

YORK WATER DISTRICT/KITTERY WATER DISTRICT

POLICY: Public Water Supply Source Water Protection Area Hunting policy Use Policy

DATE ISSUED: 2.9.17

BOARD APPROVED: 2.8.17 by YWD. 2.9.17 by KWD.

Supersedes any previous policy

REVISION DATE:

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to properly protect the natural resources within the York Water District (YWD) and Kittery Water District (KWD) Source Water Protection Areas to ensure the ongoing high quality water both utilities supply to our communities while allowing limited recreational use of the land and trails.

It is the desire and intention of the Districts to gain voluntary compliance to all laws and rules related to hunting while on the District's property. We will work to educate property users through signs, newspaper articles, watershed brochures, District websites and personal interactions with the Resource Protection Manager/Watershed Patrol Officer, Police or Maine State Warden or designated representatives.

However, when a person violates this policy the Resource Protection Manager/Watershed Patrol Officer, Police, Warden or designated representative is authorized to take action to enforce this policy.

Area

This policy covers the watershed land and waterbodies owned, operated, managed and maintained by the Districts surrounding, Bell Marsh Reservoir, Boulter Pond, Folly Pond, Middle Pond (KWD), Chase's Pond and Welch's Pond (YWD) and their tributaries, known as a Source Water Protection Area as defined in Title 30-A, Section 2001, subsection 20-A.

Definitions

As defined in the Maine Hunting Law Book, "To hunt means to pursue, catch, take, kill, or harvest wild birds and wild animals (wild by nature, whether or not bred or reared in captivity including any physical part of that species of mammal or bird) or attempt to catch, take, kill or harvest wild animals or wild birds."

Scope

This policy places additional rules specific to the protection of our water supplies and natural resources on any hunter utilizing the York Water District or Kittery Water District property. It is the hunter's responsibility to know and obey all laws, rules and regulations related to any use of the property.

Responsibility

The decisions regarding interpretation of this policy are the responsibility of the Resource Protection Manager and the two Districts Superintendents.

Policy

- Hunting with dogs is by permission only. Hunters using dogs must apply for permission to the Resource Protection Manager in writing annually (please see YWD/KWD Animal Control Policy).

- Hunting of waterfowl with dogs in any of the public water supplies is not allowed.
- Hunting of geese is at the discretion of each District and out of a need for public health and safety.
- All other hunting does not require permission to hunt on District property.
- All State of Maine hunting laws and rules apply.
- No hunter, or any person, by any method, will cross any public water supply during open water or ice unless authorized by the appropriate District Superintendent.
- Tree stands, observation stands, ladders or any device that allows a hunter up a tree or gain elevation by a freestanding device is not allowed. If found, these will be removed immediately by the Resource Protection Manager/Watershed Patrol Officer or Agent.
- Animal baiting for purpose of hunting is not allowed.
- Dumping animal carcasses or animal parts is not allowed.
- Game cameras are allowed and do not require permission.

Violations

When a person violates this policy the Resource Protection Manager/Watershed Patrol Officer, Police or Warden is authorized to take action to enforce the policy. Enforcement can vary from a simple discussion, verbal warnings, written warnings, being told to leave the property, issuing a summons for the violation, revocation of any permissions and loss of privilege to use the property or any combination of enforcement actions. Any hunting violations will, at a minimum, include notification of the violation to the Maine Warden Service.

Complaint Procedure

Any complaints/concerns about this policy should be directed to the Superintendent of either District.