Rules and Regulations

Scope of Service Deer Management Archery Program

The main purpose of the deer management program is to harvest antlerless deer and assist with maintaining a healthy deer population during the 2019/2020 Archery Deer Season (October 1, 2019 – January 5, 2020).

All hunters must be Indiana-licensed archery hunters, adhering to all Indiana hunting rules and regulations. A maximum of six licensed archery hunters (four alternates) will have access to an assigned zone (six) within a 105-acre section at St. Patrick’s County Park.

Deer harvested by hunters will count towards a hunter’s archery license and bonus antlerless license quotas. Comprehensive lifetime hunting license holders are not required to purchase bonus antlerless licenses.

Hunters will be required to hunt from elevated stands using legal archery equipment. Stands must not be visible from the periphery of the property. Stands must adhere to the same protocol as those used on state-owned land. Stands must be removed on the last day of the hunting season.

Archery hunters will be required to maintain and submit a bi-weekly report with all hunting activity on the property, which includes:

- check in and check out times on property
- total hours volunteered
- a record of every arrow shot and result of the shot (hit or miss)
- confirmation numbers for every deer harvested and photo of deer
- site observations

Field dressing on site is permitted; however, gut piles must be out of sight from periphery of park or from hiking trails.

St. Joseph County Parks will provide

- Access to an assigned zone within the 105-acres section of St. Patrick’s County Park
- Permission for the hunters to contact local law enforcement authorities if trespassers or poachers are found in the park.
- A list of dates and or times when hunting will be closed or curtailed based on events or activities

Application Process

Following the lottery drawing, applicants will be notified. Date for proficiency test and meeting will be announced.

If your name is drawn...

Every hunter must pass a proficiency test and are required to attend a mandatory meeting with St. Joseph County park staff and Indiana Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officer. Every hunter must sign a waiver of liability and indemnification agreement.

St. Joseph County Parks reserves the right to terminate archery hunters from the program if they do not abide by St. Joseph County Park Rules or Indiana Department of Natural Resources Rules and Regulations.