

2026 MSU College of Agriculture, Springhill Experimental Farm

Hunting Access Rules and Acceptance Statement

General access restrictions:

The Montana State University (MSU) owned Springhill Experimental Farm is open to licensed hunting access in 2026 by written permission during legally established open seasons for upland bird, Pheasant only in 2026. The MSU Springhill Experimental Farm is deeded land owned by Montana State University. This farm is not part of the State Land Trust system. Written permission to physically access the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm property for any purpose is required. Signs posted on the Springhill Experimental Farm perimeter indicate access permission requirements.

Hunter access to the Springhill Experimental Farm is being provided through a partnership between the MSU College of Agriculture, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and the Gallatin Valley Chapter of Pheasants Forever (GVPF). Consistent adherence to the rules described herein and to ethical hunter behavior will ensure the future of this demonstration program.

A no hunting/shooting safe zone around the central farmstead and at the southern edge of the property is closed to hunting as marked in the field and on the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm hunter access map. Vehicle parking is authorized only in two designated areas (see access map). Each parked vehicle must have a valid access statement issued by the on-line reservation system placed in a visible location on the dash of the vehicle along with the names and ALS numbers of all those in the hunting party. Please carpool when possible, to reduce the number of vehicles in the parking areas. **No off-road driving allowed for any reason!!** This property is walk-in access only. Reservation confirmation email (completed as instructed) is to be left in the designated drop box in the parking area at the end of each day's hunt. Failure to do so will result in the loss of access privileges.

The online reservation system for the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm will accept reservations for the 2026 hunting season made through the URL: <https://www.vagaro.com/mco5ld>. Reservations may be made up to 2 weeks in advance. Cancellations must be made at least 48 hours of time. It is the responsibility of all hunters to possess a valid hunting license and to follow the established rules and regulations for the species being hunted (<http://www.fwp.mt.gov/hunting/regulations>) and indicate their acceptance of the rules governing access by signing this statement.

Hunters must stay out of marked (flagged) research plots while hunting. Disturbance of these areas seriously interferes with research projects conducted by MSU students and staff. Failure of hunters to adhere to any of the rules presented here will result in the loss of hunting privileges and possible closure of the property to hunting.

HUNTING ONLY DURING THE FOLLOWING DAYS AND HOURS.

UPLAND GAME BIRD: SATURDAY 9:00 AM – DUSK [RESERVED FOR YOUTH/ MENTOR HUNT \(NO EXCEPTIONS\)](#)

2026 Season dates: Ring-necked pheasant – October 10, 2026 to January 1, 2027.

Weapons limits:

- Shotguns are the only weapons permitted on the Springhill Experimental Farm for hunting.
- Target shooting is not allowed. Discharge of weapons is limited to the hunting activity.
- Reservations by licensed youth (15 years and under) and parent(s)/guardian(s)/mentor(s) is promoted on Saturday.
- Upland bird hunting: one party of licensed hunters each open day beginning no earlier than 0900 (9 am); four people maximum per party.
- Maximum reserved access by any individual is one day for Upland Bird total use per year.

How to get there: From Hwy 411 go north on Springhill Road to Penwell Bridge Road. Right (east) on Penwell Bridge Road to McGuire Road. The MSU Experimental Farm runs north between McGuire Road and Walker Road.

Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Terms of Hunting Access

I, (_____), have read and understand the rules for hunting on the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm property and agree to follow the rules and restrictions stated above as a condition of permission for accessing the property. I understand that if I and anyone accompanying me to hunt on the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm do not follow all established rules, I (we) are subject to the permanent loss of hunting privileges on the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm and may also be cited for criminal trespass and/ or hunting without landowner permission under the laws of the State of Montana (MCA 45-6-203 and 87-6-415, respectively).

Inherent hazards exist in hunting activity so all users must exercise caution and enter the MSU Springhill Experimental Farm property at their own risk. I am aware that MSU and GVPF assume no liability or responsibility of any kind with respect to any of the activities described above or otherwise.

Signed

Date

****RETURN THIS WITH THE NAMES OF ALL HUNTERS AND ALS NUMBERS TO ROSETIMMER@GMAIL.COM BEFORE YOUR HUNT.**

****PRINT YOUR SCHEDULICITY CONFIRMATION FOR THE DASH OF YOUR CAR WHILE YOU'RE ONSITE, LEAVE THIS IN THE BOX ONSITE WHEN YOU'RE HUNT IS FINISHED.**