Philosophy
McHenry County Conservation District supports hunting practiced in a legal, responsible, safe, and ethical manner. Regulated hunting is the utilization of a renewable resource and fits within the definition and framework of conservation. The District’s hunting program operates on the basis of three philosophies:

- Safety is the top priority of the hunting program. The highest standards of safety are demanded from all participants and staff involved in the program. Safety shall not be compromised.
- Only ecologically self-sustaining wildlife populations are included in the scope of the program. The definition of “ecologically self-sustaining” is those populations naturally found in viable numbers on Conservation District sites. These are populations that, through their own natural reproductive rates, can sustain their population.
- The District strives to integrate hunting into the list of recreational opportunities available on various sites it owns and manages. The activities of the hunting program will be tailored to prevent significant changes to the District-established patterns of public use on its sites.

Participant Eligibility and Compliance
All participants must show proof that they have successfully completed a state-approved hunter safety education course in order to be eligible to participate. In addition, to participate in the Archery Deer Hunting program each participant must pass a proficiency test.

- Participants will be selected by a lottery which is based on a point system.
- Each participant must attend an orientation meeting.
- Each participant must possess all necessary licenses, stamps, and permits as required by Federal and Illinois State law and comply with all Federal and Illinois State rules and regulations, unless the District regulations are more restrictive.
- Violation of any rule or exhibition of unethical conduct by a participant may result in revocation of that person’s District-issued hunting permit or a fine, or both.

Hunting Programs
The District sets zones within each site. A hunter (and his/her partners) is assigned to a zone for the duration of their opportunity. They must hunt within the boundaries of their zone from an elevated stand. All hunters must follow the set route in and out of their zone.

Types of Hunting:
- Archery Deer; Firearm Deer;
- Marsh, Field, and Youth Firearm Deer; and Waterfowl:

District Sites
In cases where a Conservation Area is open to the public and has been selected as a hunting program site, signs will be posted and it will be closed to the public for the duration of the hunt. These sites may vary from year to year.

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Partner groups are limited to three adult participants for archery and one participant (or one adult and one youth, under 18) for firearm deer hunting.

Waterfowl Programs
The waterfowl hunting program includes marsh only, field only, or combo, and a youth only hunt during the IL youth waterfowl season. The marsh only program includes the use of reserved and open marsh zones. Each marsh-reserved opportunity is four days (Friday–Monday). Field and Combo programs are aligned with the IL state waterfowl season, tentatively set for October 1 through January 14, 2021, 7 days a week.

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Fees
Fees for selected applicants are due before the hunting program’s orientation meeting. The Conservation District’s Hunting Program is open to both residents and non-residents.

Applications and additional information are available after June 1, 2020 online at MCCD.me/hunt. Public computers are available when Visitor Centers are open:

Lost Valley Visitor Center in Glacial Park
Route 31 & Harts Rd. Ringwood, IL
Prairievale Education Center
2112 Behan Road, Crystal Lake, IL

Application Deadlines (3:30 p.m. CDT)

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<th>Archery and Combination Hunt</th>
<th>Firearm Deer Hunt</th>
<th>Spring Turkey Youth Hunt</th>
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<td>July 14, 2020</td>
<td>August 14, 2020</td>
<td>February 12, 2021</td>
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Firearm Deer Hunting
Glacial Park, Marengo Ridge and Rush Creek Conservation Areas will be closed to the public during the following dates:

- **First Season**: Nov. 20 – 22, Glacial Park, Ringwood
- **Second Season**: Dec. 3 – 6

Sites:
- Marengo Ridge, Marengo
- Rush Creek, Harvard

Combination Archery/Firearm Deer Hunting

Full Season: October 1 – January 17, 2021

- **Sites**: Brookdale – Paulson Rd., Bunker Hill Rd., Deep Cut Rd, Brookdale Rd., Woodstock
- Coral Woods, Marengo
- Kishwaukee Corridor, Marengo

Late Season: November 1 – January 17, 2021

- **Sites**: Brookdale – Deep Cut Rd., Woodstock
- Glacial Park, Ringwood (plus Firearm Nov. 20 – 22)

Waterfowl Hunting
- Note: All dates are tentative; Seasons are not yet set by state and federal agencies.

Marsh Only (Reserve): October 17 — December 14

- **Sites**: Glacial Park – Pickerel Creek, Richmond
- Hebron Peatlands, Hebron

Marsh Open (Reserve or Combo): October 17 — End of Season

- **Sites**: Kishwaukee Corridor quarry – Rt. 20, Marengo
- Pleasant Valley – Hemmingsen Rd., Woodstock
- Queen Anne pond – Queen Anne Rd., Greenwood

Field Open (Field Only or Combo Hunt): October 17 — End of Season

- **Sites**: Brookdale – Dunham Rd., Woodstock
- Kishwaukee Corridor field
- Ballard Rd., Crystal Lake; Burma Rd, Marengo
- River Rd., Marengo; Cty Line Rd, Marengo
- Pleasant Valley – Hemmingsen Rd., Woodstock
- Queen Anne field – Queen Anne Rd., Woodstock

Youth: October 10 and 11 (Sat. and Sun.)

- **Sites**: Glacial Park – Pickerel Creek, Richmond
- Hebron Peatlands, Hebron
- Kishwaukee Corridor quarry – Rt. 20, Marengo
- Pleasant Valley – Hemmingsen Rd., Woodstock
- Queen Anne pond – Queen Anne Rd., Greenwood

Spring Turkey Youth Hunt
March 27–28 and April 3–4, 2021

- **Site**: Brookdale, Woodstock