

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

2018 Deer Hunt Information

A lottery permit deer hunt is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018, at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. As an integral part of the refuge's comprehensive wildlife management program, this annual hunt helps to maintain the deer population at a level commensurate with the available habitat and provides public hunting opportunities.

How to Apply

The hunt is by refuge permit only, with a maximum of 35 hunters, including up to 4 disabled hunters, selected by lottery. Each hunt applicant must submit a Parker River Deer Hunt application form. The applicant may designate a second hunter on the same application if he/she wants to hunt with that second hunter. The same information should be provided for the second hunter.

A disabled hunter may also have an assistant with them who may not hunt and whose name and other information should not be included on the application. Hunters should check the "disabled" box on their application form so as to ensure entry into the disabled hunt lottery.

Application Restrictions:

- If the secondary hunter is under 16 years old, the primary hunter must be at least 18 years old.
- A hunter's name can appear on only one application. The same name(s) on multiple applications will cause all applications containing those names to be rejected.

Hunt permit applications will be accepted at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA, 01950 from 8:00 a.m. on September 1 through 4:00 p.m. on September 30. Applications may also be emailed to parkerriever@fws.gov or faxed to (978) 465-2807.

Selectees will be notified by October 10. All selectees must attend one of two, one hour Refuge Hunter Safety & Orientation Programs at the refuge headquarters to receive their hunt permit. Selectees will receive the Program dates and times when they're notified of their selection. The hunt permit fee is free for hunters aged 17 and younger, \$10 for hunters aged 62 and older who possess a Federal Senior Pass, and \$20 for hunters aged 18-61. Selectees may scout from Thursday, November 29 through Sunday, December 2.

The hunt zone will be comprised of approximately 1,400 acres on the Plum Island section of the refuge. To ensure public safety, the entire Plum Island section will be closed to all other activities on December 5.

For further information about the deer hunt, please contact the refuge at (978) 465-5753. Refuge headquarters is located at 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA 01950. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, excluding federal holidays.