



Controlled Bowhunting Rules

Quick Reference

Summary

MetroParks recognizes that the population of white-tailed deer must be controlled to ensure the maintenance of a healthy ecological system throughout the various lands owned by or under the management of MetroParks of Butler County. A humane and effective method for controlling white-tailed deer populations is through the implementation of a controlled bowhunting program.

The following is a quick reference guide for program rules. However, participants must read and follow the rules in the Controlled Bowhunting Procedure.

QUICK REFERENCE

- Applicants are required to complete a qualification test to ensure safety and accuracy while hunting within the MetroParks.
- A lottery will be held to select those individuals who will participate in the controlled bowhunting program. The lottery will occur at the completion of the qualifications.
- Bowhunters are expected to participate in the controlled hunt during their assigned hunting period. Bowhunters who are unable to do so are required to contact the Manager of Natural Resources in advance of their intended absence if they will not be able to participate for a period of 6 days or more.
- Bowhunters must notify the Manager of Natural Resources each time a deer is taken. The bowhunter will provide the Manager with the deer's gender and the location taken within 24 hours and a white-tailed deer harvest report within 3 days.
- Baiting IS NOT allowed in this program. Hunters may NOT place bait in any form in any MetroPark.
- A participant must maintain awareness of his/her location and under no circumstances is he/she authorized to enter onto any private property adjoining or adjacent to MetroPark property unless **WRITTEN permission** is obtained from the property owner.
- Videotaping or photographing a deer harvest is prohibited. Anyone who videotapes or photographs a harvest will receive a lifetime permanent disqualification from the program.
- A tree stand and safety harness are required. Participants are limited to two stands
- Participants must harvest an **antlerless deer first** and send a MetroPark harvest report to the Manager of Natural Resources. After the Manager of Natural Resources confirms the receipt of the harvest report then hunters may harvest an antlered deer provided harvest does not exceed Ohio Division of Wildlife bag limits for Butler County.
- All participants shall comply with all applicable federal, state, local, and MetroPark laws, rules, and regulations. Participants may be checked periodically by Ohio Division of Wildlife Officers or MetroParks Police to ensure compliance. Participants must have a copy of the MetroParks issued permit on their person while hunting.
- All applicable Ohio Division of Wildlife rules and regulations apply to the program. MetroParks controlled bowhunting program is not an Ohio Division of Wildlife controlled hunt.
- Scouting is permitted only during the hunting period and in the zone for which the hunter was selected.