

Tips for hunters when requesting permission to hunt on private land

- Always remember that access to private property is a unique privilege.
- Whenever possible, seek permission to hunt on private property in advance and always be considerate of the landowner's time by being brief.
- If you are denied access by the landowner, remain polite, say thank you for your time, and do not expect an explanation. A negative reaction by you could have future repercussions for both you and others.
- Get to know the property and its boundaries and don't enter any property without written permission (*Note: Sportsmen now need written permission, dated within the past 12 months, signed by the landowner or lessee, to hunt, fish, or trap on private lands posted with signs or purple paint (See Landowner Protection Act @ <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/WheretoHunt.aspx>)*)
- Always respect the landowner's wishes by abiding to all rules, requests, and instructions and ask questions relative to anything that is unclear.
- Remember to hunt only in those areas designated by the landowner and do not drive or park on any roads or trails other than those specified.
- Always practice safe firearm handling in the field and be an example for all hunters by hunting safely and ethically.
- Do not litter and pick up any litter you notice while hunting on private property. It will go a long way toward showing the landowner that you care and respect their property and the privilege to hunt.
- Never assume that permission to hunt is good for a lifetime. Be sure to ask for permission every season unless instructed otherwise by the landowner.
- Be careful not to damage any fences and leave all gates as you found them. Report any damage you notice as soon as possible to the landowner.
- Always let the landowner know what time you expect to arrive, depart, and what species you'll be hunting. This way the landowner can manage for number of hunters and thereby prevent the possibility of safety issues or over-hunting the property.
- Provide the landowner with an information sheet containing your name, address, telephone numbers, and make model, color, and license plate number of your vehicle. This information can save valuable time in an emergency.
- Never show up with a group of people if you have requested permission solely for yourself.
- Do not erect any permanent tree stands or prune trees without permission from the landowner.
- Show appreciation for access by offering to share your game bag or providing assistance to the landowner.
- Follow-up with a thank you note or card to show appreciation for access to property.
- **Remember that when you are given the privilege to access private property you are doing so at your own risk. Never expect the landowner to be responsible for your safety and the safety of your hunting partners. For this reason, you should acquire personal liability insurance for yourself and or your hunting club.**