

2026 AHATS SOLDIER ARCHERY TURKEY HUNT RULES

Please read the following regulations carefully. Your cooperation with these rules will ensure an enjoyable and safe hunt for everyone involved, and help this hunt continue into the future.

Hunt Logistics & Administration

This hunt will occur in the statewide season (area 510 for registering) using legal archery equipment to harvest one bearded turkey.

Access, Camping

Hunters will access AHATS from Highway 96. You will enter on Ben Franklin Avenue, west of Hamline Ave and proceed to the check station; see attached map. This is the location where you will enter and exit the installation. **YOU MUST CHECK IN AND OUT AT CHECK STATION.** Check in times will start at 0530.

Orientation

When you check in the day of the hunt, you will get a brief orientation about the site. A designated area will be agreed upon for each hunter at orientation.

Licenses-Equipment

All hunters must be permitted through Isportsman AND be legally licensed by the MNDNR to hunt turkey by archery. All hunters must only use legal archery equipment as defined in the Minnesota Hunting Regulations Handbook. Please abide by all hunting regulations as defined by the MNDNR Hunting Regulations Handbook.

Security, Communications, and Safety

Security will be provided by hunt organizations and AHATS staff. Refer to Isportsman for restricted areas. MNDNR Conservations Officers may be present during this hunt for added safety and to enforce state fish and game regulations.

Hunt Rules

1. **Hunters must register for an account and be permitted through the Isportsman website.**
2. Your permit is not a license; **You must purchase a Minnesota spring turkey license from the MNDNR.** Your license will be good for taking 1 bearded turkey. Refer to the handout that explains the license purchasing and registration procedures.
3. Only hunt organizers, and hunters with a valid turkey hunting license, and others designated by hunt organizers will be permitted to enter AHATS. Hunters may be checked for legal license. Hunters will be allowed to have a partner with them to call for turkeys.
4. **Only Archery Equipment legal for taking turkeys may be used, no rifles, handguns, or shotguns are allowed.** Firearms on any person or in any vehicle will be seized. Bows & crossbows must be cased (or contained in a trunk or topper inaccessible from the passenger compartment of a vehicle) and not loaded when being transported.
5. You may only take, or attempt to take turkeys only during legal shooting hours (1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset).
6. You may not take small game, deer, or other protected or unprotected animals.
7. Littering in the hunting area is strictly prohibited. **IF YOU PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!**
8. **Absolutely no alcohol is permitted in the hunt area.**
9. **If you bag a turkey, it must be tagged & validated immediately on-site** with date and time marked on the site tag issued with your license. The tag must remain attached to the bird during transit.

10. If you bag a turkey, it must be registered with MNDNR via phone, internet, or at an official ELS turkey registration station (MNDNR only) prior to leaving the installation. Hunters will need to use the harvest registration number shown on their hunting license/registration slip to register their bird. The feathers, head, and feet must remain on the wild turkey until it is registered. You may not possess an unregistered wild turkey outside the wild turkey permit area where the bird was taken unless it is being transported in a direct route to a registration station.
11. Permanent stands are not allowed. Portable blinds (with appropriate blaze orange markings), or any other methods that are legal in Minnesota for taking turkeys. You may not use baits, or take wild turkeys with the aid of dogs.
12. Do not attempt to shoot more than one turkey. If you shoot at a turkey and it runs off - please attempt to recover that turkey, before shooting at other turkeys that may be sighted.
13. Road hunting and moving into other areas is not allowed in AHATS. You may not shoot from a vehicle or over roads. You must only shoot in your designated area.
14. No fires are permitted anywhere.
15. The speed limit is 25 MPH within AHATS. No ATVs are allowed.
16. Use of 2-way radios and cell phones for safety is allowed & encouraged. Communication devices may not be used to assist in taking game.
17. You may party hunt; see the MNDNR hunting handbook for definitions and restrictions.
18. Wounded turkeys entering closed areas may not be pursued, please contact the check station for assistance on this matter.
19. Anyone attempting to disturb or remove any military equipment will be prosecuted. This includes all types of armaments and ammunition. **Report all DUDS and UXO** found, DO NOT HANDLE. Mark duds with string or flagging on nearby vegetation and obtain coordinates if using a GPS unit.
20. Archers transporting PETS or FIREARMS will not be allowed to enter.

**HUNTING AT AHATS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT - PRESERVE THAT
PRIVILEGE BY RESPECTING ALL PROPERTY, KEEP IT CLEAN, AND
FOLLOW THE RULES.**