DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

2023-2024

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 – JANUARY 10, 2024

A program to control excess deer within the city limits of Dubuque and the surrounding outlying area.

PROGRAM GOALS

- Limit deer populations within defined areas in the city of Dubuque below 20 deer per square mile.
- Provide public education regarding deer, their habitats, impact on natural habitats, deterrents and population management, cost of property damage if nothing is done, and potential health risks resulting from a large deer population to citizens of Dubuque and to deer.
- Encourage eligible property owners to allow qualified deer hunters on their property.
- Discourage citizens from feeding deer.
- Monitor for and prevent the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).
Each hunter must possess a State of Iowa deer hunting license and a City of Dubuque deer hunting permit which consists of the following:

1. Each hunter must show proof of certification from the International Bow Hunter Education Course or the Iowa DNR Bow Hunter Education Course.
2. Each hunter must pass an annual shooting proficiency test which consists of three out of five shots to a 9-inch target, 20 yards away.
3. Hunter agrees to comply with all Iowa DNR rules covering bow hunting of deer.
4. Maintain a minimum distance from residential area and property lines, at the property owner’s and neighbor’s discretion, OR 75 feet from any property line, occupied building or street/trail, whichever is agreed upon by abutting property owners. A minimum distance requirement of 75 feet from any property line, street or trail is required for public property.
5. Hunter agrees to report to the City the following: date, time, type and location of deer harvested, number of arrows shot, and any complaints received from citizens. Hunters must also report deer harvested in the DNR ELSI system. Location of harvest must match location on indemnity form.
6. Check-in deer at Fire Headquarters, 11 W. 9th St., daily from 7 a.m.–9 p.m.
7. Only portable stands (provided by the hunter) may be used on City property, and must be removed by the end of the season.
8. Hunter agrees to obtain permission from property owners before hunting on private land.
9. A minimum of 3 acres is required for private property hunting. Hunting on less than 3 acres of property is permissible if the following criteria are met, subject to approval by the City:
   - No homes/businesses within 150 ft. of property
   - Adjacent to a 3-acre or greater parcel of habitat
   - Timber, field/prairie
   - CRP
   - Crop field
   - Tree planting
   - Property otherwise suitable for hunting as determined by the Health and Leisure Services Departments
   - Hunter must submit information regarding the property on a form provided by the City. Application forms are available online at www.cityofdubuque.org/deermanagement.
10. Hunters on private property must abide by the rules of the property owner, in addition to the Iowa DNR rules.
11. Field dressing on City property is not allowed.
12. Deer must be covered or enclosed when transporting.
13. No baiting, driving, or stalking of deer is allowed.
14. Must be an Iowa resident.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE
To hunt within the city of Dubuque, the hunter must obtain:
- Iowa or International Bow Hunter Safety Course Certificate
- Iowa small game hunting license
- Habitat stamp
- City of Dubuque special hunt permit
- Completed indemnity agreement for private and/or City property. Each hunter must have their own individual indemnity agreement signed by the landowner.

Indemnity landowner permission forms are available by calling 563-589-4181, the Health Services Department, City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, and also at locations where licenses are sold. Permission must be obtained from property owners every season (including the City for city property), through a signed indemnity agreement. A separate agreement for each hunter must be completed.

Permit and landholder forms may be mailed or dropped off at City Hall Annex, 1300 Main St. For drop offs, PLEASE PHONE AHEAD - our staffing and office times are subject to change. Ph: (563) 589-4181 or health@cityofdubuque.org

Multiple hunters may not be listed on each landowner agreement. Failure to complete indemnity forms may affect incentive eligibility or program participation.

HUNTING ON CITY PROPERTY
City property available for hunting includes:
- Veteran’s Memorial Park*
- Roosevelt Park* - Beginning September 18
- Bunker Hill Golf Course
- Eagle Point Park* - Beginning December 1
- Behind Medical Associates West Campus
- Behind Dubuque Technology Park, Hwy. 151/61
- Land south of the Fremont Bridge, following the creek and railroad

(* denotes City park) See a map of locations on page 4.
HUNTING TIMES IN CITY PARKS
OCTOBER 29, 2023 − JANUARY 10, 2024
1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
Roosevelt Park hunting is allowed on September 18.

LICENSES
Iowa Department of Natural Resources issues special antlerless deer management zone licenses for $28.50 for the first tag and $15 for each additional antlerless deer tag. Tags and incentive tags will be available August 15, 2023, at the following locations:

- Bait Shack, 2095 Kerper Blvd., 563-582-9395
- Tri-State Archery, 2100 White St., 563-582-8514 ext. 3

REPORTING
FIRE HEADQUARTERS, 11 W. 9TH ST. DUBUQUE
All City hunters must check-in killed deer or coyotes at Fire Headquarters in Dubuque between 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily for reporting purposes and to be eligible for the incentive program. If firefighters are out on a call, please report back at a later time. Information required at the time of check-in:

- Date/time of harvest
- Tag number
- Location/Zone
- Type of deer
- Hunters must remove one ear from female deer at the time of check in

Hunters must also report killed deer to the IDNR to be eligible for the incentive, either by phone at 1-800-771-4692 or online at www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Report-Your-Harvest

SAFETY COURSE
All hunters hunting within Dubuque city limits must show proof of passing the Iowa or International Bow Hunter Safety Course. This is a requirement of the City bow and arrow hunting permit. Bowhunter safety course information is available on the DNR website at www.bowhunter-ed.com/iowa

If you do not have internet access, contact Connie at the Health Services Department at 563-589-4181 for assistance.

DEER FOR THE NEEDY
HUSH LOCKERS
Help Us Stop Hunger (HUSH) - Refer to the DNR 2023-2024 Iowa Hunting, Trapping & Migratory Game Bird Regulations booklet, or www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Deer-Hunting

IMPORTANT
Each hunter must have their own individual indemnity agreement signed by the landowner. Multiple hunters may not be listed on each landowner agreement.

Hunters must report killed deer to the IDNR to be eligible for incentive licenses.

All City hunters must check-in killed deer or coyotes at Fire Headquarters in Dubuque.

PROFICIENCY TESTING
AUGUST 23 AT USHA PARK
All hunters must complete and pass an annual proficiency test which consists of three out of five shots to a 9-inch target, 20 yards away. Proficiency testing will be held on Wednesday, August 23 at Usha Park, 3937 Pennsylvania Ave., from 5-7 p.m. Hunters are strongly encouraged to do proficiency testing on this date. Landowner forms and permits will also be available.

Tri-State Archery will administer proficiency tests after August 23 for those not able to attend the City proficiency test. Tri-State Archery volunteers this service to the City’s Urban Deer Management Program, so your patience and understanding is appreciated during busy times at the range..

INCENTIVES
The hunters who harvest a minimum of three (3) does by the end of the season will be eligible to purchase a dedicated either-sex license for 2024-2025 hunting season. Button buck, spike buck or other unantlered male deer classified as antlerless do not qualify for the incentive licenses, only female deer.

Hunters must also report killed deer to the IDNR to be eligible for the incentive, either by phone at 1-800-771-4692 or online at www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Report-Your-Harvest

NEW THIS YEAR! PLEASE READ!
TAG REIMBURSEMENT PILOT PROGRAM
In order to incentivize hunters to harvest more deer, the City is conducting a pilot program for the 2023-2024 season. For every adult doe harvested, hunters will be reimbursed $28.50 for the first tag and $15 for the cost of license tags purchased after the initial tag. The success of this pilot program will determine continuation of this incentive. Reimbursement will be paid at the end of the season based upon harvest information provided on the check-in sheet at Fire Headquarters.

COYOTE INCENTIVE
For each coyote harvested, the hunter will receive a $28.50 reimbursement for the cost of a deer license. Hunters must harvest coyote with a bow and record harvest on check-in sheet at Fire Headquarters, similarly to deer, including zone harvest location to receive reimbursement. You do not need to tag a coyote.

IOWA DNR INFORMATION
www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Deer-Hunting