

City of St. Cloud Policy on Deer Management within the City Limits

On March 27, 2006 the St. Cloud City Council, through a public hearing process, authorized an archery deer hunt within the City Limits of St. Cloud to coincide with the MN Department of Natural Resources big game archery season. The intent and purpose of this special hunt is to eventually lower the deer population within the City limits to acceptable levels.

An aerial survey of the City revealed the deer population of 57 to 85 animals concentrated in approximately 3.5 square miles. The long term goal is to reduce the deer herd to 15 to 20 animals per square mile. With that goal in mind, the following shall apply:

1. Location. Archery hunting will only be allowed within the boundaries of the parcels of land indicated on the annually produced maps and aerial photographs. Private property directly adjacent to these lands may be used for hunting provided they are at least 3 acres in size and land owner permission is granted.
2. License Required. Hunters shall have a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources hunting license appropriate to the archery deer hunt.
3. Registration Required. Hunters must register with the City of St. Cloud online at www.ci.stcloud.mn.us
4. Applicable State Laws. All Minnesota Department of Natural Resources rules and regulations shall apply in addition to City rules for this hunt on all property within the City.
5. Transport. All bows shall be cased while traveling to and from the portable stand.
6. Portable Stands: The following standards apply to placement of portable stands upon public and private property during the special deer hunt:
 - a. Portable stands may be placed on City property no more than 7 days prior to the hunt season. Stands must be removed from City property no more than one day following the season.
 - b. A minimum distance of 150 feet must be maintained from a portable tree stand to any occupied dwelling, road, or right of way.
 - c. All hunting must be done from a portable stand at least 5 feet in height, unless special permission for the disabled is granted by the City.

d. All stands must clearly identify the hunter's name so as to be visible within 5 feet of the ground.

e. Permanent stands or the use of screw-in steps or foot rungs are not allowed.

f. Cutting, mowing, sawing, digging, injuring, or removing of vegetation is prohibited.

7. Animal Removal and Disposal. All entrails of deer harvested shall be removed intact or in plastic bags and disposed of properly.

8. Registration Required. All deer harvested shall be registered at a MN Department of Natural Resources big game registration station.

9. Violations. Violation of any of these or any other applicable rules, regulations, ordinances, or directives of the City immediately revokes the hunting permission on City and private property and may result in criminal prosecution. The City maintains the right to remove personal property placed and maintained in violation of these provisions.

10. Liability. The City of St. Cloud shall not be liable for any personal injury, property damage, or theft suffered by the applicant while on city property. Further, the hunter will fully defend and indemnify the City of St. Cloud from any claims, lawsuits, causes of action, or judgments arising or resulting from the activities of the hunter.

Approved by:



Date

9/11/12

Mike Williams, City Administrator