

# 2025-2026 Cedar Rapids Urban Deer Hunt Rules

**All** participants in the controlled bow hunt **must** abide by the following:

1. Successfully complete a one-time bow-hunter safety education course.
2. Successfully pass an authorized archery proficiency test each year at Lewis Access Outfitters (no warm-up, only 3 attempts per year, 1 per 24-hour period, shoot at a life-sized target, 5 shots total at 15 yards with hunter required to score 100% in vital area of the target to pass the test). The bow must have no less than a 40-pound draw weight. Qualification can occur no earlier than August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current hunting period.
3. Attend a Hunt Orientation Class on one of the dates offered at Lewis Access Outfitters. **No make-ups or one on one classes. Late attendance will not be permitted.**
4. All hunters must have written permission from the owner or owners of each property that they hunt. Permission forms must be shown upon request. A copy of permission forms must be scanned and emailed to [j.andrews@cedar-rapids.org](mailto:j.andrews@cedar-rapids.org) or sent by mail to Jason Andrews, 713 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52403. Permission forms must be dated on or after August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current hunting period.
5. Hunters with fish or game violations within the past three years are subject to review and approval by the hunt manager.
6. No uncased bows on any public property including streets, sidewalks, trails, or parks.
7. There will be no driving, stalking, or baiting (salt blocks, corn, etc.) of deer.
8. All shots must be taken from elevated tree stands, at least 5 feet above ground, downward trajectory and oriented in such a position as to direct shots away from roads, trails, and structures. All stand locations must be approved by the landowner and may require Hunt Manager approval.
9. All stands must be located at least 150 feet from roads or recreation trails and at least 150 feet from any neighboring residence, building or property line unless given permission by the neighbor.
10. Hunters should know their effective shooting range and not shoot beyond that range. Recommended shots are 20 yards or less. Take only high percentage shots.
11. Be sure to identify your target as an antlerless deer (unless hunter has Buck Incentive Tag in their possession), focusing on adult does. If you harvest a button buck, you must check it in. Button bucks do not count towards the buck incentive.
12. Be aware of what is down range of your hunting stand and attempt to retrieve all arrows. If you lose an arrow, inform the property owner.

13. Hunters are required to register their deer with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) within 12 hours per IDNR regulations.
14. Hunters are required to register their deer electronically with the City of Cedar Rapids within 12 hours of harvest. If you do not have internet access, you must report via telephone at 319-286-5617. Internet check-in is highly encouraged.

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/22938c317a5743469b1e05e5df22fce3>



15. Contact the Hunt Manager if you are unable to locate a wounded deer within 12 hours or immediately if a wounded deer enters a highly visible public area.
16. Use proper field dressing techniques. Cooperate with the landowner regarding disposal of the entrails. Don't leave entrails in a noticeable location. Carcass disposal is the responsibility of the hunter.
17. Attempt to notify property owners before entering private property to retrieve a wounded deer.
18. Remove yourself immediately from any harassment situation with another hunter or citizen and report the incident to the IDNR Conservation Officer and Hunt Manager.
19. Report violators of any rules or regulations to the Deer Hunt Manager and IDNR Conservation Officer.
20. Always have the following in your possession while bow hunting.
  - A. Hunting License
  - B. Urban Deer Hunt Tag (Cedar Rapids Deer Management Zone 8)
  - C. City of Cedar Rapids Permit
  - D. Photo ID
  - E. Landowner Authorization
21. Deer may be donated to an approved recipient at the hunter's discretion.
22. Buck tags will be issued by the following procedure.

- A. The hunter must harvest 5 does the previous season. This information will be verified and provided to the Iowa DNR activating a buck tag for the next season.
  - B. The hunter can obtain their buck permit at Lewis Access Outfitters the following season when it becomes available.
23. Hunters aged 14 to 17 must be in the presence of a licensed adult hunter aged 18 or older that has met all Urban Deer Hunt requirements. The minor hunter, as well as the companion, must adhere to all rules stated herein. All hunters must qualify and hunt with a bow that has no less than a 40-pound draw weight.
24. Hunting is permitted from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
25. Be aware that seasons as well as rules and regulations for the controlled bow hunt may vary from one season to another. It is the bow hunter's responsibility to know the rules and regulations.
26. Cooperate fully in all investigations regarding a hunt incident or complaint.
27. Hunters found in violation of any of these rules shall immediately have their Urban Deer Management privileges revoked at the Hunt Managers discretion.
28. All stands shall have a tag attached to the bottom indicating the hunter's city permit number. Do not place your name, address, or any other identifying information on the tag. The tag can be homemade if it withstands inclement weather.
29. All applications must be submitted on or before the Monday preceding the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the hunt to ensure proper application processing time. Applications submitted after the Monday preceding the hunt will be handled at the Hunt Managers discretion. No applications will be accepted after the season has officially started.