

Hunter Use Permits

We require a Land Between the Lakes Hunter Use Permit for all hunters ages 16 and older. This is in addition to state licenses and tags. Purchase permits online: landbetweenthelakes.us/reservations or at our Welcome Stations and facilities. LBL Hunter Use Permits can also be purchased anywhere TN state hunting licenses are sold.

- Hunter Use Permits | \$25
- Hunter Use Permits are valid for one year from date of purchase.

Hunter Safety Requirements

- All hunters must possess a hunter safety card as required by state regulations for the state portion of Land Between the Lakes in which they are hunting.
- All hunters and youth sponsors must wear visible items of hunter orange as required by state regulations.
- Adults accompanying youth hunters are not required to have a hunting license or LBL Hunter Use Permit, unless the youth has not completed a hunter safety course, in which case respective state regulations apply.

Stands, Blinds, & Trail Cameras

We allow portable tree stands, climbing devices, ground blinds, and trail cameras. These stands, blinds, and trail cameras must not injure trees. Do **not** use nails, spikes, and/or screw-in devices. All portable stands, blinds, and trail cameras must display owner's name and address and may be placed no more than two weeks before hunting season opens. Placement does not reserve any site for exclusive use by an individual, as public land is open to all legal users. All stands, blinds, and trail cameras must be removed within one week following the close of hunting season.

Mandatory Harvest Check-Out

You must report your harvest at Welcome Stations or the Hunter Check Station **before leaving Land Between the Lakes. Use the self-check form and drop box, at these locations, when Wildlife staff are not available.**

- Report feral hog sightings at 270.924.2065
- Report poaching and illegal activities at 877.861.2457

For more information or to contact the
Environmental Stewardship Department:

Call: 270.924.2065

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. CST
Leave a detailed message for staff to follow-up.

Email: lblquotahunt@usda.gov

General Guidelines

1. Emergency - dial 911.
2. See something, say something - call 270.924.2000 or Law Enforcement at 877.861.2457.
3. Pack it in, pack it out - leave no trace behind.
4. You are responsible for your own safety.
5. For campfires, do not bring firewood from home which may harbor unwanted pests. Use only dead and downed wood for fuel. Attend the fire at all times and follow Smokey Bear's rules to put the fire out completely. Use existing fire rings during high fire danger seasons.
6. Protect yourself from bug bites and ticks.
7. Respect the Resource - leave historical items, plants and flowers for others to enjoy. This includes respecting our trails and roads during wet conditions.

Find our camping rules online:

<https://landbetweenthelakes.us/rules>

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been reported in southwest Tennessee, but has not been found in Land Between the Lakes. Do not bring any harvested deer, deer parts, or carry them across state lines in Land Between the Lakes.

Exceptions: Meat that has been deboned, antlers, antlers attached to a cleaned (free of meat and tissues) skull or cleaned skull plate, and cleaned skulls/skull plates and teeth. See Kentucky and Tennessee state regulations for further information on CWD. Out-of-state hunters should check their home state's deer import requirements before transporting.

Feral Hogs

Feral hog sightings, with accurate locations, should be reported at 270.924.2065 or lblquotahunt@usda.gov. A feral hog report form is also available on the Land Between the Lakes' website.

It is illegal to hunt feral hogs in Land Between the Lakes and it interferes with removal efforts. Learn more about feral hogs on our website: <https://landbetweenthelakes.us/feral-hogs>

USDA Forest Service

Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area

General Information:

1.800.525.7077 or 270.924.2000

Website:

www.landbetweenthelakes.us

EMERGENCY or reporting:

911 or 1.877.861.2457

Check out our Facebook page:

facebook.com/LBLNatiRecArea

USDA is an equal opportunity employer, lender, and provider.

Revised May 2023

2023-2024 Deer Hunting Fact Sheet

LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES National Recreation Area

KENTUCKY | TENNESSEE

Permit & License Requirements

While hunting, hunters must carry on their person the following items: Land Between the Lakes (LBL) Hunter Use Permit, appropriate state hunting license, deer permit, hunter safety card as required by state regulations, and Quota Hunt permits (if applicable).

Permits **cannot** be changed, altered or transferred to another hunter.

Quota Hunts

To participate in our Quota Deer Hunt, hunters must apply online between July 1-31 and be selected in a computer drawing. Archery hunting has split seasons different from state seasons, so be sure to check dates.

Apply Online: <https://lblquotahunt.usdirect.com/web>

New for the 2023-24 Season

- The deer population has increased on the Kentucky portion of Land Between the Lakes. The Quota Hunt limits on the Kentucky portion have increased to two deer, only one antlered and by any means (gun, muzzleloader, or archery). See table on backside of this brochure for bag limits.
- **ADVISORY:** While most of LBL was unaffected by tornado damage, there are significant areas of damaged timber. Care needs to be taken when hunting in and around these areas. Beware of loose overhead limbs as well as salvage logging operations.

The Land Between the Lakes Deer Hunting Fact Sheet is the official document that includes the hunt dates. If state agencies indicate something different, this document has precedence.



Forest Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2023-2024 Deer Hunting Fact Sheet



LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES
National Recreation Area

Hunter Check Stations	Kentucky	Tennessee
Hunters are required to check harvested deer at hunter check stations BEFORE leaving Land Between the	Central Hunter Check Station	South Welcome Station
	North Welcome Station	
Quota Hunts	Kentucky	Tennessee
Firearms	Legal firearms include muzzle loading or conventional shotguns, rifles or handguns per state regulations	
Other Species	Deer hunters may also harvest armadillos & coyotes	
Adult Quota Hunt Dates	November 17 - 19, 2023	October 27 - 29 & November 17 - 19, 2023
Youth Quota Hunt Dates	November 4 - 5 & December 16 - 17, 2023 for both Kentucky & Tennessee <i>All youth drawn for the November 4 - 5, 2023 LBL Youth Quota Hunt may also hunt the December 16 - 17, 2023 LBL Youth Quota Hunt in the same hunt area they were drawn to use.</i>	
Youth Quota Hunt Ages	15 years old & younger	6 to 16 years old
Youth Quota Hunt Sponsor	One adult 21 years or older must accompany each youth. See Hunter Safety Requirements on back side of this fact sheet.	
Archery & Crossbow	Kentucky	Tennessee
Other Species	Bow hunters may also harvest one either-sex turkey with state turkey permit, groundhogs, armadillo, & coyotes	
Equipment	Equipment must conform to state regulations & bow hunters may NOT carry firearms.	
Archery & Crossbow Dates	September 2 - November 2, 2023	September 2 - October 25, 2023
	November 6 - 15, 2023	October 30 - November 2, 2023
	November 20, 2023 - December 14, 2023	November 6 - 15, 2023
	December 18, 2023 - January 15, 2024	November 20 - December 14, 2023 December 18, 2023 - January 15, 2024
Licenses & Permits: Age Requirements	Kentucky	Tennessee
State License & Deer Permit	12 years and older	13 years and older
LBL Hunter Use Permit	16 years and older	16 years and older
Bag Limits	Kentucky	Tennessee
Adult Quota Hunt	Two deer, including only one antlered buck, unless an antlered buck was already harvested in Land Between the Lakes by any means, counts towards statewide bag limit.	
Archery & Crossbow		
Youth Quota Hunts	Youth Hunters can hunt both Youth Quota Hunts. Two bonus deer can be harvested each hunt, only one of which shall be an antlered buck each hunt. Youth bonus deer do not count towards Archery & Crossbow bag limits, or statewide bag limits.	
Antlered Buck	Visible antler above hairline. One total per season on Land Between the Lakes.	At least one 3 inch antler. One total per season on Land Between the Lakes.
European Fallow Deer	Not legal to hunt	
Late-Season Archery Areas	Check the website at the end of November for a list of areas that will be open for late-season archery deer hunting during the December & January archery & crossbow seasons, beginning December 1, 2023.	

General Hunting Regulations

- **All harvested deer must be checked before leaving Land Between the Lakes. A self-check-out will be available at check stations when closed.**
 - All hunters are responsible to check deer with the appropriate state, as part of the check-out requirement.
 - Check-out information provides for better management of the deer herd at Land Between the Lakes.
- Licensed motorized vehicles permitted on numbered roads only as shown on the Motorized Vehicle Use Map online at landbetweenthelakes.us/maps. Other roads are for administrative or emergency access only.
- Parking is permitted no further than one vehicle length from a legal road.
- Do not block or restrict access to any road, trail, or gate.
- Do **not** damage or rut roads, trails, or fields.
- Do not leave campfire rings/rocks in fields, roads, or trails.
- Unlicensed motorized vehicles are allowed only in the Turkey Bay Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Area and require a permit. The OHV Area is an archery-only area for deer hunting.
- When transporting firearms in a vehicle, keep them cased and unloaded in both chamber and magazine.
- It is unlawful to discharge a weapon capable of taking a human life within 150 yards of a campsite, recreation site, or occupied area, or across or on a Nation Forest System road.
- Nature Watch Areas, wildlife refuges, safety zones around facilities, and posted areas are closed to hunting. *See exceptions for Late Season Archery Areas on opposite side of this fact sheet.*
- The placement of bait at any time, or hunting over bait, including food or mineral substances, is prohibited.
- **Deer Hunting Hours:** One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Use of any artificial light or other means designed to make wildlife visible at night is prohibited at all times.
- Nighttime coyote hunting is prohibited on Land Between the Lakes.
- Do not use paint, tape, flagging, or other artificial materials to mark trees, trails, or routes.
- Hunting deer from horseback or with dogs is prohibited.
- Hunters must not be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances.
- Remember to observe all applicable state and federal regulations.
- To protect the future of hunting, please be courteous to other visitors.
- **All State and Federal Regulations Apply.** The two most common hunting violations are carrying a loaded or uncased firearm in a vehicle and driving on illegal roads or in fields

For more information or to contact the Environmental Stewardship Department:

Call: 270.924.2065 Email: lblquotahunt@usda.gov

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. CST
Leave a detailed message for staff to follow-up.