

BEAR BAITING LAW EXCERPT

Hunting with the use of bait is defined as hunting from an observation stand, blind, or other location that overlooks any bait or food, except standing crops and foods that have been left as a result of normal agricultural operations or natural occurrence.

Bear bait means any animal, plant, or derivative thereof, used to attract bear. This does not include packaging or container materials that fall within the definition of litter under Title 17, §2263.

A person may not place any medicinal, poisonous, or stupefying substance to entice any animal, including bear.

Bait may not be placed to entice, hunt or trap black bear unless:

- The bait is placed at least 50 yards from any travel way that is accessible by a conventional 2-wheel or 4-wheel drive vehicle
- The observation stand, blind, or bait area is plainly labeled with a 2 inch by 4 inch tag with the name and address of the baiter
- The bait is placed more than 500 yards from any solid waste disposal site or campground
- The bait is placed more than 500 yards from an occupied dwelling, unless written permission is granted by the owner or tenant
- The bait areas will be cleaned up by November 10 as defined by the State litter law
- The person hunting from another person's stand or blind has the owner's permission.
- The person placing bait on another person's land has the landowner's permission (oral or in writing).
- The bait is placed no sooner than 30 days before opening day of the season and no later than October 31.

* If placing bait on a wildlife management area, you need to secure a permit from MDIFW. To apply for a bear baiting permit, [contact the wildlife biologist in your administrative region](#).

* If placing bait on Public Reserved Land, you need to secure a permit from the Bureau of Parks and Lands (for info, call 207-287-3821).

Baiting of animals is prohibited in State Parks and Historic Sites.