

Specific Agreement HWHC Deer Harvest 2025 - 2027

BETWEEN THE HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY, HEREAFTER KNOWN AS "HCA," AND
HAUDENOSAUNEE WILDLIFE AND HABITAT COMMITTEE, HEREAFTER KNOWN AS "HWHC."

The above parties agree to the following terms and conditions for the facilitation of a deer harvest within the specified areas illustrated on the attached two maps, Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" only of Dundas Valley Conservation Area (DVCA), which is administered by HCA.

This agreement is consistent with Haudenosaunee treaty rights, the HCA land acknowledgement, and remains in alignment with our shared standards of safety and conservation.

This agreement is to be read jointly with the Protocol made between the HWHC and the HCA on November 3, 2011, as attached in *Appendix A*.

THE HCA AGREES TO:

Provide access with no fee for HWHC members participating in the deer harvest for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 harvest seasons as outlined in this agreement in Schedules "A" and "B" within the Dundas Valley Conservation Area as attached in *Appendix B*.

HWHC Deer Harvest Dates as scheduled, Monday – Thursday only:

1. Monday, November 3, 2025, to Thursday, December 4, 2025
2. Monday, November 2, 2026, to Thursday, December 3, 2026
3. Monday, November 1, 2027, to Thursday, December 2, 2027

THE HWHC AGREES TO:

1. HWHC will continue to provide deer harvest communication with all harvesters and provide a final tally or best estimate of the number of deer harvested at the completion of the harvest each year.
2. For the 2025, 2026, and 2027 deer harvest seasons, the number of deer harvested from the areas identified in Schedules "A" and "B" combined shall not exceed sixty deer in each calendar year.
3. Deer harvesting will only take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. No deer harvesting will be permitted on Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays.

4. The HCA and HWHC will monitor the deer harvest area perimeter and remain in consistent contact throughout the deer harvest period.
5. Haudenosaunee harvesters will use archery equipment, including compound bows and crossbows. Firearms, rifles, and shotguns will not be used. The use of dogs, feed bait, or jack-lighting is prohibited. Harvesting before dawn or after dark will not be permitted, as per the sunrise/sunset tables for the harvest areas.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNICATION

THE HCA WILL:

1. Contact the Hamilton Police Service, Hamilton Municipal Law Enforcement, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to inform them of the intent and provisions of this agreement and secure their cooperation in ensuring public and harvester safety.
2. Hold a Task Agency meeting within two weeks prior to the deer harvest commencement for each year of the agreement.
3. Use the "Conservation Alert and Trail Closure Protocol" approved by its Board on February 3, 2011, as a basis for informing the public about the deer harvest.
4. Ensure public notification of the "Trail Closure" that will include:
 - a) A media release to local media sources
 - b) Notification to the HCA Board, City Council, and the Office of the City Manager of Hamilton via a written media release.
 - c) Notices to landowners adjacent to the harvest area, including contact details for HCA staff, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Hamilton Police Service.
 - d) Posting of "Public Notice of Trail Closure" on the HCA website.
 - e) Posting of "Public Notice of Trail Closure" at the Dundas Valley Conservation Area gatehouse and main trail entry points utilized during the deer harvest.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This agreement witnesses that HWHC and all persons associated with the harvest will comply with all HCA instructions and regulations concerning its activities within the designated areas.
2. The HCA, its members, staff, or other designated persons reserve the right to enter the designated property at any time for inspection, maintenance or other purposes.
3. The HCA is not responsible for any personal injury or loss or damage to personal property that occurs during the participation in the deer harvest on HCA property. This includes any loss resulting from external factors such as weather conditions affecting the feasibility of deer harvesting.

For HWHC:

Print Name:

Signature:

Date:

For HCA:

Print Name:

Signature:

Date:

