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M I C H I G A N BLACK BEAR DIGEST

Application Period: May 1 - June 1, 2018

Reminders

- A base license is not required to apply for a bear license.
- **NEW** Mentored Youth Hunters can now apply for a license or a preference point, see pg. 6.

Drawing results posted June 25

Visit mi.gov/bear



**Do not use chocolate or cocoa in bear bait.
See pg. 15 for details.**

RAP (Report All Poaching): 800-292-7800

mi.gov/bear

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the State's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

...

The Michigan Natural Resources Commission (NRC) is a seven-member public body whose members are appointed by the governor and subject to the advice and consent of the Senate. The NRC has exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game and sportfish.

The commission conducts monthly, public meetings in locations throughout Michigan. Citizens are encouraged to become actively involved in these public forums. For more information visit mi.gov/nrc.

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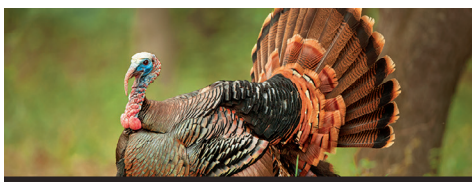
NOTICE: This brochure is not a legal notice or a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed digest issued for hunter's convenience. Copies of Wildlife Conservation Orders, which contain complete listings of regulations and legal descriptions, are available on our website: mi.gov/dnrlaws

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This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

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THANK YOU HUNTERS AND ANGLERS

for your help protecting Michigan's wild places. Your licenses provide nearly \$40 million a year to conserve wildlife, public lands and waters. Because of you, habitats have been restored and populations of deer, elk, waterfowl and other game species preserved for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

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Visit us at mi.gov/dnr and click on the red envelope to sign up for e-mail updates!

History and Status

Bears likely have been in Michigan since the melting of the last glacier. Until European settlement, bears existed throughout the state in areas with forested habitat. Bears typically were treated as pests by early European settlers arriving in Michigan and were unprotected in the state until 1925. Since 1925, hunting has been part of the bear management program, with many different season structures. The majority of the bear population resides in the Upper Peninsula, where large tracts of state, federal, and private commercial forest lands contain good to excellent bear habitat.

Bear Management Plan Strategic Goals

The statewide bear management plan is summarized below to promote an understanding of the overall bear management vision of the state of Michigan.

Black Bear Management Plan Strategic Goals

- 1. Use Hunting as the Primary Tool for Managing Bears*
- 2. Manage Bear Recreation to Reduce User Conflicts and Maintain Recreational Opportunities*
- 3. Increase Public Awareness and Understanding of Bears and Bear-Related Issues*
- 4. Maintain an Active Bear Research and Monitoring Program*
- 5. Provide Bears with Appropriate Habitat*
- 6. Achieve a Balance between Bear Distribution and Abundance and Social Carrying Capacity*
- 7. Prevent and Resolve Negative Bear-Human Interactions*



Get Bears in your Classroom!

Educators, you and your students have the chance to experience A Year in the Life of a Michigan Black Bear! Learn all about Michigan's black bears with lessons, activities, and videos for your classroom. This free education program is open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade educators in Michigan.

Learn more about A Year in the Life of a Michigan Black Bear, and how to register, by visiting mi.gov/dnrteachers and click on the "Wildlife Education and Outreach" link.



PURE MICHIGAN HUNT

2018

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LIFETIME

2018

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PURE MICHIGAN HUNT

2018 Black Bear Drawing and Preference Point System



Hunters are selected for a bear license using a preference point drawing system that began in 2000. In the license drawing, applicants with the greatest number of preference points in each hunt period are selected first (see first bullet below). Those who are not selected earn one additional point for future drawings.

Only one point will be awarded in a given year. Points are reset to zero for all successful applicants, including those who choose not to purchase their license. Each year, hunters may apply for any Bear Management Unit (BMU) and hunt period they choose, and their total preference points (earned in previous drawings) will be considered. Applicants may apply for a bear license, or apply for a point only (*Hunt No. 00*).

Point requirements for each hunt period vary from year to year depending on license availability and demand for licenses. To view the number of points needed in last year's drawing, see the table on pg. 10 or go to mi.gov/bear for detailed drawing statistics.

- **First hunt choices have priority.** When applying, hunters choose a first hunt choice (primary) and an optional second hunt choice. **If a hunter chooses a second hunt choice, it will be considered only if licenses remain after all first hunt choices have been awarded for all applicants.** Hunt periods that have required zero preference points in the past are more likely to have licenses available for second hunt choices, but there is no guarantee that licenses will be available for second hunt choices in any hunt period.
- **Preference points are tracked by customer ID.** To ensure that all your points are considered in the drawing, you should apply with the same ID used to apply in previous years. If your ID changes, call 517-284-WILD (9453) before the application deadline to ensure your points are combined under your current ID.
- **You must apply at least once every five years to retain your points.** Points are reset to zero for applicants who do not apply for five consecutive years. Points reset under the previous three year rule will not be restored.
- Nonresidents may apply; however, no more than 5 percent of licenses in any hunt period will be issued to nonresidents.
- **Check your preference points at mi.gov/bear.**



How to Apply

Eligibility

You must meet all of the following qualifications to be eligible to apply for a license or preference point:

1. Be eligible to purchase a bear hunting license for the current season.
2. Be licensed under the Mentored Youth Hunting Program OR be 10 years of age or older during the hunt period for which you are applying. You must be at least 14 years of age to hunt with a firearm on public land.
3. Be licensed under the Mentored Youth Hunting Program (see pg. 13), be hunter safety-certified or an apprentice hunter (see pg. 13)
4. Have one of the following forms of customer identification:
 - Valid Michigan driver's license
 - State of Michigan ID card (issued by the Secretary of State)
 - DNR Sportcard (issued through license agents or at mdnr-eligibility.com.)

Applying for a Hunt

1. Look at the map on pg. 8 and choose a BMU in which to hunt.
2. Look at the table on pg. 9 to find the corresponding hunt number and season dates for the BMU you chose. (For previous applicant numbers as well as number of points needed for last year's drawing success in each unit, see table on pg. 10.)
3. Purchase an application for the hunt number(s) you chose at a license agent, DNR Customer Service Center, or online at mdnr-elicense.com (It is unlawful to apply more than once.) It costs \$5 to apply, except for Comprehensive Lifetime License holders. A base license is not required for purchase of a bear application. Mentored Youths must be licensed under the Mentored Youth Hunting Program to apply.
4. Check your receipt for accuracy, and retain as proof of application.

Applying for a Hunt with Other Hunters

- You may apply in a hunt party with up to four applicants. All applicants in a hunt party will receive a license if the party is selected, except for those who submit an invalid application.
- The preference point total for the party will equal that of the partner with the fewest number of points.
- The first applicant of each hunt party chooses a hunt unit(s) and receives a "party ID" number, which is printed on his or her receipt. A new party ID number is issued each year. **Remaining partners must provide this party ID number when applying and should verify the party ID number is identical on their receipt.**
- A party is considered nonresident if any partner is a nonresident.

IMPORTANT:

You are responsible for submitting a valid application and obtaining a DNR application receipt that states your customer ID and hunt choice. Do not accept a receipt that is not legible. Check this receipt for accuracy and retain as proof that you applied. **Ensure any application errors are corrected prior to the application deadline.** Applicants who submit an invalid application will be ineligible for the drawing.

- For application assistance, call 517-284-WILD (9453).
- You are responsible for obtaining your drawing results online.

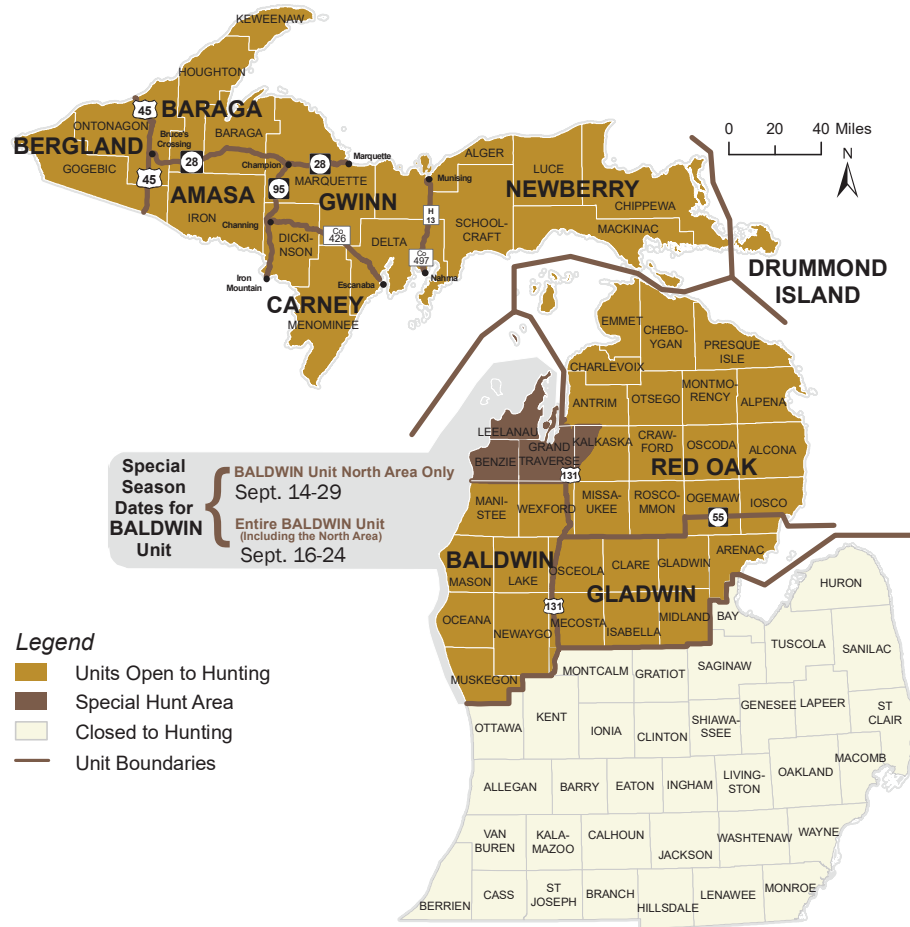
Drawings results will be posted at mi.gov/bear on June 25.

Transfer requests must be received by September 1.

See page 14.

2018 Bear Management Units (BMU)

For detailed descriptions of bear hunt unit boundaries, go online to mi.gov/dnrlaws or contact a DNR Customer Service Center.



Lower Peninsula Season Structure

- The first day of the Red Oak, Baldwin, and Gladwin season (Sept. 16) is for bait-only hunting.
- The first day of the Baldwin North Area season (Sept. 14) is for bait-only hunting.
- The last two days of the Red Oak, Baldwin, and Gladwin firearm season (Sept. 23-24) are for bear hunting with dogs only.
- The Red Oak archery-only season (Oct. 5-11) is for bait-only hunting.

2018 Bear Hunts

BMU	HUNT PERIOD	SEASON DATES	LICENSE QUOTA	MAXIMUM NONRESIDENT LICENSES	HUNT NUMBER
Preference Point only	Do not want to be included in the current license drawing, but want a point for future use.				00
Bergland	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	190	9	01
	2	Sept. 15 - Oct. 26	285	14	02
	3	Sept. 25 - Oct. 26	735	36	03
Baraga	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	270	13	04
	2	Sept. 15 - Oct. 26	430	21	05
	3	Sept. 25 - Oct. 26	790	39	06
Amasa	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	90	4	07
	2	Sept. 15 - Oct. 26	160	8	08
	3	Sept. 25 - Oct. 26	280	14	09
Carney	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	95	4	10
	2	Sept. 15 - Oct. 26	170	8	11
	3	Sept. 25 - Oct. 26	350	17	12
Gwinn	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	180	9	13
	2	Sept. 15 - Oct. 26	275	13	14
	3	Sept. 25 - Oct. 26	750	37	15
Newberry	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	220	11	16
	2	Sept. 15 - Oct. 26	245	12	17
	3	Sept. 25 - Oct. 26	665	33	18
Drummond Island	1	Sept. 10 - Oct. 21	5	0	19
Red Oak	1	Sept. 16-24 Oct. 5-11 archery only	700	35	20
Baldwin	1	Sept. 14-29: North area only. Sept. 16-24: all of Baldwin unit	155	7	21
Gladwin	1	Sept. 16-24	100	5	22

Upper Peninsula Season Structure

- The first five days of the first hunt period (Sept. 10-14) are bait-only hunting.
- During hunt periods (2) and (3), as well as the remainder of the first hunt period, both bait and dogs are permitted.

Bear Management Unit Information

For drawing details see mi.gov/bear

		Applicants		License Quotas			Bears Registered		Preference Points Required
BMU	Hunt Period	2016	2017	2016	2017	2018	**		***
							2016	2017	2017
Amasa	1	883	856	85	90	90	48	49	7 - 8
	2	566	633	140	160	160	51	74	2 - 3
	3	585	656	235	280	280	44	77	1 - 2
Baldwin	1	2,845	3,631	80	155	155	52	74	13 - 14
Baraga	1	1,415	1,486	270	270	270	109	113	4 - 5
	2	1,010	1,080	440	430	430	108	108	1 - 2
	3	833	886	780	790	790	91	111	0 - 1
Bergland	1	876	896	190	190	190	78	62	4 - 5
	2	609	691	270	285	285	66	74	0 - 1
	3	322	305	630	735	735	52	72	0
Carney	1	976	1,029	100	95	95	32	36	5 - 6
	2	524	572	160	170	170	26	44	1 - 2
	3	368	495	475	350	350	46	39	0 - 1
Drummond	1	175	230	1	5	5	1	5	15 - 16
Gladwin	1	1,099	1,330	90	100	100	21	19	6 - 7
Gwin	1	1,301	1,249	195	180	180	73	59	4 - 5
	2	622	724	250	275	275	41	54	1 - 2
	3	702	667	720	750	750	58	63	0
Newberry	1	2,868	2,830	235	220	220	106	99	7 - 8
	2	1,489	1,625	270	245	245	98	94	4 - 5
	3	1,416	1,471	650	665	665	78	91	1 - 2
Red Oak	1	9,809	10,762	630	700	700	248	274	7 - 8
Pref. Point Applicants		20,690	22,399						
Statewide		51,983	56,503	6,896	7,140	7,140	1,527	1,691	

** Preliminary 2017 bear registration data.

*** Residents needed at least this number of points to be selected for a license in the 2017 bear drawing.

Point requirements may vary in future drawings.



License Purchase

- If you are selected in the drawing or wish to purchase a leftover license, you may purchase your hunting license online at mdnr-elicense.com or from any license agent.
- Make sure the information on your license is accurate.
- Licenses may not be altered or transferred; however, successful applicants may transfer their drawing success to an unsuccessful youth applicant or any person with an advanced illness by **Sept. 1**. See the “Bear Hunt Transfer Program” on pg. 14 for more information.

When hunting, you must carry your bear license and present upon demand of a Michigan conservation officer, a tribal conservation officer, or any law enforcement officer. Hunters are encouraged to carry their base license at all times when hunting.

Continued on next page

A base license is required for every resident and nonresident who hunts in Michigan. Hunters must have a base license to purchase a bear or no-kill-tag bear license. **An application may be purchased prior to obtaining a base license.**

Required Licenses by Title and Age	Cost			
	Application for License Drawing	Base License	Bear License	No-Kill-Tag Bear License**
Mentored Youth Age: Up to 9	\$5.00	N/A Mentored Youth License \$7.50	\$25.00	\$15.00
Junior Age: 10-16	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
Resident Age: 17+	\$5.00	\$11.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
Resident Senior Age: 65+	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
Nonresident* Age: 17+	\$5.00	\$151.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
Lifetime Comprehensive License-holder	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15.00

* Nonresidents under 17 years of age may purchase a resident base license.

** An individual accompanying a licensed bear hunter on a bear hunt (without a bear hunting license), and in possession of a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow, must have a no-kill-tag bear license. The owner of any dog chasing or locating bear on a hunt (without a bear hunting license) must also have a no-kill-tag bear license.

Active-Duty U.S. Military Personnel and Michigan Veterans with Disabilities

Resident active-duty military personnel and resident veterans with a 100% disability rating may obtain a leftover bear license free of charge beginning July 23. Licenses are full-price for those who apply for a license and are selected in the drawing.

If you have any license questions, please call 517-284-6057.

Mentored Youth Hunting (MYH) Program

The MYH program allows youth hunters 9 years of age and younger to hunt with a mentor who is at least 21 years of age, has hunting experience, and possesses a valid Michigan license to hunt other than an apprentice license. The mentored youth license is a “package” license to hunt small game including waterfowl, turkey (spring and fall), deer, trap furbearers, and fish for all species. It also allows the ability to apply for or purchase additional licenses including antlerless deer, bear, elk, and fall turkey. The mentor is limited to two hunting devices (shotgun, rifle, bow, and crossbow) in the field while mentoring, and the youth hunter must be within arm’s length of the mentor at all times. Any hunting device possessed by a mentored youth must be sized appropriately to fit the physical abilities of the youth. The mentor will be held responsible for all actions of the youth hunter while in the field.

Apprentice Hunting License

A person who does not have a hunter safety certificate and is 10 years of age or older may purchase a base apprentice hunting license. An apprentice hunter may purchase this license for two license years before he or she must successfully complete a hunter safety course. The base apprentice hunting license is available to residents and nonresidents.

When afield, an apprentice hunter must be accompanied by someone 21 years of age or older who possesses a regular current-year hunting license for the same game as the apprentice. For apprentices 10-16 years of age, the accompanying hunter must be the apprentice’s parent, guardian, or someone designated by the parent or guardian. “Accompanied by” requires the accompanying hunter to be able to come to the immediate aid of the apprentice and stay within a distance that permits uninterrupted, unaided visual and verbal contact.

For hunting bear, the accompanying hunter needs a 2018 bear hunting license, but it does not have to be for the same management unit or season dates as the apprentice. A person may accompany no more than two apprentice hunters while hunting.

Leftover Licenses

There is no guarantee that leftover licenses will be available for any hunt unit. Resident hunters who have not obtained a license through the drawing process may obtain one leftover license on a first-come, first-served basis until the quota is met in each hunt period, as follows:

- Beginning July 9 - Available to Lifetime Comprehensive License-holders only
- Beginning July 16 - Available to unsuccessful bear drawing applicants
- Beginning July 23 - Available to any hunter, including those who did not apply

Sales on these dates will begin at 10 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Continued on next page

Leftover licenses are available for residents only. Preference points will be reset to zero for purchasers of a leftover bear license, except for Lifetime Comprehensive License-holders.

Bear Hunt Transfer Program

Successful bear drawing applicants may transfer their drawing success to an eligible person they know, or donate anonymously to individuals on the DNR transfer waiting list. Eligible individuals include:

- Youth hunters, ages 16 and younger, who applied for a bear license and were unsuccessful in the current-year license drawing.
- Any person who has been diagnosed with an advanced illness*. An application for a license in the current-year drawing is not required. Individuals with an advanced illness must complete the Physician Certification of Advanced Illness form to certify their eligibility for a transfer. The form is available at mi.gov/hunttransfers.

Eligible individuals can also register for the DNR transfer waiting list to receive a donated bear hunt. Visit mi.gov/hunttransfers for details and registration. Those interested must register online by **July 10**.

Transfer recipients will retain their preference points.

How to Request a Hunt Transfer

Successful applicants who wish to transfer their drawing success must submit a transfer request form by **September 1**. Forms are available at mi.gov/hunttransfers. If a hunt recipient is not named on the form, the hunt will be offered to the next person on the DNR hunt waiting list.

Preference points are reset to zero for all successful applicants, even if drawing success is transferred.

It is unlawful for an individual to receive a fee, other consideration, or service of value, either directly or indirectly, for transferring drawing success to another person, or assisting and/or guiding that person in the hunt which has been transferred.

* Advanced Illness is a medical condition that must be diagnosed and certified by a physician. Advanced Illness is defined by the Public Health Code, Act 368 of 1978 [MCL - 333.5653]. See www.legislature.mi.gov.

License Usage To Prevent Crop Damage

If you are interested in using your license to harvest a bear that has caused crop damage on private property, please e-mail DNR Wildlife Specialist Kevin Swanson at swansonk@michigan.gov. These permits are only valid outside of the regular bear season, must be valid in the BMU where the damage is occurring and the bear cannot be taken over bait or with hounds.

Hunting Methods

Bear hunters may use a bow and arrow, a crossbow, a firearm, or a muzzleloader. For taking a bear, crossbow hunters may only use arrows, bolts and quarrels at least 14 inches in length, tipped with a broadhead point at least 7/8 inch wide.

You may not hunt bear with a firearm during the archery-only bear season in the Red Oak Management Unit.

Nonresidents must own and have either a concealed pistol license or a license to purchase, carry, or transport issued by their home state in their possession in order to legally carry or transport a handgun in Michigan.

Youth

On public land:

- 13 years of age and younger: may hunt bear using archery or crossbow equipment only.
- 14 years of age or older: may hunt bear using archery, crossbow, or firearm equipment. Exception: no firearms during archery-only season in Red Oak Management Unit.

Baiting

It is illegal to use chocolate or cocoa derivatives in bear bait.

Baiting bear is legal from the start of the bear baiting period (31 days before the open season in that bear management unit) through the end of the bear hunting season.

LEGAL BAITS THAT MAY BE USED IN UNLIMITED QUANTITIES:

- **meat and meat products, including dog food;**
- **fish and fish products, including cat food; and**
- **bakery/confectionery products, including jams, jellies, sweeteners, candies, and other cooked or commercially processed products such as pie filling, yogurts, or granola.**

LEGAL BAITS LIMITED TO 2 GALLONS PER BAIT STATION:

- Grains - Fruits - Vegetables - Salt - Minerals
- or any materials that may attract or entice deer or elk
- May be used with baits above listed in **BROWN**. Baits in **BROWN** can be used in unlimited quantities.

Before Sept. 15 Only grains may be used but must be inaccessible to deer and elk. Grains remain illegal to use in counties closed to deer and elk feeding and deer baiting.

After Sept. 15 Any use of these materials must comply with the current baiting and feeding restrictions for deer and elk.

In areas closed to deer baiting or deer and elk feeding, the only legal baiting material is meat, meat products, fish, fish products, or bakery, confectionery products.

Continued on next page

Hunters should consult the 2018 Michigan Hunting Digest which is available each year in mid-August, or contact a DNR customer service center for deer and elk feeding and deer baiting regulations, including closed counties.

For the purpose of these rules, a bait station is a site where food or lure that attracts bear is placed.

1. It is unlawful to tend or establish a bait station that attracts bear in:

- Amasa, Bergland, Baraga, Carney, Gwinn, and Newberry BMUs **prior** to Aug. 10 and **after** Oct. 26.
- Drummond Island **prior** to Aug. 10 and **after** Oct. 21.
- Baldwin north area **prior** to Aug. 14 and **after** Sept. 29.
- Baldwin, Gladwin, and Red Oak BMUs **prior** to Aug. 16 and **after** Sept. 24.
- Red Oak archery-only season **prior** to Sept. 5 and **after** Oct. 11.

2. It is unlawful to hunt over bait that attracts bear that was established prior to:

- Aug. 10 in Amasa, Bergland, Baraga, Carney, Drummond, Gwinn, and Newberry BMUs.
- Aug. 14 in the Baldwin north area.
- Aug. 16 in Baldwin, Gladwin, and Red Oak BMUs.

3. It is unlawful to use metal containers, plastic, wood, concrete, glass, fabric, cloth or paper at a bait station on public lands or commercial forest lands, or have within 100 yards of the bait site any containers used to transport bait to the baiting site. Dead and downed trees may be used. It is also illegal to use a tire at a bait station on public or commercial forest lands.

4. At bait stations on public or commercial forest lands, it is unlawful to place bait anywhere but on the ground. Any containers used to transport bait to bait stations on public lands and commercial forest lands must be removed and disposed of properly. Also see “Commercial Forest Lands” on pg. 23.

5. It is unlawful for any licensed bear hunter or his/her designee to establish or tend more than three bait stations per hunter. In addition, it is unlawful for any person to establish or tend more than a total of 12 bait stations.

Report Sightings of Diseased Wildlife

In an effort to maintain healthy wildlife populations, the DNR encourages people to report any sightings of sick or dead wildlife at mi.gov/wildlifedisease.

Dogs

- For the purpose of hunting bear, no more than eight dogs shall be run as a pack. Relaying of packs is prohibited. It is legal to replace individual dogs, provided eight or fewer dogs are used at one time. All dogs must be immunized and licensed, and must have a license or other form of identification affixed to their collars.
- Nonresidents must have in their possession a special permit to use dogs while hunting bear. No more than 10 dogs may be registered on one permit. The free permits are available by calling 517-284-6210.
- Nonresidents shall not chase bear with dogs outside the open season, unless training dogs on bear within special dog training areas **or** when participating in an authorized field trial.
- Those pursuing bear with dogs during an open season shall have in their possession either a valid Michigan bear hunting license or a no-kill-tag license if in possession of a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow, or if they are the owner of any dog used for chasing or locating bear during the hunt.
- It is unlawful to train dogs or hunt bear with dogs:
 - Sept. 5-14 in the Upper Peninsula
 - Sept. 9-14 in the Baldwin north area
 - Sept. 11-16 in the rest of the Lower Peninsula. It also is unlawful to chase bears with dogs during the Oct. 5-11 archery-only season in the Red Oak BMU.
- For purposes of training, no more than eight dogs may be used to chase bear during a single day.
- It is unlawful to train a dog on a captive, tethered, or caged bear.
- For purposes of training or hunting bear, it is unlawful to begin to chase bear with dogs between one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.
- It is unlawful to train dogs on bear or other wild animals from April 16 – July 7.
- It is unlawful to train dogs on bear or hunt bear in the Gladwin Field Trial Area.

Elevated Platforms and Ground Blinds

It is legal to hunt bear from a raised platform or tree stand when using a firearm, bow or crossbow.

Bear hunters may use ground blinds on state lands in the bear management unit for which they are licensed. Blinds may be placed from Aug. 10 (Upper Peninsula) or Aug. 17 (Lower Peninsula) through five days after the close of the bear season, or if successful, five days after harvesting a bear. The name and address of the licensed bear hunter must be permanently affixed to the ground blind or tree stand in legible English.

General Rules

- A person shall not kill or attempt to kill a bear unless the person has an unused bear harvest license issued in his or her name for the BMU in which he or she is hunting.
- It is unlawful to assist a tribal member engaged in treaty-authorized hunting unless the non-tribal member assisting: (1) has a state license for that activity and complies with all state laws including season dates covering that activity, or (2) is the spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild or sibling of the tribal member who is present during the activity, and as long as such assistance by the family member does not include using a firearm, crossbow or bow.
- It is unlawful for any nonresident to assist and/or guide another person in any manner in the taking of bear for a fee, other consideration, or service of value, either directly or indirectly.
- On land owned or under control of the department, it is unlawful to drag a state forest road with any device that disturbs the surface of the roadbed at a depth greater than two inches.
- It is unlawful to disturb a bear den or disturb, harm, or molest a bear in its den.
- It is unlawful to take a cub bear (a bear less than one year of age), or a female bear accompanied by a cub bear.
- It is unlawful to chase, pursue, shoot, or kill a bear when it is swimming in a stream, river, pond, lake or other body of water.
- It is unlawful to use chocolate or cocoa derivatives in bear bait.

Learn How to Avoid Cubs

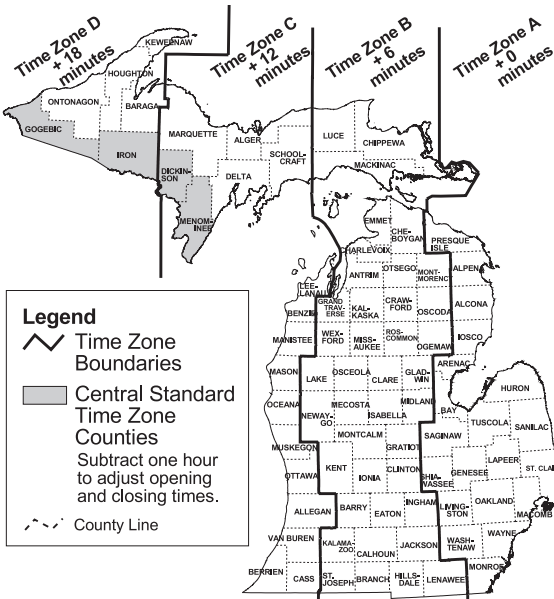
Generally, cubs less than a year of age are accompanying sows and appear smaller than the sow. In Wisconsin, measurements taken of cubs in dens have shown that avoiding a bear that is less than 42 inches in length, from the end of its nose to the base of the tail, will avoid most bears less than a year of age. Marking a stick or other item and placing it near your bait site may help in determining the size of the bear. **WHEN IN DOUBT, LET IT PASS.**

Hunter Orange Required

When bear hunting, hunters must wear a cap, hat, vest, jacket, or rain gear of hunter orange. Hunter orange includes camouflage that is not less than 50 percent hunter orange. The garments that are hunter orange shall be the hunter's outermost garment and shall be visible from all sides of the hunter. Crossbow and archery bear hunters are exempt from the hunter orange requirement.

Hunting Hours

Actual legal hunting hours (one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset) for Zone A are printed in the table. To determine the opening (a.m.) or closing (p.m.) time in another zone, add the minutes shown on the map for the zone to the time from the Zone A Hunting Hours Table. The hunting hour listed in the table reflects EST adjusted for daylight-saving time where appropriate. If you are hunting in Gogebic, Iron, Dickinson or Menominee counties (Central Standard Time), you must make an additional adjustment to the printed time by subtracting one hour.



Zone A Hunting Hours Table

One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset (adjusted for daylight-saving time)

2018	Sept.		Oct.	
Date	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
1			6:59	7:45
2			7:00	7:44
3			7:01	7:42
4			7:02	7:40
5			7:03	7:39
6			7:04	7:37
7			7:06	7:35
8			7:07	7:33
9	6:38	8:32	7:08	7:32
10	6:40	8:31	7:09	7:30
11	6:41	8:29	7:10	7:28
12	6:42	8:27	7:11	7:27
13	6:43	8:25	7:12	7:25
14	6:44	8:23	7:14	7:23
15	6:46	8:21	7:15	7:22
16	6:47	8:19	7:16	7:20
17	6:48	8:17	7:17	7:19
18	6:49	8:15	7:18	7:17
19	6:51	8:13	7:19	7:16
20	6:52	8:11	7:21	7:14
21	6:53	8:09	7:22	7:12
22	6:54	8:07	7:23	7:11
23	6:56	8:05	7:24	7:09
24	6:57	8:03	7:25	7:08
25	6:58	8:01	7:27	7:06
26	6:59	7:59	7:28	7:05
27	7:01	7:58	7:29	7:04
28	7:02	7:56	7:30	7:02
29	7:03	7:54	7:31	7:01
30	7:04	7:52	7:33	6:59
31			7:34	6:58

Validating Kills and Registration

Immediately after killing a bear, a person shall validate the license by cutting out the appropriate information as instructed on the license. **If running bears with dogs after harvest, retain the top portion of license and tag harvested bear using lower portion.** The entire license or lower portion of the license must then be attached to the bear's lower jaw. You may wish to fold the kill tag in half directly over a piece of wire or cord (after removing backing) before attaching the license to the lower jaw of the bear in a secure and permanent manner. Within 72 hours of harvest, the bear head (unfrozen) and pelt, or the entire animal shall be presented by the licensee that killed the bear, to the DNR for examination, sealing, and registration. The licensee shall provide the identification used to acquire the license. After the pelt is sealed, the DNR reserves the right to collect additional bear parts, such as a tooth, for research or management purposes (see pages 25-27 for registration stations). The seal shall remain attached to the bear until:

- The carcass is processed or butchered for consumption by an individual for his or her use.
- The carcass is accepted for processing and recorded by a commercial processor. If the head or hide is returned to the person submitting the animal to the commercial processor, the seal shall accompany the head or hide.
- The carcass is accepted for processing and recorded by a licensed taxidermist.

Report Bear Hunting Results Online

Accurate and complete information on hunting activity is vital for sound wildlife management. All bear hunters are encouraged to report their hunting activity after their season has ended at mi.gov/hunting. These surveys are the same as those traditionally mailed to randomly selected hunters. Mail surveys will continue; however, the online reporting option allows all hunters to participate. Mandatory registration for all successful bear hunters is required within 72 hours of bear harvest.



Bear Cooperator Patch

Michigan's bear cooperator patch program is coordinated by the Michigan Bear Hunters Association, in partnership with the DNR. Young hunters, 17 years of age and younger, who have a valid bear hunting license may receive a free patch. To receive a patch, please send name and complete address, along with a legible copy of the youth's valid bear hunting license, to MBHA, Bear Patch Program, 10510 Fairgrieve Rd., Johannesburg, MI 49751.

Adult hunters, collectors, and other interested individuals may purchase the patch for \$5, including postage and handling. You do not have to harvest a bear to purchase a patch. Send orders to the address above, and please make your check or money order payable to the Michigan Bear Hunters Association. Bear patches will be available while supplies last. For further information and current availability of past patches, contact the address provided or email

alimcv@yahoo.com.

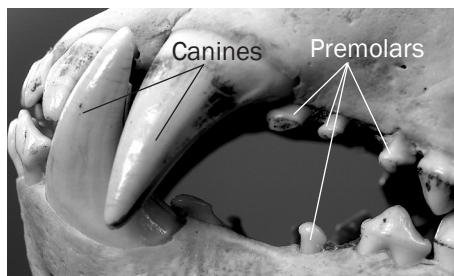


Carcass Care

DON'T LET YOUR BEAR MEAT SPOIL! It is imperative to field dress your bear immediately and place ice in the cavity to cool the meat. Skin and process the animal in a timely manner, and enjoy the appealing taste of black bear! For meat of good quality, follow these important steps:

- Cool meat quickly (minimum 32-40° F) and age properly.
- Prevent dampness (any waterproof covering must allow full air circulation).
- Keep meat clean, and keep flies off.

Tooth Collection



The DNR collects a tooth from all bears during registration, and the tooth is used to determine the age of the bear. Ages are determined using a microscope to count the number of cementum layers in cross-sections of premolar teeth from either the upper or lower jaw.

The cementum layers look much like

rings in a cross-section of a tree; each layer represents one year.

The premolars are small, single-rooted, peg-like teeth located between the canines and the molars. A premolar can be removed by cutting with a knife in front of and behind the tooth and pulling gently with pliers. It is okay if some of the gum adheres to the tooth. The aging technique actually works better if the tooth is not scraped clean. The age cannot be determined from the tooth crown; therefore, it is very important that the premolar be removed with the root as intact as possible.

The tooth can be wrapped in paper (not plastic or foil) or placed in an envelope and can be dried or frozen. Turn in the tooth when you have your bear sealed and registered. The age of your bear can be checked at mi.gov/dnr/lab after April 1.

Precaution about Lead in Bear Meat

Bear that are shot with rifle bullets containing lead, particularly copper-jacketed and hollow-point bullets or that are shot with shotguns using lead slugs or buckshot, can have particles of lead remaining in the meat, some too small to be seen or felt. Lead can be harmful to humans and wildlife, even in very low amounts. If you have questions about the health effects of lead exposure from lead fragments or lead shot, call the DNR Wildlife Disease Lab at 517-336-5030 and/or look through the information on the DNR website at mi.gov/wdm. You may also contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services at 1-800-648-6942 or visit mi.gov/mdhhs.

Commercial Hunting Guides on State Land

All commercial hunting guides using state-owned land must receive written authorization from the DNR. Guides are required to meet the conditions of the written authorization. If you are a guide who utilizes state-owned lands, please visit mi.gov/statelandpermission. Commercial guiding on National Forest (NF) lands requires a special use permit. Applications can be obtained through any office or by calling - Hiawatha NF: 906-428-5800; Huron-Manistee NF: 231-775-5023; Ottawa NF: 906-932-1330.

Commercial Forest (CF) Lands

Over 2.2 million acres of privately owned forests enrolled in the CF program are accessible to the public by foot for fishing, hunting, and trapping. Use of motorized vehicles for fishing and hunting access is at the landowner's discretion. The CF lands are not posted or signed as commercial forests and may be fenced and/or gated. The presence of a fence or gate does not prohibit public access to CF lands for fishing or hunting. The owner may restrict public access during periods of active commercial logging to ensure public safety. Other than foot access for the acts of hunting or fishing, activities such as (but not limited to) camping, leaving anything unattended (e.g. bait, blinds, etc.), and damaging or injuring vegetation (e.g. cutting/nauling) require the landowner's permission. Commercial activity on CF lands is not allowed for any purpose other than forestry or oil and gas extraction. Legal land descriptions of lands listed in this program are available on the DNR website at mi.gov/commercialforest under "Where Can I Hunt?" If you have questions about this program or specific CF lands, contact the nearest DNR office or DNR Forest Resources Division, P.O. Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909, or call 517-284-5900.

Bear Hunting Clinics

The DNR is offering bear hunting clinics. For \$30, students will learn the ins and outs of bear hunting with experienced hunters and DNR educators. The class will cover habitat, gear, stand placement, baiting, rules and regulations, carcass care, and hide care. Participants will spend about four hours in the classroom, then hit the trail to learn how to place a stand and bait in the woods. For details contact:

Bear Hunting Clinics	
Jul. 29 Aug. 5 Aug. 11	Carl T. Johnson Hunt and Fish Center, Cadillac <i>Mitchell State Park, 6087 East Highway M-115</i> (Recreation Passport is required for entry into park) 231-779-1321 or visit mi.gov/huntfishcenter

Wolf-Dog Conflicts

Wolves will defend their territories and may attack other wolves, coyotes and domestic dogs that are in their territory. Most wolf-dog conflicts occur where dogs are trained or used for bear hunting, which overlaps with the time wolf pups are using homesites.

Dogs used for hunting are at risk of being attacked by wolves because they: (1) traverse large areas, which increases their chance of encountering wolves; (2) may be released at bear bait sites that also may be used by wolves; (3) bark while tracking, which may be viewed as a territorial challenge by wolves; and (4) are some distance from hunters and therefore not protected by the presence of humans.

Avoid Potential Problem Areas

To minimize the conflict between wolves and dogs, it is best to avoid areas of recent wolf activity. Wolves will concentrate much of their activity around the den and homesites. These sites may vary from year-to-year and can change throughout the summer. Homesites usually are forest openings or edge areas and often are near water. They can be identified by the concentration of wolf tracks, droppings and matted vegetation. It is best to do some scouting beforehand and look for wolf signs before releasing dogs. Be especially vigilant when starting dogs from a bear bait site, and make sure wolves have not been using the bait. If wolf sign, particularly the sign of wolf pups, is evident, move to another area before releasing dogs.

What You Can Do:

- Report all suspected wolf-dog conflicts to the DNR immediately to allow a timely investigation.
- Become familiar with coyote and dog tracks, so they can be correctly distinguished from wolf tracks.
- Consider adding bells or beepers to dog collars - some hunters have reported this can reduce wolf attacks.
- For a map of location information on known dog depredation visit: mi.gov/wolves.

For information on hunting dog conflicts with wolves, contact the Marquette Customer Service Center at 906-228-6561 or visit mi.gov/wolves.

**To report a dog depredation, call the Report All Poaching hotline:
1-800-292-7800**

At this time the use of lethal control of wolves in the act of depredation is not authorized. Because the federal listing status of wolves has and may continue to change, please contact a DNR office to inquire about current rules regarding lethal take of wolves if in the act of preying upon a dog.

Bear Registration Stations by County

At the registration station, an official seal shall be attached to the bear and information shall be obtained from the hunter. An asterisk * next to the check station indicates limited staff and/or limited office hours. **Hunters must call the DNR office or private cooperator before arriving to schedule an appointment.**

NEW! Map of Locations, Visit mi.gov/bear

ALCONA

Lincoln DNR Office*

408 Main St.
Lincoln
989-736-8336

ALGER

Bayshore Market

Lake Ave.
Grand Marais
906-494-2581

Bear Trap Inn

N7294 County Rd. H15
Shingleton
906-452-6364

Cusino DNR Office*

M-28
Shingleton
906-452-6236

ALLEGAN

DNR Plainwell Customer Service Center*

621 N. 10th St.
Plainwell
269-685-6851

ALPENA

Advanced Wildlife Designs

3361 US-23 S.
Alpena
989-356-3600

BARAGA

DNR Baraga Customer Service Center

427 US-41 N.
Baraga
906-353-6651

Indian Country Sports

17 South Front Street
L'Anse
906-524-6518

Woodland Firearms & Supply

513 Michigan Ave.
Baraga
906-353-1911

BARRY

Barry State Game Area*

1805 S. Yankee Springs Rd.
Middleville
989-684-9141

BAY

DNR Bay City Customer Service Center

3580 State Park Dr.
Bay City
989-684-9141

CHEBOYGAN

Cheboygan DNR Office

120 A St.
Cheboygan
231-627-9011

CHIPPEWA

Johnson's Sport Shop

29129 E. Channel Rd.
Drummond Island
906-493-6300

Sault Ste. Marie DNR Field Office*

2001 Ashmun
I-75 Business Spur
Sault Ste Marie
906-635-5281

Strong's Motel & Tavern

28952 W M-28
Strong's
906-274-5548

Wilderness Treasures

101 S. M-129
Pickford
906-647-4002

CLARE

Harrison DNR Office*

2115 Sullivan Dr.
Harrison
989-539-6411

Jay's Sporting Goods

8800 S. Clare Ave.
Clare
989-386-3475

CLINTON

Rose Lake Field Office*

8903 Stoll Rd.,
East Lansing
517-641-4092

DELTA

Escanaba DNR Office*

6833 US-2, US-41 & M-35
Gladstone
906-786-2351

Soderman's Meats

6207 Days River 24.5 Rd.
Gladstone
906-428-2487

DICKINSON

Midtown Bait & Tackle

613 Railroad Ave.
Channing
906-542-7080

Norway DNR Office*

520 W. US-2
Norway
906-563-9042

Whispering Pines Outpost

N-4200 M-95
Iron Mountain
906-774-1277

GLADWIN

Gladwin DNR Office*

801 N. Silverleaf
Gladwin
989-426-9205 ext. 7631

GOGEBIC

West Shore Resort

N10960 Hwy. M-64
Marenisco
906-842-3336

GRAND TRAVERSE

Traverse City Customer Service Center*

2122 M-37
Traverse City
231-922-5280

HOUGHTON

Fred's East Branch Outfitters

3881 East M-28
Trout Creek
906-287-0060

McLain State Park

18350 Hwy. M-203
Hancock
906-482-0278

Krupps Resort

32170 Emily Lake Rd
Toivola
906-288-3404

Kurt's Korner

17510 East Askel Rd.
Pelkie
906-334-3333

INGHAM

Lansing Customer Service Center*

4166 Legacy Parkway
Lansing
517-284-4720

IONIA

Flat River DNR Office*

6640 Long Lake Rd.
Belding
616-794-2658

IRON

Crystal Falls DNR Office*

1420 W. US-2
Crystal Falls
906-875-6622

Luckey's Sport Shop

3237 US-2
Iron River
906-265-0151

JACKSON

Waterloo Field Office

13578 Seymour Rd.,
Grass Lake
517-522-4097

KEWEENAW

Fort Wilkins State Park

15223 US Hwy. 41,
Copper Harbor
906-289-4215

LAKE

Baldwin DNR Office*

2468 W. 24th St.
Baldwin
231-745-4651

LUCE

DNR Newberry Customer Service Center

5100 S. M-123
Newberry
906-293-5131

Muskallonge Lake State Park*

29705 County Rd. 407
Newberry
906-658-3338

MACKINAC

McNeil's Bar

6154 Gould City Rd.
Gould City
906-477-9915

Naubinway DNR Office*

US-2
Naubinway
906-477-6048

MACOMB

Mt. Clemens Fisheries Station*

33135 S. River Rd.
Harrison Twp.
586-465-4771

MARQUETTE

Cram's General Store

100 Bensinger
Big Bay
906-345-0075

Gwinn DNR Office*

410 W. M-35
Gwinn
906-346-9201

LaPalme's Country Corner

County Hwy. 557 & 426
Arnold
906-238-4231

DNR Marquette Customer Service Center

1990 US-41 S.
Marquette
906-228-6561

Van Riper State Park

851 County Rd. AKE
Champion
906-339-4461

MECOSTA

Mecosta County Parks DNR Office*

22250 Northland Dr.
Paris
231-465-4188

MENOMINEE**B&J Taxidermy**

N9590 P-1 Rd.

Daggett

906-753-4090

Gary's Quality Foods**Venison Processing**

N5977 US-41

Wallace

906-788-4330

Powers-Spalding Locker Plant

W3765 US-2 & US-41

Spalding

906-497-5248

MONTMORENCY**Atlanta DNR Office***

13501 M-33

Atlanta

989-785-4251 ext. 5233

MUSKEGON**Muskegon State Game Area***

7600 E. Messinger Rd.

Twin Lake

231-788-5055

OAKLAND**Holly Recreation Area***

8100 Grange Hall Rd.

Holly

248-634-0240

ONTONAGON**Greig's Taxidermy & Tackle**

35742 US-45

Ontonagon

906-884-2770

Maple Ridge Bait Shop

35802 Hwy. M-28

Merriveather

906-365-5050

Porcupine Mtns. State Park

M-107 & South Boundary Rd.

Ontonagon

906-885-5275

Settler's Cooperative

M-28 at US-45

Bruce Crossing

906-827-3515

OSCODA**Mio DNR Office***

191 S. Mount Tom Rd.

Mio

989-275-5151

OTSEGO**DNR Gaylord Customer****Service Center**

1732 W. M-32

Gaylord

989-732-3541

PRESQUE ISLE**Adrian's Sport Shop**

335 N. Bradley Hwy.

Rogers City

989-734-2303

ROSCOMMON**Houghton Lake DNR Office***

180 S. Harrison Rd.

Houghton Lake

989-422-6572

DNR Roscommon Customer**Service Center***

8717 N. Roscommon Rd.

Roscommon

989-275-5151

SCHOOLCRAFT**Forest Glen Store**

7445 N. Federal Forest Hwy. 13

Wetmore

906-573-2655

Jack Pine Lodge

5350N State Hwy M-94

Manistique

906-573-2414

Mater's Stop N Go

1545 West State Hwy. M-28

Seney

906-499-3015

WAYNE**DNR Detroit Metro**

1801 Atwater St.

Detroit

313-396-6890

Pte. Mouillee State**Game Area***

37205 Mouillee Rd.

Rockwood

734-379-9692

WEXFORD**DNR Cadillac Customer****Service Center***

8015 Mackinaw Trl.

Cadillac

231-775-9727

Need information?

Contact a DNR office listed below or visit us online.

Customer Service Centers (CSC) are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Baraga CSC

427 US-41 North
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-6651

Bay City CSC

3580 State Park Drive
Bay City, MI 48706
989-684-9141

Cadillac CSC

8015 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601
231-775-9727

Crystal Falls Field Office

1420 W. US-2
Crystal Falls, MI 49920
906-875-6622

Detroit Metro CSC

1801 Atwater St.
Detroit, MI 48207
313-396-6890

Escanaba CSC

6833 US-2 41 & M-35
Gladstone, MI 49837
906-786-2351

Gaylord CSC

1732 W. M-32
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-732-3541

Lansing CSC

4166 Legacy Parkway
Lansing, MI 48911
517-284-4720

Marquette CSC

1990 US-41 South
Marquette, MI 49855
906-228-6561

Naubinway Field Office

PO Box 287
W11569 US 2E.
Naubinway, MI 49762
906-477-6048

Newberry CSC

5100 M-123
Newberry, MI 49868
906-293-5131

Norway Field Office

520 W. US-Hwy 2
Norway, MI 49870
906-563-9247

Plainwell CSC

621 N. 10th St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-685-6851

Roscommon CSC

I-75 & M-18 South,
8717 N. Roscommon Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653
989-275-5151

Sault Ste. Marie Field Office

PO Box 798
2001 Ashmun
Sault St. Marie, MI 49783
906-635-6161

Traverse City CSC

2122 South M-37
Traverse City, MI 49685
231-922-5280

Helpful URLs:

Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/michigandnr](https://www.facebook.com/michigandnr)

Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/mdnr_wildlife

Hunter Education: mi.gov/huntereducation

Direct DNR website URLs:

Hunting and Trapping: mi.gov/hunting

Pure Michigan Hunt: mi.gov/puremichiganhunt

DNR Digests and Guides: mi.gov/dnrdigests

Mi-HUNT: mi.gov/mihunt

Explore Michigan's Wetland Wonders: mi.gov/wetlandwonders

Invasive Species: mi.gov/invasivespecies

Shooting Ranges: mi.gov/shootingranges

Emerging Diseases: mi.gov/emergingdiseases

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Wildlife Division

525 W. Allegan Street

P.O. Box 30444

Lansing, MI 48933

517-284-WILD (9453)

Contact hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.