

## **Deer Bowhunting Season Opens October 15 on Sudbury Conservation Lands.**

- Sudbury Conservation Commission has voted NOT to increase the archery deer season, as Mass. Fish and Wildlife has done in Zone 10.
- Sudbury Conservation land bow hunting season runs from October 15 through December 31.
- Permits are required from the Sudbury Conservation Commission for bow hunting on town conservation land.
- Hunting with a firearm is strictly prohibited on any Town Conservation land.
- There is no hunting statewide on Sundays.

The Town of Sudbury issues approximately 22 permits per season to bow hunters to harvest deer from most Town conservation lands and two other town parcels. Sudbury residents are given preference with all other factors (experience, past success, background, etc.) being equal. Bow hunting is not being offered as a sport in Sudbury. It is a tightly controlled program placing hunters in areas where deer herds are causing harm to the ecological and diverse values of the land.

Culling a large herd helps maintain the health of the overall deer population, reduces deer/car collisions, and may help in reducing the population of ticks, as deer along with rodents, are a vector for spreading ticks.

The areas open to the public where bow hunting is permitted are:

Hop Brook Conservation land(ONLY the West side)

Davis Farm

Frost Farm

Poor Meadow Farm

Lincoln Meadows

Nobscot

Tippling Rock Trail

Barton Farm

Parkinson (town owned wooded area only- behind Ti sales)

Mahoney Farm

Bow hunters must follow a strict set of Town rules and regulations, including hunting only from a fixed tree stand. They are shooting down from the tree stands at distances that usually do not exceed 30'. All bow hunters must pass an interview and proficiency test. We have law enforcement, firefighters, EMT's, and bow hunting instructors among our group of hunters. Having legal hunters on the properties keeps out the illegal hunters who do not follow the stringent rules.

The program has been in place since 1999. The program benefits the deer population as well as humans by helping to maintain safety and a healthy balance in our woods.

Please contact the Conservation Office at 978 440 5470 or [concom@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:concom@sudbury.ma.us) for any questions. Thank you.