



MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP DEER MANAGEMENT HARVEST REGULATIONS - 2018

General Information & Designated Deer Harvest Locations

1. Permitted hunting will be in accordance with the laws of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the State of Michigan, and the regulations of Meridian Charter Township.
2. Hunting may take place on the following Township or County properties by permission ONLY. (All other Township or County-owned properties are NOT open for public hunting.)

	Name	Acres
Parks	Central Park	237
	Towner Rd. Park	24
	Wonch Park	15
	Ferguson Park	6
	Harris Nature Center	48
	Eastgate Park	53
	Legg Park	103
	Hartrick Park	61
	Ted Black Woods	74
	North Meridian Rd. Park	60
	Red Cedar Natural Area	56
	Forest Hills Natural Area	4
	Tacoma Hills Natural Area	22
	Orlando Outlot B	3
Land Preserves	Davis/Foster Preserve	109
	Hubbel Preserve	58
	Lake Lansing North	570
	Newman Equities Preserve	2
	Towar Woods Preserve	125
	Lake Lansing South Preserve	6
	Central Meridian Uplands	60
Sower Woods Preserve	18	

	Tihart Cornell Wetland	21
	Southwest Meridian Uplands	60
	Sumbal Preserve	20
	Red Cedar Glen Preserve	15
	Towner Wetland Preserve	15
	Meridian Central Wetland	25
	Red Cedar River East Preserve	25
	Forest Grove Preserve	20
	Northridge Preserve	25
	Mandenberg Woods	4
	Tihart Preserve	90
	Ponderosa Preserve	92
Cemeteries	Glendale Cemetery	20
	Riverside Cemetery	3
County Owned	Ingham County Farm	100
Other Township Properties	Transfer Station	51
	Central Fire Station	29

Total Acres: 2,329

Participation Rules

1. Participants must be Meridian Township residents.
2. Participants must be at least 18 years old.
3. Hunters will be required to sign a release of liability form and consent to a background check. Meridian Township will require a copy of driver's license.
4. **Existing hunters:**
Participants who participated in a previous Archery Workshop are **not** required to attend a workshop in 2018.

New Hunters:

You are required to take a proficiency test at the MSU Demmer Center. Testing will be available on September 11, 2018 after the meeting from 6-8 pm. If you are unable to attend on that date, please let Jane Greenway know and she will make arrangements for a future testing date.

Managed Hunt Rules

1. Days and Hours: Hunting shall be permitted only during those days and hours set forth in the Michigan Department of Natural Resource's 2018 Hunting and Trapping Digest.
2. Designated managed harvest dates:
Seven days a week during the regular 2018 bow and firearm season (October 1, 2018 - January 1, 2019).

3. Hikers, hunters, bicyclists may share the township and county properties during the regular hunting season. Property entrances are posted and adjacent neighbors are notified. Please hunt responsibly.
4. Meridian Township or Ingham County property is NOT open to the general public for hunting. Meridian Township has the sole discretion in selecting volunteers, and may make its decision based on whatever factors it deems appropriate.
5. Meridian Township's deer management program is ARCHERY ONLY. Bow hunting is allowed during the firearm season(s) with the appropriate license.
6. The 2018 deer harvest will operate according to these regulations:
 - a. Hunters may keep all deer harvested.
 - b. Hunters are responsible for finding a processor.
 - c. All deer must be checked at a DNR check station.
 - d. Failure to properly comply may result in loss of hunting privileges.
 - e. The State of MI and MDNR rules dictate what qualifies as an antlerless deer. It is the responsibility of the hunter to understand all State rules.
 - f. It is the responsibility of the hunter to understand the parameters of the Disease Control Permit.

Managed Hunt Procedure

1. Hunters will be assigned to specific properties.
2. Hunters are required to report participation throughout the season upon entering and exiting the property, each hunter will have two options for recording participation (entrance and exit times/dates), either through the use of the Facebook group '2018 *Deer Management Program*', or by email to greenway@meridian.mi.us.
3. Hunters must remain within 50 feet of the blind or stand while hunting.
4. It is expected that hunters will only take shots within their level of proficiency in accordance with hunter's ethics, which dictate that a shot is only taken when capable of effectuating a quick and humane harvest. Hunters using a compound bow should limit their shots to a maximum of 30 yards and those using a crossbow should limit their shots to a maximum of 40 yards.
5. Hunters are required to limit their shooting distance to that which will ensure the deer is put down quickly. Never take a shot if you are unsure of what lies beyond the target.
6. Safety harness use in tree stands is mandatory.
7. Tree stands and blinds must comply with MDNR rules for public land that state "a portable deer stand left overnight must have the hunter's name and address on the stand and be readable from the ground." If you would like to use another hunter's stand or blind, you must contact them directly for permission to do so.

8. Use of bolts, screws, and screw-in type steps are not allowed. Stands and associated equipment may not pierce trees.
10. Township personnel will remove any and all stands and blinds that are in violation of the MDNR rules for public property.
11. No trail flagging material should be placed on trees, branches or other objects. Do not remove any existing flagging.
12. Absolutely no marking or defacing of any tree, plant, shrub, etc. However, small tree branches may be carefully trimmed to accommodate tree stands.
13. Fires and overnight camping are not permitted at any time.
14. Participants must carry proof of being a member of the deer management team at all times (small blue card).
15. Participants must display a pink Managed Deer Harvest Notice in their vehicle while hunting on township property.
16. All hunters must wear blaze orange hunting gear during firearm season per DNR regulations.
17. **NO** bait piles – per MDNR rules relative to chronic wasting disease.
18. Use of the all-terrain wheelchair or other special arrangements may be made for hunters. Contact Jane Greenway at 517-853-4610 or greenway@meridian.mi.us for arrangements.
19. Hunters must report the date and location of deer taken directly to Jane Greenway at 517-853-4610 or greenway@meridian.mi.us, or via the Facebook Page. Do not report number of deer taken to the Police Department. Hunters must also comply with all reporting requirements of the Disease Control Permit. To join the Facebook page, simply type in “Meridian Deer Management” and request to join the group.

Tracking Deer and Field Dressing

1. Trespassing on private property for the purpose of tracking deer is strictly prohibited. Written permission is required to hunt or retrieve deer on private property.
2. Deer shot and **not** recovered, should be reported as soon as practical to the Meridian Township Police at **517-853-4800** (cadet desk) and to Jane Greenway (517-853-4610).
3. **Hunters tracking deer after dark must contact the Meridian Township Police to alert them of their activity, 517-853-4800 (cadet desk).**
4. Deer harvested may be kept by the hunter.

5. Deer must be dressed in the field, well away from roads or trails. **DNR check stations have dumpsters available for bagged deer parts and carcasses. The head must be brought to a check station. There is a drop box for after hours.**

Deer Permits

1. The Meridian Township Managed Deer Harvest will take place under a 2018 Disease Control Permit. Deer Management Assistance Permits are invalid after the last day of the deer season.
2. Antlered Deer may be harvested and kept by utilizing a disease control permit tag. If the hunter utilizes a disease control permit tag they are NOT permitted to keep the deer's head or antlers. If the hunter utilizes a personal tag they ARE permitted to keep the head and antlers (after CWD testing – the DNR will return it to the hunter).
3. Every unused deer permit must be returned to the Township when the hunter will no longer be deer hunting on the property authorized by this program.
4. It is illegal to sell 2018 Disease Control Permits to anyone, or transfer them to any other person, except by issuance to hunters. It is illegal for the township to charge a per permit fee or a per deer fee which, in effect, is selling the permit or selling a deer; both of which are illegal in Michigan.

Illegal Hunting Activity

1. Your help is important in keeping Meridian Township parks and land preserves clean and well-maintained. Report hunting-related incidents and accidents to 911 or the **Meridian Township Police non-emergency line at 517-332-6526.**
2. Report poaching and other illegal hunting activity to the **MDNR RAP Hotline at 1-800-292-7800.**

Questions may be directed to:

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