

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

2022 STATE PARK DEER MANAGEMENT HUNT INFORMATION SHEET



Indiana Department  
of Natural Resources

McCormick's Creek State Park  
(812) 829-2235

THIS IS A FIREARMS ONLY HUNT



Memories made naturally.

**Please print a copy of this document for your reference. You are responsible for understanding all the following information.**

Important Note

We appreciate your willingness to help manage the impact from deer browsing. For this management hunt to be effective, please harvest any deer that presents a safe and ethical shot (within established bag limits), especially those that are antlerless. Please make every effort to be present during the management hunt. The number of hunters allowed at each park is strategically calculated. Your absence affects how successfully we reach our objective of a balanced ecosystem. Our #1 concern during this hunt is safety. With this in mind, the following information and rules apply:

- General:** All IN DNR Property Rules and Indiana Hunting Regulations will be enforced. Hunters are permitted to harvest deer only. No other animals may be taken during the management hunt. Friends and family will not be permitted to wait for hunters on the property during the hunt periods.
- Date & Time:** The 2022 deer management hunts will be conducted on November 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> and on November 28<sup>th</sup> & November 29<sup>th</sup>. The park will be closed to the general public starting from 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m., CST) on the Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> before the first hunt period through 8 a.m. EST (7 a.m. CST) on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and 8 p.m. on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> before the second hunt period through 8 a.m. EST (7 a.m. CST) Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> following the second hunt period. **ALL HUNTERS WILL NEED A PHOTO ID TO ENTER AND EXIT THE PROPERTY.**
- Hunt Hours:** Hunting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until 4:00 p.m. EST (3:00p.m. CST) on the days of the hunt.
- Hunter Sign-In:** All entrance to and exit from McCormick's Creek State Park will be via the Main Gate, located off State Road 46. All hunters will need to check-

in and check-out when entering or leaving the property. A photo ID and hunting license will need to be shown to enter the property.

**Bag Limit:** During each hunt period for which you have been drawn you are allowed to take up to three deer, only one of which can be antlered. These deer do not count against your regular state deer hunting license or bag limit. Please do not pass on antlerless deer for deer with antlers.

**Firearms:** All firearms, which may be legally used to hunt deer on public land in Indiana (as seen in the 2022-2023 Indiana Hunting & Trapping Guide) will be allowed. Archery equipment will NOT be permitted for these hunts, including the use of crossbows.

**Check Station:** All deer must be transported to the check station in the designated location on the property for biological data collection prior to leaving the property. You will be asked the sex of the deer and whether it is antlered or antlerless. Legal check-in is the responsibility of the hunter and is described below. The Deer Check Station is located at the main entrance gate. Deer Check Station hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Deer Check-In:** Hunters who successfully harvest a deer at state park deer management hunts must bring the deer to the designated location on the property for biological information to be recorded. The deer must have a temporary transportation tag completed and attached immediately upon harvest. Temporary transportation tags are provided below. The deer must also be checked-in through the online check-in system. Staff at parks are only keeping tallies of harvested deer, not checking them in. It is the hunter's responsibility to complete the legal check-in.

Deer can be checked in 3 ways:

- Online CheckIN Game System:  
<https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/portal/#/checkin/customer-information>
- Traditional check stations: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/hunting-and-trapping/hunting-trapping-guide/hunting-check-stations/>
- Phone-in option at 1-800-419-1326, however there will be a \$3 charge for this service (Visa or Mastercard only).

For general instructions on using the CheckIN Game system, visit this link:[https://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/fw-CheckIN\\_Game\\_how\\_to.pdf](https://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/fw-CheckIN_Game_how_to.pdf)

To check-in state park deer management harvests, use the following information:

- For county of harvest, please note that some properties span multiple counties

- You must select “Public – State” when asked for land type
- Select the appropriate property
- For license type, choose either “Early State Park” or “Late State Park.” Do not choose “Deer Reduction Zone.” The early management hunt is November 14 & 15 and the late management hunt is November 28 & 29; choose accordingly.

After submitting your information you will be given a Confirmation Number that must be recorded on your temporary transportation tag and kept on the carcass until processing.

- Accessibility:** If you have special needs, you should call the property office before Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> the first hunt and before Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup> for the second hunt, so we can try to accommodate any special needs you may have. If desired, drawn hunters who possess a persons with disabilities hunting permit may bring a non-hunting individual at least eighteen (18) years of age by November 14, 2022 to assist them.
- Tree Stands:** Non-penetrating tree stands may be put up by those drawn for the hunts. Steps must also be non-penetrating. A safety harness is highly recommended. Any stand left overnight in the park must have owners name, address, and phone number attached to the stand in some manner. We strongly suggest you place a lock on your stand. The park does not provide security for tree stands and is not responsible for missing or damaged stands. Stands may be installed beginning Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. All stands must be removed on the last day of the hunt, Tuesday November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Ribbon/Flagging:** If you intend to use plastic ribbon to mark the area of your tree stand, please use a color other than yellow and make sure to remove and collect that ribbon at the end of the hunt so as to not confuse later hunters and hikers in the park. Please practice “leave no trace” ethics to ensure a clean and high quality park.
- Ground Blinds:** Ground blinds will not be allowed for these management hunts.
- Non-Hunters:** If you encounter any non-hunters, other than those accompanying drawn hunters, please contact property personnel and they will handle it.
- Hunter Orange:** Hunters must wear both a solid hunter orange head covering (hat or cap) AND a solid hunter orange outer garment, such as vest, coat, or coveralls, during the time you are hunting in the park. This gear should be worn at all times.
- Lodging:** Canyon Inn will offer rooms to qualified hunters during the hunt. For information on rates and availability, please call (812) 829-4881. When

making a reservation, please notify the receptionist that you will be participating in the Deer Hunt. The dining room will be closed during the hunt.

**Alcoholic Beverages:** Absolutely NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES shall be possessed or consumed in the park or during the hunt.

**Scouting:** Pre-hunt scouting will be allowed and is encouraged. All normal park fees apply. Hunters will need to contact the office prior to going off-trail to scout. Please park only in designated parking spots. Parking along roadsides is prohibited.

**Safety Zones:** Safety zones have been established and you may not enter these areas except to retrieve a deer. Loaded firearms are not permitted in safety zones, buildings, or service areas. Do not shoot toward the safety zones if you are hunting near the boundaries. Shooting is not permitted into or across roadways, into or across waterways, towards permanent manmade structures, or into or across private property. Private residences are located within 100 yards of the safety zones in some areas.

**Park Boundaries:** In most cases, the safety zone boundary is also the park boundary. It is the responsibility of each hunter to know these boundaries and to safely confine all hunting activities to these prescribed areas. Public scrutiny demands you act as responsible hunters. Respect the property of adjacent landowners.

**Field Dressing:** Please do not field dress deer in any mowed or public area; field dress at least 50 feet from any road or trail and cover the entrails with leaf litter. Field dressing should occur out of sight from trails, roads, and off property residences. All items and equipment used to dress a harvested deer must be removed by the hunter upon departure.

**Retrieval:** You are responsible to retrieve your deer from the field. All deer must be brought to the check station prior to leaving the park. Never leave a wounded deer down inside the property. DO NOT leave the property and trespass on private property in an attempt to retrieve a downed deer. Contact the check station, park personnel, or Law Enforcement personnel immediately. Property personnel will not retrieve your deer for you, so please keep this in mind when scouting. If you cannot retrieve your deer alone, it may be in your best interest to choose a spot with flatter terrain.

**Assigned Unit:** There are no assigned hunting units for these management hunts. You may hunt anywhere, except safety zones.

**Meat Handling:** You must take possession of all deer you harvest. All hunters will be responsible for the processing of their own meat. No harvested deer should

be left at the park. Please plan in advance for donating your deer to charity or a foodbank if your freezer is full by the time of the hunt. It is up to you to pay all processing costs. When leaving the property with harvested deer, please cover them with a tarp or other suitable material. Hunters staying at the Canyon Inn will be allowed to cache their harvest on the property. Please inquire at the Check Station for details.

**Hunter Image:** Please leave a positive image of deer hunters for other park users by removing any trash at the conclusion of your hunt, picking up all spent shells and casings, and covering any harvested deer while leaving the property. As a general rule, please take out anything you bring into the park. Please practice “leave no trace” ethics to ensure a clean and high quality park.

**Parking:** You may park only in designated parking lots. Roadside parking and off-road parking is prohibited.

#### TAKING OF ANTLERED & ANTLERLESS DEER

Please keep in mind the purpose of your deer hunting opportunity on Division of State Parks properties is to manage the deer herd in order to prevent overbrowsing and the resulting damage to the properties’ vegetation.

Our primary goal is to take does since they have the largest long-term impact on a population. However, we recognize that antlered deer also directly contribute to the grazing impacts on the properties and appreciate your help with their removal. We are concerned that some hunters may be passing up antlerless deer and deer with small antlers. Those hunters who pass on opportunities to remove deer with no or small antlers are actually hurting our ability to reduce the overbrowsing problem. Whenever you have an opportunity to safely make an accurate, well-placed shot, please help us by taking that deer, regardless of the antler size.

We may also have hunters passing up deer because they have filled their freezer. While we do not want deer to be taken that will be wasted, if you do not need the meat from the 2nd or 3rd deer, please consider trying to locate someone prior to our deer management hunt who needs additional deer meat.

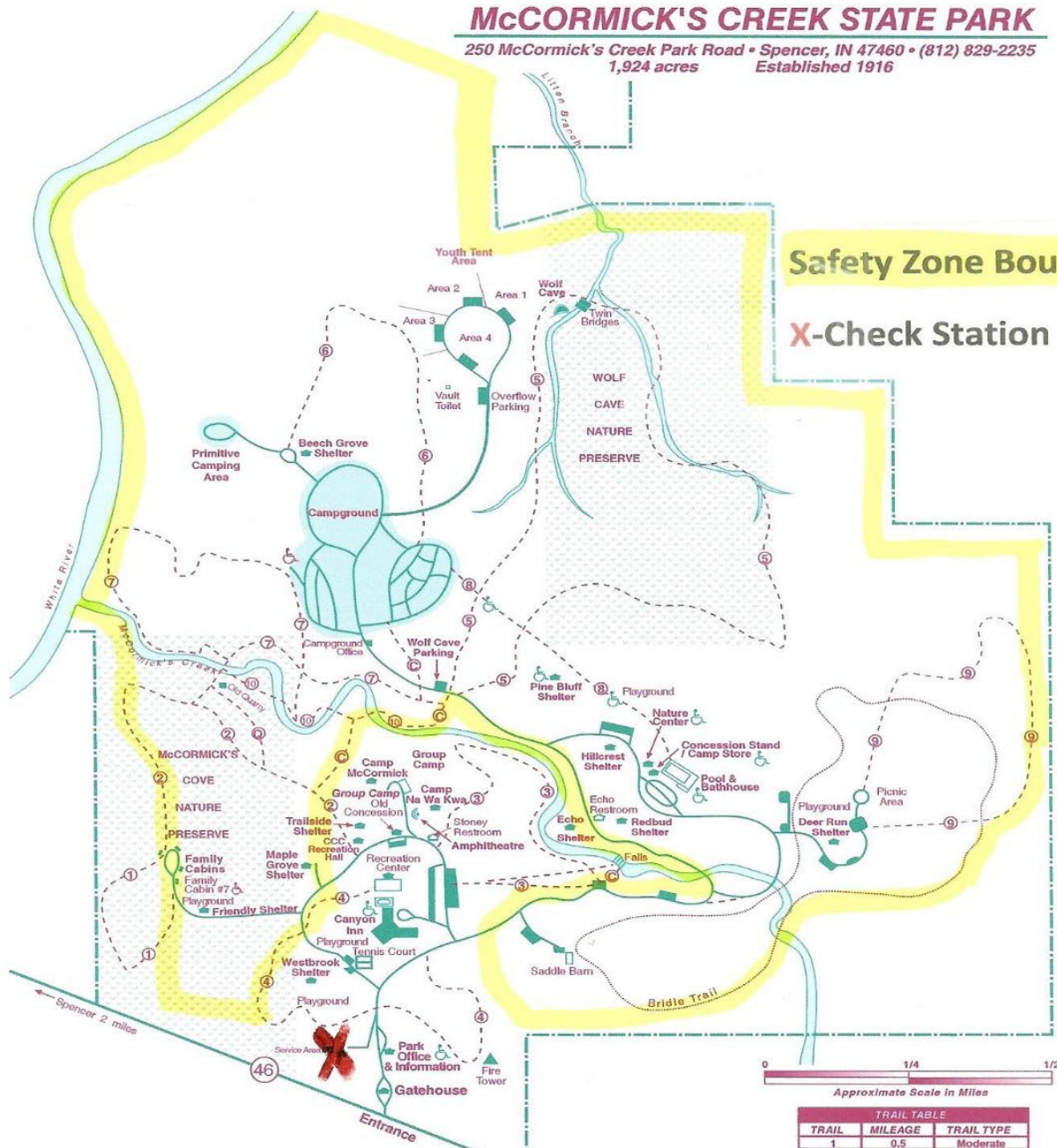
Thank you for your help in this important effort.

# McCORMICK'S CREEK STATE PARK

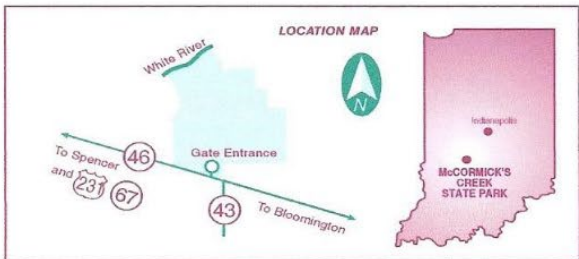
250 McCormick's Creek Park Road • Spencer, IN 47460 • (812) 829-2235  
1,924 acres Established 1916

**Safety Zone Boundary**

**X-Check Station**



Please let wild animals remain wild. Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of all wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to park visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.



TRAIL	MILEAGE	TRAIL TYPE
1	0.5	Moderate
2	1.0	Moderate
3	0.8	Rugged
4	1.4	Moderate
5	2.0	Moderate
6	0.6	Easy
7	1.8	Moderate
8	0.7	Accessible
9	1.2	Easy
10	0.7	Rugged

C - Connector Trails  
Q - Quarry Loop

LEGEND	
	Road
	Hiking Trail
	Horse Trail
	Nature Preserve
	Boundary
	Accessible

Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy.

**RECYCLE**  
Place used beverage cans in the park's marked recycling containers. Thank you!



# Deer Transportation Tag



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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

License number: \_\_\_\_\_

Deer harvest information:

Antlered or Antlerless (circle one)

Harvest Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Harvest Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation number\* : \_\_\_\_\_

\*Only required when using CheckIN Game



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