

RPA Hunting FAQ

1. How do I apply to hunt at one of the RPA properties? What is the process?

The process for hunting an RPA property is to first go to the RPA website located at:

<https://www.rensselaerplateau.org/>

- Click on the **Lands & Projects** Header
- Click on the **Hunting** tab on the pull down
- This will bring you to the webpage [Hunting on RPA Lands](#) that contains a list of current RPA properties and the below steps to submit a hunting application for the current year.

To apply for hunting privileges:

- Read [RPA Procedure for Hunting Privileges](#)
- Read [RPA Hunting Regulations](#)
- Submit a [Hunting Application Form](#) (opens August 15)

This webpage will also indicate RPA hunting properties that have special hunting restrictions

2. When does the application process start each year? When does it end?

The Hunting Application period opens on August 15 and ends on October 31

3. Which properties can I hunt on?

The list of RPA properties that allows hunting will be updated each year. The current year list will appear on the [Hunting on RPA Lands](#) page before the application period starts.

4. What times can I hunt?

Hunting Seasons and times comply with the New York DEC regulations and can be found on the NYDEC hunting website: <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hunting>

RPA allows only Deer and Bear Hunting per the NYDEC designated season calendar dates
Daily hunting times are per the NYDEC, which is 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

5. Are there hikers on the properties during hunting season?

There is always the possibility that hikers will be on the property during hunting season. Signs advising that hunting season is in progress are posted at property parking lots and we encourage hikers to wear a blaze orange vest that are available at the kiosk. We encourage our hunters to hunt well off any designated hiking trail, to be cordial to any hikers they do meet on trails, and only use the trails for travel to and from the area they wish to hunt.

6. Are all forms of hunting allowed (bow, rifle, etc.)?

The RPA allows bow, crossbow or rifle hunting that complies with NYDEC regulations

7. Do I need to obtain my own deer tags?

Each hunter is issued deer tags in conjunction with the purchase of their NY Hunting license
A hunter can also apply to the NYDEC for a DMAP tag which allows them to harvest an antlerless deer for specified wildlife management units.

Where deer damage to understory is severe, the RPA will try to obtain DMAP tags for specified properties.