



Hunting Rules and Information

The Benzie Conservation District recognizes that hunting is a deep rooted activity here in northern Michigan and is part of our culture and heritage. The Benzie Conservation District (BCD) owns two parcels of land: the Maley property and the Herron Road property and hunting is allowed on both parcels. The Maley property is a 151-acre piece northeast of Honor off of Hooker Rd in Sec.35. It's mostly Red Pine and is being managed for timber production and eventual return to native forest land. The Herron Road property is a 5-acre piece between the two Herring Lakes in Sec.13 and is mostly lowlands occupied by lowland trees and thickets.

Hunting Considerations

Please remember, the properties are private lands and when visiting you are a guest of the conservation district. Please respect all forms of wildlife, your fellow sportsmen, and others that visit and enjoy these properties. They are multi-use areas open to the public on a year-round basis for such activities as hiking, nature study, bird watching, and cross-country skiing. Please keep this in mind at all times when hunting in the area.

Hunting Rules, Regulations and Seasons

The Benzie Conservation District has Specific Rules for hunting (see next section for details). Beyond those rules set forth by the BCD, the rules, regulations and seasons established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources broadly apply. All persons hunting or fishing on BCD properties are liable to prosecution for noncompliance of the rules and regulations stated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. MDNR Conservation Officers are requested by the BCD to patrol its properties. Michigan Conservation Officers are fully commissioned Peace Officers and are empowered to arrest for all violations of Michigan's laws. The CO's primary duties are enforcement of natural resource and environmental protection laws. MDNR rules and regulations can be found at: www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Rules Applicable to Hunting and Trapping

- Hunters are responsible to know all rules that are set forth by the BCD.
- The BCD reserves the right to deny or revoke hunting permission at its sole discretion.
- Unless otherwise noted below, rules regulating hunting on district property open to hunting are the same as those set forth by the MDNR.
- **Trapping is not permitted**, nor is any use of any trapping device on BCD property.

- Permanent deer blinds, tree stands, or duck blinds are prohibited on all district property. Screw-in steps and other devices that penetrate the bark of a tree are prohibited. Portable tree stands are also prohibited. The BCD has no responsibility for tree stands, blinds or other items placed on Conservancy property.
- The cutting of shooting lanes, or cutting or destruction of brush, trees or other plants for any purpose is prohibited.
- The release of live animals on district properties is prohibited.
- Hunting within 450 feet of any occupied building, or within 100 feet of any maintained parking area, or recreational structure is prohibited.
- Motorized vehicles, camping, and open or contained fires are prohibited on district property.
- Parking is only allowed on designated parking areas and within the right of way of a maintained road such that no vegetation is harmed.
- There is no charge or fee for hunting on district property that is open to hunting.

Safety Zones on BCD Properties

Trails, where they exist, are NOT closed during hunting seasons. Because of the open public use policy on the district' property, "Safety Zones" are of the greatest importance for all of the property users. The safety zone distance for an occupied building are the same as those stated by the MDNR, that being 150 yards (450 feet). The safety zone distance for parking areas is 100 feet.

Thank you for complying to these rules and respecting the rights of other BCD property users. For any questions, please call 231-882-4931.

This policy was adopted by vote of the Board of Directors of December 18, 2013.

Signed,

E.C. Cota, Chair

Date