

Source: Integrated Resource Policy of the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands

**Tree Stand Guidelines.** The use of tree stands or ladders for hunting is regulated through the Fish and Wildlife statutes (MR.SA 12, Part 10, Chapter 709, Subsection 7406.16E). By statute it is illegal to insert metallic or ceramic nails or bolts into a tree to create a permanent tree stand without the landowner's permission. Use of portable tree stands or ladders will be allowed on lands managed by the Bureau in accordance with state law and Bureau rules. Portable tree stands and hunting platforms or ladders that are not permanently attached to a tree are allowed.

Portable tree stands or ladders used in conjunction with a valid bear-bait site permit are allowed to remain in place on Public Reserved and Nonreserved Lands during the baiting season on bear but must be removed from the tree at the end of the bear baiting season.

Oral permission from the Bureau is required for portable tree stands or ladders located in organized towns when used on a daily basis. Written permission from the Bureau is required to place unattended tree stands or ladders in organized towns, for a period determined by the Bureau. Landowner permission for portable tree stands or ladders is not required by statute in unorganized towns. A written record of oral written permissions will be kept by the Bureau.

Portable tree stands or ladders are allowed while being "attended" by the person using them. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife interprets "attended" to mean that the stand or ladder is being used on a daily basis. During days when the stand or ladder is not being used it must be removed from the tree.