

2026

City of Ortonville Deer Hunt

Thank you for your interest in the 2026 Ortonville City Deer Hunt. This deer control program is an effort to reduce the city deer population and the damage to property the deer cause. The following rules apply to applicants for this archery only hunt.

- There are 30 bonus permits available for 2026.
- Hunters successfully taking a deer must register them in Area 983.
- All hunters participating in the hunt must notify the Big Stone County Sheriff's Office **ONLY** when a deer has been harvested and what the sex is by calling Dispatch at 320-839-3558. You no longer must call each time you go hunting.
- Archery hunters wishing to participate must be at least 18 years of age by the opening day of the hunt (September 12, 2026) to qualify.
- The archery proficiency test will be conducted at the City Archery Range with assistance of the Archery Club on **Wednesday, August 12, 2026 from 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM** or in case of bad weather **Wednesday, August 19, 2026 from 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM**. A minimum score will be required to participate in the hunt. You will need 5 target arrows (no broad heads) and the bow that you intend to use for the hunt. A sign-up sheet for the proficiency test will be available at the city office. **THERE WILL BE NO OTHER AVAILABLE DATES TO QUALIFY INDIVIDUALLY. YOU MUST QUALIFY ON THE ASSIGNED PROFICIENCY TEST DATE EACH YEAR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HUNT.**
- Qualifying archers must possess a regular Archery Deer License and one bonus permit to participate in the hunt.
- Hunting will be permitted between September 12, 2026 and December 31, 2026.
- Hunting will be allowed on 9 public property sites. Use of these sites by qualifying archers will be allocated by lottery for 2-week time periods. Drawing results will be posted on the City of Ortonville website at www.mnortonville.com
- Qualifying archers wishing to hunt their own property or that of other agreeable property owners within the city limits may do so if approved by the Big Stone County Sheriff's Office.
- All hunting will be conducted from portable tree stands supplied by the hunter unless the Big Stone County Sheriff's Office makes exemptions for specific sites. Stands must be placed at least 6 feet above the ground.

- Hunters will be required to use their bonus permit (antlerless deer only) first. After their bonus tag has been filled, hunters will have the option of buying a second bonus permit if any of the permits remains unsold. Hunters may continue to hunt using any regular tags they possess after filling bonus permits.
- No off-road use of vehicles will be permitted to retrieve harvested deer on public property.
- Prior to retrieving wounded deer from private property (not approved by the City of Ortonville), hunters must contact either the Big Stone County Sheriff's Office or a representative of the DNR. These representatives will assist the hunter in retrieving such animals.
- No entrails from field dressed animals can be left in the city limits. Animals must be removed whole, or the entrails must be bagged and removed.
- All other State of Minnesota archery hunting regulations will apply.
- Violations of hunt regulations will result in suspension of current year hunt privileges and disqualification for future hunts.
- Applications for the hunt will be available at the City Clerk's office or downloaded and printed off at www.mnortonville.com. The application must be submitted to the City Clerk's office with the \$20.00 administrative fee by the close of business hours on **Friday, July 31, 2026**. Applications can be mailed to:

Ortonville City Deer Hunt
437 North Minnesota Street
Ortonville, MN 56278