



## REMINDERS OF STATE LAND RULES FOR STATE WILDLIFE / GAME AREAS

< [multi-page version](#) >

**Revised 2016 February 02.** This page contains select excerpts from [Regulations of Lands Administered by the Michigan DNR](#), <effective 2014 Dec. 23,> for rules appropriate for [State wildlife and game areas](#), or rules for State Lands other than [State Parks and Recreation Areas](#). [Complete rules, regulations, and laws](#) are accessed off the [DNR website](#) at [www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws](http://www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws), including those rules for [State Parks & Recreation Areas](#). Authority conferred to DNR by 1994 Public Act 451 (Section 504), Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 324.504. Please [contact DNR Offices](#) if questions: phone 517-284-6000, or 517-284-9453 for the DNR Wildlife Division. **The [DNR Report-All-Poaching](#) (RAP) hotline is 800-292-7800.**

**NOTE:** It is your responsibility to be informed of all current rules and regulations. This document is a guide and not to be used as complete legal notice or collection of all rules, regulations and laws. Complete listings of official legal regulations and language are available on the [DNR website](#) at [www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws](http://www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws). Contact the [DNR](#) with any questions and to verify regulations.



**For larger print and links** scan the QR-block at far right with a smart phone/device. [Multi-page version](#) has more details; [plain text version](#) imports to Braille /ADA readers.

**< If you cannot read details on this page**, then try using the digital version. Scan the QR-block (above, at far right) with Mobile smart phone or device, and load the [single page version](#) of reminders, rules and regulations, as a PDF file (requires [Adobe Reader](#) or another PDF file format reader) which allows functions like: increasing or enlarging small text for easier reading, using hyper-links to connect to cited document sources (hyperlinks are shown as typical blue plus underlined text), reach a [multi-page version](#) (this file) for more details or a [plain text version](#) (which works for ADA access or Braille reader/conversion needs by select readers of this information), plus other helpful features.

Explanation of single versus multi-page versions:

- o The [single page version](#) is summarized reminders, similar to content in this document, but is space-limited to a single 1-page side because it is meant to accompany wildlife/game area maps as a "standard back side" (for those maps without special back text versions). State wildlife/game area maps are provided both as hardcopy maps (paper), which are available from local field offices plus self-serve pick-up boxes at some parking lots, and online maps.
- o [This is the multi-page version](#) was created to: (i.) provide a larger-text and less-crowded version; (ii.) to include easy to access source(s) per rule, to connect to the actual online rules and regulations details, and to the specific legal language; (iii.) provide appropriate additional information based on frequently asked questions which is not possible within the one-page version. Therefore, this is a longer document. Supplementary information is purposefully included in this version, and is seen shown as a tabbed-right block like this two-bullet block, and/or contained in sharp-brackets like < and > .>

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**RULES below are grouped by similar subject and simplified from exact legal wordings; access [all rules, regulations, and laws](#) at [www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws](http://www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws).**

<The provided hyperlinks connect readers to the official legal text in appropriate rules and regulations. Rules are primarily in [State Land Rules, R 299.922 to R 299.933 \(Rules 21-33\)](#), with more rules in: [1994 Public Act 451 \(Sections 301, 401, 504, 99919 to 99921; as amended MCL 324.301, 324.401, 324.504, 324.99919 to 324.99921\)](#); [MCL299.13](#); [Executive Orders \(EO\) 1991-22, EO 2009-45, and EO 2011-1](#); [State Administrative Code](#); [State Rules, R 257.601 to R 324.1410](#); the [Wildlife Conservation Order \(WCO\)](#); [Boating](#) and [Off-Road Vehicle Laws](#); and [more](#). *Important abbreviations used later, when citing sources:* PA means Public Act; MCL means Michigan Compiled Laws; LUOD means Land Use Orders of the (DNR) Director; SLU means State Land Use (as in State Land Use Rules, or SLU Rules).

**It is unlawful to do the following activities on State lands owned or controlled and posted by DNR, etc.;**

[Penalties can vary and be severe](#) <and are summarized at the end of this document.

*If you are confused on "Unlawful to" in statements, then read it as or replace with "Do NOT".>*

**Posted, Signs and Designated Areas:**

"[Posted](#)" or "[properly signed on the ground](#)" means signs posted by DNR, providing reasonable notice of location, boundary, trail, route, area, rule or warning, particular use or activity.

<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #m). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #14).>

"[Signs](#)" include signs, markers, notices, posters or other formats of information for the public.

<Source: [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #8).>

"[Designated](#)" means listed in official documents, and then signed or posted designating the use.

<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #d). Note that in some usages, designated means identified for specific use like a "designated foot trail" or may mean designated for off-road-vehicle use as in "designated ORV route"; either way designated means purposefully identified by DNR for a particular use or purpose. "[Designated](#)" means listed in a DNR director's order, natural resources commission ([NRC](#)) documentation or WCO, posted with sign at site, or reasonably identified to the public as being for a particular use. "Designated area", "designated route", and "designated trail" are assumed understood, if the term "designated" is defined. "Designated campsite" is understood after both terms are defined, and therefore, "designated group campsite" should be understood.>

"[Permit](#)" or "[proper written permission](#)" means [DNR](#)-issued written permit or [Department](#) permission for a specific activity. <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #k).>

*Persons exempt from rules* are DNR employees doing work <and those with appropriate DNR permit or permission. Source: SLU Rules [R 299.930, Rule 30](#).>

- Unlawful to enter, use, or occupy State lands for any purpose, when the area is posted against entry "Do NOT Enter", against use or occupancy, etc.  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #a).>
- Obey all posted signs or notices.  
<Sources: by authority conferred on the DNR by [1994 Public Act 451 \(Sections 301, 401, 504, 99919 to 99921; as amended MCL 324.301, 324.401, 324.504, 324.99919 to 324.99921\)](#); and as stated many laws, rules and regulations confirming the authority, such as [MCL299.13](#); [Executive Orders \(EO\) 1991-22, EO 2009-45, and EO 2011-1](#); [State Administrative Code](#); [State Rules, R 257.601 to R 324.1410](#) (which includes the [State Land Rules, R 299.922 to R 299.933 \(Rules 21-33\)](#)); the [Wildlife Conservation Order \(WCO\)](#); [Boating](#) and [Off-Road Vehicle Laws](#); and [more](#).>
- Unlawful to move, remove, destroy, or deface signs of DNR or other State agencies.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (items #d and m) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #g).>
- Unlawful to post any signs, handbills, paint or otherwise mark any State resources, like trees, rocks, features, lands, waters, structures, property, etc. This is vandalism and destruction of property. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #i).>
- Unlawful to store or leave any items for more than 24 hours, on any State land - except lawful blinds/stands (*see Hunting rules*) and lawfully used camp sites (*see Camping rules*).  
<Source: SLU Rules, [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #w).>

**Rules for Fire, Trash, Alcohol, and Glass:**

- Unlawful to use or ignite fireworks!  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #f) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #ee). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #9). The detailed definition of "fireworks" and other related incendiary devices are in [2011 PA 256, Sec. 2, MCL 28.452](#).>
- Unlawful to set fire to contents of trash container or place bury or burn trash of any kind.  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #b, c and d).>
- Unlawful to start or build a fire of any kind, except in a stove or grill provided by DNR.  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #e).>
- Unlawful to litter or leave trash in areas; use the provided trash containers -or- take your trash with you. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #b and d), and [R 299.672, Rule 2](#) (item #k).>

- Unlawful to dispose of animal carcass or other remains (like gut piles, etc.) on State land.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #b, c and d), where animal remains are considered trash, garbage, etc.; this statement is here to stress and remind specifically of unlawful and illegal to dump animal remains and gut piles on State land, which is a concern both for the continued use of the area plus for the health/welfare of the public.>
  - Unlawful to dispose of trash (or garbage, refuse, rubbish, etc.) which is not from State land use, into containers provided on State lands. This could include pet/dog (animal) feces (see [LUOD, Chapt2, Sec.2.108](#)).  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #b). Be aware that select day-use recreation areas on State land require removal of pet or dog feces for your animal, as per Land Use Orders of the Director ([LUOD](#)), [Chapter 2, Sec. 2.108](#), and is required for both the continued use of the area plus the health/welfare of the public. SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #c), and [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #15), defines “recreational areas” and day-use-areas, which can be portions of State land including but beyond just State Parks or State Recreation Areas.>
  - Unlawful to possess alcoholic beverages, except if posted as allowed; “[Alcoholic beverage](#)” means any substance containing one-half percent or more of [alcohol](#) by volume. Exceptions are over-the-counter and prescription medications <*recommended*: the person with the prescription should be named on container for prescription medications.  
Sources: Michigan vehicle code, [1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1d](#), section 1d. SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #j) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #j). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #1).>
  - Unlawful to possess glass or any type of glass container, either whole or partially glass, within any areas posted for recreational use for beach, bathing, swimming, wading, or posted “no glass”. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #j).>
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### **Do Not Interrupt Public Land Use -or- Unfairly Use Public Resources:**

- Unlawful to hold an event without appropriate DNR permit(s). “[Event](#)” means a single, structured, organized, consolidated, scheduled meeting or occurrence, on State land, which may have a fee/ donation required for participation or attending and/or involves more than 20 persons. Examples: races, contests, tournaments, rides, GPS events, scavenger hunts, etc.  
**Note:** this excludes licensed and/or DNR offered managed or special hunts, and lawful group or party hunts <as the DNR offers a variety of hunting licenses which involve more than one person, such as youth mentored hunting, group/party hunting for select species, etc.  
Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #e) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #n). Note that a DNR permit may include a charge for use of land, or to cover damages, trash handling, etc.; event may require a performance bond and liability insurance; DNR may waive requirement for a permit for events with 20 or more persons participating, if DNR determines the event doesn’t require DNR oversight, and will have minimal impact on public resources and to others using the public land. The focus is balancing the event use with other public access and use.>
- Unlawful to be excessively loud, like using a loudspeaker, sound-amplifying equipment, or any device (motor, radio, TV, generator, etc.); for all noise devices, quiet hours are 10pm-8am. Exceptions: lawful hunting and DNR approved game-calling device used when hunting.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #e and o) and [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #n).>
- Unlawful to engage in disorderly conduct or disruptive behavior, like any violent, abusive, loud, boisterous, vulgar, lewd, bullying, or otherwise unlawful and illegal personal-behavior in public.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #e). Additional sources for laws are spread throughout [MCL](#) and in county or local laws, relating to unlawful personal behavior in public.>
- Unlawful to use State land or resources for any commercial operation, without an appropriate DNR permit; “[Commercial operation](#)” is any activity involving, directly or indirectly, an attempt-to-offer or an exchange like buying/ selling or barter of anything of value, goods or services, etc.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #b) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #dd). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #5). Also may relate to “events”, if a fee or activity like commercial guided canoe event starting on State land, so see sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #e) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #n).>
- Unlawful to beg, peddle or solicit business of any kind. Unlawful to distribute or post any handbills or advertising materials, post signs, vandalize, paint or otherwise mark any State land or resources <which would be vandalism of public property, etc.

Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #i) Overlaps with commercial related rules listed above, and/or modifying State resources listed below.>

- Unlawful to place, construct or occupy any structure, fence or barrier, or modify or enclose State lands or resources, unlawful trespass, etc. – exception is lawful blinds/stands (see *Hunting rules*). <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #a, f, and w).>
- Unlawful to destroy, damage, or remove State resources like trees, shrubs, wildflowers, grasses, or other vegetation - except in DNR approved plots. Exceptions: lawful personal take of mushrooms, berries, edible fruits or nuts for personal (to 25 lbs) allowed by DNR or with DNR permit. Animal take / harvest is DNR licensed.  
<Sources: SLU Rule [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #h, and item #hh also relates).  
Note this includes pines for personal Christmas trees or making wreaths.>
- Unlawful to remove more than 25 pounds total weight per individual per year (and must be for an individual personal or non-commercial hobby), of any rock, mineral specimen (exclusive of rules for gold bearing material), sand or topsoil, invertebrate fossil, or other resources from State land.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #hh, and item #h also relates).  
Note for the rules bulleted immediately above, some readers get confused. Understand that:
  - Living resources, like plants and animals, are property of State of Michigan, held under public trust and stewardships, for all public/citizens together (now and later); taking a pine tree of public land is unlawful and illegal take, or considered theft if without a permit or appropriate DNR permission, removing resources from others and can impact the quality of State land and other resources. When in doubt, contact a DNR office to check activities.
  - Legal take of specific DNR approved items, such as personally harvesting mushrooms, berries, edible fruits or nuts, etc. has a limit of amount can be taken, limits on how take (such as using equipment to harvest is a commercial operation, versus by hand or simple tool). Some plants and animals are protected and not allowed for any types of legal take. All animal harvesting (hunting, trapping, etc.) is licensed and/or permitted by DNR and done so to conserve resources for everyone.
  - An individual person may remove 25 pounds or less of rock, mineral, or such non-living resource (described in sources, and is not living or recently living materials like animals, plants, etc.) per year, for personal noncommercial and hobby use.
  - Commercial or non-hobby activities or those of multiple persons, would have to be handled, discussed and considered for a commercial permit; contact DNR staff.
  - There are different and additional rules for handling gold bearing or precious materials; contact DNR staff for more information.
  - Goals are keeping the resources for others to use and enjoy, now and in the future.>

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### **Access, Parking, and Motor Vehicle Related:**

**"Motorized vehicle"** (or **"motor vehicle"**) means any device which can transport person(s) or property using an energy source (like fuel, [gasoline](#), etc.) other than wind or muscle-power; a bicycle is muscle-powered.

<Sources: [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (items #11 and 20). Michigan Vehicle Code, [1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923](#). A **"Wheeled motorized vehicle"** means a motor vehicle propelled by wheels in contact with ground (substrate) supporting the vehicle.>

**"Off-Road Vehicle (ORV)"** means a recreational motor-vehicle capable of cross-country use without a road or trail, over natural terrain (land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, water, etc.), which includes: typical "all-terrain vehicle" ([ATV](#)); motor-bike, motor-cycle; any number of wheels or tracked; multi-drive wheels; amphibious or air-cushion vehicle; or any other motor vehicle transport - but excluding: law enforcement, emergency, fire or military vehicles; registered [snowmobile](#) or aircraft; [farming](#), construction or logging vehicles when used in those named functions.

<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #h). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (items #3, 11 and 12). [MCL324.81101 \(f\)](#). >

**"Personal Assistive Mobility Device" (PAMD)** means a wheelchair or any device designed solely for personal movement of a person with a mobility impairment, and considered an extension of that person which they can use anywhere foot travel is allowed - and not considered a vehicle.

<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #i). [LUOD Chapter 1, section 1.2](#) (item #13). Note; service animals, such as those used for accommodation by a person, are described and discussed below in the section on animals/pets/dogs, etc.>

- Unlawful to obstruct or hinder public access to any road, trail, parking, path or open State lands.  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #k).>
- Unlawful to park any type of vehicle in areas posted as “no parking”, or “no vehicles”;  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #l, and item m also relates).  
Note; be aware that some areas have special land rules which require all parking in posted or signed parking lots – so check if these situations apply to an area you may visit.>  
In areas with designated parking areas,
- Unlawful to park any vehicle outside of designated areas.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #l, and item m also relates). For both rules above An incorrectly parked vehicle’s license plate will identify the [owner](#) and responsible person. Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #l, and item m also relates). [MCL 257.675c\(1\)](#). Michigan vehicle code, [1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923](#).>
- A “[Michigan Recreation Passport](#)” may be required to access or park in some areas.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 324.91 to R 324.93, Rules 91 to 93](#).>
- Unlawful to park any vehicle in a designated campsite, or otherwise unlawfully occupy a campsite. <Exception is allowed vehicle(s) for that registered site.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #m, and item l also relates).>
- Unlawful to park any wheeled motorized vehicle (*except [PAMD](#)*) more than 50 feet from the traveled portion of a road, forest road, trail open to wheeled vehicles, or parking lot.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #l), [R 299.924, Rule 24](#) (item #a), and [R 299.926, Rule 26](#) (item #b). [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #p and q) also relate.>
- A properly-registered vehicle can be on a forest road which is not posted “no entry” or closed. “Forest road” means a hard-surfaced, gravel or dirt road, or other route capable of travel by a conventional 2-wheel drive 4-wheeled vehicle designated for regular roads, interstate, state, or county highways; “Trail” means a 1-track way for a vehicle less than 50 inches wide.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #g, p and q). [MCL324.81101\(f\)](#).>
- Unlawful to operate any vehicle (*except [PAMD](#)*) including a snowmobile and a bicycle, on anything except a designated “open to the public” road, trail, parking lot, lands, etc., or in an area posted by DNR as open to such vehicle use. Do NOT bypass closed gates with vehicle.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (items #j and l) and [R 299.926, Rule 26](#) (item #c).>
- Unlawful to operate, or possess a vehicle (*except [PAMD](#)*) on a designated State pathway; “pathway” or path means a narrow recreational trail for people and motor vehicle use prohibited.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (items #j and l); and [R 299.924, Rule 24](#) (item #b). [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #p and q) also relate.>
- ORV or ATV users should read the many detailed and specific [ORV rules \(MCL324.81133\)](#).  
<Sources: [MCL324.81133](#). Michigan vehicle code, [1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923](#).>
- Unlawful to store or leave any property (ORV trailer, etc.) for more than 24 hours, on any State land - except lawful blinds/stands (*see [Hunting rules](#)*) and lawful camp sites (*see [Camping rules](#)*).  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #w).>
- Unlawful to disturb a forest road with any device disturbing surface deeper than 2 inches.  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #gg). Example of such a device would be a sled, etc. or other such item damaging the road as by dragging something over road.>

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### Boating Related:

“[PAS](#)” means Public Access Sites and Harbors. <This is an abbreviation to group and save space.>  
“[Vessel](#)” or “water craft” means every type of device (craft, ship, boat, raft, canoe, etc.) used for transportation on water. <Sources: [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #18). [1994 PA 451, Section 80104, MCL 324.80104](#).>

- Unlawful to enter, use, or occupy any areas between 11pm–4am daily - where specifically posted as closed during those hours. Reaching some PAS requires a [recreation passport](#) to enter and park.  
<Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #b and c). The [recreation passport](#) for access is discussed in [LUOD, Chapt.2, Sec. 2.103](#). For some specific PAS, harbors, dams etc. which are posted no entry, no entry with vehicles, or only enter with valid [recreation passport](#) for vehicle. SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #a) and [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #a), can also apply.>

- Unlawful to enter certain [specifically named State areas](#), PAS, harbors, dams, etc. which are posted closed or no entry (even walk-in), no entry with vehicles, or only enter with a [recreation passport](#). <The [recreation passport](#) for access is discussed in [LUOD, Chapt.2, Sec. 2.103](#).>
  - Unlawful to block access to boat launch/ ramp, PAS, except while launching or retrieving a vessel. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #c).>
  - Unlawful to operate motor above idle speed, at DNR launch/ ramp, unless propeller disengaged. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #cc).>
  - Unlawful to moor or raft off a State dock or PAS, without having paid appropriate dock fees. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #a).>
  - Unlawful to swim, wade, or bathe, where such activities are specifically posted as prohibited.
  - Unlawful to camp (on the ground) in PAS, except in designated campsites; *see Camping rules*. <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #d and e).>
  - Camping related rules DO apply to vessels when anchored, tied, or moored in State waters or waters immediately offshore of State lands, within 10 pm to 8 am or when persons sleeping. <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #a). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #4).>
  - Beware of water ditches and ditch/dike areas which may have unexpected deep water and which poses a drowning risk. Beware of thin ice areas. <Sources: [Boating](#) laws, operation and safety rules.>
  - Unlawful to store or leave any property (items like trailers, boats, fish shanty, trailer, supplies or containers, etc.) for more than 24 hours – except lawful blinds/stands (*see Hunting rules*) and lawfully used camp sites (*see Camping rules*). <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #w).>
  - See additional [special rules](#) for unique boating-related situations (unattended vessels, etc.). <Sources: There are special rules (see [LUOD, Chapt. 2, Sec. 2.104–2.106](#)) for unique boating-related situations like unattended vessels and trailers, trailer parking, and mooring areas on State land, in addition to SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #w).>
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### **Camping Related:**

"[Camp](#)" means: set-up/ place and occupy a tent, tent-type camper, travel or house trailer; sleeping in any type of vehicle or water vessels moored off State land, or sleeping in any other manner.

<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #a). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2, (items #4).>

"[Dispersed camping](#)" is special by-permit camping away from a designated camp site, with special rules (*not all listed here*). <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #d (3 and 4)).>

"[Quiet hours](#)" are between 10 pm to 8 am. <"[Quiet hours](#)" means those hours between 10 pm to 8 am, each night, when persons shall not knowingly or purposefully cause noise that disturbs others.

Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.921, Rule 22](#) (item #n). [LUOD Chapter 1](#), section 1.2 (item #18).>

- Unlawful to camp outside of designated campground areas or sites on any type of State land. <Sources: [R 299.921, Rule 21](#) (item #d (3 and 4)) and [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #r and ff).>
- Unlawful to camp inappropriately or in prohibited areas (like in vegetation buffers on natural rivers, etc.). <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #t and u) and [R 299.923, Rule 23](#) (item #e).>
- Unlawful to camp in a designated parking area, except those posted to allow camping. <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #ff) and [R 299.926, Rule 26](#) (item #a).>
- Unlawful to camp in State wildlife and game areas, between May 15 to Sept. 10, except in specific designated and signed camping sites noted as approved for use between those dates. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.926, Rule 26](#) (item #a).>

In designated campsites, follow DNR directions and requirements, rules for fires, etc., and:

- Unlawful to occupy designated camping sites, or use a site for extra parking space, if not permittee. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #s).>
- Unlawful to register a campsite by a person under 18 years of age; must be an adult, one per camp. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #z).>
- Unlawful to have all persons in one site location or in camp at one time, under 18 years of age. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #y).>
- Unlawful to have more than 1 enclosed self-contained camping unit on a single camp site. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #aa).>

- Unlawful to camp on a site with more than 6 persons (except maybe a “family”; see detailed rules). <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #x).>
  - Unlawful to leave a campsite unoccupied for more than 24-hours after establishing camp; A site is occupied if 1 member of those camping at site is in site during nighttime of 10pm to 8am. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #v).>
  - Unlawful to use a camp site as a permanent or semi-permanent residence. <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #s (and t)).>
  - Unlawful to camp more than 15 consecutive nights in a year in any camp site. A new camp means the new location is more than 1 mile from the previous site. <Sources: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (items #s and t).>
  - Unlawful to store or leave any property (items, trailer, etc.) for more than 24 hours, on any State land – except lawful blinds/stands (see Hunting rules) and lawfully used camp sites. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #w).>
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### Hunting Related:

“Public Hunting” means public use for hunting with all appropriate required licenses, in correct season, safety conditions, etc. There are many detailed [specific rules for hunting](#).

<Source: by the authority of [1994 Public Act 451 \(Sections 301, 401, 504, 99919 to 99921; as amended MCL 324.301, 324.401, 324.504, 324.99919 to 324.99921\)](#), etc. the DNR regulates [hunting and trapping](#), etc.

“Public domain”, “State land” or public land means all lands owned by the State, deeded under law, or controlled by DNR as delegated authority.

“Day-use area” means a specific area of State land for public recreation use (like picnics, playground, swimming, organized meetings, social gatherings, educational displays or exhibits, etc.), which has a 450-foot buffer safety zone (defined below) around the area, including all buildings and the 450-foot buffer safety zone around those buildings, and any area of State land designated or posted as “day-use area,” either temporary or permanent basis.>

- “Safety Zone” are all areas within 150 yards (450 feet) from any structure which could be occupied by a person, wherein there is no discharge of a firearm and has no hunting - except under specific special permissions or special conditions (indoor range), etc. <Source: [hunting safety zones](#) are defined in several locations in laws, rules and regulations, plus are taught in required [hunter safety/education](#) courses.>
  - Note: You may retrieve legal game from Safety Zones. <or consider it a “Retrieving Only” Zone. Source: relates to a frequently asked question for managed SWGAs, discussed in [WCO Chapter 13](#) (starting in section 13.1)>
  - Unlawful to store or leave any property (items) for more than 24 hours, on any State land - except lawful ground blinds and tree stands meeting DNR requirements (labelled with owner’s name, no screw-in steps, etc.), and lawfully occupied designated camp sites (*see Camping rules*). <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #w).>
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### Target Shooting:

- Target shoot in appropriate areas. <Source: [target shooting](#) and related rules and regulations are defined in several location in laws, rules and regulations, plus are taught in required [hunter safety/education](#). Note: [hunting safety zones](#), defined above, still apply even when target shooting with any weapon (firearms, handguns, bows, etc.). Do NOT forget to check for [hunting safety zones](#), when with weapons, and when in those areas do not discharge any weapon, unless special conditions apply (like being inside an indoor target range, etc.).>
  - State [shooting ranges](#) have [specific rules](#). <Source: State Administrative Rules [R 299.671 to R 299.678](#).>
  - Unlawful to target shoot at anything except paper, cardboard, clay, or one created for target shooting. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #ii).>
  - Unlawful to target shoot at an explosive or incendiary object, or fireworks. Use weapons safely! <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #jj)>
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## Rules for Dogs, Pets, Horses and Riding Animals, etc.:

- Obey all signs for pets.
- [Identified service animals](#) (leader dogs for blind, etc.) are not “pets” but [legal accommodations](#).  
<Sources: see <http://www.michigan.gov/serviceanimals> for details.>
- There are special use areas and rules for hunting with dogs, [dog training](#), or [dog field trial areas](#).  
<Sources: [WCO Chapter 6, Hunting with Dogs](#) (starting with Section 6.1).>
- Unlawful to possess a dog or other pet animal (one animal or many), except if they under immediate control on leash of 6 feet or less, in a DNR designated recreational day-use areas.  
<Source: SLU Rules [R 299.924, Rule 24](#) (item #c)>
- Unlawful to ride or lead a horse, saddled or pack animal, other riding animal, or any animal-driven vehicle on any State land, except on: roads open to motor vehicles, on DNR designated horse/ animal trails or bridle paths; in designated campgrounds for animal use; and/or on any State forest land not posted closed to such use or such entry. See [other equestrian rules](#) for details. <Source: SLU Rules [R 299.922, Rule 22](#) (item #bb).>

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## <Additionally ... Regarding Other State Wildlife and Game Areas

- Be aware there may be other rules or limitations on your activities. Check specific individually-named State areas for [special local rules](#) for that area; for additional rules, if an area has any, check [LUOD Chapt. 2, Sec. 2.1-2.112](#), other [LUOD](#), and the [WCO](#) details for SWGA named areas, or contact DNR offices for assistance. There are also some specific [local hunting and firearm controls](#) which also limit activities. ...*For example:*
- Rose Lake State Wildlife Area prohibits using skis Nov.01 to Jan.01  
SLU Rules [R 299.928, Rule 28](#) (items #a and b).>

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## <Penalties for Violations –

from: State Land Use Rules, [R 299.929 - 299.932, Rule 29-32](#); [MCL 324.5 04](#), [MCL 324.3115](#), [MCL 324.82101](#): Courts can take civil and/or criminal actions, misdemeanor to felony levels. Penalties can include: your own legal fees plus State’s legal expenses; losing all camping, hunting and/or fishing rights for a year to lifetime-ban; Civil fines of \$2,500-\$25,000 and/or Criminal fines of \$2,500-\$5,000,000 and up to 5 years imprisonment, per each charged violation, depending on number of violations, type, severity, past history, premeditation, risk to public health/safety, etc.

**Persons Exempt:** DNR employees acting in the line of duty or work (as per State Land Use Rules, [R 299.930, Rule 30](#)), and persons doing DNR approved activities with DNR permission or permit.>

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## **DNR Non-Discrimination Statement:** read it [online](#) or in every digest. <Inserted:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan’s natural resources. Both state and federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909-7528 or the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, Suite 3-600, 3054 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202 –or– the Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203. For information or assistance on this publication, contact the MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-7944, at phone 517-373-1263 -or- see the DNR on the internet at <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr>. TTY/TTD (teletype writer): 711 (Michigan Relay Center). This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.>

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<This Document Revised 2016-03(March)-09 (to match 1pg standard) –DNR WLD/MS (& JSM). An Important Note on “Currentness” versus “Revision-Date” of Information or “Effective (approved) date” on Rules, Regulations and Laws. The rules information as a group is cited as revised or effective 2014 AACS (Annual Administrative Code Supplement); however, land rules were cited as “effective 2014 Jan. 29” yet that date is actually “effective 2014 Dec. 23” due to revisions in cited in MCL sections R 280.1 – R299.51021, Rules 280.1 – 510.21, which are relevant to lands rules and used in this document. This document, and the matching one-page version, were revised as per the stated revision date for information; however a later revision was done to keep current with compliance for American’s with Disabilities Act requirements, for keeping format current with reader needs, add the QR-code block, manage citations/sources, etc. >