



2025 – 2026 Deer Archery Rules



1. Only Property Owners will be allowed to hunt within the specified hunting areas at Oak Run during the 2025-2026 season, and the fee will be \$125.00, with a 60 permit maximum. An Illinois hunting license is needed to apply for an Oak Run permit to hunt. Also, each hunter must show proof of \$100,000 liability insurance. No guests or hunters under the age of 18 will be allowed.
2. A “sign in sheet” will be placed at the kiosk located at the North Boat Launch. Before hunting the hunter must sign in personally. This will serve as a guide for compliance with all requirements stipulated above in item #1. **NO SMOKING in the kiosk**. In addition to Oak Run security and staff, the hunters will police themselves. After each hunt, the hunter must “sign out” at the kiosk. Anytime you are going into the outlots you must be signed in (hanging stands, tracking, etc). The personal hunter’s ID card, issued along with the vehicle card (displayed on dashboard), **MUST** be carried on the hunter while in the field.
3. Information will go on the sign-in sheets. This information is not voluntary. Sign in sheets are legally binding per Oak Run and the IDNR. Anyone caught falsifying these documents will be subjected to disciplinary action.
4. All Illinois State Rules and Regulations must be followed along with the proprietary Association rules. The 2025-2026 archery season will be from **October 1st to January 18th**. Hunting starts ½ hour before sunrise and ends ½ hour after sunset. Please remember that a hunter **cannot** carry any type of sidearm while archery hunting.
5. Hunting rights will be on a first come, first served basis. Applications will be available at the POA office. All hunters who did not hunt the prior year will have to go through the rules with the Fish & Sports Committee before they can hunt **and will have to qualify to shoot**. Each hunter will be required to sign a waiver and a statement attesting that he, or she, has read the rules, understands the rules and agrees to abide by the rules, according to the program. **Contact Tyler Rocke at 309-229-7481, or Gregg Schilling at 309-883-3231, for a rules meeting and to set up a time to shoot to qualify.**
6. All hunters are required to complete the bow hunter application and submit it with the required information and the yearly registration fee of \$125.00. Make checks payable to Oak Run POA. (An additional \$15 fee will be charged for lost ID cards.)
7. Hunting from tree stands only! Each hunter is allowed 3 tree stands. Stands **can** be set in the area of another hunters stand, but please be courteous about this. No ground blinds allowed, No stalking, and No standing at the base of a tree. No screw-in stands allowed. Hunters must wear a safety harness while hunting. **There is a 25 yard maximum shot distance**. This shot distance is a safety issue and must be adhered to.
8. Deer stands **must** be removed by March 15, 2026. All stands **not** removed by that date will receive a \$100 fine per stand. The fine must be paid and the stand removed before 2026 membership cards will be issued. Stands not removed before this date will be subject to confiscation.
9. Illegally set or unmarked stands will be confiscated, and hunting privileges will be revoked. Stands must be labeled with authorized Oak Run Tags (issued in the hunter packet). Tags must be visible on the ladder eye level or below for ease of identification.

10. In accordance with the archery hunt, each hunter is allowed to harvest 1 buck maximum, and unlimited does. A doe **must** be harvested before a buck can be taken.
11. Verification of harvest must be performed for each deer taken. Using your cell phone or a digital camera, take a photo of your harvested deer at the kiosk, keeping the kiosk in the background of the photo, and include your completed state harvest tag in the photo with the valid 10 digit confirmation number legibly visible. Promptly send the photo by text to **309-229-7481**, or email it to **poaoffice@oakrunpoa.com** including the hunter's name and hunter ID# as identification.
12. State law mandates that archery season be closed during the two weekends in November and December in counties which allow shotgun hunting. During the Firearm Youth season, Muzzleloader Only season, and the late winter Doe Only season, Illinois law requires that archery hunters wear blaze orange while hunting.
13. In accordance with Illinois law, crossbows are now allowed to legally harvest deer during archery season: However; Oak Run only allows the use of a crossbow for persons age 62 or older and handicapped persons who are issued crossbow permits by the Oak Run POA. Hunters caught using a crossbow without a permit will have their hunting privileges revoked.
14. Hunting is restricted to common area out lots only! No hunting stands will be allowed within 100 yards of any dwelling. Only areas highlighted on the map may be hunted. The map serves as a guide, and the responsibility lies on the hunter to maintain the 100-yard distances. No hunting outside of oak run drive (except for the walking trails outlots)
15. The purpose of the vehicle card is to permit parking of vehicles adjacent to the specified hunting areas. DO NOT park on Oak Run drive. Park on the nearest side road to access the outlot you intend to hunt.
16. Deer taken must be field dressed on common areas only. Deer straying onto private property must be removed to a common area for field dressing. Hunters shall be required to retrieve a deer from private property and are responsible to make a reasonable effort to contact the property owner. If the property owner objects, the property owner then has the responsibility to remove the deer. Illinois law allows the deer to be quartered in the field prior to checking it in. This is **NOT** allowed in Oak Run. Deer must be removed BEFORE quartering. There will be a list of people willing to help other hunters retrieve their deer if needed, please make a valiant effort to recover all deer.
17. **Any rule violation will result in immediate revocation of permits and non-approval of applications for the following year.** The personnel in charge will have the authority to extend the denied hunter application, depending on the severity of the incident.
18. Harvesting more than 1 buck or a buck before a doe is a violation of this program and may result in a fine of up to \$500.00 and loss of hunting privileges.
19. If you have an Illinois Turkey Permit, hunting is allowed from stands only as well.
20. No 4 wheelers or UTV's for setting stands or hauling deer.