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ELEVENTH ANNUAL LOTTERY FOR BOW HUNTING IS JULY 25

As part of its ongoing deer management program, Summit Metro Parks will allow hunting by bow and arrow or crossbow in more than 20 selected areas by permit this fall. Regionally and throughout the state, changes in habitat and the elimination of natural predators have allowed deer herds to grow to unnatural densities, threatening biodiversity.

Each permit, determined by lottery on Wednesday, July 25, is good for up to four adults and two juveniles. Only Summit County residents may enter the lottery, but individuals whose names are chosen may add non-Summit residents to their permits.

Lottery applications are available online beginning Tuesday, June 5, at www.summitmetroparks.org/deer-management.aspx. Applications must be postmarked by Tuesday, July 17, and all applicants must provide a valid email address. Each application must also include a legible photocopy of a valid 2018-2019 State of Ohio hunting license. Applications should be mailed to: Archery Program, P.O. Box 5250, Akron, OH 44334.

Lottery winners will be notified by email no later than Wednesday, August 1, and the individuals named on permits will have to pass a supervised test at the park district's public archery ranges on dates to be determined.

Several box blinds will be installed in locations for hunters using wheelchairs. Wheelchair users may live outside of Summit County. For additional details about the lottery for hunters who use wheelchairs, contact Project Manager Don Heffner at archery@summitmetroparks.org.

Three hunting sessions will be assigned per area. All areas are remote and have limited public access. Hunters must follow park rules and regulations and the hunting guidelines established by the Ohio Division of Wildlife. Hunting season is September 29 to February 3.

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Summit Metro Parks manages 14,300 acres, including 16 parks, several conservation areas and more than 125 miles of trails, with 22.4 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance averages 5 million visits. Visit us online at summitmetroparks.org.



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