

Deer Hunting Policy for the City of Rushford, MN

Purpose. The purpose of the Deer Hunting Program is to protect, preserve, and promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City through the management of white-tailed deer within the City as part of a comprehensive strategy to reduce or eliminate negative impacts experienced as a result of an increasing deer population in the City.

Findings:

- A. Deer often concentrate in the City of Rushford which develops into depredation and other public safety problems;
- B. Depredation of garden crops and landscaping plants is increasing as deer habitat decreases and deer populations increase within particular areas and neighborhoods in the City;
- C. High deer populations can result in increased car/deer crashes within the community, causing public safety concerns and negative economic impacts such as increased car insurance premium costs;
- D. High deer densities also contribute to the possible spread of chronic diseases among deer populations and Chronic Wasting Disease; and
- E. The intent of the City Council is not to unreasonably infringe upon the recreational enjoyment of City residents who observe wildlife and enhance wildlife habitat on their property. However, the purpose of this limited archery hunting when coupled with the artificial feeding ban is to eliminate deer attractions which should reduce, over time, the depredation impacts to adjacent residents, as well as assure the safety of the traveling public on City streets and thoroughfares.

Deer Hunting Rules and Policy for the City of Rushford

- All Minnesota DNR rules and regulations shall apply to this hunt in addition to City rules.
- All interested hunters must obtain the required Permit and list of rules from City Hall.
- The number of archery hunters allowed in the City of Rushford is 20. This number may be changed by the City Council from time to time. Hunters will be selected on a first come first served basis, but will only be issued to those that complete all necessary requirements to obtain a permit including proper licensing by the State of Minnesota, and successful completion of a proficiency test. A \$ 20.00 processing fee must be paid at the time of application.
- All hunters must pass a proficiency test given at Archery Headquarters, 3440 Northern Valley Place Rochester MN. Proof of passing the test is required before the City will issue a permit to hunt.
- Only antlerless deer may be harvested in approved zones, which will be established by the City Council from time to time.
- Hunters must not discharge a bow within 100 feet of any inhabited structure without the written permission of the owner, occupant, or lessee or within the same distance of any playground equipment located on public property.
- **Archery hunting zones may contain private property and permission from property owners must be obtained.** Written landowner permission slips must be carried on the hunter's person at all times. Landowner Permission Slips are available at City Hall.
- No hunting shall be allowed between 10:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m on Magelssen Bluff, the Wastewater Treatment Plant area and on Olson Bluff.

- Hunters moving to or entering the hunting areas shall keep their bow in a legal bow case at all times. Bows may be uncased only when actively hunting from the stand.
- No permanent tree stands shall be erected on City property. All tree stands shall be removed daily.
- All hunting must be done from at least five feet above the ground. Any time you are not five feet above the ground while on public property, your bow must be in a legal bow case as defined by state law.
- Hunters on Magelssen Bluff or Olson Bluff shall only fire their bows uphill from their stands. Hunters in the Wastewater Treatment area or along the Root River shall only fire their bows towards the river, away from the city.
- All entrails of deer shot on City property shall be removed intact or in containers/plastic bags and shall be disposed of properly.
- The dated Deer Hunt Application is your permission slip to hunt in the City. This slip must be carried on the hunter's person at all times while hunting or scouting.
- Hunters shall report all deer harvested within the city to Rushford City Hall.
- **The City of Rushford shall not be liable for any personal injury or property damage suffered by the applicant while on city property. Further, the applicant will fully defend and indemnify the City of Rushford from any claims, lawsuits, causes of action, or judgments arising or resulting from any activities of the applicant.**
- Violation of any of these or any other applicable rules, regulations, ordinance or directives of City officials immediately revokes the permission on City property and may result in criminal prosecution.
- All hunters within the city limits of the City of Rushford must apply for the required permits regardless of the land being public or private.
Violations of any of these Rules or any other applicable regulations or ordinances, or directives of City Officials immediately revokes the permission to hunt in the City of Rushford and may result in criminal prosecution.

City of Rushford
20_____ Deer Hunt Application and Rules

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____
(City) (State) (Zip)

20_____ License #: _____ 20_____ City Hunter #: _____

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I have read the above rules and agree to abide by them. This permit shall not be issued prior to receipt of the city fee and successful completion of the proficiency test and all necessary requirements.

Signature of Applicant
Date

Official Issuing Permit
Date

Fee Paid

Proficiency Test Completed

Landowners Permission Slip (if applicable)

20____ Land Owner Permission Slip

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

20____ License #: _____

20____ City Hunter #: _____

HUNTER'S CONSENT

I agree to abide by the rules established for hunting in the City of Rushford and I realize that failure to comply will lead to revocation of my hunting permit and could result in prosecution under applicable City Codes and ordinances. I will carry this permission slip on my person at all times when hunting on this property. I will not discharge a bow closer than 100 feet from any inhabited structure without the written permission of the owner, occupant or lessee of such structure. This may require multiple written permissions from affected property owners. I understand that I must pass a proficiency test and pay a fee to hunt within the City limits of the City of Rushford.

Date

Hunter's Signature

LAND OWNER'S CONSENT

I, _____, hereby authorize _____ to hunt deer on my property within the City of Rushford during the above dated archery season. In granting this permission, I am not accepting any responsibility for or incurring any liability for any injury to the person or property caused by an act or omission of the person (M.S. 604A.23). I further understand the City of Rushford, likewise accepts no responsibility or liability in regards to hunting deer on my property.

Land owner's Address

Land owner's signature

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Land owner's signature

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