



CONTROLLED DEER HUNTING PROGRAM (2025-2026)

REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

FOR INFORMATION OR TO APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM, CONTACT
OFFICER JIM SWOPE at (330) 425-1234 or jswope@twinsburg.oh.us

CONTROLLED DEER HUNTING REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of the City of Twinsburg's Controlled Deer Hunting program is to lawfully allow the hunting of deer within the corporate limits of the City for the purpose of deer population management. The program is overseen by the Chief of Police who may assign a Twinsburg Police officer to manage the operations of the program. Participants in this program must strictly adhere to the following regulations:

1. Any person who participates in the City's controlled deer hunting program shall comply with all deer archery laws, regulations and guidelines as prescribed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife which can be found [here](#). This includes hunters who are hunting their own property as well as those hunters holding permission to hunt on private land owned by another.
2. No person participating in this program shall hunt or take deer by any means other than a crossbow and bolt or a bow and arrow which must meet the ODNR Division of Wildlife's regulations on draw weight. The hunter must hunt from a tree stand elevated at least eight feet off of the ground. Each prospective hunter must **annually** demonstrate proficiency with a crossbow or bow and arrow in a manner prescribed by the Chief of Police and as tested by the Twinsburg Police officer assigned to manage the City's controlled deer hunting program.
3. Controlled deer hunting within the City of Twinsburg is only allowable during the deer archery hunting season as prescribed by ODNR. For the 2025-2026 the Ohio deer hunting season, deer archery hunting will run from Saturday, September 27, 2025 to : Sunday, February 1, 2026. Deer archery hunting in the City limits outside of the ODNR season is strictly prohibited.
4. Hunting shall be confined to an area of at least four acres. Property owners of less than four acres may join their properties together for the purpose of participating in this program provided that the properties to be joined are contiguous; not separated by a public roadway; and no more than two residential dwellings exist on the combined four acres. **All property owners must agree in writing that controlled deer hunting will occur on the combined properties. The Chief of Police may deny controlled deer hunting on a property or properties meeting the acreage criteria due to public safety concerns or proximity of denser residential areas. The Chief of Police's decision to prohibit any controlled deer hunting on a property or properties is final.** Homeowner associations may further restrict or prohibit deer hunting within their boundaries.

5. If the hunter is not the lawful owner of the land upon which he/she wishes to hunt, the hunter must secure written permission from the land owner(s) by completing the ODNR "Permission to Enter Private Land for Recreational Activities" ([Form DNR 8924](#)) with each property owner. The hunter must possess the completed form(s) at all times while hunting on the property(s).
6. The hunter must provide a copy of a declaration page from his/her homeowner's or renter's insurance which indicates that the hunter has at least \$100,000 of personal liability insurance coverage.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The prospective hunter must complete all the steps listed here before he/she will be issued a permit to participate in the City of Twinsburg Controlled Deer Hunting Program.

1. The hunter must complete the [DNR 8924](#) form for each property or which he/she wishes to hunt and provide a copy(s) to the Twinsburg Police Department.
2. The hunter must purchase all necessary State of Ohio hunting licenses and provide a copy(s) to the Twinsburg Police Department.
3. The hunter must complete the archery proficiency test as prescribed by the Chief of Police and scheduled by the Twinsburg Police officer who manages the program.
4. The hunter must schedule an inspection of the property to be hunted and of stand placement with the Twinsburg Police officer who manages the program to ensure program compliance.
5. The hunter must pay an administrative fee of \$25.00 in cash or with a check payable to "City of Twinsburg." The hunter will then receive a City deer archery hunting permit, a parking permit and City deer archery management permits AKA "deer tags."

HUNTING AND HARVESTING REGULATIONS

In addition to adhering to well-established and accepted safety protocols for hunting, the following regulations apply to those hunters who are participating in the City of Twinsburg Controlled Deer Hunting Program:

1. While hunting, the hunter should display the City issued parking permit while his/her vehicle is parked on property which the hunter does not own but has permission to use for hunting.

2. While hunting, the hunter must carry his/her State of Ohio license, City of Twinsburg permit and any applicable DNR 8924 "Permission to Enter Private Land for Recreational Activities" forms.
3. If a hunter has to pursue a shot deer onto a property for which he/she does not have permission to enter or hunt, the hunter shall notify the Twinsburg Police Department by contacting the Communications Center at (330) 425-1234 if the hunter plans on entering that property to retrieve the deer. The hunter must also attempt to notify the property owner.
4. Should a hunter harvest a deer, the hunter shall follow all steps for reporting the harvest to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife.
5. The hunter shall complete the issued City tags and submit them to the Twinsburg Police officer who manages the program within five business days of the harvest. The hunter may mail the tags to the Police Department or drop them off at the station.
6. If a property owner withdraws permission to hunt during the hunting season, the hunter must notify the Twinsburg Police officer who manages the program within 24 hours of the withdrawal either by email or voice mail. The officer will determine if the withdrawal of permission affects the hunter's ability to comply with the minimum land for hunting requirement and advise the hunter of the findings within five days of receiving notification from a hunter.

The Chief of Police may rescind the permit of any hunter who violates any of the City's Controlled Hunting Program regulations and may also prohibit a hunter who violates any of these regulations from future participation in the Controlled Deer Hunting Program.



Controlled Hunting Registration/Checklist

Name and address of hunter:

Phone number:

Email address:

Address or addresses being hunted:

Property owner(s) name and phone number:

- Attach a copy of permission slip(s)

Insurance Company and policy number: (Minimum 100,000 personal liability)

- Attach a copy of policy page

Hunting license number:

\$25 fee paid by cash or check made out to Twinsburg Police Department

To be completed by Officer:

Qualification date: _____

Officer signature: _____