

# Deer Hunting Policy

## **Purpose**

The deer population within the City of Heath has grown significantly over the past several years to the extent that overpopulation now exists. This is clearly evident by the increase of vehicle-deer accidents, increase in complaints regarding destruction of property and statistics recorded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The purpose of this policy is to establish regulations for the humane reduction of the deer population on the COATC campus through the introduction of deer bow hunting program in coordination with the City of Heath and the ODNR.

## **General Requirements**

Bow hunting of deer is allowed within certain areas of the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority property under the following conditions:

1. Hunters must be in complete compliance with current State of Ohio hunting and trapping regulations and have an Ohio Division of Wildlife hunting license.
2. The season will be concurrent with the State of Ohio's deer bow hunting season.
3. Hunters must be registered with Heath Police Department.
4. Hunters must be employed by companies located in the industrial park, i.e. Kaiser, Boeing, etc.
5. Hunters must obtain a written authorization that bears the official seal of the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority to be allowed to hunt on the property. This document must be carried on person at all times while hunting.
6. The use of crossbows and bow & arrow is allowed. Firearms or other types of hunting apparatus are strictly prohibited.
7. Deer hunting will take place only during the weekend days of Saturday and Sunday.
8. The hunter is required to remove the entire deer after the kill. No portions of the carcass are to be left behind.
9. The Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority must be contacted prior to and after the hunt. Harvested deer must be viewed and tagged by the Heath Police Department for count and gender verification.
10. Hunting will only be allowed in pre-approved areas identified by Port Authority officials. The areas will be clearly delineated on a map provided to each hunter by the Port Authority.
11. Deer must not be dressed within view of the general public.
12. Hunting of antlered deer is strongly discouraged.
13. No albino or piebald deer will be harvested.
14. Only portable tree stands, which must be removed upon permit expiration, are approved for use. No permanent stands are allowed.
15. No clearing of vegetation for a "line of site" is permitted.
16. Any trash generated by the hunter must be removed daily.

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## **Protection of General Population**

Hunting must be done in a manner that does not endanger the general public or damage their property, including pets. Procedures are outlined to ensure this protection while hunting adjacent to residences or residential areas.

1. When within 200 feet of a residence, shots must be taken in the direction away from residence.
2. The use of temporary tree stands is encouraged.
3. Hunters must be 18 years or older.
4. Any violations of the regulations of Deer Management Ordinance will result in the revocation of hunting privileges at COATC.

## **Permit Requirements**

1. Proof of completion of the Ohio Department of Natural Resource's Safety Program or current hunting license.
2. Proof of completion of an archery proficiency test from a recognized local testing center.
3. Background checks will be performed on all hunters as required by the City of Heath.
4. Written authorization as issued by the Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority and a signed letter of indemnification by the hunter.

## **Selection of Hunters**

The Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority management staff will select ten (10) hunters from a lottery of employees that work for companies located on the Central Ohio Aerospace and Technology Campus that have submitted an on-line registration. Required proof of employment will be in the form of current company identification or other comparable verification document. Selection will be made publically at a predetermined date and time using a random generated number process. All decisions are final.

## **Program Administrator**

All questions and comments should be directed to Program Administrator, Dave Handley at (740) 788-5500 ext. 226.

## **References:**

City of Heath: Ordinance No. 40-2009

Heath-Newark-Licking County Port Authority: Resolution 09-21

Ohio Department of Natural Resources: Ohio Resident Hunting Regulations