

2024 GENERAL PUBLIC HUNTING ANNOUNCEMENT

West Point will not be conducting an annual Public Hunter Lottery for the 2024 hunting season, as it has in years past. **Instead, as we did last year, in 2023, thirty-five (35) total General Public Permits will be available for purchase, on a first-come, first-served basis starting Friday, November 01, 2024.**

To purchase a General Public Permit, individuals must first create an account to be approved and then, upon approval, take the Mandatory Safety & Regulatory Brief. Once this process is complete, General Public users may then log on to purchase their permits.

Creating an account

Beginning October 1st, 2024, through November 30th, 2024, unregistered General Public individuals may register by creating a free West Point iSportsman account. **See next page for account creation instructions.** Completely fill out the two-page registration form before submitting your registration. Also be sure to select “General Public” as the proper Customer Type/Status. Please note: failure to fully and properly complete this form will prevent account approval.

Returning General Public Users from past Hunting Seasons do not need to create new accounts. Old General Public accounts remain, indefinitely approved, and users may log on at any time.

Awaiting account approval

Once an individual creates an account, he/she must wait for approval of that account by an iSportsman administrator. **Administrators will be regularly monitoring accounts and approving new accounts awaiting approval through COB Saturday, November 30th, 2024.** Users will automatically be sent an e-mail upon account approval. Please allow up to a few days for approval. Users who do not receive approval after a few days should contact an iSportsman administrator for assistance.

Return General Public Users from past Hunting Seasons do not need to do anything to secure account re-approval. Old General Public accounts have been indefinitely approved.

Taking the Mandatory Safety & Regulation Brief

Upon approval, users must take the mandatory Safety & Regulatory Brief, a short presentation educating West Point sportsmen on relevant rules and safety practices. **See next page for Safety & Regulatory Brief instructions.** All users, including General Public hunters must complete this step before they are able to purchase a permit. Users who fail to take this brief will not receive the required validation and will be unable to purchase their permits until they do so.

Return General Public Users from past Hunting Seasons WILL be required to retake the mandatory Safety & Regulatory Brief and may do so at any time. This is an annual requirement for all users. Please sign on and take the mandatory Safety Brief again.

Purchasing your permits

Beginning at 12:00 a.m., Friday, November 01st, General Public permits will be available on the permit purchase page of the website. A user may purchase one permit by credit card for

\$60.00 (All permits fees were raised 50% in 2021). See next page for permit purchase instructions.

General Public Users with approved accounts who have taken the mandatory safety brief by this time will be able to purchase one of the available thirty-five total permits.

Be advised. Creating an account does not guarantee you a permit. Permits are first-come, first-served. All hunting permits are available only on iSportsman. No in-person permits are sold.

What a General Public Permit Authorizes & Restricts

A General Public Hunting Permit allows select members of the General Public, civilian individuals neither employed at West Point nor military dependents – to hunt big game only (white-tailed deer and black bear) and coyote on the West Point Military Reservation for any five days during the Regular Big Game Rifle Season. Permit applicants must possess valid New York state hunting licenses. A General Public Permit carries with it the following authorizations/restrictions for General Public (GP) hunters:

- 1. Authorizes** big game hunting at West Point during the Regular Big Game Rifle Season.
- 2. Authorizes** the harvest of one deer. Harvest of said deer will render the permit invalid.
- 3. Authorizes** the harvest of one bear prior to harvest of a deer, but not after.
- 4. Authorizes** the harvest of coyotes prior to the harvest of a deer, but not after.
- 5. Authorizes** hunting on any five (5) days of Regular Big Game Rifle Season after Opening Day
- 6. Restricts** guests, incl. companions driving deer. GP hunters may not have guests.
- 7. Restricts** Opening Day (1st Saturday) access. GP hunters may not hunt on Opening Day.
- 8. Restricts** first week access, requiring in-person Hunt Control Check-In until 2nd Saturday.
- 9. Restricts** first week check-in. Check-in begins 07:00 am before 2nd Saturday; 05:00 am after.
- 10. Restricts** activity to hunting big game only. GP hunters may not fish nor trap nor hunt small game, upland bird, or waterfowl.

Other Important Reminders:

- Check In/Out Rules Apply - All West Point hunters must be checked in to an area to hunt and must check out when finished. Hunters must be in area within one hour of checking in and must check out within one hour of leaving area.
- Harvest Reporting Requirements Apply – All deer and bear harvests must be brought into Hunt Control for processing by Natural Resources Branch staff. Please remain checked in to your area on iSportsman until processing so you can log your harvest.
- All permits are restricted to use only by the permittee. All permits are non-transferrable. General Public permits are rendered invalid after the harvest of a deer or after the expiration of the fifth hunting day of the individual.
- Failure to adhere to these regulations may result in suspension, at no refund, of a General Public Hunter's West Point hunting privileges. Individuals with temporary suspensions in place from past years may not hunt this year, but their accounts remain.
- Deer harvest restrictions currently include a mandatory antler point restriction across a part of the installation. There are also areas on West Point exempt from this regulation as well. See APR Notice on the iSportsman website for more information. Questions or concerns regarding accounts should be directed to MWR Outdoor Recreation Division (845-938-2503). Other questions regarding hunting at West Point should be directed to the DPW Natural Resources Office (845-938-2314)

- West Point DPW Natural Resources Section

INSTRUCTIONS

A. How to Register and Create an Account (for New Users)

1. Go to the West Point iSportsman page at WestPoint.iSportsman.net.
2. Select the Account tab on the blue navigator bar and open the drop-down menu.
3. Select New User Registration. You will be directed to a splash page that reads "New Users". Read this page carefully.
4. After reading this page, scroll to the bottom and click on the blue New User Registration link. You will be directed to the application form.
5. Complete and submit the two-page user application form completely and properly. All fields except NYS Permit # are required. You do not need to fill out NYS Permit #.

Congratulations. You have registered and created your account. You must now wait for approval of your new account from an iSportsman administrator.

B. How to Take the Mandatory Safety Brief:

From the My Accounts Page you are taken to as soon as you sign into your account:

1. Click on the <My Safety Briefs> button on blue navigation bar at the top of your screen.
2. Click on the blue <USAG – West Point Safety Brief PDF version> link.
3. Read the Instructions tab then click on the white <Start Presentation Objectives> button.
4. Read the Objectives tab. Then click on white "Start the Briefing" Button.
5. Finally, on the Presentation tab, click on the blue "Click Here..." link. This opens the PDF.
6. Scroll through the brief at your own pace. When you have read it all, on a new tab, the Quiz tab will open, saying "Answer All Questions: Did you understand the presentation?" Select Yes. And click the red <Submit Answers> button on the bottom of the screen.

Congratulations. You have now received your Safety Brief validation and are set to start purchase permits on iSportsman.

C. How to Purchase Permits

From the My Accounts Page you are taken to as soon as you sign into your account:

1. Click on the blue <Acquire Permit(s)> button on the left side of your screen.
2. Scroll through the available permits, select ones you want clicking on blue <+Add to Cart> button.
3. When finished, select blue <View Cart & Checkout> button (can be found on top right when scrolled to top of page or bottom left of screen when scrolled to bottom of page).
4. Verify items in your cart. Then select blue <Checkout> button.
5. Fill out the form with your payment, billing address, and credit card information. Then click the green <Next> button.
6. Click on blue button on brightened pop-up window.

Congratulations. You have now purchased the permits/passes you selected and are ready to check-in/checkout with them