

Frequently Asked Questions About Hunting at Public Conservation Areas



1) Where is hunting allowed?

Hunting is allowed at all Public Conservation Areas with the exception of High Falls, Ooms, and Borden's Pond.

2) When is hunting season?

Hunting season runs from October 1 to December 20. Early bowhunting season runs from October 1 to November 18, and regular season runs from November 19 to December 11; primitive weapons season continues until December 20. Hunting is ONLY open to individuals who have received a permit from CLC. Hunters will have a permit displayed on their dashboard in the parking lot.

3) Why does CLC allow hunting?

As part of the wildlife management goals for our Conservation Areas, CLC conducts a managed deer hunt with a limited number of hunters, in partnership with the Columbia County Sportsman's Federation. Deer browse on native plant species, which can lead to an increase in invasive plants and degradation of the diverse habitats we strive to maintain. Hunting is also a traditional use that many of the previous owners of our Public Conservation Areas engaged in.

4) What kind of hunting is allowed?

The only hunting we allow is for white-tailed deer.

5) Can I still hike during hunting season?

Yes! We recommend that you wear an orange vest and hat, especially if you're out in the morning or early evening, when hunters are more likely to be active. The only area you cannot access during hunting season is the Yellow Trail at Greenport Conservation Area, which is closed from October 1 to December 20.



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6) Can hunters hunt anywhere within the Conservation Area?

No. There are designated areas where hunting is allowed. We follow New York State Hunting Regulations, which means no hunting within 500 feet of residences, trail corridors, parking areas, or public roads. Full regulations can be accessed here: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28182.html>

7) What safety instructions do hunters receive?

All hunters must be current with their Driver's License, Hunter Safety card, and hunting permits. We follow all New York State Hunting Regulations.

8) How many hunters are at a Conservation Area at a given time?

Each Conservation Area is different. The maximum number of hunters allowed at any area is 8 at Greenport. All hunters must park in the parking lot, and will have hunting permits displayed on their vehicle's dashboard.

9) Are there restrictions on what type of weapons are used?

Yes. Hunters can only use a long bow, shotgun, or muzzle loader. No rifle hunting is permitted.

10) Who should I contact if I wish to report an incident with a hunter?

Please contact Nate Davis at CIC for non-emergencies by emailing nate.davis@clctrust.org or calling 518.392.5252, ext. 205. Call New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental Police for everything else at 1.877.457.5680.

