

Eastern States Private Land Hunting Programs

Developed by Illinois Department of Natural Resources
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State	Programs	Landowner Benefits	Landowner Responsibilities	Wildlife/Habitat Benefits	Public Hunter's Benefits	Hunter's Responsibilities	Funding	Additional Information
Alabama	Conservation Easements	Tax deductions	Per agreement		May grant public access		Donated, sometimes purchased	John S. Powers, 1100 South 3-Notch Street, Andalusia, AL 36420
Delaware	Master Hunters Program	Access to list of qualified hunters	Allow hunter access		Access to private land	Complete program requirements	Unknown	www.fw.delaware.gov William.Jones@state.de.us
Florida	No program							Provides info on outfitter, guide listings & services
Georgia	Bobwhite Quail Initiative	Financial & technical assistance	Host youth quail hunts	Restores habitat	Access to private land		Sale of BQI tags	Eric.darracq@dnr.state.ga.us (770)761-1697
	Forestry for Wildlife Program for corporate forest landowners	Technical assistance, public recognition	Lease lands to public	Conserves habitat	Access to private land			Eric.darracq@dnr.state.ga.us (770)761-1697
Indiana	None							Have investigated methods for implementing a program but not chosen to do so.
Iowa	Hunters for Farmers – Deer Hunter Registry	Landowner makes contact	Initiates contact with hunter		Access	Register on-line		http://www.iowadnr.gov/wildlife/files/damage.html
Kentucky	Dove Field Lease Program	New Income	Plant sunflowers or acceptable crop per agreement		Access to private land		State	www.fw.ky.gov/doveleaseprog.asp
	HB354 – withdrawn	State income tax credits			Access			HB354 would have provided conservation easements to individuals/businesses in exchange for state income tax credits
Maine	No program							Publicly honors landowners who provide access (IF&W Landowner Relations Program)
Michigan	Hunting Access Program	Financial incentive			Access	Register; follow individual landowner instructions		Guide for program available at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/0607HAP_174892_7.pdf
	Commercial Forest Lands	Financial incentive	May restrict access during commercial logging		Access	No camping or other use besides fishing, hunting, trapping		http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10363_10913-34016--,00.html or by calling (517)373-1275 DNR Forest, Mineral and Fire Management
Minnesota	Attempting a Walk-In Program							See Report at www.dnr.state.mn.us/hunting/walkin/index.html

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Mississippi	Private Lands Dove Field Program							Only 8-12 fields enrolled. contact Scott Baker at (601) 432-2229. or http://home.mdwfp.com/WMA/HuntInfo.aspx
Missouri	No current program							Little interest from landowners for past initiatives (Landowner/Hunter Link Program)
New Jersey	No formal program							Are looking into ideas.
New York	Fish & Wildlife Mgmt Act Coop Area	Help w/managing wildlife; Whether or not the land is posted, New York State General Obligations Law protects landowners from liability for non-paying recreationists.	Some use ASK permission stickers on their posted land		Access	Be courteous; ASK specific guidelines of landowners	Hunting license; Conservation Fund	
N. Carolina	No formal program							Some management of private land under cooperative agreement.
Ohio	DNR & Farm bureau are exploring the possibility of developing a web-based deer hunter access program	Desired level of control on who can hunt		Ohio's whitetail herd is over 700,000. This program would help reduce this number by matching hunters with landowners.		Complete on-line profile w/number of years hunting experience, willingness to harvest does, preferred type of hunting, willingness to submit to background check at landowner request		

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Pennsylvania	Cooperative Farm-Game Program	Benefits to the cooperating landowner including: law enforcement patrols to deter visitors from hunting unlawfully, illegal all-terrain vehicle use, and littering or dumping; free food & cover seedlings; preference for pheasant stocking program; and advise on soil conservation & habitat improvements	Requires landowner to place under lease a project area comprising of at least 1000 acres for 5 or more years. Leases can be cancelled if cooperators becomes dissatisfied & files written request or notice by the Game Commission if use of property is no longer needed or desired	Improve farmland habitat				
	Cooperative Forest-Game Program	Help with managing wildlife						For properties in excess of 1000 acres; similar to Farm-Game Program in benefits/requirements
Rhode Island	Cooperative Hunting Areas	Landowner requests enrollment; state issues one stop permit; saves landowner screening of hunters			Access	Follow conditions of permit		Contact: Brian Tefft, RIDEM Div. of Fish & Wildlife 401-789-0281 or brian.tefft@DEM.RI.GOV See Part VII of current regulations at: www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/fishwild/hunt0910.pdf
So. Carolina	Wildlife Mgmt Areas	Financial. State manages land & assume liability.			Access		Funded by lease of WMA permits. Money put directly back into program.	No formal access program. But state does lease private land to manage under WMAs. Only 8-10 private leases. Most land from corporations and local municipalities.

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Tennessee	Walk-in hunting access program (1 yr. pilot)	Add'l income; eligible for habitat improvements such as CRP, WHIP, FWHIP	1 yr. contract w/state	Help control population & maintain/restore natural habitat				
Virginia	PALS (Public Access Lands for Sportsmen)				More acres to hunt			Only 1 participating private company. Staff indicated low turn-out because not much incentive for landowners and they like to control who can hunt their land.
Vermont	Wildlife Mgmt areas							State does lease from private landowners; however minimal. Open hunting state – legal to hunt unless otherwise posted.
W. Virginia	No formal program							Do offer some leasing agreements, minimal. Similar to WMA's.
Wisconsin	Managed Forest Law – Open Lands	Lower tax rate			Allows public to hunt, fish, hike, sitesee, cross-country ski	Does not need permission from landowner to enter property. May not use vehicle on property, no tree stands or trapping (unless with landowner permission)		