



**OPRHP's Statewide Hunting Regulations
Effective May 11, 2016**

Summary

The regulations set forth below govern hunting activities in all regions of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP).

These statewide regulations repeal and replace individual regional hunting regulations.

Section 372.7 Activities requiring a permit

(p) The use or possession of any bows and arrows or muzzle-loading weapons. Except for hunting permitted under subdivision (q), permits shall be subject to the following conditions:

(1) The use of bows and arrows shall be restricted to areas specifically designated for that purpose and conducted under the direction of a qualified supervisor.

(2) The use of muzzle-loading weapons shall be limited to demonstrations and interpretive programming conducted by staff members at State historic sites and to special events sponsored by the office, such as the reenacting of Revolutionary or Civil War battles. The weapons shall be loaded with blanks only.

(q) Hunting. The killing, wounding, hunting, molesting, taking, removing, or possession of any nest, game, wildlife, shellfish, crustacean, protected insects, or the eggs of any of the above, on or from any lands under the jurisdiction of the office, except pursuant to a permit issued by the region (Regional Permit).

(1) Regional Permits may include but not be limited to the following conditions: the areas designated for hunting; the species to be hunted; the implements to be used for hunting; and the dates and hours during which hunting is permitted.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this Part and Regional Permit conditions, the provisions of the Environmental Conservation Law and its implementing regulations in relation to hunting, including those relating to open seasons, hunting hours, manner of taking, use of firearms, tagging, and transportation, shall apply in the areas designated for hunting.

(3) The erection of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited. Regional permits may include a provision allowing a temporary hunting blind.

(4) The erection of permanent tree stands is prohibited. Portable tree stands may be allowed by regional permit provided that they do not damage any trees. Cutting, placing nails or screws into, or otherwise damaging trees or other vegetation is prohibited.

(5) No person shall hunt in an area of a park that is posted or otherwise identified as a
“Restricted Area.”

(6) A regional permit shall be valid only for the period for which it is issued, shall not be transferred, and may be revoked at any time.

(7) Hunters shall provide a report of their take when requested by the region.

(r) Trapping. The trapping of any game or wildlife on or from any lands under the jurisdiction of the office. The Commissioner may issue a permit or authorize the region to issue a permit for trapping if the Office has determined that the population of a specific species has increased to the extent that it may damage vegetation, constitute a hazard to the general public, threaten a state- listed species, or damage buildings or infrastructure.

Section 375.1 Activities absolutely prohibited

(p) Firearms and weapons.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) and (3) of this subdivision, no person, other than a member of a Federal, State or municipal law enforcement agency, shall introduce or possess, either upon the person or within a vehicle, or use any firearm, bow, crossbow, or any instrument or weapon the propelling force of which is a spring, rubber or air or any ammunition or propellant therefor, except pursuant to a permit issued according to part 372 of this Title.

(2) Any person employed by a private security firm which has contracted with the office or with a lessee or licensee of the office for services on property under the jurisdiction, custody and control of the office shall be permitted, with the approval of the office, to carry a firearm supplied by his or her employer in the course of his or her employment on such property,

provided that such person is licensed pursuant to section 400.00 of the Penal Law and meets such minimum qualifications as may be established by the commissioner. In addition, any firm providing security services on lands under the jurisdiction of the office shall provide public liability insurance, naming the State as an insured party, in such amounts as the commissioner shall require.

(3) On certain facilities of the Office, to be determined by the Commissioner, a person may possess an unloaded weapon for the purpose of accessing adjacent properties for lawful hunting purposes. The list of facilities shall be published on the Office’s public website.