

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Rules and Regulations for the Government and Use of Reservoirs and Land under

Care and Control of the Department of Conservation and Recreation

313 CMR 11.09

1. Entrance on and exit from land of the Watershed System shall be made through gates or other designated areas.
2. No Person is allowed within any land of the Watershed System, except from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset, unless authorized by a written permit from the Commission or its designee.
3. Powered boats are prohibited within the Waters of the Watershed System except in areas designated by the Commission or its designee.
4. All acts which pollute or may pollute the water supply are prohibited. No litter or refuse of any sort may be thrown or left in or on any land or water within any Watershed System. All Persons within said System shall use the sanitary facilities provided for public use.
5. All acts which injure the property of the Commonwealth are prohibited. No Person shall injure, deface, destroy, remove or carry off any property, real or personal, under the care and control of the Commission, including but not limited to, all historic artifacts and natural materials. The removal of gravel, topsoil, stones, boulders, or other earthen material is prohibited from the Watershed System except for removal for official use for land management purposes by Commission staff. No Person shall build or construct any object or structure of the property of the Commonwealth except with the written permission of the Commission or its designee.
6. Cooking and all fires are prohibited within the Watershed System.
7. No Person shall wade or swim in any reservoir except wading while using boots for the purpose of launching boats at designated boat launch areas.
8. No Person shall wade or swim in any Tributary or Surface Waters on or within the property of the Commonwealth except at areas designated by the Commission or its designee.
9. Organized sports activities, including but not limited to orienteering and baseball, are prohibited in the Watershed System except by written permit from the Commission or its designee.
10. The Division or Department and its employees are not responsible for any damage to or loss of property sustained by fishermen, or for any injury or loss of life which may be incurred in connection with public use of the reservoirs and Watershed Systems
11. Breach of peace, profanity or other disorderly conduct offensive to the general public is strictly prohibited within the Watershed system. Possession of and drinking of alcoholic beverages is prohibited within said System.
12. No Person shall drive a motorized vehicle within the Watershed System except upon roads authorized for such use by the Commission or its designee. Recreational vehicles are prohibited on all Watershed System property except the use of snowmobiles in areas designated by the Commission or its designee. Motor vehicles shall be parked only in areas designated by the Commission or its designee. Operators of motor vehicles shall obey all regulatory signs unless otherwise directed by a police officer or person in charge. No Person shall willfully obstruct the free passage of vehicles or Persons within the Watershed System. Vehicle access for official use may be granted by the Commission or its designee.
13. No Person shall bring any animal within any Watershed System property except for horses and dogs at the Ware River Watershed at areas designated by the Commission or its designee.
14. The use of bicycles, skis and other means of non-motorized transportation within the Watershed system shall be permitted only in areas designated by the Commission or its designee.
15. No Person, except in an emergency, shall bring, land or cause to descend within any Watershed System property any aircraft except with a written permit from the Commission or its designee.
16. Parades, games, fairs, carnivals, fishing derbies, bazaars, gifts or solicitations for raising or collecting funds shall not be permitted within the Watershed System without written approval of the Commission or its designee.
17. Lotteries, raffles, gambling and games of chance are prohibited; and no Person shall have possession of machinery, instruments or equipment of any kind for use of same in the Watershed System.
18. Public assemblies of more than 25 persons shall not be allowed within the Watershed System without a written permit from the Commission or its designee.
19. No Person shall engage in any business, sale or display of goods or wares within the Watershed System without a written permit from the Commission or its designee.
20. Commercial signs and advertising are prohibited in the Watershed System.
21. No Person, unless authorized by law, license, or permit, shall have possession of or discharge any weapon, firearm, fireworks, or other explosive on or within the Watershed System. All forms of target shooting are prohibited on or within the Watershed System.
22. No Person may hunt, shoot or trap animals on or within any Watershed System property except at times and in areas designated by the Commission or its designee.
23. All Persons within the Watershed System shall obey the lawful directions of regulatory signs, police officers, DCR Rangers, or persons in charge, or of Federal or Commonwealth wardens or enforcement
24. The Watershed System or parts thereof may be closed for public access at the discretion of the Commission or its designee when necessary to protect the lands and waters under the care and control of the Commission.
25. The possession of all types of metal detectors or similar devices is prohibited on all of the Watershed System property.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

313 CMR 11.00: M.G.L. c.92A1/2 §§1 to 20; St. 1992, c. 36.

Special Rules for the Reservoir Zone Controlled Deer Hunt

- This hunt is for white-tailed deer only. Hunters are not permitted to harvest any other game during this special hunt.
- Access permits are valid only for the person named in the permit. The access permit will specify the hunting season for which each hunter has been selected. Certain areas shall be designated off limits to permittees and are located on the map provided. Access to the hunting area shall be by access permit only and shall be for the designated season and Reservoir Zone only.
- Hunting Implements:
 - Shotguns are allowed only during the shotgun season. Shotguns include shotguns with a rifled bore not larger than 10 gauge. Slugs only.
 - Archery equipment may be used during the shotgun season and primitive firearms season at Wachusett. MassWildlife Regulations apply.
 - Muzzleloaders are allowed during the shotgun season and primitive firearms season. MassWildlife Regulations apply.
 - Handgun: Handguns are not allowed for deer hunting and may not be in your possession while deer hunting.
- Use of Tree stands is permitted. Allowed 30 days prior to the controlled hunt and must be removed 30 days after the controlled hunt. All treestands must be visibly labeled with personal information: Name, Address, Hunter ID #
- All permittees must have a copy of their permit on them at all times. All permittees must display a copy of their permit on the dashboard of their motor vehicle.
- Access on DWSP property is one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset. This will be strictly enforced. Be advised: Legal shooting time is one half-hour before sunrise and one half-hour after sunset.
- All deer harvested during controlled hunt must be checked in at the Central Wildlife District Office, 211 Temple Street, West Boylston.
 - If you harvest a deer after hours and the MassWildlife office closed, you may check your deer online using the MassFishHunt website (<https://www.ma.wildlifelicenses.com>).
 - When entering the information on the MassFishHunt website, please choose "Special Hunt" when asked what type of land you harvested the deer on. Additionally, please type "Wachusett" in the "Comments" section.
- Hunters may not use a Zone 9 tag for antlerless deer taken in this hunt. They must purchase a Wachusett-specific tag to harvest an antlerless deer. Every selected hunter must purchase one antlerless tag. Hunters have the option to purchase a second antlerless tag. If you harvest a buck, you must use your regular buck tag.
- If you shoot a deer and it enters a restricted area or the reservoir itself call a Wachusett Watershed Ranger at 978-365-3800 or 508-792-7806 (M-F business hours) or MEMA State Control (24hr dispatch) 508-820-2000.
- Parking is allowed in designated areas. Do not block gates. Subject to fine or tow.
- Because the Reservoir Zone is surrounded by other landowners, hunters are reminded about the set-backs from an occupied dwelling and paved roads.
- A person shall not discharge any firearm or release any arrow upon or across any state or hard surfaced highway, or within one hundred and fifty feet, of any such highway, or possess a *loaded* firearm or hunt by any means on the land of another within five hundred feet of any dwelling in use, except as authorized by the owner or occupant thereof. (MGL Chapter 131 Section 58)
- Hunter Orange: 500 square inches of hunter orange on the chest, back, and head, regardless of the hunting implement you are using. NOTE: If using a blind, hunters must still wear 500 square inches of hunter orange on the chest, back, and head.
- No litter or refuses of any sort may be thrown or left in or on any land or water within the Reservoir Zone. No deer parts shall be disposed of within 100 feet of any brook, stream, wetland or other water body. All acts which may pollute the water supply are strictly prohibited.
- All persons within the Wachusett Reservoir Hunt shall obey the directions of regulatory signs, instructions contained on the use permit, and directions of police officers, Water Supply Division employees, environmental police officers, rangers and enforcement officers. Any violation of 313 CMR 11.09 will be deemed sufficient cause for revocation of hunting permit for a period of time not less than one year from the time of violation.

Important Phone Numbers:

Emergency: 911

MEMA State Control: 508-820-2000

Wachusett Ranger Office: 978-365-3800

DWSP Main Office: 508-792-7806 (M-F Business Hours Only)

Massachusetts State Police: 508-829-8410

Massachusetts Environmental Police (Radio Room):

1-800-632-8075