



Missouri Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) Frequently Asked Questions

What is DMAP?

DMAP is a program designed to enable Missouri landowners to meet their personal deer management goals for their property. A broad suite of deer management goals can be addressed through DMAP, including reducing damage caused by deer to agriculture or other plant communities, or improving the health and quality of the deer herd by balancing deer numbers with available habitat or creating a more balanced female-to-male ratio. By outlining their specific deer management goals and enrolling their property in DMAP, landowners qualify for additional antlerless deer hunting permits, called DMAP permits, that can be used on their property. [Deer Management Assistance Program \(DMAP\) | Missouri Department of Conservation](#).

How does DMAP benefit landowners?

Antlerless deer hunting permit limits are set county-by-county to maintain desirable deer numbers for the majority of stakeholders within each county. However, landowners with large acreage or those with above-average deer densities on their property may need additional harvest opportunities to effectively manage the local deer population. Landowners with property enrolled in DMAP qualify for additional antlerless deer hunting permits, called DMAP permits, which can be used to meet their personal deer management goals on their property.

Who can enroll in DMAP and what are the eligibility requirements?

Any Missouri landowner, regardless of their legal residence, can qualify to enroll in DMAP provided they meet the eligibility requirements. There are two requirements that must be met to be eligible for DMAP enrollment:

- 1) A landowner must have clearly defined deer management goals for their property that cannot otherwise reasonably be met without the additional harvest opportunities allowed through the DMAP program. Example deer management goals include lowering deer density to reduce damage to agriculture or to promote forest regeneration, bringing deer density into balance with available habitat to promote a healthier deer herd, and balancing the adult female-to-male ratio.
- 2) At least 250 acres are required to enroll in DMAP, except within municipal boundaries where at least 25 acres are required. For landowners who do not own enough acreage to qualify on their own, properties owned by multiple landowners may be combined to meet the minimum acreage enrollment requirement. Individual parcels of land being combined do not need to be contiguous, but each parcel must not be further than 0.5 mile (by air) from another parcel being enrolled in DMAP.

How do I begin the process of enrolling in DMAP?

The annual enrollment period extends from May 1—September 1. If enrolling to address deer damage to agriculture or other property, a landowner should start by contacting their local MDC Conservation Agent. Local MDC contact information can be found online at <https://mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/local-mdc-contacts>. The Conservation Agent will schedule a time with the landowner to visit the property and view the damage and discuss next steps.



If enrolling to address other deer management objectives, contact the Private Lands Deer Biologist at Ashleigh.Day@mdc.mo.gov or 573-815-7901 ext. 2899.

Who can receive DMAP permits?

As part of the enrollment process, the appropriate number of DMAP permits for a property will be determined by Conservation Department staff. The landowner will then designate hunters who can use DMAP permits on the enrolled property and allocate the DMAP permits among the individuals they have designated. Any hunter with a valid Conservation ID number can be authorized by the landowner to purchase DMAP permits.

How do I obtain DMAP permits?

Once enrollment is complete, DMAP permits are available to the hunters designated by the enrolled landowner anywhere other hunting permits are sold, including through the MO Hunting mobile application. DMAP permits can be obtained beginning September 15. [Online-Sales | Missouri Department of Conservation](#).

Is there a cost for obtaining DMAP permits?

DMAP Permits cost the same as an archery or firearms antlerless permit. The current cost of a DMAP permit is \$3.75 for a youth hunter (resident or non-resident), \$7.50 for a resident hunter, and \$34 for a non-resident hunter. If hunting during the firearms deer season, non-resident hunters must also purchase a Nonresident Firearms Any-Deer Hunting Permit or a Nonresident Landowner Firearms Any-Deer Hunting Permit to buy DMAP permits. If hunting during the archery deer season, non-resident hunters must also purchase a Nonresident Archer's Hunting Permit or Nonresident Landowner Archer's Hunting Permit to buy DMAP permits.

Are DMAP permits transferable between hunters?

Each DMAP permit is assigned to a hunter as designated by the landowner upon enrollment. Once a DMAP permit has been purchased, it cannot be reassigned to a new hunter; however, unbought permits can be reassigned at different points throughout the deer season by notifying the Private Lands Deer Biologist (Ashleigh.Day@mdc.mo.gov). Notification of desired changes to DMAP permit distribution must be provided according to the following schedule. For the 2026-27 deer season:

- A. Changes submitted by Nov. 6, 2026; permits available for purchase by Nov. 13, 2026
- B. Changes submitted by Nov. 27, 2026; permits available for purchase by Dec. 4, 2026
- C. Changes submitted by Dec. 18, 2026; permits available for purchase by Dec. 25, 2026

Can you harvest an antlered buck on a DMAP permit?

No, each DMAP permit authorizes the take of one antlerless deer.

When can DMAP permits be used?

DMAP permits can be used during archery season using archery methods and during any open portion of firearms deer season with the method(s) of take allowed during that portion. DMAP participants must follow all applicable statewide season, method, permit, limit, tagging, and checking requirements. If a county is closed to firearms hunting (e.g., during either antlerless portion), DMAP permits may not be filled with a firearm method during that portion.