



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)
HUNTING ON AIRPORT PROPERTY
EFFECTIVE: AUGUST 5, 2026

Purpose

The Tri-Cities Airport Authority (TCAA) permits the hunting of deer by approved individuals on certain portions of airport property. Those participating in hunting on airport property do so with the understanding that they are responsible for their own safety and the safety of others during these activities. The purpose of this SOP is to provide guidance on the permitting process, and the procedures to be followed.

Permitting Procedures

The TCAA will select up to forty (40) applicants for hunting permits each year. Current airport badge holders and tenants are eligible for hunting permits. Non-airport badge holders and tenants are eligible to apply with their application being reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approved by the Director of Operations. Non-airport badge holders and tenants may be asked to provide a written explanation justifying the need for a hunting permit. The following procedures outline the application process:

1. At least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of deer hunting season, as determined by the State of Tennessee, the TCAA will post the current application on the airport website. A copy of the applicant's drivers license and hunting permit are required to be submitted as part of the application.
2. Applications will be accepted until up to fifteen (15) days before the opening of deer season.
3. Selected applications will be notified by written notice and issued a permit that is valid for the years deer hunting season, as determined by the State of Tennessee.

Hunting Procedures

The following procedures outline the steps that must be taken each time a permit holder conducts hunting activities on airport property:

1. Prior to beginning any hunting activities for the day, individuals will contact the Airport Communications Center at (423) 325-6333 with the following information:
 - a. Name of individual(s) hunting.
 - b. Primary contact phone number.
 - c. Hunting location.
 - d. Vehicle description and license plate.
2. The Communications Center operator will fill out the information provided in the TRI Hunting Log, as well as the time the individual called/checked in.
3. The individual hunting will call the Airport Communications Center when they are finished with all hunting activities. The Communications Center Operator will note the check-out time on the TRI Hunting Log.
 - a. If any individual that has checked in to hunt on airport property has not contacted the Communications Center to check out within one hour past sunset,



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the Communications Center Operator will contact the individual for a safety check. If there is no answer, the operator will contact Public Safety and advise them of the situation, as well as the individuals provided location and contact information.

Permitted Animals for Hunting and Approved Hunting Methods

The TCAA only permits the hunting of deer during the hunting season dates published by the State of Tennessee. Compound bow, recurve bow, or crossbow are approved methods of take. No other methods of take or hunting of animals other than deer are permitted.

Property Access

Hunting on airport property is only permitted in the outlined areas shown in **Exhibit 1**. Vehicles and equipment used by hunters must not obstruct traffic or interfere with the TCAA's day-to-day operations. The airport's perimeter fence and other security measures shall not be disturbed or obstructed. The TCAA reserves the right to restrict hunting at its discretion dependent on the airport's operations.

Hunter Safety and Requirements

The following outlines the safety standards and requirements to be followed by all hunters:

1. All applicable Federal, State, and Local laws are to be followed by hunters when hunting on airport property.
2. The use of alcohol, drugs, or any substance that could affect safe judgement is prohibited from use when hunting.
3. Airport property, vegetation, fencing, signage, lighting, etc. shall not be damaged or obstructed by hunting activities.
4. Temporary structures, such as deer stands, are only permitted to be left on airport property during the deer hunting season. Their location must be submitted to Airport Operations for approval prior to placement.
5. A copy of the permit issued by the TCAA must be on the hunter's person at all times when hunting on airport property. The permit issued by the TCAA does not substitute for any additional permits or requirements that are required by applicable Federal, State, and local laws.
6. Feeding or baiting of animals is not permitted on airport property.
7. Field dressing is not permitted on airport property.
8. Issuance of a permit allows for the permittee and one (1) guest at a time.

Enforcement and Oversight

The TCAA's Airport Operations Department is responsible for the overall enforcement and oversight of hunting on airport property with the TCAA's Public Safety Department providing



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assistance. Hunters are required to provide a copy of the hunting permit issued by the TCAA when requested to any TCAA employee.

Violations

Violations of the outlined procedures may result in the revocation of a TCAA hunting permit, fines, legal action, and/or criminal charges.

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EXHIBIT 1: Approved Hunting Areas





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EXHIBIT 2: Hunting Permit Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
Email Address		Phone Number (XXX-XXX-XXXX)
Address		
City	State	Zip
Name of Employer		Badge Number (if applicable)
By signing this form, I agree that I have read, understand, and agree to adhere to the Tri-Cities Airport Authority Rules and Regulations.		
Full Name	Signature	Date

FOR TRI-CITIES AIRPORT AUTHORITY USE ONLY	
Received By	Date Received
Permit Number	Date Issued
Permit Issuer	



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Exhibit 3: Sample Hunting Permit

(First and Last Name)
TRI Hunting Permit Applicant
(Address)
(Address)

RE: Hunting Permit Approval for Permit #00

(First and Last Name),

The Tri-Cities Airport Authority (TCAA) has approved your application for a hunting permit on airport property during the 2026 State of Tennessee deer hunting season.

All applicable Federal, State, and Local laws must be followed when hunting on airport property as this permit does not replace any hunting license, tag, permit, or other authorization required by law. This permit must always be in possession of the hunter when hunting on airport property and provided when requested by any TCAA employee.

Use of this permit waives the TCAA of any liability, damages, or other legal matters related to hunting, in addition to agreement to adhere to this procedure and all other TCAA rules and regulations.

Please contact the Airport Operations Department with any questions or concerns related to this permit.

Sincerely,

Chris Stipo
Director of Operations
Tri-Cities Airport Authority