

Hunting on Merck Forest Property

Hunting on Merck Forest and Farmland Center property is allowed for legally licensed hunters in accordance with **Vermont Hunting Laws** set by the Fish & Wildlife Department; Vermont's regulations may be found at <http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/> .

As landowner and resource manager, MFFC maintains rules and regulations consistent with our land use practices and programming. We ask that all hunters follow these rules, follow firearms safety principles, and exhibit excellent judgement & ethical decision-making.

As of 11/2019, roughly 75% of MFFC's 3,200 acres are open to hunting; the remainder of the property is designated as a **Hunting Safety Zone**.

MFFC Regulations:

Hunters should be familiar with the rules and guidelines:

1. Hunters are **required** to be aware of the MFFC Hunting Safety Zone (see map) and to hunt outside of the zone's boundaries. It is your responsibility to know where trails and cabins are located relative to your shooting position. ***It is your ultimate and absolute responsibility to know your target and what is beyond.***
2. Hunters and non-hunters alike are required to wear at least one article of blaze orange clothing during November's rifle season.
3. Trapping is **prohibited** due to the large number of pets accompanying our visitors.
4. Hunting stands must be registered with MFFC's Conservation Manager; no stands or accompanying equipment may be permanently attached (i.e. no nails, bolts, or screws may be used). Stands must be clearly identified with the user's name, address, and phone number in accordance with Vermont Law.
5. All markers -- flagging, cat-eye reflective tacks, etc., must be removed at the end of the season.
6. All shotgun loads are to be lead-free.
7. Hunters must practice *Leave No Trace*: make sure to pick up spent casings.
8. No target-shooting is permitted on the property.
9. Game cameras must be labeled with owner's name, address and phone number.
10. No vehicles are permitted beyond the South Gate or Visitor Center parking lots.

If you have questions about MFFC Hunting Rules and Guidelines, please contact the Conservation Manager at (802) 394-2580.

Directions To South Gate Entrance

11. From the MFFC Visitor Center, turn left and head west on Route 315.
12. After 5 miles, turn left onto East Road which soon becomes Kent Hollow Road.
13. Go one mile, stay left at the Sandgate Road fork.
14. After one mile, turn left onto Hidden Valley Road just before a bridge. There is an old worn sign at the junction that says "Kent Hollow Rd →"
15. Travel 1.2 miles to the gate and park on the right.



PO Box 86, 3270 Route 315, Rupert, VT 05768 ph. 802.394.7836 www.merckforest.org

Welcome to Merck Forest and Farmland Center.

Hunting is permitted subject to Vermont law and the additional rules established by the Merck Forest & Farmland Foundation (detailed on the reverse of this sheet). The Hunting Safety Zone is highlighted in yellow on the map below: hunting is prohibited in this designated area.

