

Carriage Park

Ramblers

Hiking During Hunting Season

October 2022

Many of the areas we hike in **do allow hunting at certain times of the year** and under certain regulations. In general, **hunting is allowed** in state and national forests and game lands. Hunting is very popular in the Green River Gamelands through the entire hunting season.

Hunting is not permitted:

- NC Arboretum, campus only. Lake Powhatan is in Pisgah NF with hunting allowed
- Holmes Educational State Forest
- NC state parks (e.g., Georges SP. Note that Horsepasture River is in Pisgah NP)
- SC state parks (e.g., Table Rock, Caesars Head, Jones Gap, Paris Mountain)
- US national parks such as Great Smoky Mountains NP.

It is recommended that every hiker, but especially the leader and sweep, **wear blaze orange** during the fall hiking season in the national forests or wherever you are not certain whether hunters may be active. Pisgah and Nantahala post blaze orange attire is required during November-December rifle hunting season.

Hunting Season: For current hunting seasons by weapon, game, dates, and locations

<https://www.ncwildlife.org/hunting/seasons-limits>

Dates for the year are released in July. For deer, bow hunting typically begins in mid-September with 1-2 weeks of blackpowder gun hunting in October and 3 weeks of any weapon hunting (bow, blackpowder, **rifle**) for the three weeks starting with Thanksgiving week.

DuPont State Recreational Forest:

Part of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission's Game Lands program. Deer, turkey, and small game are hunted on a three day per week permit. **Hunting days are Thursday, Friday and Saturday** in season.

Hunting safety zones have been established around waterfalls and other high-use areas, see the DuPont map for details.

Hunting Regulations for DuPont State Recreational Forest

<https://www.dupontstaterecreationalforest.com/Pages/HuntingAndFishing.aspx>

Hunting Regulations for National Forests in NC (e.g., Pisgah NF include Lake Powhatan)

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/nfsnc/recreation/hunting>

Hunting Season HQ website

Unofficial and includes ads, but seems to be kept up-to-date. URL below is for NC

<http://www.huntingseasonhq.com/north-carolina-hunting-seasons/>

General Information about hiking during hunting season

Unofficial, but seems to be kept up-to-date.

<https://backroadramblers.com/hiking-during-hunting-season/>