

Urban Deer Hunt Protocol

Purpose: To provide a framework for municipalities attempting to address urban deer issues, namely human/ deer conflicts, by utilizing archery hunting. This will be accomplished by establishing a partnership between the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC), the Arkansas Bowhunters Association (ABA), and the city.

Time Frame: All urban deer hunts will open the first Saturday in September and close January 31st.

Operating Rules: All hunters are required to:

- Pass the International Bowhunter Education Course.
- Attend an urban hunt orientation; after attending the orientation, hunters will be eligible to hunt all the urban deer hunts for that year.
- Pass a shooting proficiency test.
- Pay annual confirmation fee, which includes membership in the ABA for liability insurance purposes.
- Possess a valid Arkansas (resident or nonresident) big game license. Hunters must be at least 16 years of age.
- Possess a valid Urban Bowhunting Permit (issued by AGFC). Permit will be valid for all the urban deer hunts for that year.
- Hunter will be provided a vehicle placard that must be signed by a representative from each municipality that he/she wishes to hunt.
- Display placard in full view on the dashboard of their vehicle and carry the approved permit at all times while hunting.
- Use a longbow, recurve or compound with at least a 40-pound pull and broadheads at least 7/8-inch wide (mechanicals OK); string-locks are not permitted.
- Hunt in designated areas, and if hunting on private property, hunters must possess written permission from the property owner.
- Hunt at least 50 yards from designated trails or parks.
- Hunt at least 50 yards from any occupied dwelling without written permission.
- Keep all bows cased to and from stands.
- Shoot from stands that are at least 10 feet above the ground (no walking, stalking or ground blinds).
- Cover harvested animals from sight before transporting/ moving from the field.
- Remove harvested animals during daylight hours if at all possible.
- Special considerations will be made for disabled hunters in wheelchairs.
- Donate first deer to Arkansas Hunters Feeding the Hungry (a 501C-3 charitable organization).
- Check deer online at www.agfc.com or by telephone toll-free at 866-305-0808.

Deer Bag Limit: No bag limit. The first deer taken must be a doe, and must be donated to Arkansas Hunters Feeding the Hungry; all subsequent deer harvested may be either-sex. Deer are considered bonus deer and do not count in the hunter's seasonal bag limit. No antler restrictions.

Hunter Orientation: Officials from the AGFC, ABA, and participating municipalities will attend and oversee each hunter orientation. Scheduled activities for each orientation will include: shooting proficiency tests, payment for annual confirmation fee, review of hunt rules, and distribution of permits and dash placards.

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Urban Deer Hunt City Approval Signature: By signing, the city agrees to participate in the 2013-2014 Urban Deer hunt and enter into a partnership with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Arkansas Bowhunters Association. The city also agrees to the hunt guidelines outlined above.

Participating Cities:

Fort Smith/Barling	Russellville
Bull Shoals	Lakeview
Cherokee Village	Horseshoe Bend
Fairfield Bay	

Dates for IBEP:

July 13	8am-5pm	Melbourne, AR- IZARD County Fairgrounds (1927 Lacrosse Rd.)
July 20	8am-5pm	Ft. Smith, AR- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (8300 Wells Lake Road)
July 27	8am-5pm	Russellville, AR- Lake Dardanelle State Park (Weigh-in Pavilion)

Date for Orientations:

August 3	Melbourne, AR- Old Melbourne Elementary School (104 School Street)
August 10	Ft. Smith, AR- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center (8300 Wells Lake Road)
August 17	Blackwell, AR- Ed Gordon Point Remove W.M.A. Headquarters (I-40 Exit 101 (Blackwell Exit))

Each orientation will start at 8:00 am.

Participants will be able to attend any orientation listed above even though it may not be the area they wish to hunt. The fee will be \$50 which will cover insurance, ABA membership and permit fees. This will allow the participant to hunt one or all of the hunts in which they wish to participate.