

ASHLAND COUNTY PARK DISTRICT HUNTING REGULATIONS

“PLEASE READ CAREFULLY”

Ashland County Park District’s objective for the Hunting Program is to provide public hunting opportunities balanced with general park use and best conservation practices.

GENERAL NOTICE:

- There are two types of parks with regards to hunting:
 1. Non-Hunting Parks
 2. Shared-Use Parks
- Seasonal hunting is permitted in designated parks only.
- All hunters must follow ACPD regulations as well as all regulations and seasons as designated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and/or state and federal statutes.
- Hunting is prohibited 400 feet from buildings, structures, and parking lots. Hunting is prohibited 150 feet from trails and neighboring properties.

NON-HUNTING PARKS

- Hunting is strictly prohibited in Non-Hunting Parks.
- Non-Hunting Parks are:
 1. Byers Woods
 2. Crall Woods
 3. Fire Company Nature Cabin
 4. Freer Field
 5. Hopkins Landing

SHARED-USE PARKS

- Hunting is permitted in Shared-Use Parks. Shared-Use Parks are shared-use parks that permit both non-hunting and hunting activities during the hunting season.
- **Shared-Use Parks are closed for non-hunting users during deer gun season.**
- **Shared-Use Parks will be closed for all non-hunting uses during muzzle loading season in January and until 12:00pm of turkey season in the Spring.**
- Shared-Use Parks are:
 1. Avian Acres Farm Park
 2. Audubon Wetlands Preserve: Deer gun and limited bow only. **No Hunting on Sundays**
 3. Black Fork Bottoms
 4. Carpenter Waterfowl Park: Deer (bow and gun), turkey, small game and waterfowl
 5. Cooke Family Wildlife Park
 6. Cool Springs Wildlife Conservation Park
 7. Esbenshade Wetlands
 8. Hurdle Waterfowl Park: Late-season bow hunting in the east woods only
 9. Gilliom-Cherp Nature Park
 10. Riverwalk Park: Deer (bow), small game and waterfowl
 11. Sauers Farm: Deer (bow and gun) and small game (**No Hunting on Fridays or Saturdays in September and October**)
 12. Sprinkles Serenity: Deer (bow and gun), turkey, small game and waterfowl
- Although fewer hunters, and often none, hunters may be found at Shared-Use Parks, hunter orange is advised during the fall hiking season.

HUNTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

- **Archery and Small Game Hunters:** Archery and Small Game Hunters are required to register with Ashland County Park District offices. Hunters will receive a parking placard that must be displayed in hunter's windshield while hunting on Ashland County Park District property. Fall turkey hunting is prohibited.
- **Firearms Regulations:** Concealed carry is permitted. No random or reckless discharge of firearms is permitted. Shooting is restricted to legitimate hunting and dog training only. Guns are restricted to legal hunting weapons, which include shotguns, bows, and crossbows. Rifles and handguns are generally prohibited for safety reasons, except that **straight-walled cartridge rifle are permitted for deer lottery permit holders only** (minimum of .357 to a maximum of .50, including .350 Legend). Target shooting is strictly prohibited. Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
- **Baiting:** Baiting is strictly prohibited in Ashland County Park District property.
- **Tree Stands/Ground Blinds:**
 1. Tree stands and ground blinds are limited to one per hunter per park and may not be permanent.
 2. Tree stands and ground blinds shall NOT be set up prior to September 15th and MUST be removed by March 1st. Tree stands or ground blinds remaining on Park District property after March 1st shall be deemed abandoned by the hunter and forfeited to Ashland County Park District.
 3. Turkey blinds must be installed and removed on the permitted date.
 4. Tree stands and blinds cannot be located within 50 yards of another person's stand/blind or any food plots.
- **Field Dressing:** Field dressing on Ashland County Park District property must be at least 75 yards from trails, parking lots, buildings, and neighboring properties.
- **Motorized Vehicles:** Motorized vehicles of any kind are restricted to parking facilities only. Accessibility accommodations can be made through prior request and approval through Ashland County Park District offices.
- **Private Property:** Hunters are responsible for staying within Ashland County Park District boundaries and specified hunting areas. Trespassing on adjacent private lands is expressly prohibited. Ashland County Park District land may not be accessed from adjacent private land without the expressed permission of that landowner.
- **Report Cards:** Hunters are required to submit Report Cards at the end of their hunt regardless of a successful harvest. Every Multi-Purpose and Hunting Park has a Report Card Submittal box located near parking facilities. Report Cards are essential for the success, development and growth of Ashland County Park District's Hunting Program and are used for conservation purposes.

OTHER PARK RULES RELEVANT TO HUNTERS

- All parks are closed daily from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise
- No camping or overnight parking
- No fires or grills of any kind
- No cutting or trimming of trees or plant life
- No disposal of trash—remove everything you take into the park
- No motor vehicles beyond the designated parking area
- No trespassing on park neighbors' property
- No building of permanent tree stands or digging goose pits
- No use of climbing spikes or damage to trees is permitted
- No alcoholic beverages, mind altering or illegal drugs
- All ODNR Hunting Regulations must also be followed

HUNTING LOTTERIES

- Spring Turkey Lottery: 3rd Wednesday of April:
 1. All turkey hunters must attend the lottery and winning lottery hunters will secure a hunting date and a park location. If hunters do not participate in the spring lottery, they will not be permitted to hunt turkey during the spring season.
- Fall Deer and Waterfowl Lottery: 3rd Wednesday of August:
 1. Deer: If hunters do not participate in the fall lottery, they will not be permitted to hunt deer by gun. However, they will be permitted to hunt deer by bow during the season.
 2. Waterfowl: If hunters do not attend the fall lottery, hunters will not be permitted to hunt waterfowl during the selected dates in the First Season. After the lottery dates, waterfowl hunting is allowed the remainder of Early Season, First Season. There is no lottery for second season and waterfowl hunting is allowed during that time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Trapping and Predator Control:** The committee will regulate trapping and predator control as needed. Interested applicants contact **Park Offices at 419-289-3524.**
- **No coon hunting is permitted.**

Violators will be subject to appropriate criminal and civil prosecution—Report violations to the Ashland County Sheriff's office at 419-289-0911 and to ACPD at 419-289-3524.