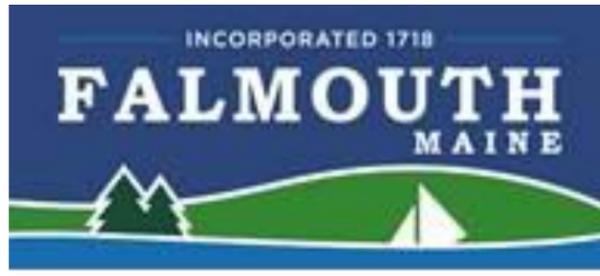


# Falmouth Hunting Zones

## And Guidelines



This pamphlet contains information regarding Town Ordinances, guiding principles regarding private and town property, and a reference map for hunting in Falmouth. However, it is not a complete list of all hunting regulations or laws, nor is it a legal document.

### Town Ordinance Requirements

#### [Ordinance Language Link](#)

Hunting in Falmouth allows for "Shotgun and Archery ONLY", Muzzle-loading shotgun (as defined by the state) and Cross-bow hunting is allowed in shotgun permitted areas only. (Modern "in-line" or "rifled" muzzleloaders are not permitted.)

You may not enter private property with a firearm or archery equipment without permission from the property owner.

When hunting within **500 FEET** of any dwelling, you must have **WRITTEN** permission from an adult residing in the dwelling before discharging your firearm or bow.

Possession of firearms on school property is **PROHIBITED** except in connection with supervised educational programs.

Police officers of the Town of Falmouth have the authority to enforce these regulations.

Any person violating these regulations shall be subject to the maximum fine allowable for the Town of Falmouth and/or confiscation of the firearm used in such violation

*Note:* Target practicing is allowed only in those same areas designated for discharge of shotguns **AND** for which a range permit has been obtained from the Falmouth Police Department.

The discharge of .22 caliber pistols at night in conformity with state regulations for the purpose of hunting raccoons is allowed in those same areas designated for discharge of shotguns.

*Note: All railroad right-of-way and tracks are private property and federal law prohibits entering property and crossing the tracks.*

### Permitted Areas

Hunting in Falmouth is permitted on all land west of Middle Road (excluding sections defined in prohibited areas.) Sections labeled A and B east of Middle Road for waterfowl hunting only.

**Section A:** The area within fifty (50) feet inland of the Presumpscot River Estuary from Interstate 295 on the northerly shore of the estuary to a point where the easterly sideline of Greenway Drive extended northerly would intersect the high-water mark.

**Section B:** The shoreline of Casco Bay from the point on the shoreline separating Portland Country Club and Berry Estate (as defined by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife) to the Cumberland town line.

#### Permitted Parks and Public Lands

- North Falmouth Community Forest
- Blackstrap Hill Community Forest
- Suckfish Brook Conservation Area
- Hadlock Community Forest
- Hardy Road Conservation Area
- Town Forest - (Archery only permitted)
- River Point Conservation Area
- Woods Road Community Forest
- Trails at Falmouth Corners
- East Branch Conservation Area\*
- West of the East Branch of Piscataqua River
- Town property off Longwoods Road\*
- \*(No town owned access points, permission required by abutting landowners to gain access to town property.)

The parks and public lands presented in this section do not represent all legal hunting area in the town of Falmouth.

### Prohibited Areas

#### **NO DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

The area east of Middle Road except for sections A and B of the permitted areas section.

The area designated as part of Back Bay Sanctuary as described in 12 M.R.S.A. 12706.

The area by Middle Road, Falmouth Road, Allen Avenue Extension and that portion of the Presumpscot River that runs between Allen Avenue Ext. and Middle Road, which area also includes the former Plummer-Motz and Lunt School properties.

The area surrounding the Falmouth Elementary, Middle and High School complex and bounded by Woodville Road, Falmouth Road, the East Branch of the Piscataqua River and Field Road.

The Falmouth Parks and Public Lands, listed below, prohibit hunting with either firearms or bow and arrow\*. Hunting is further prohibited within 300 feet of any parking area or playing field on town owned property, within 500 feet of any school property and on or within 10 feet of any public paved way.

#### Prohibited Parks and Public Lands

1. Town Forest\* - (Archery permitted))
2. Community Park
3. Walton Park/Presumpscot Falls Park
4. Pleasant Hill Preserve
5. ALL Falmouth School Property

### Expanded Archery Season

Typically, each year there are state regulated expanded archery zones that run through Falmouth. These zones are subject to change, so it is important to educate yourself on the updated archery zones each hunting season.

### Tree Stands

Placing a tree stand on private property without the permission of the landowner is prohibited in the state of Maine.

Tree stands are allowed on town property but must be legally labeled and removed within 7 days after the hunting season closes. The use of portable deer stands such as climbing tree stands and cloth blinds are permitted on town property and do not need to be labeled as long as they remain with the hunter.

### Picking a Location

When preparing for your hunt, be sure to select a *reasonable* area. It is crucial to know the property and its surroundings. The location of roadways, trails and homes are all factors that must be considered. It is important to remember that the town land open to hunters is also used for activities such as hiking, biking and walking pets. Be cautious around high activity areas and avoid areas where target identification may be difficult. NEVER draw your weapon on anything without first identifying your target. Safety should always be your first priority.

### Bordering Properties:

Know the surrounding properties. Keep an eye out for boundary markers, posted signs, paint markings or any other sign that indicates you are entering a new section of property. Educate yourself about the property you have chosen to hunt, and the methods used to post properties. Examples of markings could include two horizontal silver paint markings or a single vertical purple paint marking. These marks represent access by permission only. It is considered criminal trespassing to continue past such markings.

### Property Size:

Pick a location large in size and away from residential areas. This is especially important to remember when bow hunting. Retrieving an animal from a neighborhood cul-de-sac reflects poorly on the hunting community as a whole. If you choose to hunt a smaller location near other homes, consider notifying the abutting property owners with dates and times you may be hunting in the area.

### Respecting Private Property

If a property is posted, **Do Not Enter It!** When hunting on private property, you are representing *all hunters*. A poor attitude or any misuse of land may result in the closing of properties to hunting.

Communicating with landowners can make a difference for hunters everywhere. Legal hunting area is diminishing throughout southern Maine. Respecting the laws, landowners and wildlife is the best way to ensure the tradition continues for future generations. Be sure when you leave a property that it is in the same condition it was when you entered it. If you see land that has been abused, do your part to maintain the property.

Please be sure to contact landowners before entering private property. Being told you may not hunt a property is a better alternative than

being escorted off the property by law enforcement. Asking permission beforehand is the best way to avoid potential conflicts. You may even get a few good tips that could lead to a successful hunt.

### Asking Permission

When asking a landowner for permission to hunt on their property, be sure to do it in a respectful and timely manner. Be understanding of any concerns landowners may have about letting hunters use their property.

Make contact with the landowner well ahead of time. Knocking on doors the first morning of hunting season is unlikely to result in access to land. If possible, request land access before the season starts.

### Operation Game Thief

If you see a violation occurring or have information regarding a violation, contact Operation Game Thief at 1(800) ALERT-US [1(800) 253-7887].



Scan QR code for quick link to the Operation Game Thief website.

#### **Falmouth Land Use Request Card**

I would like permission to use your property to:

- ATV  Fish,  Hunt,  Snowmobile,  Trap,  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

Location of property (brief description) \_\_\_\_\_

Permission granted within 500 feet of dwelling:  Yes  No

Landowner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission to:

Land User's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting license # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle License# \_\_\_\_\_ Machine Reg# \_\_\_\_\_ Make/Model \_\_\_\_\_

Permission granted from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
start date end date

Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_

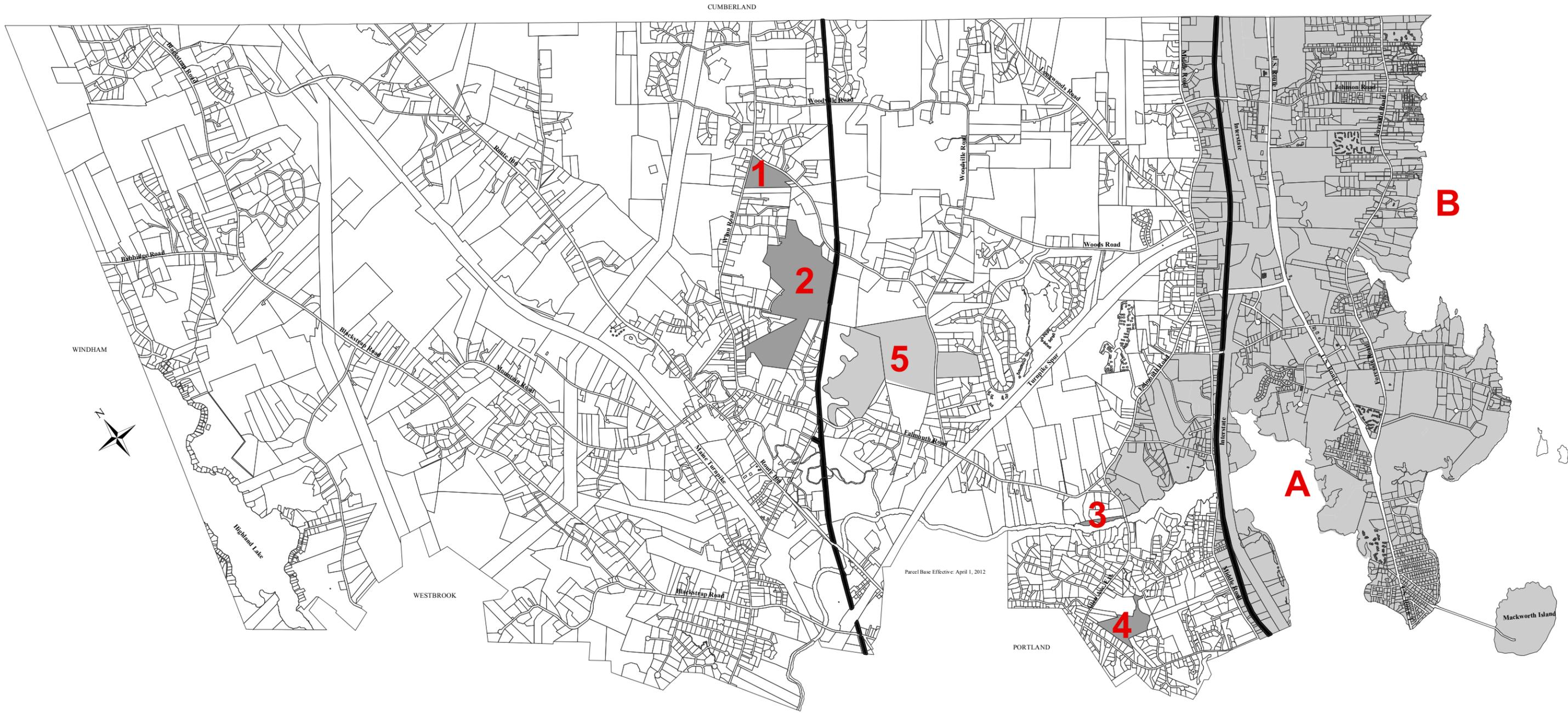
Landowner's Signature/Date \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Modeled after Maine Landowner ~ Land User Courtesy Card*

For information regarding hunting laws, season dates, hunting zones or any other information regarding hunting and fishing, please visit the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website:

<http://www.maine.gov/ifw/>

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**Prohibited Parks & Town Properties**

- 1. Town Forest\*
- 2. Community Park
- 3. Presumpscot Falls Park
- 4. Pleasant Hill Preserve
- 5. Falmouth Schools and Portion of McCrann/McLaughlin Preserve (east of Piscataqua River)

\*Archery Permitted

**NO DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS IN SHADED AREAS**

**Falmouth, Maine**

Discharge of Firearms along immediate coastal and riverfront areas (Section A & B as indicated on reverse side) - please refer to Town of Falmouth Code of Ordinances and State Laws.

Map Prepared by:



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