



Beau Payne
BAY CONSTABLE

POLICE DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF SHELTER ISLAND
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Shelter Island Town Deer Management Program

Description

The Town's Deer Management Program controls all deer hunting on most public lands, as well as several private properties that have elected to join the program. The Program is part of a broader approach to island wide deer & tick management, primarily overseen by the Town's Deer & Tick Committee. A brief overview of the Committee's programs and goals can be seen at <https://www.shelterislandtown.us/deer-and-tick>.

The Shelter Island Police Department oversees hunting on Town Managed properties. We verify credentials and eligibility, schedule hunter access, and ensure compliance, in addition to enforcing all applicable laws. Before any property is utilized, we attempt to evaluate all considerations associated with hunting that property (e.g. owner wishes, neighbor concerns, legal mandates). Our goal is to only permit that which is both legal and prudent. Most private properties are not enrolled in the Town's Deer Management Program. Licensed hunters may legally hunt private property during recreational seasons in accordance with trespassing and discharge laws.

Seasons

Recreational Archery: October 1st - January 31st

Recreational Shotgun: January 2nd – January 31st

Culling (Nuisance Hunting): February 1st – March 31st

Hunter eligibility

In addition to possessing the appropriate NYS hunting license(s), hunters must also meet one or more of the following criteria to be eligible to participate:

1. Full-time resident of Shelter Island
2. Full-time employee on Shelter Island
3. Shelter Island property owner
4. Current or former member of the U.S. Armed Forces.
5. Enrolled in the Suffolk County Parks Archery Program

Hunters who do not meet these criteria may be sponsored by an eligible enrollee through our buddy system.



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Shelter Island Town Deer Management Program cont.

Rules and Regulations

If approved to participate in the Town's Deer Management Program, hunters must:

- Obey all NYS hunting laws and regulations
- Obey all Program rules and regulations
- Schedule all hunting activity prior to going afield
- Hunt only the properties assigned
- Hunt only the dates and times assigned
- Respect non-hunting uses of assigned properties
- Respect other hunters on assigned properties
- Report any safety concerns
- Report harvest information to SIPD within 48 hours

Property enrollment

Any landowner wishing to enroll their property in the Program should contact the Department's Animal Control Officer. Additional site specific rules and regulations are developed as needed to satisfy each owner's needs and concerns.

Venison Donation program

Any deer harvested on Shelter Island may be donated to the Town's Venison Donation Program. Deer are processed locally and meat is available free of charge at the Town Recycling Center located at 34 N. Menantic Road. Please contact the Department's Animal Control Officer for more information.

Incentive Program

Enrolled hunters who harvest four or more deer from Town managed properties are eligible to win prizes a bi-weekly lottery. Each additional deer taken earns the hunter one entry in that raffle period. Prizes are awarded at a rate one \$100 gift card for every two eligible hunters. A single, \$50 second prize is also awarded in each raffle period. Prize amounts increase during our Culling period.