



Working to conserve the natural beauty, diverse wildlife habitats, water quality and outdoor recreation opportunities of the Thousand Islands region, for present and future generations.

Fall 2026

Dear Hunters,

Each year the Thousand Islands Land Trust opens select properties to a specific number of hunters as a way to encourage outdoor recreational opportunities on TILT owned lands. Over the years, this has been a very successful program for the organization as it allows for the cultivation of new relationships with a diverse group of people while showcasing how the work conducted by TILT benefits the greater community. Looking into the future, TILT hopes to see this program continue to grow, with new requests for permits being submitted each year.

With that said, we invite you to become more familiar with TILT and to become more involved in all aspects of the organization. Throughout the year the Land Trust hosts a variety of treks, events, and stewardship work days, including the Spring Tern Grid Installation, the Zenda Farms Community Picnic, and our Spring/Fall Stewardship Days. These programs help one gain a greater understanding of what TILT does and how important it is to conserve the beautiful Thousand Islands Region. Please contact me or visit our website to sign up for any of our treks, events, or work days.

If you have any questions pertaining to hunting permits or any TILT related programs please feel free to contact me at knims@tilandtrust.org, visit our website www.tilandtrust.org, or call the TILT office at (315)-686-5345.

Best Regards,

Ken Nims
Stewardship Director

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Thousand Islands Land Trust • P.O. Box 238 • 135 John Street • Clayton, NY 13624 • 315 - 686 - 5345 • TILandTrust.org

A non - profit, tax-exempt organization • The Federal Tax ID number for the Thousand Islands Land Trust is 22-2629183

Member of the Land Trust Alliance and supporter of its Standards and Practices code





Working to conserve the natural beauty, diverse wildlife habitats, water quality and outdoor recreation opportunities of the Thousand Islands region, for present and future generations.

Fall 2026

Dear Prospective Permittee:

Applications must be submitted for processing by
October 15, 2026 if you wish to hunt this year.

Thank you for your interest in receiving permission to hunt the Thousand Islands Land Trust's Grindstone Island Preserves. Also, thank you in advance for your cooperation and best wishes for a successful season. Enclosed, please find an **Application for Deer Hunting Privileges, Grindstone Island Preserve Hunting Zone Maps, a Release and Indemnification Form, and Hunting Rules and Regulations**. Complete both forms and return them to the TILT office. Upon receipt and review, your hunting permit will be issued. This Permit Package will include a **Green Permit Card, TILT Hunting Permit-Auto Tag, and 2026 End of the Season Data Report**.

- The complete application for deer hunting privileges **must be signed and returned to Thousand Islands Lands Trust Office, P.O. Box 238, 135 John St., Clayton, NY 13624 as soon as possible if you wish to hunt this year.**
- The liability release form enclosed **must be signed and returned to Thousand Islands Lands Trust Office, P.O. Box 238, 135 John St., Clayton, NY 13624 as soon as possible if you wish to hunt this year.**
- Hunting on a TILT property is a privilege and not a right. Preference is given to TILT members, adjoining landowners, and volunteers.
- **Please note all hunters will be asked to provide volunteer time to assist the Thousand Islands Land Trust in preserve management.** In addition, the hunting data form must be completed and returned to the TILT office at the end of the hunting season. If you do not return the Hunting Data Form, you will not be eligible to hunt the Grindstone Island Preserves in the 2027 hunting season.

Once again thank you for your interest in hunting the Thousand Islands Land Trust's Grindstone Island Preserves. Please contact me at the TILT office at (315)686-5345 or by e-mail at knims@tilandtrust.org if you have any questions and/or comments.

Sincerely,

Ken Nims
Stewardship Director

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Grindstone Island Preserves

2026 Hunting Rules and Regulations for the Thousand Islands Land Trust

1. Hunters must possess a valid NYS Hunting license, carry a valid TILT Permit Card while hunting on the Preserves, and are expected to obey all relevant NYS Environmental Conservation Laws.
2. If you intend to use a tree stand on the Preserve, you must comply with the following. You must indicate on your “Application for Deer Hunting Privileges” whether or not you are planning on using a tree stand. All tree stands must be removable! The hang-on stands you can buy, (or make) may be used. Ladder stands may be used. Large platforms and/or tree stands that nail into the tree are not acceptable. Please pick a location so that the least amount of damage is done to the tree. This is a sensitive natural area. Please conduct your hunting activities in a manner that minimizes your impact. Do not discard or leave any trash. **Tree stands must have the Permittee’s Permit # displayed on each authorized tree stand.** Report unauthorized & unidentified tree stands to the TILT office.
3. Deer drives are prohibited!
4. Completed **Hunting Data Forms** must be returned to the TILT office by December 31st 2026.
5. All hunters will be expected to hunt in a safe and conscientious manner. Alcohol is not permitted on the preserves. Safety first. Remember the Thousand Islands Land Trust staff and work parties may also be using the preserve for ongoing research projects. Please wear blaze orange. Hunters must be at least 500 feet from all roads, driveways, trails and structures before shooting.
6. Please hunt only in assigned areas. If an injured deer goes into another area you **must** contact the TILT office before retrieving it. Shooting from allowed areas into a neighboring property and/or restricted hunting area is strictly prohibited.
7. Existing trails may be used for access, but hunting from roads / trails is strictly prohibited.
8. The use of wheeled vehicles, as mentioned above, is permitted on designated trails. If you need to transport a deer out of the woods, you may use a deer carrier or sled.
9. Parking “Hunting Permit-Auto Tags” must be displayed on the dashboard, window or visor of your vehicle while hunting on the preserve.
10. Authorized person cards (green permit cards) are to be carried while you are on preserve property. The card indicates you are an authorized hunter and shall be shown to anyone of proper authority questioning your right to be hunting on the preserve. In addition, if you encounter anyone hunting on the preserve, you are authorized to ask them to present their permit. You may POLITELY ask unauthorized persons trespassing upon the preserve to leave. If they have any questions, please refer them to the Thousand Islands Land Trust at (315) 686-5345.
11. Questions concerning these Rules & Regulations may be referred to the Thousand Islands Land Trust at the address below or you may call (315) 686-5345.

Thousand Islands Land Trust
Attn: Ken Nims
P.O. Box 238, 135 John St.
Clayton, NY 13624
E-mail: knims@tilandtrust.org



Live. Learn. Conserve.

 Hunting Permitted

0 0.325 0.65 1.3 Miles



NYS ITS GIS Program Office, Copyright© 2013 Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

 Hunting Permitted

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

CANADA
UNITED STATES

St Lawrence River

Grindstone
Island

TILT Properties (Hunting Permitted)



 TILT Properties (Hunting Permitted)



Heineman
Songbird
Forest
Preserve

0 0.075 0.15 0.3 Miles





Application for Deer Hunting Privileges

Renewal ____ (please highlight changes from last year)

New Member _____

TILT Preserve Area: **Grindstone Island Preserves**

Name: _____

Mailing Address _____ Street Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth: _____ Occupation: _____ Hunting License # _____

Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____ Cell/Mobile Phone #: _____

Emergency Phone # & Contact Name: _____

Motor Vehicle description(s): _____

License Plate Number(s): _____

Do you plan on erecting a tree stand? ____ Yes ____ No (Please identify your tree stand by labeling it with your last name and first initial.)

Member of TILT? ____ Yes ____ No Have you volunteered for any TILT work projects? ____ Yes ____ No
(If yes, please describe) _____

Are you interested in participating in future projects? ____ Yes ____ No

Are you an adjoining landowner? ____ Yes ____ No Tax map Parcel ID#: _____

Years of hunting experience _____ Have your hunting privileges in NYS ever been revoked, or have you been charged with any violation of the Environmental Conservation Law within the last three years? ____ Yes ____ No
(If yes, please explain) _____

By signing this application I agree to abide by and follow the guidelines, **Rules and Regulations**, established by the Thousand Islands Land Trust. I understand I am required to sign a **Release and Indemnification Form**.

I understand if I fail to follow the **Rules & Regulations**, or do not submit any required reports, my hunting privileges may be revoked, or not renewed in following years.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____

Approved by: _____ Permit # _____

Release received and on file: _____ Date: _____ Reviewed by: _____

Send completed application to:

Thousand Islands Land Trust
Attn: Ken Nims
P.O. Box 238, 135 John St.
Clayton, NY 13624
Telephone: 315-686-5345
E-mail: knims@tilandtrust.org



RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION

Attention TILT Hunting Permit Holder:

One of the requirements associated with the privilege of receiving a permit to hunt deer on property owned by the Thousand Islands Land Trust is that all permit holders agree to release and indemnify the Thousand Islands Land Trust with respect to any adverse event that may result from ones presence or actions on property owned by the Thousand Islands Land Trust. All references to the Thousand Island Land Trust or TILT shall include its directors, officers, agents, employees and independent contractors.

By signing and executing this agreement, I understand I am hunting on property which is currently owned by the Thousand Islands Land Trust. I am hunting entirely at my own risk and acknowledge the Thousand Islands Land Trust has made no warranty or representation, express or implied, regarding the safety of such activity or the condition or the suitability of the Premises. I shall not hold the Thousand Islands Land Trust liable for any latent or patent defects on the Premises that result in personal or property injury to me, and shall not hold The Thousand Islands Land Trust liable for any personal or property injury that results from my activities on the Premises.

In addition, I shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify the Thousand Islands Land Trust, its agents, officers, directors, employees, and volunteers (each, an "Indemnitee") from and against any and all damages, losses, liabilities, obligations, penalties, claims, litigation, demands, judgments, suits, actions, proceedings, costs, disbursements and expenses (including without limitation attorneys' and experts' fees, expenses, and disbursements) of any kind or nature that may arise in connection with my presence on the Premises, and that may be brought in connection with personal injury or death in connection with damages sustained by me and resulting from my presence and activities on the Premises.

I covenant not to sue or otherwise assert a claim of any nature whatsoever against TILT arising out of or in any way related to my entry onto or use of the property owned by TILT regardless of the origin of such claim.

I understand and comprehend the risk associated with hunting and my entry onto the property owned by TILT and I assume full responsibility for any risk of bodily injury, death or property damage arising out of my entry onto property owned by TILT whether caused by the negligence of TILT or third parties. I have specifically requested that I be given permission to hunt on TILT property for my own benefit and enjoyment. I understand that hunting is a potentially dangerous activity that carries risks which include serious physical injury and death. I shall provide all of my own equipment and shall ensure that same is in good working order and is in compliance will all laws, rules and regulations of the State of New York and any other applicable jurisdiction.

Furthermore, I hereby confirm that I have not provided any compensation, monetary or otherwise, to any individual, private entity, or corporation, including TILT, in exchange for the right and / or permission to hunt and enjoy TILT's Preserves. I recognize that this hunting and outdoor enjoyment program is provided as a free service to the public, and that permission to hunt and enjoy TILT's Preserves is a privilege and not a right. I further recognize that TILT has the ability and the responsibility to revoke my hunting privileges if compensation has been provided by me to any private individual, corporation, or entity and / or if I do not abide by the program's rules and regulations as they have been provided to me.

Lastly, by signing this agreement I attest that I have carefully read all of the Thousand Islands Land Trust's Hunting Rules and Regulations and fully understand them; that I agree to fully comply with any and all New York State laws and all Thousand Islands Land Trust Hunting Rules & Regulations; and that I understand where and when I am permitted to hunt.

No officer, director, employee, agent, or other representative of TILT is authorized to individually vary the terms and provisions of this document or to make any oral or written representation contrary to any provisions of this release/waiver or otherwise in connection with the subject matter of this release/waiver.

The terms and provisions of this waiver/release and any dispute arising in connection with this waiver/release shall be governed by and construed in accordance with New York Law. The parties agree that the venue for any legal action filed in connection with this Agreement shall be in Jefferson County New York. In connection with any litigation arising out of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover all costs incurred, including reasonable attorney's fees.

If any provision or any portion of any provision of this waiver/release, or the application of any such provision or portion of a provision to any person or circumstance, shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable, then the remaining portion of such provision and the remaining provisions of this waiver/release, or the application of such provision held invalid or unenforceable to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected by such determination.

I HAVE READ THIS COVENANT NOT TO SUE, RELEASE, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY WAIVER, I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT, ASSURANCE OR GUARANTEE BEING MADE TO ME AND INTEND MY SIGNATURE TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO TILT TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

The permission to hunt granted by a permit from the Thousand Islands Land Trust shall in no manner diminish the organization's rights and benefits pursuant to General Obligation Law Section 9-103.

Accepted and Agreed:

Signature

Date: _____

Print Full Name

Signature of Minor (if applicable)

Date: _____

Print Full Name of Minor (if applicable)

Street Address

City, State

Zip Code

Thousand Islands Land Trust
Attn: Ken Nims
P.O. Box 238, 135 John St.
Clayton, NY 13624
Telephone: 315-686-5345
E-mail: knims@tilandtrust.org



2026 HUNTING DATA FORM

Site: GRINDSTONE ISLAND PRESERVES – CLAYTON, NEW YORK

Permittee Name: _____

Preserves Hunted: _____

Method of Hunting: [Rifle, Bow, etc.] _____

From Ground or Tree Stand: _____

Hunting Effort [# of days hunted]: _____

Number of Deer Taken: _____

Age: _____

Sex: _____

Weight: _____

of Points (If Applicable): _____

Comments (Please specify any other deer observed for management purposes):

Please return this form at the end of your hunting season (December 31, 2026 at the latest)

Thousand Islands Land Trust
Attn: Ken Nims
P.O. Box 238
Clayton, NY 13624



TILT Hunting Permit

AUTO TAG

Site: **Grindstone Island Preserve**

Season: 2026 Deer Hunting Season

Permit #: _____

Authorized By: _____
Ken Nims

*Please clearly display this “**Auto Tag**” in your windshield while hunting on the Crooked Creek Preserve. Please report any un-tagged vehicles to the TILT office.*

LANDOWNER PERMISSION RECORD

LANDOWNER COPY

Permission given to _____

Address _____

Vehicle Make _____ Yr. _____ Color _____

Vehicle Lic. No. _____ No. in party _____

Other Licence tag. no. _____

Permission Dates: from ____ / ____ / ____ to ____ / ____ / ____

Limitations _____

I agree to conduct myself safely, responsibly and lawfully, respecting the landowner, property, and others using it. I accept the responsibilities which are part of the activities which I pursue. I agree to comply with the instructions of the landowner while on this property.

I understand that the laws of New York State absolve the landowner from liability for non-paying recreationists engaged in hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, hiking, and in certain other activities, except in the case of willful or malicious failure to guard or warn of hazards.

Signed _____

(Visitor)



Date ____ / ____ / ____
Turn in poachers and polluters
Call 1-800 TIPP-DEC



Card provided by New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation