



FINGER LAKES LAND TRUST

General Finger Lakes Land Trust (FLLT)

Hunting Rules and Regulations

Revised for 2023

Applicable to All FLLT Preserves Open to Hunting

PLEASE READ ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS CAREFULLY!

- A permit is issued to, and valid for, one specific individual permit holder **only** (permits are not transferrable or useable by other people). A copy of the permit will be provided by FLLT. Hunters must carry a digital or printed copy of the permit while hunting, and should also be displayed on their vehicle dashboard.
- Permits are valid for one year only, and only for the dates or hunting seasons specified by the Land Trust.
- Permits are valid for hunting of white-tail deer only. No other animals may be taken on FLLT preserves. It is mandatory that any non-native problem animals, such as feral swine (wild pigs), observed on a preserve or in neighboring areas be reported immediately to the Land Trust.
- Hunters with a permit are not entitled to bring guests onto the property while hunting; however, adult hunters age 25 and older with a permit may bring one (1) youth hunter, age 12-17, who does not have a permit. Any youth hunter without a permit that is accompanying an adult permit holder must be fully licensed and have taken the appropriate hunter education course(s), must abide by all NYS laws and FLLT Hunting Rules and Regulation, and the adult permit holder is solely responsible for the supervision, conduct, and safety of the youth hunter. Unless a youth hunter has their own FLLT hunting permit, they must remain with the adult permit holder at all times while hunting on the property.
- All New York State laws and hunting regulations apply.
- FLLT has full discretion in designating which areas of a preserve are open or closed to hunting, and will provide maps to permit holders. Hunting is allowed only in areas of a property designated as being open to hunting. FLLT may change sections of the property that are open or closed to hunting at any time, and will notify permit holders of any changes. In no case may a hunter with a permit hunt with a firearm within 500 feet of a neighboring residence, with a bow within 150 feet of a neighboring residence, or with a crossbow within 250 feet of a neighboring residence, unless it is their own residence or they have explicit permission from the owner of the residence to be within that area.
- Vehicles (cars, trucks, ATV's, etc.) may **not** be driven onto the preserve (except for FLLT parking areas along a road). Hunters must access all hunting areas and remove harvested deer by foot.
- Camping and campfires are not permitted on FLLT preserves.
- Hunters are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible and respectful manner:
 - No unnecessary shooting or target shooting.
 - No shooting across roads or trails.
 - No extra-long or low-percentage shots that have a good chance of missing or wounding a deer.
 - No consumption or use of alcohol or drugs on the property, and no hunting under the influence of alcohol or drugs while on the property.
 - No littering. Hunters are responsible for removing all trash from the property, including empty shells.
 - Be polite and courteous when encountering other people.
- Gun hunters (including those using muzzleloaders) must wear at least one visible article of blaze-orange clothing.

- Gut piles should be left far from hiking trails, roads, parking lots, streams or other waterbodies, and boundaries with neighboring landowners, hidden from view to the greatest practical extent.
- A portable tree stand or ground blind may be used during the hunting season covered by a permit, and must have a tag clearly showing the owner's name and address. Screw-in steps or other equipment that penetrates the bark of a tree are prohibited. Brush and small tree limbs may be trimmed to open shooting lanes, but hunters may NOT cut down any whole tree, even small ones. You must wait until you receive an acceptance letter before putting your tree stand up. Hunters are allowed one tree stand, or ground blind, per person, unless FLLT grants permission for a hunter to put up more than one stand or blind. FLLT is not liable for any damaged, stolen, or removed personal items left on the property. Permit holders may keep their tree-stand on a Preserve where they have been receiving a hunting permit, and anticipate to continue hunting, year-round, as long as the stand is not visible from a public hiking trail, or is more than 250 feet from a public hiking trail. Any hunter who does not get a hunting permit (either because FLLT chooses not to issue a permit to that person, or because they withdraw from the program), must remove their stand and any other property from the Preserve by a date specified by FLLT or have it forfeited.
- Do not trespass onto neighboring private property. If a wounded deer leaves the preserve, do not track it onto private property without first obtaining the permission of the landowner.
- It is requested, but not required, that hunters with a valid FLLT permit ask other people they see hunting on the preserve without a permit to leave the property, except for hunters without a permit who are there for the sole purpose of tracking a wounded deer that has entered the preserve from a neighboring property (in which case, you may want to offer assistance).
- FLLT may, in its sole discretion, revoke any permit at any time, with notice to the hunter. Any violations of law or FLLT Rules & Regulations shall be cause for revocation of a permit, and such revocation may be permanent or for a specified length of time.
- All hunters are encouraged to keep a daily hunting log that can be submitted to FLLT after the season, and all hunters are **required** to send in a written post-season hunting report to FLLT, post-marked on or before December 31st after the regular hunting seasons (or post-marked on or before February 10th after the Tompkins Co. Focus Area special January hunting season), providing the following information:
 - 1) How many days and total hours were spent hunting on the preserve;
 - 2) How many deer were seen, and whether they were antlered or antlerless;
 - 3) How many deer were killed or wounded and whether they were antlered or antlerless; and
 - 4) Any problems encountered and/or suggestions for improving the program.

FLLT will provide you with a Daily Hunting Log form and a Hunting Report Form to make this reporting requirement easier for you. Failure to submit a report can result in you not receiving a permit for upcoming seasons.

- If you receive a permit but then are unable to hunt, please notify FLLT immediately so that we can assign the permit to another hunter.
- Hunters are encouraged to support the Finger Lakes Land Trust and further give back to the resource by joining as a member of the land trust or volunteering at a preserve.

– REMEMBER –

YOUR GOOD CONDUCT AND SPORTSMANSHIP IS ESSENTIAL FOR MAINTAINING FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES TO HUNT THIS AND OTHER PROPERTIES!

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