



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Governor Deval L. Patrick
Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray
EEA Secretary Richard K. Sullivan Jr.
DCR Commissioner Edward M. Lambert, Jr.

Press Release Contact: S.J. Port — (617) 626-1453 or sj.port@state.ma.us

For Immediate Release: November 28, 2011

Recreational Advisory: Hunting Season Notice for Park Visitors

WHAT: Hunting is permitted in many Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) state forests and parks. Hunting seasons are established by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, and licenses are required.

DCR Hunting Rules and Regulations do not allow hunting:

- On Sundays
- Within 500 feet of a building, parking or camping area
- Within 150 feet of a paved roadway

Park Visitors are encouraged to wear blaze orange or brightly colored clothing to increase their visibility.

For further information please visit: www.mass.gov/masswildlife or you can view a copy of the MassWildlife Hunting Abstracts available at any DCR facility headquarters.

WHERE: Please see the DCR hunting page for areas that are open throughout the year to hunting: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/recreate/hunting.htm>. Please be aware that the following locations have sustained storm damage: Dubuque State Forest (roads and trails are closed); Holyoke Range (trails closed); Mohawk State Forest (Rt 2 access is closed.) In addition, the following facilities were impacted by the storm. Please call the Park Headquarters for current trail conditions:

Wells State Park in Sturbridge- 508 347-9257
Douglas State Forest, Douglas- 508 476-7872
F.G. Hills State Forest, Foxboro-508 543-5850
Rutland State Park, Rutland- (508) 886-6333
Purgatory Chasm State Reservation, Sutton -508-234-3733
Spencer State Forest, Spencer -508-886-6333

Please use caution as other areas may have been impacted by storm damage.

WHEN: While most hunting occurs between October 1st and February 28th, the most intensive hunting activity occurs during deer season.

Generally, Deer Hunting Season is:

Archery: Mid October-First Saturday after Thanksgiving

Shotgun: First Monday after Thanksgiving-3rd Saturday in December

Muzzle Loader: 3rd Monday in December-December 31st

Dates vary according to calendar year, for specific dates please visit:
www.mass.gov/masswildlife.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Edward M. Lambert Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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