

Deer Muzzleloader Hunt Draw Information

Moraine Nature Preserve

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in a reserved draw hunt opportunity. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Applying:

You must be properly licensed to hunt deer prior to applying. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt deer. Visit our [Deer Hunting](#) page to learn more about deer hunting regulations.

Restrictions:

Allowed Equipment:

Equipment	Specifications
Muzzleloading Rifle/Shotgun	Barrel caliber: .40" minimum Bullet diameter: .357" minimum - Single bullet, loaded from muzzle. Powder may be loaded from the breech. - Saboted bullets permitted.
Muzzleloading Handgun	Barrel length: 12" minimum, measured from the base of the breech plug (excluding tangs and other projections to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown) Barrel caliber: .50" minimum Bullet diameter: .44" minimum Loaded from muzzle and single shot

Bag Limit:

- The bag limit is one antlered deer OR one antlerless deer. Deer harvested during the hunt count toward the statewide bag limit of one (1) antlered deer and six antlerless deer. Multi-season antlerless licenses are permitted. All [county antlerless bag limits](#) apply.

Hunting Hours:

- Legal hunting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunt Period:

- The hunt period at Moraine Nature Preserve is the 2026 deer muzzleloader season, which starts Dec. 5 2026 and continues through Dec. 20, 2026.

Hunt Information:

Fifteen (15) hunters will be drawn for this opportunity. Successfully drawn hunters will receive a hunt information packet with access permits included. Hunting partners are not permitted at Moraine Nature Preserve. Successfully drawn hunters must sign in each day of their hunt at the self-service box before entering the field. Access permits must be filled out and returned to the box on the property at the conclusion of the hunt period.

Tree stands must contain your name, address, and telephone number, legibly written and able to be read from ground level. Tree stands or any equipment associated with tree stands may not penetrate the bark of a tree more than ½ inch. Stands can be installed starting Dec. 1, 2026, and must be removed by Dec. 20, 2026.

Area Information:

Moraine Nature Preserve is a 474-acre property composed of upland forest, floodplain forest, tree planting fields, and wetland habitats. The entrance to Moraine Nature Preserve is located east from the intersection of Porter County roads 200 East and 750 North, Valparaiso, IN 46383.

Approximately 197 acres of the 474-acre property will permit muzzleloader deer hunting only. The area available for deer hunting is depicted on the attached map. All regulations of the muzzleloader season will apply. The preserve will be closed to other visitors during the muzzleloader season. The preserve is not open to hunting in general.

Contact: If you have further questions, please contact Ecologist Derek Nimetz at 219-928-3997 or dnimetz@dnr.IN.gov.

MORaine NATURE PRESERVE

MUZZLELOADER DEER HUNT 2026

