



2016 Mohonk Preserve Deer Management Program Hunting Guidelines

As a participant in Mohonk Preserve's Deer Management Program, you play a critical role in helping to mitigate the impacts of deer overbrowsing on the unique forests of the Shawangunk Mountains.

2016 Mohonk Preserve Deer Hunting Season Dates and Time Restrictions October 11 through December 20

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During the first four weeks of our hunting season (Oct. 11-Nov. 4), Mohonk Preserve has time restrictions placed on hunting hours on Monday through Thursday due to the presence of education groups on the Preserve. Please adhere to the hunting restriction times below.

HUNTING ALLOWED:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
From sunrise to 8:45am **AND** from 3:00pm to sunset (Oct. 11-Nov.4)

NO HUNTING ALLOWED:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
From 8:45am to 3:00pm (Oct. 11-Nov.4)

These restrictions DO NOT apply on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays between the dates of Oct. 11-Nov.4. The Monday -Thursday time restrictions on hunting are lifted beginning on Nov. 5. Hunting is allowed every day from sunrise to sunset from Nov. 5 to Dec. 20.

EARLY BOWHUNTING SEASON: October 11 - November 18

CROSSBOW SEASON: November 5 through December 20 (see **date-specific tag regulations** outlined below)

- *November 5 through November 18: Hunters using crossbows during this season are only permitted to harvest deer using Bow/Muzzleloader tag, DMPs or DMAP tags.
- *November 19 through December 11: Crossbows are allowed during shotgun/handgun season using a Regular Big Game tag, DMPs or DMAP tag.
- *December 12 through December 20: Hunters using crossbows during this season are permitted to harvest deer using Bow/Muzzleloader tag, DMPs, DMAP tag, or an unfilled regular Big Game tag.
- *Hunters must possess muzzleloader privileges on their license.

For more information on crossbow state regulations as outlined by the Department of Environmental Conservation, go to <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/68802.html>.

SHOTGUN / HANDGUN (NO RIFLES) SEASON: November 19 through December 11

MUZZLELOADER/LATE BOWHUNTING SEASON: December 12 through December 20

MOHONK PRESERVE HUNTING GUIDELINES

All New York State hunting laws, rules, and regulations apply to Mohonk Preserve lands. In addition, we require the following:

Mandatory Hunting Information Session: Hunters are required to attend one, 1-hour mandatory hunting information session located at either Thruway Sporting Goods or Mohonk Preserve's Visitor Center. Sessions may be scheduled on the Mohonk Preserve Hunting webpage (www.mohonkpreserve.org/hunting) while applying for your hunting permit. The hunting permit, car parking placard, hunting map, hunting log, and treestand tag will be handed out to registered hunters at each scheduled session. Please bring your New York State hunting license and email confirmation of your Mohonk Preserve hunting permit purchase with you to your scheduled information session.

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Hunting Permit: Hunting is permitted only with the special Mohonk Preserve permit and a current New York State hunting license. To purchase your hunting permit please visit **the Mohonk Preserve Hunting webpage (www.mohonkpreserve.org/hunting)**. The permit allows **deer hunting only**. No target shooting, sighting in, or trapping allowed. Hunting permits expire at sunset on the last day of the hunting season.

Display of Hunting Permit: Mohonk Preserve property is patrolled by our rangers. To aid in identification, hunters are required to prominently display their Mohonk Preserve permit on their person and display their car placard on the dashboard of their parked vehicle.

Parking: **Parking is allowed only at our designated trailheads and Visitor Center. Driving and parking on any carriage roads is prohibited.**

Hunting Logs: All hunters must complete and return the hunting log provided with their permit. Information on how to return your log is included on your log form.

No Rifles: Rifles are not permitted on Mohonk Preserve lands.

No Hunting Zone: At the center of the property, around the Mohonk Mountain House, is a **No Hunting Zone**. A map showing the restricted hunting areas is included with every permit.

Retrieving Your Deer: Mohonk Preserve roads are closed to motor vehicles (except those of rangers). A ranger may assist you in hauling out your deer. Rangers are constantly patrolling during the first two days of shotgun season and on weekends. At other times patrol is sporadic, therefore, during the week if you need assistance bringing your deer out, stay with your deer and call the Visitor Center with your information at 845-255-0919. Visitor Center hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Checking Your Deer: All harvested deer must be checked. A deer check station will be staffed from morning to dusk, October 15th and 16th and November 19th and 20th at the Spring Farm Barn on Upper 27 Knolls Road (see hunting map). At other times you may check your deer with a ranger by calling the Visitor Center at 845-255-0919. Visitor Center hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Setback Distances: Setback distance is 150 feet for vertical bows, 250 feet for crossbows and 500 feet for firearms. These setback regulations apply to dwellings or buildings in use. To ensure the safety of our hikers, the setback distance for all hunting armaments from roads, trails and established paths is 150 feet.

Roads, Paths and Trails: **Do not aim or fire across any road, trail, or established path, and respect the 250 foot setback distance from all roads, trails and paths.**

Camping: There are several campgrounds, motels, and hotels in the region, including the Samuel F. Pryor III Shawangunk Gateway Campground on Route 299 in Gardiner. The campground is open through mid-November. For more information and to book your campsite, visit mohonkpreserve.org/camping. Camping and fires are not permitted anywhere on Mohonk Preserve property.

Tree stands: Tree stands must be removed by December 31, 2016. Tree stands left in place after that date will be confiscated. Due to privacy concerns, no trail cameras are allowed to be placed around tree stands.

No Land Modification: **Land modification of any kind is prohibited on Mohonk Preserve land. This includes removal of trees, shrubs, and vegetation, trenching, digging and blazing.**

Please Remember: As the number of visitors to our natural area increases, the need for each individual to be a conscientious steward of the land also increases. In particular, we remind you that litter, such as shell-cases and field dressing gloves, remain in nature for years and bring discredit to reputable hunters. Please follow the "carry-in, carry-out" rule.

Hunting privileges will be revoked by Mohonk Preserve staff if Mohonk Preserve and state regulations are not strictly abided by.

For information on DEC hunting rules and regulations, please visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/68802.html>.