

WESTOVER CITY URBAN HUNT - HUNTER REQUIREMENTS AND RULES PERTAINING TO THE CITY OF WESTOVER URBAN DEER ARCHERY HUNT - 2024

Season Dates Established by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources:

Saturday, September 7 through Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Monday, January 13 through Friday, January 31, 2025

Hunter Requirements

- Hunters must have a valid West Virginia hunting license.
- Hunters must complete all parts of the hunt application.
- Hunters must successfully complete the National Bowhunter Education Foundation Course (NBEF/IHEA-USA).
- Hunters must successfully complete an archery proficiency test (4 of 4 arrows in an 8" circle from a distance of 20 yards plus one additional broadhead tipped arrow in an 8" circle from the distance of 20 yards. Proficiency test to be administered by Westover City Urban Hunt Coordinator only.

Rules

1. Hunters shall only park in designated parking areas.
2. Hunters shall treat everyone they meet with courtesy and respect.
3. Hunters shall not litter.
4. Hunters shall obey all West Virginia game laws.
5. Hunters shall use a flashlight when entering your stand in the morning and leaving in the evening.
6. Hunters will be selected and assigned locations by the Westover City Urban Deer Hunt Coordinator or his designee. A completed application is not a guarantee that a hunter will be selected. The Hunt Coordinator or his designee will attempt to assign all qualified hunters, but there may be more qualified applicants than hunting locations. A hunter waiting list will be managed by the Westover City Urban Deer Hunt Coordinator and names will be added on a first come/first serve basis.
7. Locations for the hunt include, but are not exclusive to:
 - a. Initial Pilot Hunt Areas to be included:
 - i. Westover City Park (3 Locations)
 - ii. Westover City Radio Tower Lot (6.97 acres) (Westover Utility Board Property) - 1 Location

- iii. Eric/Shirly Giuliani Property (5.65 acres) - 1 Location
- iv. Properties can be added as permission is received (Once hunt is considered a successful pilot – this could occur as soon as December 1st, 2024).

8. All hunters, prior to receiving a permit authorizing him or her to participate in the hunt, must agree to hold harmless the City of Westover, City of Westover employees and officials, and the owner of the realty upon which they will be hunting from any and all claims for personal injury, death, or property damage arising as a result of the hunter participating in the hunt.
9. No person, without first receiving written permission from the Westover City Urban Deer Hunt Coordinator or his designee, may accompany a hunter while he or she is participating in this hunt.
10. Permits must be on a hunter at all times while hunting.
11. **2024:** Hunters shall utilize a Compound or Recurve Bow only (The hunter must qualify with the type of bow that they will be utilizing as well). Crossbows will be excluded at this time due to limited locations and due to the size and specific location of the pilot hunting areas.
12. Portable, ladder, saddle-type, or climbing stands are required for all hunters except for those who are physically disabled and have been issued a valid Class Y hunting license by the State of West Virginia or for sites where a ground blind has been approved. V. No nails or screws can be used to erect stands. (**2024:** No locations have been identified for ground blinds due to limited locations in pilot hunt)
13. Stalking deer on the ground is prohibited. This includes walking to and from designated hunting sites.
14. Those hunting from an elevated tree stands must use a full-body safety harness while in the tree.
15. All established hunting locations (e.g. tree stands) must be at least 150 feet (50 yards) from a dwelling (unless the homeowner has given written permission to be closer than 150 feet from their home) and established hunting locations must be 75 feet (25 yards) from any road.
16. The hunter's name and sequential numbers must be on all arrows used while hunting, i.e. J. Smith #1, J. Smith #2, J. Smith #3.
17. Shots of 25 yards or more shall not be taken. Shots of 20 yards or less is highly encouraged.
18. Currently a maximum of 7 deer can be taken by each hunter on their urban season tags (5 antlerless deer, 2 bucks). Additional deer can be taken on a hunter's regular West Virginia license providing they have the correct stamps for the corresponding seasons and they have filled all 7 of their urban deer tags.
19. In pursuance of the City of Westover's deer management goals and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources' regulations, an antlerless deer is required to be taken first. After that, 2 bucks can be taken as long as the second buck is preceded by an antlerless harvest.
20. Two deer may be taken per day and can be checked-in at the same time. While two does or a buck and a doe can be taken in the same day, two bucks cannot be taken in the same day (Each hunter must follow the WV DNR Regulations for deer harvest amounts and tagging).
21. If a wounded deer leaves the boundary of the designated hunting area, the hunter shall not

pursue the deer onto another's realty without first obtaining the permission of the owner of the realty upon which the hunter wishes to enter. The hunter shall not fire his/her bow once he/she leaves the designated hunt area assigned to him or her. If the wounded deer is located, while alive, on another's property, the hunter must contact the Westover Police Department at (304) 296-6576. The hunter shall identify himself/herself as a participant in the Westover Urban Deer Archery Hunt, and request assistance from the Police Department in retrieving the deer.

22. If a property owner does not give the hunter permission to enter his or her property to search for a wounded deer, the hunter shall inform the property owner that he or she can call (304) 296-6860 to have the deer removed from his or her property.
23. Under no situation will entrails be left on any property. A carcass is to be removed in its entirety or have entrails placed in plastic bags, removed from the property, and properly discarded.
24. All deer must be checked-in and registered by completing the following two-step process:

1. **Using West Virginia DNR's electronic check-in system by either calling 1-844-WVCheck or by logging into your account at <https://wvhunt.com/>.**
2. **Once the deer is checked-in, hunters must report their harvest(s) to Benjamin May by text at (304) 282-1490. The text must include a picture of the deer, hunter, and bow that deer was harvested with. This is mandatory for internal record-keeping.**

25. Hunters shall be required to comply with any additional restrictions set by the hunting realty owner which do not conflict with the Westover City Urban Deer Hunt Rules, the Westover City Code, the general statutory laws of the State of West Virginia, and the Rules and Regulations of the West Virginia DNR.
26. Failure to comply with any of the above requirements may result in a hunter's removal from participating in the City of Westover's archery hunt.
27. Before being issued a permit to participate in the hunt, all selected hunters must agree in writing to the foregoing rules.

I have read, agree to, and will follow all rules stated above. I understand that if I violate any of these rules or any other state hunting regulations, my permission to hunt the Westover City Urban Deer Hunt will be revoked.

Signature _____ Date _____