The live vegetation to be pruned shall be no more than ¾" in diameter.
26. Only reflective tacks, clips, or twist ties may be selectively placed in trees to mark access routes, and shall be removed within two weeks of the end of the Park System hunting season. Colored flagging shall be prohibited.

Access and Parking:

27. Trespassing on private property to gain access to a park area open for hunting shall be prohibited.
28. At any golf course open for deer hunting, a hunter shall keep off all tees and greens.
29. The location for all parking and all access through designated parking lots shall be specified on Park System deer hunting maps or as posted.

30. The vehicle identification tag that is issued with the Park System access permit shall be displayed on the driver's side dashboard and shall be clearly visible when a hunter is on Park System property for the purpose of participating in the Deer Management Program.

Baiting and Trail Cameras:

31. The use of any type of container or feeder to dispense or hold bait shall be prohibited.
32. The use of minerals and manufactured supplements shall be prohibited.
33. A maximum of five (5) gallons of non-manufactured, natural baits, such as fruits, vegetables, and shelled grains, may be used.
34. Baiting shall be prohibited within all safety zones and within all Category 2 hunting areas.
35. Baiting shall be prohibited for more than two weeks before the park area deer hunting season begins.
36. Trail cameras shall be prohibited in any Park System area.

Field Dressing:

37. Field dressing of harvested deer shall be restricted to the designated area when specified on the Park System deer hunting maps or in the Administrative Procedures.

Enforcement Authority:

Employees of the Board of Recreation Commissioners are vested with police authority and empowered to make arrests for violations of County Park Rules and Regulations. The Rules and Regulations for Deer Hunting are supplemental to the Monmouth County Park System Rules and Regulations Governing Public Use of County Park and Recreation Areas and shall be posted in the affected areas. All rules, regulations and guidelines are promulgated in accordance with provisions of New Jersey Revised Statutes Title 40, Chapter 12-6 which reads as follows:

“The Board of Recreation Commissioners shall have full control over all lands, playgrounds and recreation places acquired or leased under the provisions of Sections 40:12-1 to 40:12-9 of this title and may adopt suitable Rules, Regulations and By-Laws for the use thereof, and the conduct of all persons while on or using the same, and any person who shall violate any such Rules, Regulations, or By-Laws shall be deemed and adjudged to be a disorderly person.”