

Note: This paragraph clarifies the use of animals which are found in the wild (free-roaming) and not released from captivity at the time of training.

(b) *Licensed animals.* Training hunting dogs with raccoons possessed under authority of a game or fur farm license may be used at any time outside of department lands without a permit provided the animals are kept under control by caging or similar restraint. Except for bear dog training, training hunting dogs on other protected game possessed under the authority of a game farm, fur farm or shooting preserve license may also be used at any time outside of department lands without permit.

(c) *Mammal identification.* Captive raccoons used for dog training shall be tattooed on either ear with a letter-number combination determined by the department unless controlled by leash, cage or similar restraint.

(d) *Care and treatment.* Captive animals possessed for dog training purposes shall be treated in a humane manner and confined under sanitary conditions with proper and adequate housing, care, food and fresh water.

(4) **SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS.** (a) *Department lands.* On department lands open to public hunting and not designated open to dog training, dogs shall be controlled by a person using a leash which is no more than 8 feet in length from April 15 through July 31.

(b) *Firearms.* Blank handguns may be used for dog training on wild game without a permit. Special firearm restrictions include:

1. No person may possess any firearm while dog training during the 24-hour period prior to the gun deer season unless hunting on licensed game farms or shooting preserves as established by s. NR 10.09 (2).

2. No person may possess any loaded or uncased firearm or air gun while within the boundary of state-owned lands posted with department signs in Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Kenosha, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha counties as established by s. NR 45.09 (5) except:

a. While engaged in hunting in accordance with the open seasons established in s. NR 10.01 (regular small game, big game and waterfowl seasons).

Note: This rule prohibits possession of any loaded or uncased firearm or air gun on the above areas during the closed season. This also prohibits hunting unprotected species and crows, grackles, red-winged blackbirds and cowbirds during the closed season.

b. While at a designated target range.

c. While training dogs under department permit within designated areas.

(c) *Vaccinations.* The owner of a dog shall have the dog vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian within 30 days after the dog reaches the age of 4 months and revaccinated within one year after the initial vaccination as established by s. 95.21, Stats.

(d) *Dog pack size.* 1. No more than 6 dogs in a single pack may be used to pursue bear regardless of the dog ownership.

2. Until the maximum of 6 dogs are released in pursuit of a bear, dogs may be added to the pack. However, no dogs engaged in the pursuit of the bear may be replaced by another dog.

(5) **CLASSES OF DOG TRAINING GROUNDS.** (a) *Class 1 dog training grounds.* Class 1 dog training grounds are those posted, marked or designated department lands where dog training is a year-round recreational pursuit. Dog trainers may use horses where designated by the department. Class 1 dog training grounds include the following:

1. Bong state recreation area - Special use zone.
2. Deansville wildlife area.
3. George W. Mead wildlife area.
4. Lower Wisconsin River wildlife area - Mazomanie unit.
5. Kettle Moraine State Forest - Northern and Ottawa units.
6. Pine Island wildlife area.

(b) *Class 2 dog training grounds.* Class 2 dog training grounds are those department lands not established in par. (a) and designated on the permit. At department discretion, entry to Class 2 dog training grounds may be restricted to foot travel year-round and all dog training may be prohibited April 15 through July 31.

History: Cr. Register, July, 1977, No. 259, eff. 1-1-78; r. and recr. Register, April, 1985, No. 352, eff. 5-1-85; am. (3) (b) and (4) (b), Register, July, 1987, No. 379, eff. 8-1-87; am. (1) (intro.) and (3) (c), r. and recr. (3) (a), Register, October, 1987, No. 382, eff. 11-1-87; r. and recr. (5) (a) 3., Register, July, 1988, No. 391, eff. 8-1-88; cr. (4) (d), Register, February, 1993, No. 446, eff. 3-1-93.