

Common Questions

Forest and Deer Management Planning on City-owned Private Properties in Comstock Township

PROPERTIES

1) Active Water Pumping Station #25 (WPS-25) Campbell Lake Property

Located at 7275 North H Avenue, 365 acres – borders the west end of Campbell Lake and Comstock Creek with 2 land bridges/culverts, McLinden Nature Trails, and leased farm fields. Forest and deer management plans are completed and implementation is pending. *Refer to Attachment A for a map.*

References

2024 MDNR-approved Forest Stewardship Plan

2026 Deer Management Plan

2) Active Water Pumping Station #39 (WPS-39) Morrow Lake Property

Located at 8801 Miller Road, 63 acres bordering the south side of Morrow Lake. A deer management plan is completed and implementation is pending. There is no current forest management planning due to the low acreage of the forest. *Refer to Attachment B for a map.*

Reference

2026 Deer Management Plan

Comstock Township's Wellhead Protection Program (WHPP)

What does tree and deer harvesting have to do with a municipal drinking water pumping station?

The Comstock WHPP ordinance, which was written based on the City's ordinance, is the mechanism for wellhead protection at WPS-25. Comstock Township is the entity that implements the ordinance and its associated Performance Standards.

Although WPS-25 is under Comstock's jurisdiction for Wellhead Protection, the City has its own state-mandated **Wellhead Protection Program Plan (WHPPP)** for all its wellfields. As part of the

WHPPP, the City is working through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) **Forest Stewardship Program** to have its wellfields with large, forested acreage managed as **American Tree Farms**.

The MDNR Forest Stewardship Program is leading a team of twenty conservation partners on a new initiative called “**Forest to Michigan Faucets**” to explain how forests in Michigan protect our drinking water sources. The project builds on the national Forests to Faucets 2.0 analysis identifying priority watersheds for protecting surface water and groundwater because they are drinking water sources in the United States. The City’s source of drinking water is 100% groundwater. Maintaining good water quality involves land management practices for forests and deer. The City works collaboratively with the Forest to Michigan Faucets program staff to achieve its goals.

In summary, forests protect drinking water resources (i.e. groundwater) and establishing good land management practices is promoted by the Forest to Michigan Faucets, MDNR program: <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/forestry/management/foresttomifaucet>.

Forest Management at WPS-25, Campbell Lake

What is the basis of the proposed tree and deer harvesting?

The City works under the water utility jurisdiction through the Utility Policy Commission (UPC) to ensure that Townships and the City are both represented and provided input on policy and decision making. There are 13 points of entry in the jurisdiction’s wellfields.

Through the MDNR Forest to Michigan Faucet program the wellfields and points of entry seek to improve the source of drinking water, namely groundwater. Those land areas have timber stock which are valuable for timber and water quality.

Unfortunately, hardwoods such as the oak and hickory growth areas are not regenerating, invasive plant species are excessive and choke out the canopies leaving growth of undesired tree species. Tree canopies are dense and competition has resulted in little sunlight penetrating the canopy so young trees can’t grow. Basically, trees fight against each other, growing tall and weak and are overcome during intense storms which result in significant storm damage.

Deer browsing of hardwoods and samplings is year round. The City’s test trials were conducted by the City’s forester and a small grant from MDNR by installing “deer exclosures” which are fenced in trees protected from deer browsing, and trees left unprotected. The trials have shown that browsing damage reduced tree growth. Land Management by tree harvesting assists the regeneration of old forest growth and improves water quality and the environment.

Our forest and deer management programs in Ross Township have proven successful thus far for reforestation. These programs are not a part of the City of Kalamazoo’s urban deer management policy, rather a tactic to utilize on the City’s private properties within the townships. At our water pumping stations in Comstock Township, it is our desire to reestablish hardwood forests using deer management tactics to support reforestation.

What's in the Forest Stewardship ("management") Plan?

The City's 2024 MDNR-approved Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) outlines the sequence of steps to achieve its primary goals of improving the forest quality, surface water and groundwater quality, habitats, invasive species control, and animal management. (*Refer to page 4 of the FSP*).

Per the FSP, the property is a designated MDNR-certified American Tree Farm. The FSP highly recommended limited tree harvesting to improve the low-quality forests on the property. One of 5 potential phases of limited tree harvesting is anticipated in 2026. The FSP also indicated excess vegetation damage exists due to deer over-population and their browsing. As such, the City has been working cooperatively with the MDNR for over two years to establish Deer Management Plans at multiple properties. In the Fall of 2025, the City completed its first successful antlerless bow hunt at its property in Ross Township. This year a similar Deer Management Plan has been established for WPS-25.

NOTE: Due to public comment, the McLinden nature trailways will not be interrupted by deer hunting in 2026, but may be temporarily affected during a small tree harvest planned northeast of the trailway system.

How frequently will the City conduct limited tree harvests?

The area of tree harvesting is broken into 5 sections based on the different tree species, accessibility, forest quality and topographical challenges. The City has planned for 4 sections to be separately harvested due to the different harvesting processes necessary to remove the lumber in the different sections. The 5th section of trees is highly degraded with no retail value and a decision on how to improve the forest quality has not yet been determined. The phases for tree harvesting may take up to 4 years to complete.

Once the phases of tree harvesting over the entire forest have been completed, a forester should return every 5 to 10 years to update the FSP and make recommendations. Depending on the observed forest condition, it is anticipated that supplemental limited tree harvesting will be necessary every 5 to 10 years to maintain the planned regrowth.

Once the City is done with tree and deer harvest, what else should we expect?

The next land management practice undertaken will be focused on invasive plant species control. Although tree harvests contribute considerably to reduction of invasive species, other control practices are necessary and can be done to improve soil quality at the same time. Sheep and goat grazing along with controlled fires are some suggested practices, however, NO plan has been developed thus far. The City will continue to collaborate with experts and professionals to develop an invasive species control plan.

Deer Management at WPS-25, Campbell Lake

Is this a deer cull?

No, cull is a term from media sources. The City does NOT use the term “cull” because it does not represent the proposed antlerless bow hunting described in the City’s Deer Management Plan. Hunting on City-owned private properties located in Comstock Twp, will follow all the normal Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) hunting procedures through their Deer Management Assistance Permit (DMAP) program. To qualify for a MDNR DMAP Program, private landowners or managers must show evidence of localized deer overabundance, significant agricultural/horticultural damage, or a specific habitat management need that cannot be met through regular public hunting license. WPS-25 met all of these qualifications. The hunts are the same as they would be on any other non-city property except that the City imposes additional restrictions and rules.

Why didn’t you notify the public of these plans?

The land management concept has been a work in progress for all large City wellfield properties for 8 years. The properties had not been managed properly for many decades and as the number of public complaints and issues arose, it necessitated moving toward staged land management and prevention. The City has slowly developed the components and processes involving many conversations and meetings with state and local entities and professionals. Given the lack of substantial staff and funds, the City’s concepts for land management were first formalized in 2024 and continue to be a work in progress. We are taking one phase at a time on each wellfield (or potential wellfield) in succession. The City has undertaken extensive efforts to obtain the expertise of:

- the City’s Wellhead Protection Committee comprised of various township staff, the local health dept., planners, farmers, Kalamazoo conservation staff, university professors, MI Geologic Survey, business and industry sustainability staff, fire marshals, environmental organizations, and City municipal water staff.
- Kalamazoo Environmental Concerns Committee when it was mentioned to the board in a November 2025 meeting.
- various outreach, communications and reports for MDNR and EGLE for the Drinking Water Programs.
- Kalamazoo River Watershed Council in various meeting and communications.
- Southwest MI Land Conservancy during walkovers and planning conversations.
- the City’s forester with the approval of, in conjunction with, our contracted professional forester, the farmer leasing the northern portions of the property, and soil and invasive species management planners, etc.

The City initiated tree and deer harvesting first in Ross Township working with the Township to prepare and conduct public outreach. Once the tree harvest was achieved in 2024 and 2025, and a pilot antlerless bow hunt was undertaken in 2025. The neighboring properties applauded the professionalism of the tree harvests, three of which subsequently conducted their own tree harvests. The deer harvest was also successful with no public complaints.

The City has interacted with Comstock Township staff, particularly the Parks & Rec staff frequently to discuss the existing passive recreation agreement established in the 1980s between the two entities. The agreement established a collaborate outline for maintaining the trailway portion of WPS-25. The subject of overall maintenance of the property, damage, and cost-sharing are well established. Management of the trees and deer overpopulation have been mentioned over several years.

NOTE: The City is continuing to provide information to the public and will not initiate implementation of the tree or deer harvest plans until all concerns are addressed and the City receives a formal approval by the Township (planned for the Oct. board meeting).

How will you select the hunters?

From the perspective of safety, hunters that meet all the MDNR hunting qualifications, have completed MDNR training and are highly trained in response actions and know the rules of engagement, etc., will be offered to volunteer. This would include Comstock Township employees such as safety officers, fire fighters and other qualified employees. It may also include Public Safety officers from the City of Kalamazoo. The City will vet the hunters' applications to ensure the program will result in precision hunting and success of the deer management practices without injuries.

Are the selected hunters, employees from Comstock Township and the City of Kalamazoo, paid or contracted to hunt by their employers?

No, the City offers the select hunters, who are experienced and have met the MDNR's requirements to hunt (including MDNR training), the opportunity to volunteer to be a part of the City's hunts. The hunters volunteer in their off-duty private time to participate as they would on any other non-city property.

Would veteran's be allowed to participate in the hunts?

The City would allow veteran's to request to participate and the City would consider their qualifications for inclusion.

Would the City allow the deer carcasses to remain on-site?

Yes, but within reason. At the City's **pre-hunting mandatory meeting**, many rules and restrictions are discussed with the hunters such as this one. It is commonly known that where deer are overabundant, many starve and die and their carcasses are not removed. The City allows field dressing at the kill and tag locations, unless that location would be on or near a

trailway, the parking area, or other public view. In these instances, the carcasses can be field dressed and the remains left elsewhere out of the public view.

NOTE: Due to public comment, the McLinden nature trailways will not be interrupted by deer hunting in 2026, there will be no hunting near the trailways.

Refer to the Attachment C, page 5, an excerpt from the Deer Management Plan, Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package.

When will the hunts be conducted?

Refer to the Attachment C, page 4, an excerpt from the Deer Management Plan, Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package. City-allowed Regular Season Bow Hunting dates are based on the

MDNR seasons:

- Liberty hunt: Sept. 12 – 13, 2026. Open to eligible youth and hunters with disabilities. One antlered deer or antlerless deer per license/permit.
- Early antlerless firearm: Sept. 19-20, 2026 (hunters must wear orange)
Archery equipment can be used during this season, but NO FIREARMS are allowed.
- Independence hunt: Oct. 15 – 18, 2026 hunters with disabilities.
- Archery: Oct. 1 – Nov. 14, 2026 and Dec. 1, 2026 – Jan. 1, 2027
(hunters must wear orange in December - January)

How do you know there's an abundance of deer and that hunting is necessary?

- The Forest Stewardship Plan, completed by our contracted professional forester who is a participant of the MDNR Forest Stewardship Program, documented the excess abundance of deer and recommended deer management as necessary to improve the quality of the forest after limited tree harvesting was complete.
- The MDNR conducted an independent walkover of WPS-25 and also observed the excess abundance of deer and recommended deer management as necessary to improve the quality of the forest.
- Complaints from neighboring residents.

How many deer will be allowed to be killed and tagged?

Once the City applies for a MDNR Deer Management Assistance Permit (DMAP) and it is approved, their biologists determine the number of tags/permits the City is allowed for each property. The City will then determine the number of hunters allowed on the Property. Select hunters will be notified and given free tags if they chose to participate.

Please note, not all hunters will be onsite at the same time. Additionally, hunters will only be present during hunting seasons listed in *Attachment C, page 4, an excerpt from the Deer Management Plan, Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package.*

Deer Management at WPS-29, Morrow Lake

The proposed deer harvest at WPS-39 will be conducted similarly as that at WPS-25. There is no public recreation or other public access to WPS-39. With the limited acreage of 63 acres, and only two adjoining residential properties, public safety issues are greatly reduced.

Public Safety

How will the City ensure hunters can be trusted?

At the City's ***pre-hunting mandatory meeting***, many rules and restrictions are discussed such as this one. Refer to the Attachment C, an excerpt from the Deer Management Plan, Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package.

Who will have enforcement capabilities for the hunting program and property?

No Comstock enforcement is expected. If any violation of the hunting program is committed, the City will reach out to MDNR for enforcement. The City has been in contact with MDNR local conservation officers concerning the wellfields. For violations outside of the hunting program such as trespassing or vandalism, the City will reach out to the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office to respond and file police reports.

For those hunters caught hunting without a City or MDNR permit, the City would take into consideration the seriousness of the violation, the status of the hunter, their intentions, etc. before undertaking enforcement. It is the City's intention to work with the public and the hunters through these programs while focusing on education.

Is the City going to patrol the property to make sure hunters are following the rules and hikers stay on the trails?

NOTE: Due to public comment after the August 19, 2026 Comstock Township Board meeting, the City has reconfigured the Designated Deer Management Area (DMA-25). McLinden nature trailways are excluded from DMA-25 and will not be interrupted by deer hunting in 2026 but may be temporarily affected during a small tree harvest planned northeast of the trailway system.

City staff monitor the deer hunting process and maintain communications with hunters during the hunting season. City staff will also monitor the property periodically during the hunting seasons.

Signage and brochures indicating active bow hunting is occurring during the hunting seasons, will be placed at the parking lot for the general public coming to utilize McLinden nature trails. Existing signage and brochures will have trailway QR codes for the public to assist them from straying off the trailways.

Hunters are mandated to notify the City each time they are onsite to hunt. Everything is permitted by the City and discussed with hunters at the ***pre-hunting mandatory meeting***. City parking placards, deer tags and tree stand tags are mandated, each with a unique ID number that identifies the hunter. The City will work with the selected hunters for tree stand placements, maintaining safety practices and working in unison to avoid any injuries.

How will adjoining private homes be protected during hunting?

The entire property is in the process of having an updated property survey. Property lines will be marked by the City. NO HUNTING is allowed in Safety Zones designated as being within 200 ft of any building on off-site property, or within 100 ft of the property boundary. *Refer to the Attachment C, page 6, an excerpt from the Deer Management Plan, Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package.*

Why would the City consider allowing active hunting in areas that have public trailways?

NOTE: Due to public comment, the McLinden nature trailways will not be interrupted by deer hunting in 2026, there will be no hunting near the trailways. The latest version of the Deer Hunting Area at WPS-25 will not intersect any trailways, *refer to Attachment A.*

A few of the reasons for considering active bow hunting in areas of open walking trailways are as follows:

The City initiated conversations with other entities experienced in bow hunting areas with active walking trails. The MDNR visited the site and determine WPS-25 had an excess of deer presence and property damage. They also indicated WPS-25 can be successfully bow hunted while leaving the trailways open because of the significant decline in bow hunting injuries state-wide.

The City had similar comments from Michigan State University (MSU) with regards to Kellogg Forest, a 700 acre research forest in Ross Township that involves all-season passive recreation. They have an open trailway network during the same time period that hunting is allowed. There was a lot of active feedback and learning that occurred between MSU and the City before entertaining the concept of active hunting and open trailways existing successfully. MSU has shown that the two can be implemented concurrently without injuries.

Based on statistics, total hunting incidents have dropped significantly over the decades due to mandatory hunter safety education and orange-clothing requirements. The MDNR defines a hunter casualty incident strictly as a physical injury or death involving the discharge or use of a hunting implement while actively engaged in a hunt. Medical emergencies like heart attacks while hunting are not officially logged as hunting accident injuries by the state. Over 60% of typical non-fatal hunting injuries are self-inflicted gunshot wounds. Refer to the MDNR Law Enforcement Division's Hunter Incident report at <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/hunting/hunting-incidents/2025-hunter-incidents>. Statistic show that hunting incidents predominantly involve firearms and hunting outside of the MDNR hunting seasons.

Signage will be placed at the parking lot for trail walkers, parking for hunting will be designated by the City and hunters will have a City placard they are mandated to place on the windshield. Each hunter will be required to carry a City Deer permit and tag at all times and notify the City each day onsite. *Refer to the Attachment C, an excerpt from the Deer Management Plan, Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package.*

References

Forest to Michigan Faucets, MDNR program: <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/forestry/management/foresttomifaucet>

MDNR 2026 Small game hunting regulation summary: <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/laws/regulations/small-game>

MDNR Law Enforcement Division's Hunter Incident report at <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/hunting/hunting-incidents/2025-hunter-incidents>

ATTACHMENT A

Deer Management Area-25 (DMA-25) 2026

City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property

"WPS-25" @ 7275 East H Avenue

County: Kalamazoo

Township: Comstock

Size in Acres: ~140

Hunt types Allowed: Bow archery, antlerless

Hunting Permits Allowed: 10



Access & Parking



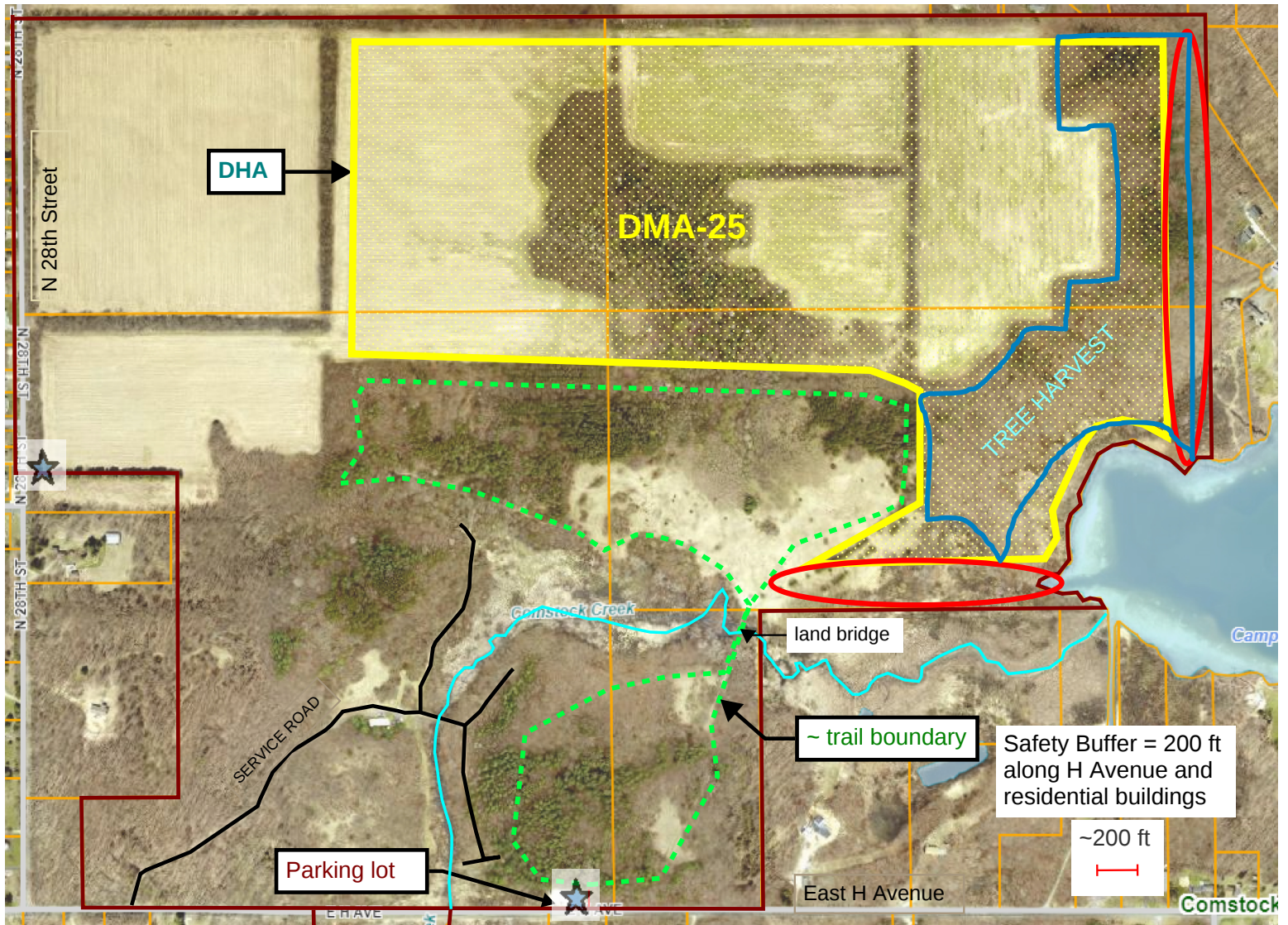
Property Boundary



Designated Harvest Areas (DHA)



Safety Zone—houses/structures



For more information scan the QR code (left) with you smartphone OR visit:

<https://protectyourwater.net/protectyourwater-net-resources-hunting/>

HUNTER SAFETY ZONES are enforced at ALL TIMES

- 200 feet around all buildings / structures

- 100 feet from Property boundaries.

Be aware of all property boundaries; Do not trespass onto adjacent lands.

ATTACHMENT B

Deer Management Area (DMA-39) 2026

City of Kalamazoo, Morrow Lake, Comstock Township Property

“WPS-39” @ 8801 Miller Rd, Galesburg, MI

County: Kalamazoo

Township: Comstock

Size in Acres: 63

Hunt types Allowed: Bow archery, antlerless

Hunting Permits Allowed: 5



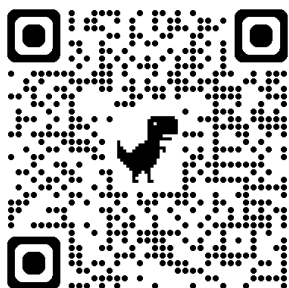
Access & Parking



Property Boundary & Designated Harvest Areas (DHA)



Safety Zone—buildings & road



For more information scan the QR code (left) with you smartphone OR visit:

<https://protectyourwater.net/protectyourwater-net-resources-hunting/>

HUNTER SAFETY ZONES are enforced at ALL TIMES

- 100 feet around all buildings / structures

- 100 feet from Property boundaries.

Be aware of all property boundaries; Do not trespass onto adjacent lands.

ATTACHMENT C

*excerpted from the Deer Management Plan,
Appendix C, the Hunting Application Package*



City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property “WPS-25” @ 7275 North H Avenue

Antlerless Archery Hunting Overview 2026

Hunting this property is a privilege, not a right.

Archery hunting is a popular and important recreational activity. Hunters play a significant role in deer management at WPS-25 by collecting data on the fluctuations in population size, overall health, and mitigating browsing damage. Antlerless Archery Hunting is allowed at the Campbell Lake Property (WPS-25) in select areas only referred to as DMA-25 (refer to Exhibit A).

The goal of the City’s Department of Public Services (“City”) hunting program is to reduce the antlerless deer population to sustainable numbers that will result in healthier forests and a healthy deer herd. City Staff will monitor people accessing the property to ensure a safe & enjoyable experience for everyone.

Hunters will be required to comply with all MDNR rules and regulations, including obtaining a base license, one MDNR permit/tag, and submitting any requested samples for collection.

The City has obtained MDNR Deer Management Assistance Permits (DMAPs) that allow limited antlerless archery hunting on designated properties. The City’s permits are open to the public through an application lottery. Informational Hunting Packets are provided by the City.

1) Hunters must apply for the City’s Archery Hunting Permit each year, August 1st to 31st. Hunters may apply as an individual or as a hunting group (up to 3 people per application).

2) MDNR Base Licenses and at least one tag must be purchased separately by the hunter through the current MDNR permit application process.

(<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/hunting/deer>) and the MDNR Hunting Digest must be followed. All MDNR rules & regulations apply.

Allowable licenses for WPS-25 are for Youth age 9 and under, Youth age 10-16, Resident age 17-64 years and Resident senior age 65+ years.

Hunting Packet: Includes a City hunting permit, DMAP License (kill tag), liability form, parking pass, tree stand card, harvest data sheets/QR code, maps, and other important information.

Reporting to the City

Hunters will be required to provide data after deer removal, such as the condition of the deer when harvested, etc. The harvest report must be submitted to the City at the end of the season, no later than January 15th. Tasteful photos of your harvest are encouraged and may be included in the City’s media outreach. Data collected may be shared with MDNR, local, state and federal partners to help promote important wildlife management and research.

APPENDIX D

Harvest observation sheets can be submitted anytime by:

- 1) emailing HuntingPermits@kalamazoocity.org, or
- 2) mailing to COK WPS-25 Hunting Program, 1415 N. Harrison St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

IMPORTANT: City harvest reporting does not relieve the hunter of the obligation to report deer harvests to the MDNR as required.

Reporting to the MDNR

Deer hunters are required to report a successful harvest to the MDNR within 72-hours or before transferring possession of the deer (to another person, a processor or taxidermist). To report, go to <https://www.mdnr-elicense.com/harvestreport> or use the QR code below.

Hunters MUST use the City's designated **DMA License number** and **DATE of BIRTH, 1-1-1918** to report a harvest. This is provided on all City deer permits and tree stand cards.

When reporting harvests to MDNR be prepared to also report the unique kill tag license number that was attached to the deer, the township (Comstock), the type of deer harvested (fawn, antlered, adult, or doe), and date of harvest. In addition, some hunters will be asked additional management-related questions.

Reference Information

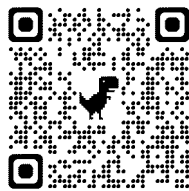
Refer to the City's A [Antlerless Archery Hunting Permit Application Process](#) (page 3) for important at <https://protectyourwater.net/protectyourwater-net-resources-hunting/>.

QR Codes are provided below for easy access to information referenced in this packet.

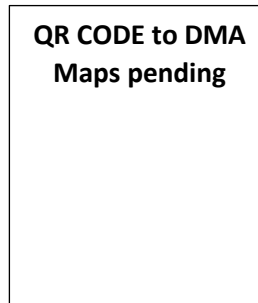
City Website



MDNR Reporting



QR CODE to DMA
Maps pending



Important Deadlines

August 1 to 31	Apply for the City's Archery Hunting Permit each season
Sept. 1	Starting this date, City applications will be processed and awarded
Sept. 13 to Jan 1	City-allowed Regular Hunting Season
January 15	City Deer Harvest Reports Due
March 1	Tree Stand Removal Deadline

APPENDIX D

Meat Processing

The City is not currently participating in any deer harvest donation program but may choose to do so in the future. Hunters are responsible for using the City's DMAP License number and birth date when tagging the deer and taking their harvest to a meat processor.

Liability Form

The City requires all applicants to sign a Release of Liability and Covenant not to Sue Form along with the application for a City Archery Hunting Permit. The liability form is provided as Exhibit B.

APPENDIX D

City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property “WPS-25” @ 7275 North H Avenue

Antlerless Archery Hunting Permit Application Process

The DMA-25 for the Campbell Lake Property (WPS-25) is approximately half the total 365 acres (Exhibit A).

For 2026, hunters will be limited to a select group only. Applications for each season allowed by the City are available online from **August 1st to 31st** at

<https://protectyourwater.net/protectyourwater-net-resources-hunting/>. Applications are specific to available Deer Harvest Areas (DHAs) each season.

City-allowed Regular Season Hunting dates are based on the MDNR seasons (pending potential 2026 changes):

- **Liberty hunt:** Sept. 12 – 13, 2026. Open to eligible youth and hunters with disabilities. One antlered deer or antlerless deer per license/permit.
- **Early antlerless firearm:** Sept. 12 –13, 2026 (hunters must **wear orange**)
Archery equipment can be used during this season, but NO FIREARMS are allowed.
- **Independence hunt:** Oct. 15 – 18, 2026 hunters with disabilities.
- **Archery:** Oct. 1 – Early Nov. 14, 2026, and Late Dec. 1, 2026 – Jan. 1, 2027 (hunters must **wear orange in December - January**)

City Website



Archery Hunting Permit Application Requirements

- 1) Read the Hunting and Tree Stand Policy (page 6)
- 2) Submit a signed copy of the City’s Hunting Permit Application Form (page 8)

***** City Hunting Permits are NO COST to applicants *****

Submit the Application by:

- 1) emailing HuntingPermits@kalamazoo-city.org, or
- 2) mailing to COK WPS-25 Hunting Program, 1415 N. Harrison St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Questions?

Visit our website at <https://protectyourwater.net/protectyourwater-net-resources-hunting/>

Email HuntingPermits@kalamazoo-city.org

Text 269-370-1939

Call 311 (from inside the City) or (269) 337-8000 (if outside the City).

APPENDIX D

Hunting Packet

Applications will be processed and awarded starting Sept. 1st. All applicants will be notified of awards via the contact information listed on the application. Hunters may only apply once per year and can request to be wait-listed on the application. Hunters whose names appear on more than one application will be disqualified.

Hunters will attend a **mandatory in-person meeting** on (Date)_____ from (Time)_____ at (Location)_____ to receive their Hunting Packet of materials. Some exceptions may be allowed to receive materials digitally via email or mail. Signed liability release forms are required before hunting and can be submitted by:

- 1) emailing HuntingPermits@kalamazoocity.org, or
- 2) mailing to COK WPS-25 Hunting Program, 1415 N. Harrison St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Hunting Packet: Includes a City hunting permit; DMAP License, liability form, parking pass, tree stand card; harvest data sheets and QR code; maps; and other important information.

***** Only hunters who submit harvest sheets will be eligible to hunt the next season. *****

Use and Restrictions

- 1) The parking pass must be prominently displayed on the vehicle dashboard while hunting.
- 2) The unused City Hunting Permit must be carried by the hunter while hunting on City-owned property. Copies of Permits are NOT permitted.
- 3) The Permit is for the sole use of the hunter(s) named and can only be used by a person listed as part of the hunter's group (1 or 2 others) on the application. The hunter shall present the City tag/permit, photo ID, and base hunting license upon the request of a law enforcement officer or designated City Staff to verify they are the hunter(s) named on the permit.
- 4) Field dressing is allowed at the kill and tag location.
- 5) Tree stand markers must be placed on all tree stands.

APPENDIX D

City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property “WPS-25” @ 7275 North H Avenue

Hunting & Tree Stand Policies

Hunting Policy

*** **ABSOLUTELY NO FIREARMS are permitted on City of Kalamazoo-owned properties.** ***

- **DAILY Registration is required when hunting** by text to 269-370-1939 or email to HuntingPermits@kalamazoocity.org. The INFORMATION REQUIRED includes the City's DMAP license # (i.e. WPS-25-1) and names of each hunter.
- Per the City's Permit, hunters are only allowed to hunt in the assigned hunting Deer Management Area (i.e. DMA).
- Motorized vehicles are not allowed except in designated parking areas. When parking, DO NOT block gates, roadways, or access drives. Vehicles found to be in violation may be TOWED at the owner's expense.
- Property lines will be marked by the City. NO HUNTING is allowed in Safety Zones designated as being within 200 ft of any building on off-site property, or within 100 ft of the property boundary.
- NO BAITING is allowed.
- Only temporary blinds may be used. Please review the TREE STAND POLICY before using a tree stand.
- Field dressing is allowed at the kill and tag location.
- Only a minimum of branches may be removed, using hand pruners, to improve shooting lanes. Branches cannot be cut with saws or loppers or torn by hand.
- Report suspicious activity to the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office at (269) 488-8911.
- Deer harvests must be registered with the MDNR per the Hunting Regulation Guide.
- The City's Harvest Report is required and can be submitted anytime but no later than January 15th using by:
 - 1) emailing HuntingPermits@kalamazoocity.org, or
 - 2) mail to COK WPS-25 Hunting Program, 1415 N. Harrison St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007
- All other State Regulations apply.

Tree Stand Policy

Tree Stand vs. Tree Blind? A tree stand is an elevated platform that a hunter uses to sit or stand while hunting. A tree blind or elevated box blind is a fully enclosed ground-level structure.

- AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW, only temporary portable stands or platforms can be used on City property. Stands cannot be affixed or attached to any tree by nails, screws, or bolts. Stands and blinds cannot be placed on City-owned properties any earlier than

APPENDIX D

Sept. 13th and must be removed by March 1st. Stands and blinds left on City-owned properties outside of these dates will be deemed abandoned and may be disposed of by the City per its discretion.

- Hunter or Group ID must be prominently displayed on the stand or platform.
- Stands / tree steps cannot cause excessive damage to trees. No screw-in steps allowed.
- Stands cannot be placed in black cherry, oak, or walnut trees; it is the responsibility of the hunter to identify tree species.
- Stands must not be visible from the main roads (N. 28th Street or E. H Avenue), and cannot be located within 200 feet of any building on off-site properties.

***** Any hunter harassment by other hunters, visitors, or dogs on or off a leash, should be promptly reported to Public Services management at 269-337-8000. *****

Reporting Deer Kill/Harvest

- AS REQUIRED in the City's Archery Hunting Overview and the MDNR Deer Hunting Regulation Summary.

Other Policies

WPS-25 consists of various terranes including forested areas, wetlands, steep slopes and rolling prairie areas. It is important to note the following.

- 1) The eastern farmed fields **ARE** within the Designated Hunting Area (DHA), but the two western farmed fields located directly off N 28th Street are **NOT**;
- 2) The southwestern portion of the property with active water pumping operations and service roads is **NOT** within the DHA, and
- 3) The southeastern areas (including McLinden Nature Trails) **ARE** within the DHA.

DMA Maps



City Website



Acronyms

City - City of Kalamazoo, Department of Public Services

DHA - Designated Harvest Areas (City of Kalamazoo)

DMA - Deer Management Assistance Permit (MDNR)

MDNR - Michigan Department of Natural Resources

WHPPP - Wellhead Protection Program Plan

USFS - United States Forest Service



City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property
"WPS-25" @ 7275 North H Avenue

City Bow Hunting Application (must be returned before permit awarded)

Date _____ Signature _____

Full Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

(line 2) _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Other _____

Email _____

An MDNR Base License is required to qualify, no exceptions.

License number _____

Have you signed the City's Release of Liability and Covenant Not to Sue form?

Yes / No

What is the best way for the City to contact you? _____

If not awarded permit, do you want to be wait-listed? _____

In-person meeting is mandatory (pg 5). Other arrangement? _____

Did you read the Hunting & Tree Stand Policy? _____

How to Submit the Application

Email HuntingPermits@kalamazoo.city.org

Mail to COK DMA-25 Deer Hunting Program, 1415 N. Harrison St., Kal., MI 49007

Questions?

Call 269-370-1939

More information?

ProtectYourWater.net/Resources/Hunting

City Website





City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property
"WPS-25" @ 7275 North H Avenue

City Harvest Report (must be returned by January 15th)

Date _____

First and Last Name _____

City Permit number _____

Number and type of deer harvested (fawn/antlered/adult/doe)

Comments:

Conditions of Deer (healthy, diseased, injured, other)

Comments:

Do you hunt with a bow or crossbow? _____

Other comments to share with the City? _____

Comments:

Would you return to hunt at this location again? _____

Overall, did you enjoy your hunt at this location? _____

How to Submit the Harvest Report to the City of Kalamazoo:

Email to HuntingPermits@kalamazoocity.org

Text 269-370-1939

Mail to COK DMA-25 Deer Hunting Program, 1415 N. Harrison St., Kal., MI 49007

EXHIBIT A

Deer Management Area-25 (DMA-25) 2026

City of Kalamazoo, Campbell Lake Property

"WPS-25" @ 7275 East H Avenue

County: Kalamazoo

Township: Comstock

Size in Acres: ~140

Hunt types Allowed: Bow archery, antlerless

Hunting Permits Allowed: 10



Access & Parking



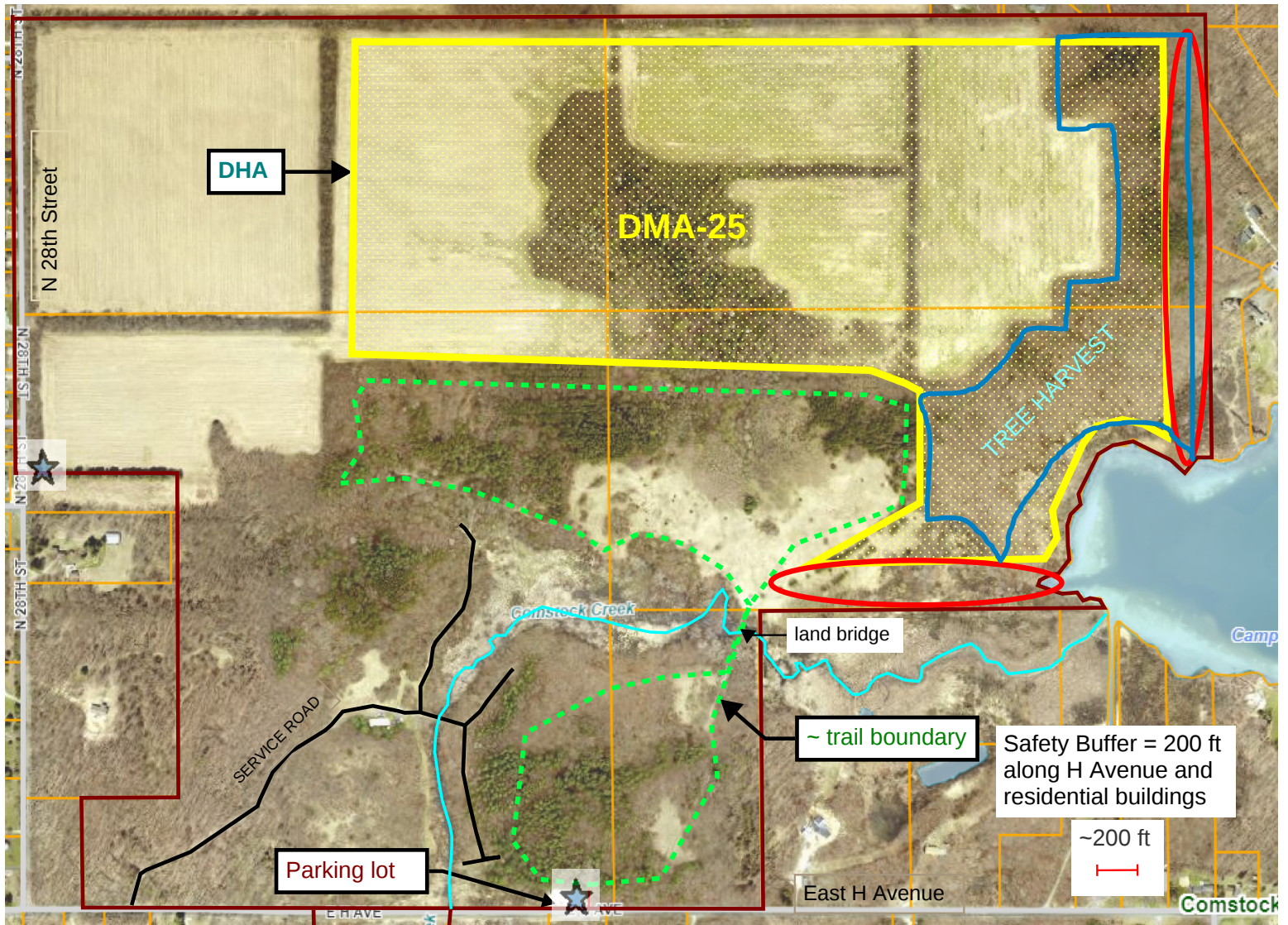
Property Boundary



Designated Harvest Areas (DHA)



Safety Zone—houses/structures



For more information scan the QR code (left) with you smartphone OR visit:

<https://protectyourwater.net/protectyourwater-net-resources-hunting/>

HUNTER SAFETY ZONES are enforced at ALL TIMES

- 200 feet around all buildings / structures

- 100 feet from Property boundaries.

Be aware of all property boundaries; Do not trespass onto adjacent lands.



EXHIBIT B

City of Kalamazoo Deer Archery Hunting Release

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

Please read carefully before signing

This is a release of liability and waiver of certain legal rights

In consideration for being permitted to participate in a "Deer Archery Hunting Program" and related archery hunting activities (the "Hunting Activities") at the City of Kalamazoo property known as **WPS-25 @ Campbell Lake, 7275 East H Avenue, Comstock Township, Kalamazoo County**. I agree to the following Release of Liability and Covenant Not to Sue (the "Release"):

1. Acknowledgment and Assumption of Risks. I understand that the Hunting Activities are inherently dangerous and involve significant risks of personal injury, death, and property damage. I hereby assume and accept responsibility for all risks of personal injury, death, and property damage which might be associated with my participation in the Activities whether known or unknown and whether attributable to my actions or inactions or the actions or inactions (including negligence) of anyone else.

2. Release of Liability and Covenant not to Sue. I hereby release and discharge the CITY of Kalamazoo, Michigan and its commissioners, officers, volunteers, members, employees, and agents (the "Released Parties") from any and all responsibility, liability, claims, damages, costs, attorneys' fees, expenses, and from any and all causes of action either known or unknown, relating to or arising out of my participation in the Hunting Activities. Further, I hereby covenant not to sue or assert any claim of any nature against the Released Parties relating to or arising out of my participation in the Hunting Activities.

3. Indemnity. I agree to pay the Released Parties for any and all claims, costs, expenses, or liability (including attorneys' fees), attributable to personal injury or death, or to damage or destruction of property relating to or arising out of my participation in the Hunting Activities. I attest I have health insurance. If I am signing this Release on behalf of a minor, I agree to pay the Released Parties for any and all claims, costs, expenses, or liability (including attorneys' fees), attributable to personal injury or death, or to damage or destruction of property relating to or arising out of the participation in the Hunting Activities by the minor on whose behalf I am signing this Release (to include health coverage).

4. Representations. I represent that: (i) I am 18 years old or older; (ii) I know of no reason, medical or otherwise, which would prevent me from participating in the Activities; (iii) I understand and agree that this Release is binding upon me, and my heirs and assigns; and (iv) if I am signing this Release on behalf of a minor, I represent that I have full legal authority to do so and realize the binding effect of this Release on them, as well as on myself.

5. Consent to Medical Treatment. If I, or the minor on whose behalf I am signing this Release, is injured or becomes ill, I consent to and authorize the provision of emergency first aid or medical treatment.

6. Notice – Intent to Hunt. I agree to notify the Dept. of Public Services, Water Resources Division, of my intent to hunt prior to entering the WPS-25 property by calling (269) 337-8874.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE, I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS AND I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT. I HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT, ASSURANCE OR GUARANTEE BEING MADE TO ME AND I INTEND MY SIGNATURE TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF RELEASED PARTIES TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW FOR SAID HUNTING ACTIVITY.

Print Name of Participant _____ Age of Participant _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

If Participant Is Under 18 Years Old:

Print Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Print Name of Participant _____ Age of Participant _____