



MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP DEER MANAGEMENT HARVEST REGULATIONS - 2021

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
 39. Brattin Woods Park
 40. Hillbrook Park

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. Returning participants are encouraged to attend an archery workshop meeting the meeting at: **MSU Archery Center, Jolly Road, 5:30 p.m. on September 14, 2021.**

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 2020 Hunting and Trapping Digest.
2. Designated managed harvest dates:

Seven days a week during the regular 2020 bow and firearm season (October 1, 2021 – January 1, 2022).

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 2021 deer harvest will operate according to these regulations:
 - a. Hunters may keep all deer harvested.
 - b. Hunters are responsible for finding a processor.
 - c. Failure to properly comply may result in loss of hunting privileges.
 - d. It is the responsibility of the hunter to understand all State rules.
 - e. It is the responsibility of the hunter to understand the parameters of the Deer Management Area Permit (DMAP).
 - f. Hunters must be in possession of a current year's deer license for the season in which you are hunting, and you must obey all other hunting regulations.
 - g. If the hunter is unsuccessful, they must return the DMAP kill tag to Meridian Township. Tags may be redistributed to other hunters within the program.
 - h. DMAP permits are to be used on antlerless deer only. Hunters must use their own tag for an antlered deer.
 - i. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources does not require testing in Ingham County.

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 using the Google Forms App (details will be provided at the Archery Workshop on September 14).
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 deer stand left overnight must have, at a minimum, your driver's license number. Name and phone number is optional but is helpful to our department. 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. It is very important to provide identification so that your stand does not get removed.
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 for arrangements.
18. Hunters must report the date and location of deer taken directly to Emma Campbell or Jane Greenway via the Google Form app. **Do not report number of deer taken to the Police Department.** Hunters must also comply with all reporting requirements of the Deer Management Area Permit (DMAP). 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 Emma Campbell (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 may be dressed in the field, well away from roads or trails. **DNR check stations have dumpsters available for bagged deer parts and carcasses.**

Deer Permits

1. The 2021 Meridian Township Managed Deer Harvest will take place under a 2020 Deer Management Area Permit. Deer Management Assistance Permits (DMAP) are invalid after the last day of the deer season.
2. Antlered Deer may NOT be harvested and kept by utilizing a DMAP tag. If the hunter utilizes a personal tag they ARE permitted to keep the head and antlers.
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 2021 Deer Management Area 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 Emma Campbell
Meridian Township
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.
Haslett, MI 48840
(517) 853-4610 or (517) 853-4614; greenway@meridian.mi.us or
ecampbell@meridian.mi.us