

Council Bluffs Urban Deer/Turkey Management Program

Bow Hunting Guidelines and Rules For The 2022-2023 Season

(Deer Season - running from September 17, 2022– January 22, 2023)

(Turkey Season – Double Season - First Season - October 1 – December 2, 2022

And 2nd Season – December 19, 2022 – January 10, 2023)

1. All bow hunters must have a current I-DNR hunting license and reside in Iowa to be part of this program. In addition, all hunters shall be required to take I-DNR's online bow hunting safety course or equivalent training as determined by the Chief Animal Control Officer. There are two parts to getting your Iowa Bowhunter Certificate. The first is the online classroom portion, the second is the field training portion. The online portion can be accessed at: www.bowhunter-ed.com/iowa/. There is a \$30 online fee for the online classroom portion. All hunters that have previously taken the Iowa online bow hunters course will not have to repeat that class to become certified for the Council Bluffs Urban Deer/Turkey Management Program. You will have to prove, with Certification Number, that you took and passed the test. **Since there are no field classes in this area, the online classroom portion is the only portion that will be mandatory for 2022-2023 season.**
2. All hunters must pass an archery proficiency test. This test is a demonstration of skill. Hunters must place 5 out of 5 arrows in the kill zone of a 3-D deer target at 20 yards. Proficiency tests must be renewed every year with the exception of those hunters that took ten (10) or more deer in the 2021/2022 season.
3. All hunters must have written permission from the owner or owners of the property upon which they hunt. Permission forms must be carried with the hunter at all times along with the Urban Deer /Turkey Management Certificate and I-DNR hunting license. The permission form must also be on the hunter when transporting a deer/turkey or any other hunt related activity. The following areas are permitted for bow hunting within the corporate limits of Council Bluffs: all A1 and A2 zoned areas as well as R1, R2, and R3 zoned areas of one acre or more.
4. All hunters must obtain a Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Certificate from the Council Bluffs Animal Control Division prior to being allowed to obtain a City antlerless tag from Woods Sporting Goods, 531 Veterans Memorial Rd. In order to obtain his/her Certificate, the hunter must complete and show proof of completing a hunters safety course; proof of proficiency test certification. (A hunter will be limited to purchasing no more than (5) tags at a time. Once the five tags are filled, a hunter can again purchase (5) five additional tags. There are a total of 300 tags available this year. 1st tag - \$28.50; 2nd tag and all additional- \$15.00.

Bow hunters wanting to purchase turkey tags shall be limited to two (2) tags for the year. The cost is \$28.50/tag. (Reminder: Only female turkeys should be taken within the Council Bluffs Urban Turkey Management Program.)

Bow hunting is allowed for both deer and turkey from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

5. There shall be no driving or stalking of deer or turkey.

6. Shooting shall be from an elevated position - at least 6' above ground level with all shots in a downward trajectory and be at least 150 feet from all city improved trails, roads, buildings and at least 500 feet from any residence, (or at the landowner's permission.) All hunting stands, hunting positions or stand locations must be approved by the landowner.
7. Know your effective shooting range and do not shoot beyond that range. Recommended shots are 20 yards or less.
8. Be sure to identify your target as an antlerless deer. Does will count towards incentive programs developed and approved by the City of Council Bluffs and the Iowa DNR. However, button bucks will not be eligible for inclusion into incentive programs. Harvesting of antlered animals is prohibited except within the scope of incentive programs approved by the City of Council Bluffs and the Iowa DNR. Harvesting of antlered animals may subject the hunter to all appropriate legal penalties and may result in the suspension of the hunter's Council Bluffs Urban Deer Certificate .
9. Take only high percentage shots-avoid wounding deer.
10. Be sure of what is down range of your hunting position and make every effort to retrieve arrows. If an arrow is lost, the landowner should be informed that the arrow has not been retrieved.
11. The hunter shall report to the Chief Animal Control Officer, Galen Barrett at gbarrett@councilbluffs-ia.gov within 12 hours after a deer has been harvested. Verifying your deer this year shall consist of the following: 1. Taking a picture of the doe's head. 2. Picture of the attached tag. 3. I-DNR Tag Number 4. Date when doe was harvested. 5. Location of where doe was taken. 6. Hunter shall identify him/herself by name. Send this information to the abovementioned email. The same procedure shall be followed for those bow hunters taking turkey.

I-DNR requires that the Transportation Tag, with the date of harvest properly recorded, demonstrates proof of possession and must be attached within 15 minutes of harvest or before the animal is removed, whichever ever come first. The Transportation Tag must be attached to the deer leg if antlerless and also to the leg of a turkey.

All successful hunters who harvest a deer or turkey must report the harvest to I-DNR by midnight on the day after it is tagged, or before taking it to a locker or taxidermist, or before processing it for consumption. Report by Phone: 1-800-771-4692 or **Online** at www.iowadnr.gov, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **Failure to report or reporting falsely may result in a misdemeanor citation.**

12. The hunter shall report to the Chief Animal Control Officer by phone (712-328-4656) within 12 hours if they are unable to locate a wounded deer or turkey and provide information and assistance to the Chief Animal Control Officer to assist in the tracking and recovery of the animal.
13. Remember, additional tags can be purchased from Woods Sporting Goods, 531 Veterans Memorial Rd. (Limit of 5 tags at a time.) The number of tags issued will not exceed the 300 issued by the I-DNR.
14. Use proper field dressing techniques. Cooperate with the landowner regarding the location or disposition of entrails. All deer or turkey must be covered or enclosed during transport.
15. Remove yourself from any harassment situation and immediately report the incident to the Chief Animal Control Officer and DNR officer.
16. Report violators to the DNR conservation officers or the Chief Animal Control Officer.

17. To be eligible to receive a Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Certificate applicants may not have any fish or game violations in the past three years according to the DNR.
18. All hunters shall have in their possession at all times during the hunt and the transporting of a deer/turkey: a valid Iowa hunting license, habitat stamp, proper deer or turkey tag, a signed and completed landowner permission form, and a Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Certificate.
19. The Council Bluffs Urban Deer Management Bow Hunting Season will run continuously during the state archery deer season . The Council Bluffs Urban Turkey Management Bow Hunting Season will follow I-DNR's Fall Turkey Season exactly. All hunters shall observe all state rules and regulations with exceptions for this special program within the city limits. Boundaries are anywhere within the Council Bluffs city limits that are zoned R1, R2, R3, A1 and A2 and only on private property with exception of Fairmont Park, Sternhill Parks and the City Cemetery which have hunters already selected to hunt these areas.

20. ***INCENTIVE PROGRAM***

All hunters participating in the 2022/23 urban deer hunt are eligible to participate in an incentive program for the chance of obtaining one of (10) ten buck tags. At the conclusion of the 2021-22 season, all hunters harvesting at least 4 does during the season will have their name placed in a drawing for an incentive buck tag. The incentive buck tag will be valid for the 2022/23 season. The ten bow hunters shall be notified by phone. *There are no incentive programs for turkey at this time.*

21. ***QUALIFYING FOR 2022/2023 PROGRAM***

This year, all qualified hunters from last year will be eligible to requalify this year.

**Council Bluffs Animal Control – 1020 Railroad Ave., Suite B, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Phone (712) 328-4656**