

INFORMATION FOR HUNTERS ON VILLAGE OF WESTFIELD PROPERTY

Date: 11/12/02

The Village of Westfield wishes all hunters with permission to hunt on Village property a safe and successful 2002-2003 hunting season. Before heading out on Village property to hunt this year, please make sure you understand all of the rules.

- Hunters must have written permission to hunt on Village owned property or they are in violation of the Village's rules and may either be denied future access or will be charged. We require hunters to have permission (granted by the Village Clerk's office) because generally, it is unlawful to trespass on Village watershed or other posted property at any other time. The clerk issues a permission card that should be on your person at all times while hunting on Village property. To obtain permission to hunt, you must submit your full name, address, and telephone number along with a description of the make, model and license plate number of the vehicle you will be driving. This information is required of all applicants or permission to hunt on Village property will be denied.
- A few years ago, the Village Board felt that safe and ethical hunters (especially town and Village residents) with the appropriate authorization from the Village should be allowed to use this property for hunting as a way of "giving back" to the community.
- Permission to hunt on Village property does NOT imply permission to use an ATV, snowmobile, motorcycle, four-wheel drive truck (4X4) or any other vehicle for any reason. Therefore, the use of any vehicle is strictly prohibited. *(Please note, exceptions to this rule include Village employees carrying out their day-to-day work responsibilities, other Village of Westfield authorized individuals e.g. surveyors, watershed management personnel, etc.)* and gas well attendants inspecting and tending wells. Off duty Village employees engaged in hunting on Village property must abide by these rules.
- Camping on Village property is also strictly prohibited.
- Fires of any kind are prohibited on Village property.
- In order to appropriately conserve and manage precious timber resources, hunters are not allowed to build any kind of permanent tree stand or use tree steps that "screw" or are nailed into a tree. The only tree stand devices allowed to be used on Village property are non-permanent, "portable" type tree stands that are either roped, strapped, or chained to a tree. Climbing tree stands are also allowed as long as they do not require the user to puncture the tree. Hunters must remove these stands everyday.
- Climbing aides that use ropes or straps are allowed. Again, as long as they do not physically require the hunter to puncture the tree, the device is satisfactory. Some portable tree stands require the use of a "t" screw for their

proper final use and installation; the uses of these “t” screws are also prohibited. Generally, if you have to either screw or nail the device to a tree, it is not allowed on Village property.

- Hunters should also understand that the appropriate times for fall hunting for any authorized game species is regulated solely by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) under the Environmental Conservation law. As of this writing hunters may not begin hunting until sunrise time and may not hunt beyond sunset time. Since these actual times change every day, hunters should make sure they know the sunrise and sunset times before heading afield everyday.
- Spring turkey hunters may begin hunting on Village property per NYSDEC guidelines during the spring turkey season. As of this writing, the current rule for Spring Turkey hunting only is from “one half hour before sunrise until noon.” Remember, hunters must follow the NYSDEC hunting rules and regulations that they receive with their hunting licenses. This is very much the true even on Village property.
- Hunters caught violating these Village property rules will have their privileges revoked and could be brought up on charges. Hunters violating the game laws will be handled through the NYSDEC.

Hunters should report any NYSDEC Game Law wrongdoing or concerns to either one of the following NYSDEC Game Wardens:

Charles Lohr	
Frank Lauricella	962-5173
Dennis Gowen	965-2779
Robert E. O’Conner	665-2448

Hunters should report any other concerns (ATV use, trespassing, etc.) to the

Village of Westfield Police Department at 326-3375
Village of Westfield Water Department at 326-2832
Village of Westfield Clerk’s Office at 326-4961

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED COOPERATION AND SAFE HUNTING!!!

