



**Black Hawk County
Special Area Tag Application
2025-2026**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Meeting _____
Prof. Test _____
Bow Ed. _____
Hunter Ed. _____
Hunting Lic. _____
Liability _____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____ D.L. # _____
City, State _____ Zip _____ E-mail _____
Phone (w) _____ (h) _____

I hereby agree to abide by the rules & regulations as set forth for the Black Hawk County Special Deer Management Zone. Failure to abide by the Deer Management Zone Special Rules may result in forfeiture of my special area tag. Notice Rules & Procedures #21.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Due to the nature of this hunt, a minimum of five years deer bow hunting experience is recommended. This is not a beginner's hunt.

Applications and copies of the following are **due on or before Sept. 25, 2025** none will be accepted after this date.

- ___ 2025 hunting license and habitat fee
- ___ International Bow hunter Education Class card
- ___ Hunter Safety Education card (if born after January 1, 1972)
- ___ Maps & permission letter **must use form letter** (if hunting private property)

- I. To hunt public or private property you need to have completed and have in your possession the following: A. Certificate of completion of an International Bow hunter Education Program. **Only have to complete once Contact Lori for Bow Ed. book to complete questions & attend Field Day Aug. 16, 2025 8 am-Noon.**

Register for Bow Ed Field Day: <https://license.gooutdoorsiowa.com/Event/ViewEvent.aspx?id=3417>

Proof of a 2025 proficiency test. The proficiency test can be taken at any of the times listed. See attachment.

- C. To hunt **private** property you will need the above items and:

1. Written permission from landowner(s) on **Landowner Permission form letter**.
 2. Aerial photo clearly showing boundaries of the area to be hunted at: <http://www2.co.black-hawk.ia.us/website/bhmap/viewer.htm> or [google maps](#)
 3. Approval of the hunting private ground will be done by Iowa DNR, Zone Managers and Law Enforcement Officers
- D. Special area tag.
1. Cost **\$28.50** for the first and **\$15** for additional, payable upon receipt (**cash or checks only**). Tags are available beginning **September 17, 2025**, only at **George Wyth State Park 232-5505**
 2. Photo copies of items A, B, (and C if hunting private land) must be attached to this application before purchasing a special area antlerless tag. Must complete all requirements before purchasing a license.

II. **Hunters that hunt Public Property**

- A. Once your application, copy of license, proficiency test, informational meeting, Bow Ed. and Hunter Ed. **have been received** you will be assigned a season and zone. You will be notified of the results by (e)mail. B.

- B. Complete the following: **Do not include seasons in which you do not want to hunt!**

(Rank order of seasons 1-4 and zones 1-13 with 1 being first choice.)

___ Season 1 (Oct. 6-Oct. 31 weekdays until noon, only)

___ Season 2 (Nov. 1-Nov. 16)

___ Season 3 (Nov. 17-Dec. 7)

___ Season 4 (Dec. 8-Jan. 10, 2026)

___ Zone A-Wyth

___ Zone B-Wyth

___ Zone C-HRNC

___ Zone C1-Sherwood

___ Zone D-BHP

___ Zone E-KGB

___ Zone M-Big Woods

___ Zone F-KGB

___ Zone G-KGB

~~XX~~ Zone H-UNI

___ Zone J-Deerwood/Evans.

___ Zone K-Evansdale/Casebeer

___ Zone L-Elk Run Hts.

___ Zone N-San Souci Island

Zone J-Deerwood only seasons 2-4

Buddy Zones-- ask for details

- C. Any hunter that harvests 3 does in any zone or approved private property will qualify for an any sex license for 2026-2027. **Bucks WILL NOT be harvested in Katoski Greenbelt Zones E, F & G.** These licenses will be available on the first day of the first season of 2026-2027. For the hunters that harvested 3 does in 2024-2025.

Bucks will be harvested where the does were harvested except for Katoski Greenbelt, these hunters will **work with the DMZ administrator** for a different public zone.

III. **Informational Meetings/International Bow Hunter Education follow link to register for Bow Ed. Field Day**

Hunters **must attend one** of two informational meetings and have **completed** the bow education course with field day

→ **Wednesday, Sept. 3**, 6 pm. at **Hartman Reserve Nature Center** (info. meeting)

→ **Saturday, Sept. 13**, 10 am. at **Hartman Reserve Nature Center** (info. meeting)

→ Bow Ed. get book from Lori and then the field day portion will be **Sat. Aug. 16, 8-Noon** at Black Hawk Park

→ Proficiency Test **Wed. Sept. 10, 4-6 p.m.** **Crossbow 6-7 pm** & **Sat., Sept. 13, 11:30-2 p.m.** **Crossbow 2-3 pm** @ Black Hawk Archery Range

→ **Register for Bow Ed Field Day:** <https://license.gooutdoorsiowa.com/Event/ViewEvent.aspx?id=3062>

- IV. **Return this application to:** Lori Eberhard **BY SEPTEMBER 25, 2025** no applications accepted after this date. **George Wyth State Park 3659 Wyth Road, Waterloo, IA 50703** or email: lori.eberhard@dnr.iowa.gov

**Rules, Procedures and Ethics
Special Area Deer Management Zone
Black Hawk County
2025-2026**

1. George Wyth State Park, Hartman Reserve Nature Center, Black Hawk Park, Katoski Greenbelt, Evansdale, ~~UNI~~
~~Properties~~, Elk Run Hts., Big Woods Lake and San Souci Island have been divided into 13 zones. These zones are shown on
available maps at www.blackhawkcounyparks.com.

The special hunt in these zones has been separated into four seasons:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. October 6-Oct. 31 (weekdays until noon only) | 3. November 17-December 7 |
| 2. November 1-November 16 | 4. December 8 -January 10, 2026 |

All Antlerless Deer Management Zone Licenses will be sold through the Electronic Licensing System at George Wyth State Park beginning September 17, 2025. (Hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm M-F) Office 232-5505, Lori 319-269-6705 **Call before coming to the park!**

2. Hunters must have completed an International Bow Hunter Education course **ONCE**
3. Hunters must pass the archery proficiency test, **Wed. Sept. 10, 4-6 pm CB 6-7 pm or Sat. Sept. 13, 11:30 to 2 pm CB 2-3 pm at Black Hawk Park archery range. Hunters will shoot 5 arrows at each of the 4 stations and are allowed only one (1) miss per station. Proficiency tests will be given according to the attached schedule. Hunters must hunt with the same type of bow which he/she qualified with.**
4. To hunt on private lands within the Special Deer Management Zone, you **must also do the following:**
Official Landowner Permission Form letter filled out and signed by the landowner and hunter and a copy of an aerial map of the land with the boundaries shown. You must provide this information for approval **ANNUALLY**
5. Have approval of the site by an Iowa DNR Conservation Officer, **Evansdale Police Chief, Cedar Falls Police Department & Elk Run Hts. Mayor.**
5. All hunters must attend one of the two informational meetings which have been set for **Wednesday, Sept. 3, 6 pm. or Saturday, Sept. 13, 10 am at Hartman Reserve Nature Center, 657 Reserve Dr. Cedar Falls, IA**
6. Hunters will be assigned to a season and a zone within the Wyth/Hartman complex, Black Hawk Park, the Katoski Greenbelt, the ~~UNI~~Property, Evansdale, Elk Run Hts., Big Woods & San Souci Island. If you do not fill your tag before the end of your season, **contact the Zone Manager** of the area you want to hunt. You may be able to continue hunting in another empty slot.
7. **Any hunter that harvests 3 does in any zone or approved private property will qualify for an any sex license for 2026-2027. Bucks WILL NOT be harvested in Katoski Greenbelt Zones E, F & G. These licenses will be available on first day of first season of 2026-2027. For the hunters that harvested 3 does in 2024-2025 Bucks will be harvested where the does were harvested EXCEPT Katoski. These hunters will work with the DMZ administrator for a different public zone.**
8. *All bows must be cased while in transit to the stand. No bow may be carried or displayed within 600 feet of any residence without the permission of the owner (Waterloo City Ordinance).*
9. No driving or stalking of deer. The hunter must shoot from a stand (ground or tree) and be at least 25 yards from all designated trails, roads and public buildings. Hunters cannot shoot across a road or trail. Katoski Greenbelt hunters cannot hunt within 75 yards of Greenbelt Lake. **Evansdale requires an elevated stand & be 200' from residence/building.**
10. Shots limited to **20 yards or less.**
11. Identify your target as an **antlerless** deer before taking your shot.
12. Take only high percentage shots - **Avoid Wounding Deer!**
13. Know what is down range of your stand and make every reasonable effort to retrieve arrows.
14. The hunter shall report to the **check station** at George Wyth Park Office, or make arrangements with Conservation Officers, Karl Kozak, Lori Eberhard or Hartman Reserve Nature Center (weekdays) for alternative locations with the deer within 24 hours after a deer has been harvested. If the hunter is unable to locate a wounded deer he/she will contact the manager in that zone, within 12 hours.
15. Hunters shall follow all state and county hunting laws including, but not limited to, **no screw-in tree steps, pins, or nails,** no cutting of natural vegetation. **No baiting!**
16. If you take a deer and wish to continue hunting, contact George Wyth for an additional tag during normal business hours. Hunters may purchase up to **two** tags at first and are eligible to buy an additional tag for each deer they check-in.
17. Use proper field dressing techniques. Do not leave entrails in a conspicuous location.
18. Respect private property! Trespassing will not be tolerated. Locate park boundaries and stay on the public side.
19. Remove yourself from any harassment situation and immediately report the incident to a DNR conservation officer or zone manager.
20. **All tree stands used by DMZ hunters will display a tag on the platform (bottom of seat if no platform) & visible from the ground. Hunters can get extra tags if they have multiple stands. Any stands found without the tag will be removed from the area.**
21. Report violators to the DNR conservation officers. **Hunters charged with violations in the DMZ or other hunting related offenses will lose their hunting privileges in the DMZ hunt and could lose statewide hunting privileges.**

Important Phone Numbers (all 319-area code unless marked)

IADNR Conservation Officer- Lynn Koch	240-5034	George Wyth Park Manager-Lori Eberhard	269-6705(cell)
BHCCB Director- Mike Hendrickson	433-7275	Black Hawk Park- Karl Kozak	(507) 272-9783
George Wyth Park Ranger- Chase Burtness	(515) 336-3300	Big Woods Lake- Ben Rindels	504-6054
George Wyth Park Office—Lori or Chase	232-5505	Nature Center Director-Amy Davison	277-2187

Waterloo Leisure Service-Todd Derifield
Evansdale Police- Mike Dean

291-4370
232-6682

Cedar Falls -Kevin Cross
Elk Run Hts. Mayor- Kristi Lundy

273-8629
232-0020