

Portable Accessible Hunting Blind

Policy, Guidelines, and Usage Agreement

Board Approval Date	Effective Date	Last Reviewed
September 21st, 2026	September 21st, 2026	September 21st, 2026

1. Board Policy

Purpose

The Hamilton County Conservation Board (HCCB) recognizes the importance of providing accessible outdoor recreation opportunities for wounded veterans and individuals with physical disabilities. HCCB maintains a portable accessible hunting blind to assist eligible hunters in participating in lawful deer hunting activities on property owned or managed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board.

Policy

The portable accessible hunting blind is intended for use by wounded veterans and individuals with physical disabilities that make the use of a traditional hunting location or hunting blind difficult or impractical.

The blind shall be used only on land owned or managed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board and at locations approved by HCCB staff. The blind shall not be loaned, transported, or used on privately owned property or other property not under HCCB management.

Use of the blind is a privilege and is subject to availability, applicable hunting regulations, site conditions, public safety considerations, and approval by HCCB staff.

HCCB reserves the right to establish designated hunting locations, dates, hours, access routes, parking areas, and other conditions necessary to provide a safe and responsible hunting opportunity.

All hunters using the blind must possess all licenses, permits, tags, and certifications required by the State of Iowa and must comply with all applicable federal, state, county, and HCCB regulations.

HCCB staff may deny, suspend, or terminate use of the blind when necessary for public safety, property protection, violation of these guidelines, adverse weather or site conditions, or other management considerations.

Prior to using the blind, the hunter shall review the applicable guidelines and complete the HCCB Portable Accessible Hunting Blind Usage Agreement.

2. Administrative and Usage Guidelines

The following guidelines apply to use of the Hamilton County Conservation Board portable accessible hunting blind.

Eligibility

Priority for use of the blind will be given to:

- Wounded or disabled veterans; and
- Individuals with physical disabilities or mobility limitations that substantially limit their ability to utilize conventional hunting locations.

HCCB staff may request reasonable information necessary to determine eligibility while respecting the privacy and dignity of the applicant.

Reservations and Scheduling

Use of the blind must be arranged in advance with Hamilton County Conservation Board staff.

Reservations are subject to blind availability, hunting seasons, property conditions, other scheduled activities, and HCCB management needs.

If multiple eligible hunters request the same dates, HCCB staff may establish a fair scheduling or priority system.

Location

The blind may be used only on property owned or managed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board.

HCCB staff will determine or approve the location where the blind will be placed.

The blind may not be moved to another location without prior approval from HCCB staff.

The blind shall not be transported to or used on private property.

Transportation and Setup

Unless otherwise approved by HCCB, Conservation Board staff or an authorized representative will coordinate placement and removal of the blind.

Hunters should not attempt to relocate the blind or alter its setup without staff approval.

Hunting Regulations

Hunters are responsible for:

- Obtaining all required Iowa hunting licenses, permits, and deer tags.
- Following all Iowa Department of Natural Resources hunting regulations.
- Using only legal hunting methods and equipment.
- Knowing and observing applicable hunting seasons and shooting hours.
- Positively identifying the target and ensuring a safe background before discharging a firearm or releasing an arrow.
- Following any additional rules established for the specific HCCB property.

Permission to use the blind does not constitute a hunting license, deer tag, or exemption from any state hunting requirement.

Companion or Assistant

The hunter may be accompanied by a companion, caregiver, or hunting assistant when appropriate.

Any person who actively participates in hunting must possess all licenses and permits required by Iowa law.

The hunter is responsible for the actions of guests accompanying them while using the blind.

Condition of Blind

Users shall:

- Keep the blind reasonably clean.
- Remove all trash, ammunition packaging, food containers, and personal property.
- Not modify, drill, cut, paint, or otherwise alter the blind.
- Immediately report damage or unsafe conditions to HCCB staff.
- Avoid intentional or negligent damage to the blind or surrounding natural resources.

Alcohol and Controlled Substances

Possession or use of alcohol or illegal controlled substances while hunting from the blind is prohibited. No individual may use the blind while impaired by alcohol, drugs, or any substance that would make the handling of hunting equipment unsafe.

Weather and Site Conditions

HCCB may cancel or suspend use because of severe weather, flooding, poor road or trail conditions, fire danger, maintenance activities, special events, or other circumstances affecting public safety or natural resources.

Emergencies

Hunters should have a working means of communication available whenever reasonably possible.

In an emergency, call 911.

Users are responsible for understanding their location and providing emergency responders with sufficient information to locate them.

Harvest and Tracking

Hunters are responsible for complying with all Iowa DNR requirements concerning tagging, reporting, retrieval, and transportation of harvested deer.

Hunters should contact HCCB staff if retrieval of a harvested or wounded deer would require vehicle access or other activity normally prohibited on the property.

Violations

Failure to comply with these guidelines, Iowa hunting laws, or instructions from HCCB staff may result in immediate termination of hunting privileges and may affect eligibility for future use of the blind.

HAMILTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Portable Accessible Hunting Blind

Usage Agreement and Acknowledgment

Hunter Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: _____

Hunting Dates Authorized: _____

HCCB Property/Location: _____

Hunter Agreement

1. I have requested permission to use the Hamilton County Conservation Board portable accessible hunting blind for deer hunting.
2. I understand that the blind may be used only on property owned or managed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board and at a location approved by HCCB staff.
3. I will not remove, transport, loan, relocate, or use the blind on private property or any property not approved by HCCB.
4. I possess, or will possess before hunting, all licenses, permits, deer tags, and certifications required by the State of Iowa.
5. I agree to comply with all applicable Iowa hunting laws and regulations and all Hamilton County Conservation Board rules and instructions.
6. I understand that permission to use the blind does not guarantee hunting success or exclusive use of the surrounding property unless specifically authorized by HCCB.
7. I understand that hunting and outdoor recreation involve inherent risks, including but not limited to firearms or archery equipment, wildlife, uneven terrain, falling limbs or trees, weather, slippery conditions, motor vehicles, equipment failure, and the actions of other persons.
8. I accept responsibility for determining whether conditions are appropriate for my abilities and for safely entering, exiting, and using the blind.
9. I will not modify, damage, relocate, or alter the blind without authorization from HCCB staff.
10. I will promptly report any damage, unsafe condition, accident, or injury associated with use of the blind to HCCB staff.
11. I am responsible for the conduct of any companion, caregiver, or guest accompanying me.
12. I understand that HCCB may cancel, suspend, or terminate my use of the blind because of unsafe conditions, property management needs, violation of applicable rules, or other circumstances determined by HCCB staff.

Acknowledgment of Risk

I understand that hunting is an inherently hazardous recreational activity and that the Hamilton County Conservation Board cannot eliminate all risks associated with hunting or use of outdoor recreational areas.

I acknowledge that I am voluntarily participating in this activity and understand the risks associated with hunting and use of the portable accessible hunting blind.

I understand that this agreement does not waive any rights or protections that cannot legally be waived under Iowa law.

I have read and understand the Hamilton County Conservation Board Portable Accessible Hunting Blind Policy and Guidelines and agree to comply with them.

Hunter Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (if required): _____

Date: _____

HCCB Authorization

Approved By: _____

Authorized Property/Blind Location: _____

Authorized Dates: _____

Special Conditions or Instructions: _____

HCCB Staff Signature: _____

Date: _____

Board Review Note

Before formal adoption, HCCB may wish to have the Hamilton County Attorney and the County insurance/risk-management provider review the Acknowledgment of Risk and any release or indemnification language to ensure consistency with Iowa law and County coverage.