



## *Archery Hunting Overview*

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Michigan State University is a 501(c) 3 Educational Institution and operates Fred Russ Forest. The priority of Russ Forest is research, outreach, and education. The property is owned by MSU, but open to the public during posted hours to increase recreational opportunities for the surrounding community.

Archery hunting is a popular and important recreational activity at Russ Forest. Hunters play a significant role in deer management and data collection associated with fluctuations in population size and health to mitigation of browse damage of active research. Russ Forest offers one of the most unique hunting experiences in southwest Michigan.

The hunting program helps MSU by improving the amount and quality of data collected. It will also enable MSU Staff to keep hunters informed about upcoming research, management, or educational events which have priority over other activities. Most importantly, monitoring who accesses the property allows MSU to provide the safest experience possible for all hunters, visitors, and staff.

Hunters must apply for a Russ Forest Archery Hunting Permit each season from **May 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>**. Hunters may apply for the annual permit as an individual or a hunting group (**up to 3 people**).

Hunters will be provided packets which will include the annual permit, parking pass, observation sheets, maps, previous season newsletter, and other important information. Hunters are required to complete observation sheets while hunting as part of the hunting program. The observation sheets must be delivered to the Forest Manager at the end of the season. Photos of your harvest are encouraged and will be included in the annual newsletter!

Hunters will be required to comply with all Michigan DNR rules and requirements, including obtaining a license and submitting any samples for collection.

Data collected may be shared with Michigan Department of Natural Resources, other educational institutions and state and federal partners to help promote important wildlife management and research.

**Please refer to the Archery Hunting Permit Application Process for additional information regarding important dates, permit fees and related terms and conditions.**



Department of Forestry  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Fred Russ Forest

## *Archery Hunting Permit Application Process*

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Applications are available online at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/fredruss/index>

Hunting dates: Regular Season only – October 1<sup>st</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Archery Hunting Permit Application Requirements

- Initialed copy of Hunting and Tree Stand Policy (attached, 1 page)
- Signed copy of Hunting Permit (up to 3 pages)
- Cash or Check for fee(s); make check payable to Michigan State University

You may submit the Application via email to [for.kelloggforest@msu.edu](mailto:for.kelloggforest@msu.edu) or by mail. Payment should be mailed to:

**MSU W.K. Kellogg Experimental Forest • 7060 N 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Augusta, MI 49012**

*Please write on envelope: "Attention – Russ Forest Hunting Application"*

Questions? Call or email: (269) 731-4597 or [for.kelloggforest@msu.edu](mailto:for.kelloggforest@msu.edu)

### Hunting Permit Fee

Annual Permit: \$35 per hunter (Russ Forest ONLY)

Combo Permit: \$65 per hunter (hunting privileges at Russ Forest and Kellogg Forest)

**\*\*\*Applications and payment accepted May 1<sup>st</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>\*\*\***

**NON-REFUNDABLE – ALL SALES ARE FINAL**

### Hunting Packet

Applications will be processed after **July 31<sup>st</sup>**. Hunters will receive materials digitally via email provided on application. Parking permits will be mailed to the address provided on application.

**Hunting packet:** Includes parking pass with hunter or group ID, hunting permit, observation/data sheets, map, and newsletter.

**\*\*\*Hunters who do not submit harvest sheets will not be eligible to hunt the following season.\*\*\***

### Use and Restrictions

- 1) The Permit must be kept on the hunter's person while hunting on MSU Forest grounds. Copies of Permits are **NOT** permitted. The parking pass must be prominently displayed in vehicle while hunting.
- 2) The Permit is for the sole use of the hunter(s) named. Designated MSU representatives may ask for permit, photo ID, and hunting license to verify they are the hunter named on the permit.
- 3) There is a \$25 replacement fee for any lost permit or parking pass.



## *Hunting & Tree Stand Policy*

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### **Hunting Policy**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Initials**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

- **ABSOLUTELY NO FIREARMS** permitted on Michigan State University property.
- Registration is required DAILY at the office.
- One** hunter or hunting group per hunting zone only
- Select one numbered hunting site from the map. First come, first serve basis.
- Register location on sign in sheet. **ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER.**
- When parking, **DO NOT** block gates, roadways, or access drives. Vehicles found to be in violation may be TOWED at owner's expense
- NO HUNTING** in Safety Zones, within 450ft of any building.
- NO BAITING** allowed.
- Please review the TREE STAND POLICY before using a tree stand.
- Observation Sheets and any Harvests must be recorded and submitted by the end of hunting season.
- All other State Regulations apply.

### **Tree Stand Policy**

- AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW**, only temporary portable stands or platforms can be used in the Forest. Stands cannot be affixed or attached to any tree by nails, screws, or bolts. Stands and blinds cannot be placed on MSU lands any earlier than **Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, and must be removed by March 1<sup>st</sup>**. Stands and blinds left on MSU land outside of these dates will be deemed abandoned and may be disposed of by MSU in its discretion.
- Hunter or Group ID must be prominently displayed on the stand or platform.
- Stands and tree steps cannot cause excessive damage to trees; screw-in steps are **NOT** permitted.
- Stands cannot be placed in black cherry, oak, or walnut trees; it is the responsibility of the hunter to identify tree species.
- Stands must not be visible from the main (gravel) forest road, and cannot be erected in the picnic grounds or within 450 feet of any building.
- Only a minimum of branches may be removed, using hand pruners, to improve shooting lanes. Branches cannot be cut with saws or loppers or torn by hand.

\*\*\*Russ Forest is a multiple-use property open to the public. You may be briefly interrupted by other visitors passing by on hiking trails. Any hunter harassment by other visitors or dogs off leash should be promptly reported to management. Management will do its best to inform hunters of operational activities during business hours. However, you may be inadvertently interrupted by research, management or educational activities which take priority.



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*Archery Hunting Permit Application*

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**REQUIRED APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Make/ Model \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, applicant for a Archery Hunting Permit, assume all risks and agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Michigan State University and its trustees, employees, agents and volunteers, against any and all claims, demands, suits, or loss, including all costs connected therewith, including but not limited to attorney fees, which arise out of or are in any way connected with my use of Russ or Kellogg Forest. I have read all of the Permit's terms, conditions, uses and restrictions as described herein and in the related Policy. I agree to strictly adhere to all of these terms, conditions, and restrictions. I understand that if I violate any of these terms, conditions, or restrictions, MSU may revoke my Archery Hunting Permit, without any refund of fees paid, and may refuse to issue a Permit to me in the future. The Permit is the property of the MSU and must be returned if your Permit is revoked.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hunter's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Forest Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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\*\*\*This page is **Not Applicable** if application is for individual hunter.\*\*\*

**HUNTING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE NAME**

\_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL PERMIT – GROUP PERMIT** For 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> designated hunters, as needed

2<sup>nd</sup> Hunter Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Make/ Model \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Hunter Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Russ Forest Manager's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



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**\*\*\*This page is Not Applicable if application is for individual hunter.\*\*\***

3<sup>rd</sup> Hunter Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Make/ Model \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Hunter Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Russ Forest Manager Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



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**For Office Use Only**

**Archery Hunting Permit and Parking Pass(s)**

Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Permit Type (circle one)    Individual/Group    Russ/Combo

Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Permit Type (circle one)

Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Permit Type (circle one)

Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Fee Due    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method (circle)

Cash

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Permit Approved By \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: