

Hunting Permission on Private Land

Changes to *The Wildlife Act,* 1998 and *The Trespass to Property* now specify that no person shall hunt wildlife on any land* except with the consent of the owner or occupant of the land.

This requirement is often referred as "mandatory permission".

This means that anyone, including those exercising First Nations, Aboriginal or Métis rights, seeking access to rural land for recreational purposes (such as hunting) must first obtain consent from the owner or occupant.

*Please note the exemptions in this fact sheet.

Hunters

Permission to access privately owned land

Individuals wishing to access land for the purposes of hunting must now obtain the permission of the owner or occupant.

Types of permission include verbal, written and electronic.

While all types of permission are acceptable, we typically recommend written or electronic so there is a record of permission.

Landowner contact information

If hunters do not know the landowner personally, they can ask for Rural Municipality/Landowner Maps at local RM offices, however it is the discretion of the office whether an RM/Landowner Map will be granted to a hunter.

Land exempt from the new requirements

This requirement does not apply on the following land:

- Vacant provincial land as defined in <u>The Provincial Lands Act, 2016</u>; and
- Any other land or Crown land that is prescribed in the <u>regulations</u>.

Vacant provincial land means provincial land with respect to which the Minister has not entered into a disposition that is in the nature of a lease or a prescribed category of dispositions.

Hunters can access Fish and Wildlife Development Fund (FWDF) land that is solely owned by the Ministry of Environment without permission. However, permission is required from the conservation partner if the FWDF land is jointly titled by the ministry and a conservation partner (Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy of Canada or Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation, for example). FWDF lands are listed on the <u>HABISask interactive</u> <u>mapping system</u>.



saskatchewan.ca/hunting

Community Pastures

All community pastures in Saskatchewan are now patron operated. Patron Operated Pastures are former Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Saskatchewan Pasture Program pastures leased to patron groups.

Contact the pasture manager or designated patron group member for access information.

For more information, visit the <u>Access to Agriculture Crown</u> Land during hunting season website.

Accessing Provincial Parks, Regional Parks and Recreation Sites for hunting

Park land defined in *The Parks Act* is closed to all hunting unless otherwise specified in the open season tables in the Hunters Guide.

Park specific regulations may apply including access, vehicle use and baiting regulations.

Consult the local park manager for authorization or more information.

Property owners

If a landowner wants to allow hunting on their property, they can:

- Post signs with instructions giving notice that are clearly visible in daylight under normal conditions from the approach to each ordinary point of access to the land including:
 - ~ time, duration and location of access to the land;
 - ~ method of hunting on the land; and
 - ~ use of vehicles connected to hunting on the land.
- Verbal communication; or
- Written/electronic.



If you have further questions, you can contact the Ministry of Environment Inquiry Line at 1-800-567-4224 or centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca.