



## **DEER MANAGEMENT REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Complete and submit the Application Packet which includes: Volunteer Registration, Waiver, and Release of Liability. Review the 2019 Harvest Regulations.
2. Return Application Packet **AND** a copy of your driver's license to our office:  
Meridian Township Service Center (in Nancy Moore Park)  
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court  
Haslett, MI 48840  
OR place in drop box  
OR email to Kelsey Dillon at [dillon@meridian.mi.us](mailto:dillon@meridian.mi.us)
3. Meridian Township will run a background check and process your application.
4. If approved, you will be contacted to enroll for the archery workshop and proficiency test at the MSU Demmer Center on September 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm.
5. Returning hunters will not be required to take the proficiency test, but are required to attend the archery workshop at the Demmer Center (Sept. 19 at 5:30pm).
6. After you have passed the proficiency test, you will be assigned to a property and will receive an information packet with your deer tags, map, sign for your dashboard, and hunter ID.
7. You will be required to mark your stand's location on the property before you hunt.
8. Returning hunters have first priority and generally receive their first choice of hunting property.



## **Meridian Township Deer Management Program - 2019 Volunteer Registration, Waiver, Release of Liability**

Meridian Township is seeking volunteers to participate in special controlled deer harvests on specific township-owned properties. These deer harvests have been developed to reduce the Whitetail deer population.

1. The Deer Management Program is ARCHERY ONLY.
2. Approved hunters are allowed to be on their assigned property seven days a week from ½ hour before dawn to ½ hour after dusk, per State of MI and DNR rules, during the regular bow and firearm seasons (October 1, 2019 through January 1, 2020).
3. Bow hunting is allowed during the firearm season, as long as the hunter is carrying a combination license or a firearm license, per DNR rules.

### **APPLICANT BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION WAIVER**

To Whom It May Concern:

I authorize Meridian Township to investigate my personal history, character, and police records, as they may be relevant to determine my suitability as a volunteer working with the deer management program. I understand that such an investigation may also include a driving record check, and criminal history check.

I hereby release and hold harmless Meridian Township, its agents or others from any liability or damage which may result from furnishing the information requested.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's license Number \_\_\_\_\_

### **RELEASE OF LIABILITY BY A VOLUNTEER FOR PARTICIPATION IN DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

In consideration of receiving permission from Meridian Township, I, the undersigned, state and agree as follows:

The undersigned states and agrees as follows:

1. I have read and will abide by the Meridian Township rules and regulations dealing with the deer management activities, as well as all applicable MDNR hunting rules and regulations.

2. I will use only hunting equipment that I know how to operate and use safely. I will not undertake any deer management activity until I have been informed of and understand my role in the deer management activities, including the actions I am to take in those activities.

3. I am in good health and I am aware of no physical problem or condition which will limit or interfere with my ability to participate in the deer management activities under either predicted or emergency conditions. I also understand that medical attention may not be readily available.

4. I understand that the activities in which I will be participating may be inherently dangerous and/or involve strenuous activity. I agree to take all reasonable precautions to avoid injury to myself and to others and damage to property in connection with deer management activities. I agree that I am participating at my own risk, and acknowledge that Meridian Township makes no warranty or representation, express or implied, regarding the condition or safety of the property where I will be participating in the deer management activities ("the Property") or any equipment to be used in the deer management activities.

5. I waive and release, and covenant not to sue, Meridian Township, its elected and appointed officials, employees, agents, and volunteers, from any and all claims, liabilities, losses, damages, costs and expenses resulting from any injury to me or damage to my or their property arising out of my or their presence at the Property, travel to or from the Property, or our participation in the deer management activities. I further agree to be responsible for any injuries caused by my negligence, and will hold Meridian Township harmless for such.

6. I understand that I have no right to participate as a volunteer in this program. Meridian Township has the sole discretion in selecting volunteers, and may make its decision based on whatever factors it deems appropriate. I also understand that if I am selected as a volunteer, Meridian Township may revoke that selection at any time for any reason without liability.

7. I am at least 18 years of age, and I understand the contents of this Release.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**HUNTER COMMITMENT TO DEER MANAGEMENT**

The Meridian Township Deer Management Program has a limited number of spaces. As a result, we require a strong hunting commitment from the hunters and ask that you commit to hunting a minimum of one day per week. We regularly check records and if you are not regularly hunting your assigned property, your "spot" may be replaced by another hunter who is able to commit more time to our program.

I commit to hunting my assigned property on a weekly basis.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Include your preferred hunting locations below (see map of Meridian Township Deer Management Areas):**

Have you previously participated in Meridian Township's Deer Management program?

\_\_\_\_\_

\*There is absolutely NO guarantee that you will receive your top choice

First choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Second choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Third choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Private Property Hunting:**

Are you interested in having your name on a list of hunters that may be provided to private homeowners in Meridian Township who would like their property to be hunted?

\_\_\_\_ YES

\_\_\_\_ NO

**Notes:**

1. Meridian Township's hunting rules do not apply to hunting arrangements with private land owners, but the State of MI rules do apply.
2. Private landowners understand that Meridian Charter Township has NO responsibility or control of the hunters involved in this program.



## MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP DEER MANAGEMENT HARVEST REGULATIONS - 2019

### 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.)
  1. Central Park
  2. Towner Road Park
  3. Wonch Park
  4. Ferguson Park
  5. Eastgate Park
  6. Legg Park
  7. Hartrick Park
  8. Ted Black Woods
  9. North Meridian Rd. Park
  10. Red Cedar Natural Area
  11. Forest Hills Natural Area
  12. Tacoma Hills Park
  13. Orlando Outlot B
  14. Davis/Foster Preserve
  15. Hubbel Preserve
  16. Lake Lansing North Preserve
  17. Newman Equities Preserve
  18. Towar Woods Preserve
  19. Lake Lansing South Preserve
  20. Central Meridian Uplands
  21. Sower Woods Preserve
  22. Tihart/Cornell Wetland
  23. Southwest Meridian Uplands
  24. Sumbal Preserve
  25. Red Cedar Glen Preserve
  26. Towner Wetland Preserve
  27. Meridian Central Wetland
  28. Red Cedar River East Preserve
  29. Forest Grove Preserve
  30. North Ridge Preserve
  31. Mandenberg Woods
  32. Tihart Preserve
  33. Ponderosa Preserve
  34. Nemoke Preserve
  35. Glendale Cemetery
  36. Riverside Cemetery
  37. Ingham County Farm
  38. Transfer Station

### Participation Rules

1. Participants must be Meridian Township residents and at least 18 years old.
2. 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.
3. **Existing hunters:**  
Participants who passed a proficiency test at a previous archery workshop are **not** required to perform a test in 2019. Returning participants are required to attend the meeting at the Demmer Center before the testing (**5:30pm on September 19<sup>th</sup>**).  
**New Hunters:**  
You are required to take a proficiency test at the MSU Demmer Center. Orientation and testing is scheduled for **September 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm**. 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 2019 Hunting and Trapping Digest.
2. Designated managed harvest dates:  
Seven days a week during the regular 2019 bow and firearm season (October 1, 2019 – January 1, 2020).
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 and 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 2019 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. 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 'Meridian Deer Management', or by email to [greenway@meridian.mi.us](mailto:greenway@meridian.mi.us) or [dillon@meridian.mi.us](mailto:dillon@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.
9. Township personnel will remove any and all stands and blinds that are in violation of the MDNR rules for public property.
10. No trail flagging material should be placed on trees, branches or other objects. Do not remove any existing flagging.
11. Absolutely no marking or defacing of any tree, plant, shrub, etc. However, small tree branches may be carefully trimmed to accommodate tree stands.
12. Fires and overnight camping are not permitted at any time.
13. Participants must carry proof of being a member of the deer management team at all times (small pink card).
14. Participants must display a Managed Deer Harvest Notice in their vehicle while hunting on township property.
15. All hunters must wear blaze orange hunting gear during firearm season per DNR regulations.
16. **NO** bait piles – per MDNR rules relative to chronic wasting disease.
17. 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](mailto:greenway@meridian.mi.us) for arrangements.
18. Hunters must report the date and location of deer taken directly to Jane Greenway at 517.853.4610 or [greenway@meridian.mi.us](mailto: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 or type in <https://www.facebook.com/groups/677493192339578/>.

### **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) or Kelsey Dillon (517.853.4614).
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 2019 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 2019 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:**

Jane Greenway or Kelsey Dillon

Meridian Township

2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.

Haslett, MI 48840

(517) 853-4610 or (517) 853-4614; greenway@meridian.mi.us or dillon@meridian.mi.us





## Deer Management FAQ's

**1. How can I participate in the Meridian Township Deer Management Program?**

To submit your name for the waiting list please call or visit the Meridian Township Service Center at 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court Haslett, MI 48840 to fill out an application, view hunting maps, rules, and regulations.

**2. What are the requirements to hunt in the Deer Management Program?**

Placement in the program is **limited to Meridian Township residents**. All hunters must submit to a background check, and pass a proficiency test and equipment check. There are also minimum participation requirements throughout the hunting season.

**3. When and where does the hunt take place?**

The deer management program coincides with the archery season, running from October 1, 2019 through January 1, 2020. Hunting occurs seven days a week from ½ hour before dawn to ½ hour after dusk. All participating properties are posted at obvious points of entry.

**4. What safety precautions has the township taken to prevent hunting related incidents?**

Hunting is limited to **archery only**. Designated properties have a predetermined number of hunters based on the property size, huntable area, and public use. All hunters are required to have a background check, pass a proficiency test, and pass an equipment check. Hunter participation is reported as far as property entrance and exit times, their stand locations, and deer in process of being tracked.

**5. Can I hunt on private property in Meridian Township?**

Yes, be sure to obtain written landowner permission and follow all State rules and regulations. **Meridian Township parks and land preserves are not open to public hunting.**

**6. What do the hunters do with the venison?**

Hunters are allowed to keep the meat themselves, but are encouraged to donate the deer through Michigan Sportsman Against Hunger (MSAH), so that the meat can be donated to local food banks.

**7. How many reported deer car collisions occur in Meridian Township?**

2018: 129	2013: 180
2017: 129	2012: 152
2016: 164	2011: 152
2015: 145	2010: 138
2014: 137	

**8. Who can I call to report a dead deer along the roadway?**

Meridian Township at 517.853.4600.

**9. How can I remove a dead deer from my yard?**

Call Meridian Township at 517.853.4600.

**10. I believe someone is poaching on my property or illegally feeding deer, who do I call?**

Michigan Department of Natural Resources RAP line (Report All Poaching) 800.292.7800

# Meridian Township Deer Management Areas 2019

- 1 Central Park
- 2 Towner Road Park
- 3 Wonch Park
- 4 Ferguson Park
- 5 Eastgate Park
- 6 Legg Park
- 7 Hartrick Park
- 8 Ted Black Woods
- 9 North Meridian Rd. Park
- 10 Red Cedar Natural Area
- 11 Forest Hills Natural Area
- 12 Tacoma Hills Natural Area
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