



**Oak Mountain State Park
State Park Special Opportunity Area
Urban Deer Management Program
Hunt Guidelines/Rules**

Successful applicants may be accompanied by a hunting guest(s) 16 years or older as outlined below. Permit holders and their appropriate guest(s) must remain within their assigned hunt unit during hunting. Each hunting unit is clearly defined on the State Park Special Opportunity Area (SPSOA) map.

Following hunt registration and permit selection, permit holders will receive an email with instructions on how to pay the SPSOA fee. After the “payment window” has passed all hunters who have paid the SPSOA fee will receive additional information covering specific SPSOA information and unit assignments.

Note:

- A State Hunting License and Wildlife Management Area (WMA) License are required by all archery deer hunt limited quota permit holders and guests.
- Statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies to all SPSOAs and all deer harvested are to be recorded, data collected, at the kiosk and reported through Gamecheck.
- Administrators of the hunt shall have the right to inspect all vehicles or other equipment while on the areas.
- Any violation of SPSOA rules and regulations (220-2-.55 and 222-2-.140) or any other regulation or law while hunting on Oak Mountain State Park will result in that individual losing their eligibility for future SOA and SPSOA hunts.
- Failure to unregister for an upcoming hunt outside of 7 days prior to your permitted hunt start date and failure to notify State Park personnel of cancellation within 7 days of the hunter’s assigned hunt dates at Oak Mountain State Park will result in that individual losing their eligibility for future SOA and SPSOA hunts.
- Hunters shall only hunt in their assigned unit(s).
- Hunters may scout at any time during regular Oak Mountain State Park hours of operation but not during scheduled hunts. (Day use fees apply).
- Must attend a mandatory hunters meeting. The mandatory meeting will be held at Noon on the first day of the hunt.

OAK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK – STATE PARK SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY HUNTING AREA

(Shelby County)

Archery Only Deer Hunts:

It shall be unlawful to hunt on Oak Mountain State Park SPSOA unless selected by random draw for a limited quota permit for specific hunt dates on the assigned hunt unit. The permit holder and one guest may only access and hunt the assigned hunt unit for those permitted times and days. No substitutions will be allowed.

It shall be unlawful for any limited quota permitted hunter to hunt without possessing a daily permit obtained from kiosk self-service box located at the Archery Park. When obtaining permit, the tear-off stub with number matching daily permit must be filled out and deposited in slot of self-service box. The Observation/Harvest Report portion of the permit is to be retained in possession of hunter until the end of the day. The Observation/Harvest Report portion of the permit is to be filled out and deposited in return slot of the self-service box no later than 1 ½ hours after legal sunset on Days 1-3 of hunt period. On Day 4 the Observation/Harvest Report portion of the permit must be deposited in self-service box by 6:30 PM. The bottom portion of the daily permit should be torn off and placed on your dashboard. A new permit is required for each day hunted.

State Park Special Opportunity Areas (SPSOAs) hunts are a management tool used to reduce the deer population within the park boundaries. The reduction of the deer herd is important in maintaining a balanced and healthy natural community for all flora and fauna. This SPSOA public hunting opportunity has been created as a partnership between the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and the Alabama State Parks divisions of the ADCNR. Hunters (Permit Holder jointly with Guest) will be allowed to take up to 4 deer total for the duration of the hunt. Only one antlered buck deer per hunter per permit duration. All deer must be accounted for and data submitted. **New for 2024-2025: Hunters will be required to harvest one (1) doe prior to harvesting their buck.**

Deer hunters are required to record data of harvest date, sex, lactation presence, weight, and antler measurements on provided Observation/Harvest report forms at a SPSOA kiosk. Deer hunters are also required to extract the jawbone and leave it at SPSOA kiosk.

Hunters are required to email pictures of their harvest to the State Park Natural Resource Section.

(Shelby County)

DEER: (Archery) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice:

Hunting Schedule 2024-2025:

November 4 – November 7, 2024

November 11 – November 14, 2024

November 18 – November 21, 2024

November 25 – November 28, 2024

December 2 - December 5, 2024
December 9 - December 12, 2024
December 16 - December 19, 2024
December 30 - January 2, 2025
January 6 - January 9, 2025
January 13 - January 16, 2025
January 20 - January 23, 2025
January 27 - January 30, 2025
February 3 - February 6, 2025

Hunters may only take 4 deer total for the duration of the hunt permit. Only one of which may be an antlered buck. State harvest rules apply. By limited quota permit only for the properly licensed hunter permit holder. The permit holder may have one properly licensed hunting guest 16 years old or older on that specified hunt date and in specified unit.