
2023 Indiana State Park Deer Management Hunt Draw Information Early Hunts

This page includes information and instructions for those interested or selected to participate in a 2023 Indiana State Park Deer Management Hunt Draw. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Applying:

The application period for the 2023 Indiana State Park Deer Management Hunt Draw is Aug. 20 – Sept. 24, 2023. **The early hunting period is Nov. 13 – 14, 2023.** Late applications will not be accepted. You must obtain a valid license to take a deer in Indiana prior to applying (this includes any resident deer license, lifetime comprehensive hunting licenses, and lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing combination licenses). Apprentice licenses are not accepted. Each hunter is eligible to select one property per hunting period when applying. Applicants must be 18 years old by Nov. 13, 2024. Applicants must be Indiana residents or possess a valid lifetime license to take deer in Indiana.

Primary applicants can apply by themselves or with up to two secondary applicants (buddies). There is no preference in the draw based on whether it is an application with buddies or not. You must apply with your buddies' information on your application for them to participate. This includes deer license number and date of birth. Buddies may not be added after an application is submitted and must be included in the original application. All hunters included in an application must possess the license necessary for the hunt. The buddies, or secondary applicants, must still meet all age, residency, and licensing requirements of the State Parks deer management hunts as described above. Each applicant may appear on only one application per hunt period.

Restrictions:

Allowed Equipment:

- Clifty Falls State Park and Fort Harrison State Park hunts are archery only. Hunters are permitted to use bows and arrows and crossbows that meet the specification set forth in 312 IAC 9-3-3 and described in the [2023-2024 Indiana Hunting & Trapping Guide](#). For archery hunts, ground blinds meeting specifications set forth in 312 IAC 9-2-15 are permitted.
- All other property hunts are firearms only. All firearms, which may be legally used to hunt deer on public land in Indiana (as seen in the 2023-2024 Indiana Hunting & Trapping Guide) will be allowed. Archery equipment will NOT be permitted for these hunts, including the use of crossbows. For firearms hunts, ground blinds are not allowed.
- Non-penetrating tree stands are allowed at both firearms and archery hunts.
- During these hunts, hunters must wear both a solid hunter orange head covering (hat or cap) AND a solid hunter orange outer garment, such as a vest, coat, or coveralls during the time you are hunting in the park. This gear should always be worn.

- **Bag Limit:** During each hunt period for which you have been drawn, you are allowed to take up to three deer, only one of which can be antlered. These deer do not count against your regular state deer hunting license or bag limit. Please do not pass on antlerless deer for deer with antlers.

Hunting Hours:

- Hunting hours are a half-hour before sunrise until 4 p.m. ET (3 p.m. CT) on the days of the hunt.

Accessibility:

- Hunters requiring accommodations should contact the property office of their hunt of interest prior to their drawn hunt date so we can try to accommodate any needs you may have. If desired, drawn hunters who possess a Disabled Hunter Permit may bring a non-hunting individual at least eighteen (18) years of age by Nov. 13, 2023 to assist them.

Area Information:

A total number of hunters drawn will vary by property. The early hunting period is Nov. 13 – 14, 2023. You may apply for one property for each hunting period. Hunters are not assigned to specific units within the property they select and may hunt anywhere in the property, excluding safety zones.

Contact:

If you have further questions, please contact the DNR Division of State Parks at 317-232-4200.