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HUNTING & TRAPPING IN VIRGINIA
July 2018–June 2019

Mission Statement
Conserve and manage wildlife populations and habitat for the benefit of present and future generations. Connect people to Virginia’s outdoors through boating, education, fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing and other wildlife-related activities. Protect people and property by promoting safe outdoor experiences and managing human-wildlife conflicts.

The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries shall afford to all persons an equal access to Department programs and facilities without regard to race, color, religion, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, political affiliation, or veteran’s status. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, please write to: Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Attn: Executive Director’s Office, 7870 Villa Park Dr, Suite 400, P.O. Box 90778, Henrico, VA 23228.

On the Cover:
Gray squirrel. © Ralph Hensley

This booklet is for general information and contains information regarding programs, policies, regulations, rules, and fees of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) current at the time of printing. Information may change after printing and any changes will supersede the information in this publication. DGIF’s programs, policies, regulations, rules, or fees can be found at www.dgif.virginia.gov. Specific laws are found in the Code of Virginia (http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode) or the Game Department Regulation Manual (http://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title4/agency15). For answers to specific questions about hunting and fishing, contact the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries office nearest you.

The sale of advertising paid a large portion of the cost of this publication. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries neither endorses the products or services offered in the advertising, nor accepts any liability from the use of such products or services.
That most special time of year, the fall hunting season, is approaching, and by the time you see this year’s hunting and trapping guide, you will no doubt be well into planning your upcoming hunts. We enjoy an abundance of wildlife in Virginia thanks to sportsmen and women like you who are passionate about hunting. Hunting for most species has never been better; so please take someone new hunting with you this year and help keep the hunting heritage alive and well in Virginia.

Given the continuing concern over lead in the environment and its impacts on avian species, I would like to encourage your use of non-lead ammunition. We are experiencing an increase in lead poisoning of species like the bald eagle. While the specific sources of that lead are not well known, as wildlife conservationists we can do our part to avoid exposing wildlife to lead poisoning through the use of non-lead ammo and the proper disposal of carcasses.

On another front, technology continues to increase the effectiveness of various types of shot used for migratory game bird as well as upland game bird and turkey. We owe it to our wildlife resources to know the ethical limits for the ammunition we use. I would strongly encourage folks to spend time at the range patterning your shotgun. The results reported in hunting ads may or may not be achievable with your particular firearm or choke.

Lastly, but importantly, the incidence of chronic wasting disease in deer continues to rise. As you read this message, the Department is increasing its CWD surveillance efforts and evaluating additional measures to protect our highly valued deer resource. CWD has now been found in 25 states and, in order to minimize our risk of further introductions, we need to be proactive and ensure that we take all practical measures to avoid the spread of the disease in Virginia. There is no cure or vaccine for CWD.

Just remember, we’re on our game so you can be on yours!

Bob Duncan, Executive Director, DGIF

Hunters and trappers create many opportunities for Virginians to enjoy exceptional hunting, trapping, and wildlife watching. Through the Federal Assistance in Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration program, you help the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries make wildlife-oriented outdoor recreation even better each time you buy a firearm, ammunition, or a hunting or trapping license.

When you buy hunting-related equipment, a portion of the excise tax levied on the manufacturer goes to the Federal Assistance in Wildlife Restoration program. Virginia currently receives over $12 million each year from this program, which funds a large portion of the Department’s habitat management and wildlife population research projects.
What good is having a hunting license if you don’t have a place to hunt?

Finding an affordable, local, private spot to go hunting can be tough ... That’s why we created Outdoor Access! We offer affordable, exclusive access to land that’s perfect for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities. You can quickly and easily reserve property for a single day, a weekend, or even longer. And your access is exclusive. That means that the only people on the property will be you and your guests, which means a much safer and more enjoyable experience than a public option. On top of all that, reserving through Outdoor Access costs a fraction of typical hunt club dues — less than $10 a month!

OVER 350 PROPERTIES AVAILABLE FOR YOUR EXCLUSIVE USE.

1. SIGN UP
Download our app, or visit our website, OutdoorAccess.com to sign up. It takes less than 5 minutes!

2. RESERVE
You can reserve any available property for your exclusive use as easily as you would reserve a hotel room.

3. ENJOY!
Follow the rules set forth by the landowner and be respectful. Most of all, enjoy yourself!

Sign up today and you can be hunting tomorrow!

www.OutdoorAccess.com

“[Outdoor Access] has 30 properties within 20 minutes of me. It’s Friday ... and I’m just thinking ‘What do I want to try out this weekend?’ It’s been one of my best years in the last 5 or 6 years!”

– David M.
The target shooting and hunting community prides itself on being safe and responsible with firearms in all situations—from using them outdoors to storing them safely at home. Sometimes, however, unusual conditions such as extremely dry environments require an extra level of awareness and safety on the part of shooters. Wildfires have many possible causes. The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry, reminds all shooters that during dry and hot weather conditions their use of certain ammunition and targets could accidentally ignite a wildfire. NSSF reminds all target shooters and hunters, as well as other outdoor enthusiasts, to consider the potential consequences of their activities in fire-prone environments.

Shooters & Hunters: Help Prevent Wildfires.

- Make it a point to know the regulations and rules related to shooting in areas experiencing dry and hot conditions, whether on public or private land or at shooting ranges. Many national forests, for example, do not allow recreational shooting when fire restrictions are in effect.

- Consider the type of ammunition and targets you are using. Minimize the risk of fires by not using steel-jacketed ammunition, ammunition with steel-core components, tracer rounds or exploding targets in fire-prone areas.

- Remember that equipment, such as cars and ATVs, can have extremely hot exhaust systems that could ignite dry vegetation, so park only in designated areas.

- Extinguish and dispose of smoking materials safely.

- Follow guidelines to extinguish campfires.

- Warn others of potential dangers and behaviors for starting wildfires.

- Report any wildfire you see to authorities.

- Spread this message to other target shooters, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts.
Q: In Virginia, is it legal to buy or sell a mounted deer head, deer antlers, or craft items made from a deer?

A: Yes. It is now legal to buy and sell the hair, hide, tail, sinew, skull, antlers, bones, and feet of a legally possessed deer or elk carcass or carcass part, any products made from these carcass parts, and deer or elk mounts. Deer or elk meat (venison) organs, etc. cannot be bought and sold.

**Electronic Validation (e-notching) of License Tags**
- Successful deer and turkey hunters can use the Department’s Go Outdoors Virginia mobile smart phone app to electronically validate the appropriate license tag on their electronic deer/turkey license or bonus deer permit. (see page 26)

**Blaze Colors**
- “Solid blaze orange” has been defined as safety orange or fluorescent orange hue.
- “Solid blaze pink” has been defined as safety pink or fluorescent pink hue.
- Blaze orange or blaze pink is now required to be displayed on the exterior of an occupied ground blind during the general firearms deer season. (see page 26)

**Tracking Dogs**
- Licensed hunters engaged in tracking wounded bear, deer, or turkey with a dog may possess a weapon permitted for hunting and may use such weapon to humanely kill the animal being tracked, including after legal hunting hours. Such weapon shall not be used to hunt, wound, or kill any animal other than the animal being tracked. (see page 16)

**Legal Weapons**
- Arrowguns, pneumatic-powered air guns that fire an arrow, are legal for hunting any wild bird or animal for which there is a hunting season.
- Persons with a disability that prevents them from drawing a bow or crossbow may hunt with an arrowgun during the archery season provided they have in possession an authorization form provided by the Department that has been completed by their physician. Authorization forms are found at www.dgif.virginia.gov/forms/#license-forms.

**Tree Stands**
- Permanently disabled hunters possessing a valid hunting license, hunters holding a lifetime disabled hunting license, and hunters holding a lifetime disabled veterans hunting license are exempt from any local ordinance in which hunting from an elevated platform or tree stand is required.
Mandatory Hunter Education

Hunter Education courses provide instruction in hunter safety, principles of conservation, and sportsmanship. There are two options for completing Hunter Education—Classroom with self study and Full Online Courses.

Classroom Course

Section 1 – Self-study.
Each student is required to study course material prior to the classroom session. Students must read the Today’s Hunter Student Manual and complete the review exercises at the back of the book. The review exercises must be presented to the course instructor, or the student will not be certified. Student manuals may be obtained for free at DGIF headquarters or at any DGIF regional office or may be purchased by calling 1-800-830-2268. A free download of the manual is available at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/education.

Section 2 – Classroom portion.
Students will focus on safety and ethics. A written test will be given at the end of the class. Test questions will cover material from the classroom portion and from the self-study material. Courses are offered free of charge throughout the Commonwealth. For more information, go to the Hunter Education page on the DGIF website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/education or call the Hunter Education Office at (804) 367-2901 or (804) 367-1147.

Full Online Course

Hunters age 12 and over may also take hunter education completely online. There is a fee associated with this course. For more information, go to www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/education.

Hunter Education Requirements

You must complete an approved hunter education course and carry your card while hunting if either of the following apply:

• You are 12–15 years of age. (You must complete hunter education but you do not have to carry your card if accompanied and properly supervised by a licensed adult.)
• You are at least 16 years of age and you are hunting with your first hunting license.

Virginia accepts and recognizes all states’ and countries’ hunting licenses and official hunter education credentials for the purpose of complying with mandatory hunter education requirements. These may be in the form of an identification card or certificate.

Although it is recommended for all hunters, you are not required to complete hunter education if:

• You are exempt from the requirement to purchase a license.
• You are under the age of 12. However, you may not hunt unless accompanied and directly supervised by a licensed adult.
• You are hunting with an apprentice license. In that case you must be accompanied and directly supervised by an adult over the age of 18 who has, on his person, a valid Virginia hunting license. “Accompanied and directly supervised” means the adult maintains close visual and verbal contact with, provides adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm from the apprentice hunter. When buying a hunting license, the apprentice hunting license cannot be used as proof of previously purchasing a hunting license.
• If you purchase an apprentice hunting license and then complete hunter education, you may use the apprentice license as a basic license to hunt until it expires. You will not need supervision unless otherwise required by law to be supervised, such as in the case of hunting on a youth/apprentice hunting weekend. You must carry proof of hunter education while hunting unsupervised with an apprentice license.

Hunter Skills Weekends

Virginia Hunter Skills Weekends are offered each year near Appomattox, VA through a partnership program between the Virginia Hunter Education Association, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center. These affordable educational programs are open to ages 11–90+ (children under 18 must attend with a parent). A variety of instructional courses provide skill development for new and seasoned hunters alike. They include firearms, archery, survival, game cooking, tree stand safety, and a variety of hunting techniques. Completion of a Hunter Education course is preferred but not required. For more information on registration fees and dates visit www.holidaylake4h.com, or call Holiday Lake at (434) 248-5444.

Q: How do I get a replacement Hunter Education card?
A: Go to www.ilostmycard.com or call 800-830-2268.
Every person who is required to have a license must carry such license and shall show the license immediately upon request of any officer whose duty it is to enforce the game and inland fish laws, or upon the demand of any owner or lessee, or any employee or representative of such owner or lessee, upon whose land or water such person may be hunting, trapping, or fishing. Any person who is required to carry certain hunting, trapping, or fishing licenses or a hunter education certificate on their person can meet the requirement by carrying an electronic copy of the relevant license or certificate. We recommend the electronic carrying of licenses through the use of our App, see page 11. Electronic carry does not require a signature.

Residency Qualifications

- Persons who have been a bona fide resident of the city, county, or state for six consecutive months immediately preceding the date of purchasing a license.
- Persons who have been domiciliary residents of the state for at least two months upon approval of a completed affidavit to be furnished by the Department.
- Legal voters in Virginia.
- Any member of the armed forces of the United States, or a member of the immediate family of such a member as defined in § 2.2-3101, upon execution of a certificate of residence if the member (i) resides in the Commonwealth, (ii) is on active duty, and (iii) is stationed at a military installation within, or in a ship based in, the Commonwealth.
- Students (including nonresident students boarding on campus) residing in Virginia who are enrolled in bona fide Virginia schools.
- Any unnaturalized person who owns real estate in the county or city and who has actually resided there not less than five years preceding the date of application for the license in the county or city.

License Exemptions

All persons, except those listed below, must purchase the proper licenses before hunting or trapping. Where exempt, the exemption means the individual is exempt from the basic hunting license; bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license; muzzleloading license; trapping license; and Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp. All seasons, bag limits, and checking requirements apply.

- Resident or nonresident landowners, their spouses, their children and grandchildren and the spouses of such children and grandchildren, or the landowner’s parents, resident or nonresident, do not need a license to hunt, trap or fish (on inland waters) within the boundaries of their own lands.
- Tenants, on the land they rent and occupy, are not required to have a license, but must have the written permission of the landowner. Persons who lease property and do not permanently reside there are not exempt from license requirements.
- Residents, 65 years of age and over, do not need a license to hunt or trap on private property in their county or city of residence.
- Resident hunters under the age of 12 are not required to have a hunting license or hunter education. Nonresident hunters under the age of 12 need a hunting license but do not need hunter education to purchase one. All hunters under the age of 12 may not hunt unless accompanied and directly supervised by a licensed adult.
- Residents under the age of 16 are not required to have a license to trap when accompanied by any person 18 years of age or older who possesses a valid Virginia trapping license.
- Any person who is not hunting, but is aiding a disabled person to hunt when such disabled person possesses a valid Virginia Disabled Resident Lifetime hunting license or a Virginia Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime license is not required to have a license.
- Any Indian who “habitually” resides on an Indian reservation or a member of the Virginia-recognized tribes who resides in the Commonwealth is not required to have a hunting or trapping license; however, such Indian must have on his person an identification card or paper signed by the chief of his tribe, a valid tribal identification card, written confirmation through a central tribal registry, or certification from a tribal office.
- Stockholders owning 50 percent or more of the stock of any domestic corporation owning land in Virginia, his or her spouse and children and minor grandchildren, resident or nonresident, do not need a license to hunt, trap and fish within the boundaries of lands and inland waters owned by the domestic corporation.

Q: If you buy the apprentice license do you still need to buy a Bear License or Deer/Turkey License, etc?
A: Yes, the apprentice license is in place of the basic hunting license. Any additional licenses, stamps, or permits would still be required.

Which Licenses Do I Need?

To hunt in Virginia, a resident or nonresident hunting license is required, unless you are license exempt. Other licenses, permits, or stamps may also be required depending on species hunted and location of hunt. Before purchasing a hunting license or permit, make sure you understand what qualifies as a Virginia residency, that you really need a license or permit based on the exemptions, and you have met the hunter safety requirements.

To Hunt Small Game
A hunting license is required. A National Forest Permit or State Forest Use Permit may also be required.

To Hunt Dove, Woodcock, Snipe, or Rail
A hunting license and HIP authorization are required. Register for HIP online at www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com or call (888) 788-9772. A National Forest Permit or State Forest Use Permit may also be required.

To Hunt Bear, Deer, or Turkey
A bear license and/or a deer/turkey license is required in addition to a hunting license. (These licenses are valid from July 1–June 30 only.) A National Forest Permit, State Forest Use Permit, or Bonus Deer Permits may also be required.

To Hunt With Archery Tackle
An archery license is required in addition to a hunting license when using archery tackle during a designated archery season for bear, deer, turkey and bobcat. A bear license, deer/turkey license, National Forest Permit, State Forest Use Permit, or Bonus Deer Permits may also be required.

To Hunt With a Muzzleloader
A muzzleloading license is required in addition to the hunting license if hunting with a muzzleloading firearm during a designated muzzleloader deer or bear season. A bear license, deer/turkey license, National Forest Permit, State Forest Use Permit, or Bonus Deer Permits may also be required.

If hunting with archery tackle or muzzleloading rifle during any firearms deer season, you do not need an archery or muzzleloading license.

To Trap
A trapping license is required to trap. A National Forest Permit or State Forest Use Permit may also be required.

To Hunt Waterfowl
A hunting license, Federal Duck Stamp, Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp and HIP authorization are required. Register for HIP online at www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com or call (888) 788-9772. A National Forest Permit or State Forest Use Permit may also be required.
Legacy Lifetime Hunting License

- Issued only to an individual who is younger than two years of age and is valid for the lifetime of the license holder regardless of any change in that person’s status as a resident or nonresident.
- Legacy hunting license is valid until the individual’s 12th birthday. Upon proof of completion of a hunter education course or equivalent, this license is transferable to a lifetime hunting license at no additional charge.
- The Legacy hunting or fishing license is available by application. Cost is $125 for resident children and $250 for nonresident children.

Can be purchased in person at the DGIF headquarters office or via a mail-in application. Application available at www.dgif.virginia.gov/licenses/lifetime.

Lifetime Licenses

- Resident and nonresident lifetime licenses for individuals, 18+ years of age and whose residency can be verified through Virginia DMV, may be able to purchase a lifetime license using the Department’s Go Outdoors Virginia system or by phone (804) 367-1000. All other resident and nonresident lifetime licenses are purchased using an application process and require supporting documentation of age, and residency and/or disability. These licenses are only issued through the Headquarters office. Retail license agents cannot issue these licenses.
- Applications can be submitted in person or mailed to the Headquarters office. License applications can be found on the Department’s website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/licenses/lifetime.

Replacement Licenses

If you purchased a license from a retail license agent, online, or by phone you can visit www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com, select “Manage Your Account” and reprint your license anytime. You can also visit any retail license agent that sells hunt/fish licenses or call the Headquarters office at (804) 367-1000 during normal business hours.

Where to Get a License

Online: www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com
- Create Your Customer Account: The new Go Outdoors Virginia site allows you to create a unique customer account to access licenses and products that apply to you based on age and residency.
- Existing Customers: Log in using your date of birth and either your DGIF Customer ID or your previous year’s DGIF license number and license year.

Select the license(s) you want, pay with your credit card and print your license if needed.

In Person:
- Sold by some clerks of the Circuit Court and hundreds of license agents around the state. Not sold at Department regional offices.
- To find a license agent visit: https://license.gooutdoorsvirginia.com/Licensing/LocateAgent.aspx

By Phone/Mobile Phone:
- (804) 367-1000 during regular business hours, or use your GoOutdoors Virginia mobile app.

Q: If you turn 16 after you purchase a junior license is it still good or do you need to purchase another license for 16 and older?
A: Your license is good until it expires.
License Fees
(Issuance fee is included in all prices.)

Resident and nonresident licenses are valid for one year from the date of purchase except the bear license, deer/turkey license, and the Virginia migratory waterfowl conservation stamp (which are valid July 1–June 30 only), the apprentice hunting license (valid for 2 years from date of purchase), and lifetime licenses. The bear license and deer/turkey license that are part of a package (e.g. Sportsman’s License or combo licenses) are also only valid July 1–June 30. For information on Hunter Education requirements, see page 7 in this digest or go to www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/education.

### Resident Hunting Licenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Sportsman’s License (age 16 and older)</td>
<td>$133.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, muzzleloading license, freshwater fishing license, and trout license.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Hunting License* (age 16 and older)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-year license</td>
<td>$23.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-year license</td>
<td>$44.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-year license</td>
<td>$65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year license</td>
<td>$86.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident County or City Hunting License* (age 16 and older)</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For county or city of residence only.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Apprentice Hunting License*</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid for 2 years from date of purchase.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Senior Citizen Hunting License* (age 65 and over)</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Annual Hunting License for 70 Percent Partially Disabled Veterans</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident veterans rated and certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having at least 70 percent service-connected disability upon certification. Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Junior Hunting License* (age 12 to 15)</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, and muzzleloading license.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Junior Lifetime Hunting License (under age 12)</td>
<td>$255.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No annual bear license or deer/turkey license required until age 12. National forest permit, state forest use permit, and bonus deer permits, if applicable, are required in addition to this license. Upon proof of completion of a hunter education course or equivalent, the license is transferable to a lifetime hunting license at no additional fee. See page 9 for details.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Legacy Lifetime Hunting License</td>
<td>$125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must be purchased before age 2. See page 9 for details. Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
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### License Fees

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<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Lifetime Hunting License</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. See page 9 for details.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 12-44 (hunter education course required under age 16)</td>
<td>$260.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 45-50</td>
<td>$210.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 51-55</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 56-60</td>
<td>$110.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age 61-64</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 65 and over</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Hunting License</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this hunting license. Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Veteran Resident Lifetime Hunting License</td>
<td>no charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For qualified resident disabled veterans. Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, muzzleloading license. All other applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online. A license for freshwater fishing is also available.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resident Fox Hunting License</td>
<td>$23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To hunt foxes on horseback with hounds without firearms. Not required of an individual holding a basic license to hunt.</td>
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* Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license.

### One or more of the following may be required in addition to a resident hunting license.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Bear License</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Junior Bear License (ages 12-15)</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Deer/Turkey License (age 16 and older)</td>
<td>$23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not required if a senior citizen’s lifetime license was purchased before July 1, 1988. Not required for holders of Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Veteran Lifetime License. Valid July 1 through June 30 only.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Junior Deer/Turkey License (age 12 to 15)</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid July 1 through June 30.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Archery License</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Muzzleloading License</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
GO OUTDOORS VIRGINIA™

DGIF’s enhanced, online solution to support Virginia’s hunters, anglers, boaters, and outdoor enthusiasts.

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

Customer Focus
View your licenses, purchase new items, and manage your preferences all in one place. Your account is accessible whenever you need it.

License Packages
Take the hassle out of determining which licenses and permits you need. Choose a package by activity type, ensuring you’re ready to enjoy the outdoors.

Auto Renewals
Enroll in DGIF’s new auto renew program to set up your licenses to automatically renew every year. Never miss a memory!

Annual Hard Cards
Now offering customers a stylish, hard card license for only $5. Cards offer a more durable option with collectible designs updated every year.

DGIF’S NEW MOBILE APP
Go Outdoors VA

Sync & Download Licenses
Always have your licenses ready for you & your family.

Buy Your License on the Go
Be prepared for your next outdoor adventure.

Access Upcoming Events & More
Find local events, weather, tides & feeding times.

Game Check
Record & confirm your harvest wherever you are.

Visit License.GoOutdoorsVA.com >
### Nonresident Hunting Licenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Hunting License* (age 16 and older)</td>
<td>$111.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident 3-Day Hunt License* (age 16 and older)</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must be 3 consecutive days.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Apprentice Hunting License*</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid for 2 years from date of purchase.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Annual Hunting License for 70 Percent Partially Disabled Veterans</td>
<td>$56.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident veterans rated and certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having at least 70 percent service-connected disability. Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this license. Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Nonresident Veteran Annual Hunting License</td>
<td>$28.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For nonresident veterans rated and certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as having a total and permanent disability that is service connected. Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this hunting license. Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Junior Hunting License* (under age 12)</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Junior Hunting License* (age 12 to 15)</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Youth Combination Hunting License (under age 16)</td>
<td>$31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, and muzzleloading license.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Legacy Hunting License</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must be purchased before age 2. See page 9 for details.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LICENSE FEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Lifetime Hunting License</td>
<td>$555.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this license. See page 9 for details.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Fox Hunting License</td>
<td>$111.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To hunt foxes on horseback with hounds without firearms. Not required of an individual holding a general license to hunt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Foxhound Training Preserve License</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To hunt within the boundaries of a licensed foxhound training preserve, in lieu of other required licenses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Hunting Preserve License</td>
<td>$23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To hunt within the boundaries of a licensed shooting preserve, in lieu of other required licenses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Annual bear license, deer/turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license.

### One or more of the following may be required in addition to a nonresident hunting license.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Bear License</td>
<td>$151.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Deer/Turkey License</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid July 1 through June 30.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 16 and older</td>
<td>$86.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 12 to 15</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under age 12</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Archery License</td>
<td>$31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Muzzleloading License</td>
<td>$31.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Trapping Licenses**

One or more of the following is required to trap. Other licenses or permits may also be required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County or City Resident Trapping License</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For county or city of residence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Trapping License</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-year license</td>
<td>$46.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-year license</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year license</td>
<td>$134.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year license</td>
<td>$178.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Junior Trapping License (under age 16)</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Senior Citizen Trapping License (age 65 and over)</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident Senior Citizen Lifetime Trapping License (age 65 or over)</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-Connected Permanently and Totally Disabled Veteran Resident Lifetime Trapping License</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Lifetime Trapping License</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can be purchased in person at the Henrico office or via a mail-in application. Application available online.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Trapping License</td>
<td>$206.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Miscellaneous Licenses, Permits, and Stamps**

One or more of the following may be required in addition to a hunting license.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERMITS</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resident Bonus Deer Permit (6 antlerless tags)</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See page 32 for more information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident Bonus Deer Permit (6 antlerless tags)</td>
<td>$31.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See page 32 for more information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Forest Permit</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To hunt and trap within National Forest. Not required of residents under the age of 16 to trap or residents who have an annual senior citizen hunting license ($9.00) or a senior lifetime license issued before 7/1/88.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia State Forest Use Permit (age 16 or older)</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows hunting, trapping, fishing, mountain biking, and horse riding. No motorized vehicles on gated roads/trails (open or closed). Sold in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Forestry.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Access Lands for Sportsmen (PALS)</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See page 57 for more information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Permit (see page 54 for permit requirements)</td>
<td>$4.00 per day / $23.00 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily group rates are available. For more information go to: <a href="http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/access-permit">www.dgif.virginia.gov/access-permit</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAMPS</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Migratory Duck E-Stamp</td>
<td>$27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To take migratory waterfowl; required of persons 16 years of age and over in addition to hunting license. Valid July 1 through June 30. See below.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required of persons 16 years of age and older, unless license exempt. Valid July 1 through June 30.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FEDERAL ELECTRONIC OR “E-STAMP” DUCK STAMP PROGRAM**

A Federal Duck Stamp is required for all persons 16 years and older in order to hunt waterfowl. Waterfowl hunters can still purchase their Federal Duck Stamp at U.S. Post Offices at a cost of $25.00, but a new program provides a convenient online option whereby hunters can obtain an E-stamp for $27.50. The E-stamp is valid immediately following the purchase and for up to 45 days. The actual Federal Duck Stamp will be mailed to the customer within 45 days and must be signed and carried thereafter while hunting waterfowl.

To obtain the E-stamp Federal Duck stamp go to the Department’s website (www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com) and click on hunting and fishing licenses or visit one of over 800 license agents throughout the Commonwealth.
Definitions

Archery Tackle
As used in this digest, archery tackle includes longbow, recurve bow, compound bow, slingbow, and crossbow.

Arrowgun
A pneumatic-powered air gun that fires an arrow.

Bait
Bait shall mean any food, grain, or other consumable substance that could serve as a lure or attractant; however, crops grown for normal or accepted agriculture or wildlife management purposes, including food plots, shall not be considered as bait.

Blaze Colored
The term “blaze colored” in reference to clothing or other items required for specific safe hunting practices shall be one of two colors: 1) solid blaze orange means a safety orange or fluorescent orange hue, or 2) solid blaze pink means a safety pink or fluorescent pink hue.

Dismal Swamp Line
Beginning at a point on Rt. 10 where it intersects the Isle of Wight County line, then along this highway to its intersection with the corporate limits of Suffolk, then through Suffolk to its intersection with Rt. 642 (White Marsh Road) and then along this highway in a southwest direction to Rt. 604 (Desert Road), and then southerly along this highway to the North Carolina state line.

Furbearer Species
Furbearer means beaver, bobcat, fisher, fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, and weasel.

Game Animal
Game animal means bear, bobcat, deer, elk, fox, rabbit, raccoon, and squirrel.

Hunting and Trapping
The act of or the attempted act of taking, hunting, trapping, pursuing, chasing, shooting, snaring, or netting birds or animals, and assisting any person who is doing the same, regardless of whether birds or animals are actually taken.

Loaded Crossbow
The definition of a “loaded crossbow” is a crossbow that is cocked and has either a bolt or arrow engaged or partially engaged on the shooting rail or track of the crossbow, or with a “trackless crossbow” when the crossbow is cocked and a bolt or arrow is nocked.

Loaded Muzzleloader
A muzzleloading firearm is considered "loaded" when the muzzleloader is capped, or has a primer or battery installed in the firearm.

Loaded Firearm
Defined as a firearm in which ammunition is chambered and loaded in the magazine or clip and is engaged or partially engaged in a firearm.

Migratory Game Birds
Migratory game birds means species of waterfowl (ducks, geese, brant, swans and mergansers) and webless species (coots, doves, gallinules, moorhens, rails, snipe, and woodcock).

Nuisance Species
The following animals: house mouse, Norway rat, black rat, coyote, groundhog, nutria, feral hog, European starling, English sparrow, mute swan, and pigeon (rock dove) are designated as nuisance species and may be taken at any time by use of a firearm or other weapon (unless prohibited by local ordinances, see page 22) and on some public lands during certain time periods (see National Forest-Game Department Regulations page 57).

Other Wildlife
It is unlawful to take, possess, transport, release, or sell all other wildlife species not classified as game, furbearer, or nuisance, unless otherwise specifically permitted by law or regulation.

Route 29 Line/Amherst County
The Route 29 “line” in Amherst County is defined as Business U.S. 29 from the James River to its intersection with U.S. 29 just south of the town of Amherst continuing north on U.S. 29 to the Tye River.

Migratory Game Birds
Migratory game birds means species of waterfowl (ducks, geese, brant, swans and mergansers) and webless species (coots, doves, gallinules, moorhens, rails, snipe, and woodcock).

Nuisance Species
The following animals: house mouse, Norway rat, black rat, coyote, groundhog, nutria, feral hog, European starling, English sparrow, mute swan, and pigeon (rock dove) are designated as nuisance species and may be taken at any time by use of a firearm or other weapon (unless prohibited by local ordinances, see page 22) and on some public lands during certain time periods (see National Forest-Game Department Regulations page 57).

Other Wildlife
It is unlawful to take, possess, transport, release, or sell all other wildlife species not classified as game, furbearer, or nuisance, unless otherwise specifically permitted by law or regulation.

Route 29 Line/Amherst County
The Route 29 “line” in Amherst County is defined as Business U.S. 29 from the James River to its intersection with U.S. 29 just south of the town of Amherst continuing north on U.S. 29 to the Tye River.
**Virginia Deer Hunters Scholarship Program**

One $2,500 Scholarship

Five $1,000 Scholarships

For the Study of
- Forestry • Conservation and White-Tailed Deer Management
- Conservation Law and Law Enforcement
- VDGIF Internships

All accredited Community College, Undergraduate, Graduate and Certificate Programs Eligible

If you wish to donate to the scholarship fund or For details and application visit us on

[www.virginiadeerhunters.org](http://www.virginiadeerhunters.org)

Deadline to Apply: May 31, 2019

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Address _________________________

City ____________________________

State _________ Zip ______________________

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Send to: Virginia Wildlife, P.O. Box 90778, Henrico, VA 23228

Sorry, no foreign delivery

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**G1 RAMROD**

Custom-cut to make your SpinJag fit perfectly on YOUR gun.

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**Hunting Hours**

(See page 72 for sunrise-sunset table)

- One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset for nonmigratory birds and game animals except during spring turkey season.
- One-half hour before sunrise until 12 noon during spring gobbler season, except the last 13 days when the hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset.
- One-half hour before sunset to sunset for Youth/Apprentice Spring Turkey Hunting Weekend.
- Hours for hound training season are from 4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily, including Sundays.
- Bobcats, foxes, raccoons, and opossums may be hunted by day or night during authorized seasons.
- Nuisance species may be taken day or night.

**Sunday Hunting**

Hunting is allowed on Sundays under the following circumstances:

- Any landowner or member of his family or any person with written permission from the landowner may hunt on the landowner’s property on Sunday, except within 200 yards of a place of worship or any accessory structure thereof.
- Hunting for waterfowl (ducks, coot, geese, brant, and swan) and rails (including gallinules and moorhens) is allowed on Sunday, except within 200 yards of a house of worship or any accessory structure thereof.
- Hunting with dogs on Sundays.

**Blaze Colored Requirements**

When hunting any species during a firearms deer season and on youth/apprentice deer hunting weekend:

- Every hunter (see exceptions below), or persons accompanying a hunter, shall wear a solid blaze colored (blaze orange or blaze pink) hat or solid blaze colored upper body clothing that is visible from 360 degrees or display at least 100 square inches of solid blaze colored material at shoulder level within body reach and visible from 360 degrees.
- Hats may have a bill or brim color or design other than solid blaze color. Hats shall not be in “camo” style, since the latter is designed to prevent visibility. A logo, which does not detract from visibility, may be worn on a blaze colored hat.

**Exceptions**

- Blaze colored clothing is not required on Sundays.
- Hunters using an enclosed ground (pop-up, chair, box, etc.) that conceals them from view shall display at least 100 square inches of solid blaze colored material, visible from 360 degrees attached to or immediately above the blind. This blaze color is in addition to any worn on the hunter’s person.

**Hunting With Dogs**

- The hunting of deer or bear with a gun, firearm, or other weapon with the aid or assistance of dogs on Sundays.
- Dogs may be used to pursue wild birds and animals during hunting seasons where not prohibited.
- Section 18.2-136 of the Code of Virginia de-criminalizes trespass in certain instances related to dog retrieval. That section provides: “Fox hunters and coon hunters, when the chase begins on other lands, may follow their dogs on prohibited lands, and hunters of all other game, when the chase begins on other lands, may go upon prohibited lands to retrieve their dogs, falcons, hawks, or owls, but may not carry firearms or bow and arrows on their person or hunt any game while thereon. The use of vehicles to retrieve dogs, falcons, hawks, or owls on prohibited lands shall be allowed only with the permission of the landowner or his agent. Any person who goes on prohibited lands to retrieve his dogs, falcons, hawks, or owls pursuant to this section and who willfully refuses to identify himself when requested by the landowner or his agent to do so is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor.”
- Tracking dogs maintained and controlled on a lead may be used to find a wounded or dead bear, deer, or turkey statewide during any archery, muzzleloader, or firearm season for these species, or within 24 hours of the end of such season, provided that those who are involved in the retrieval effort have permission to hunt on or to access the land.
being engaged in such tracking may possess any weapon permitted for hunting and may use such weapon to humanely kill the wounded bear, deer, or turkey being tracked, including after legal hunting hours. Such weapon shall not be used to hunt, wound, or kill any animal other than the animal being tracked, except in self-defense.

- It is unlawful to dislodge an animal from a tree for the intent of continuing a hunt, or chase, or for the purpose of training dogs. Upon treeing, baying, or otherwise containing an animal in a manner that offers the animal no avenue of escape, the person or the hunting party shall either harvest the animal if within a legal take season and by using lawful methods of take or terminate the chase by retrieving the dogs and allowing the animal freedom to escape for the remainder of the same calendar day.

- It is unlawful to dislodge an animal from a tree for the intent of continuing a hunt, or chase, or for the purpose of training dogs.

### Training Dogs

The training of dogs on live wild animals is considered hunting and you must have a valid hunting license while training; it is unlawful during the closed season except as noted below.

- You may train dogs during daylight hours on squirrels and nonmigratory game birds on private lands and on rabbits from 1/2 hour before sunrise until midnight on private lands. Participants shall have no weapons other than starter pistols in their possession and no wild animals shall be taken. Weapons may be in possession when training dogs on captive raised and properly marked mallards and pigeons so that they may be immediately shot or recovered, except on Sunday.

- You may train dogs on National Forest or Department-owned lands only during authorized training seasons that specifically permit these activities.

- You may train dogs on quail on the Amelia Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Dick Cross WMA, and on designated portions of the Chester F. Phelps WMA from September 1 to the day prior to the opening date of the quail hunting season, both dates inclusive. No weapons other than starter pistols may be in possession, and pen-raised birds may not be released.

- Pen-raised quail may be released at any time on private land with landowner permission. However, birds can only be shot during the regular quail season. Regular bag limits apply.

- You may train dogs during daylight hours on rabbits and nonmigratory game birds on the Westover WMA from September 1 through March 31, both dates inclusive. Participants in this dog training season shall have no weapons other than starter pistols in their possession, shall not release pen-raised birds, and must comply with all regulations and laws pertaining to hunting. No game shall be taken.

### Hunting On Private Property

Trespass violations, posting property, and access issues are all concerns that affect a landowner's decision to allow hunting.

Hunters are reminded that it is unlawful to hunt on private property without the permission of the landowner, and hunters must have the permission of the landowner to track or retrieve wounded game on private property.

### On Posted Property

It is unlawful to hunt without written permission of the landowner and is punishable by a fine of up to $2500 and/or 12 months in jail.

### On Unposted Property

It is unlawful to hunt any unposted property without the permission of the landowner and is punishable by a fine of up to $500.

### Landowners may post their property by any of the following methods:

- Using an aluminum or purple color paint, paint a vertical line at least 2 inches in width and at least 8 inches in length, no less than

---

**Permission to Hunt**

The person whose name and address appears on the opposite side of this form has promised to use your land for outdoor recreation in an ethical way.

Please read the signed pledge on the reverse side for specifics.

In deciding whether or not to allow this person to use your property, please consider that they are putting their name and address on the line as assurance that they will abide by your wishes and conduct themselves as true sportsmen or sportswomen.

I grant __________________________ permission to ___________________________________ my property on these dates ___________________________ over

Landowner signature: ___________________ over

---

**Permission to Hunt**

The person whose name and address appears on the opposite side of this form has promised to use your land for outdoor recreation in an ethical way.

Please read the signed pledge on the reverse side for specifics.

In deciding whether or not to allow this person to use your property, please consider that they are putting their name and address on the line as assurance that they will abide by your wishes and conduct themselves as true sportsmen or sportswomen.

I grant __________________________ permission to ___________________________________ my property on these dates ___________________________ over

Landowner signature: ___________________ over
What Landowners Should Know

For landowners, finding responsible hunters can provide many benefits for both the landowner and sportsmen allowed access to the property. There are benefits of having responsible hunters included as an important part of the landowner’s wildlife management plan, especially if they are absentee or do not hunt themselves. There are many in-kind benefits of such relationships including road maintenance, habitat improvement, security, and safety. Hunt clubs are also helpful, and lease fees can offset property taxes. Information on locating responsible hunters can be found by contacting local civic groups like Ruritans, or 4-H Clubs, sporting goods shops, and area landowner contacts that participate in Tree Farm or Stewardship Programs. Members of sportsmen’s conservation organizations that are dedicated, reputable partners with DGIF promote safety, ethical practices, habitat improvement, and scientific management of wildlife.

Liability

Concern about legal liability for recreationists prevents some landowners from permitting hunting on their property. However, the Virginia General Assembly has addressed this concern in Virginia Code Section 29.1-509. Amended in 1982, this law exempts landowners who provide recreational opportunities to the public from liability for injury or damages, provided:

- the landowner does not charge a fee.
- there is no gross negligence or “willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, or structure” on the property.

The property owner should eliminate obvious hazards such as open wells and falling down buildings, or fence off and identify with warning signs any hazard that cannot be eliminated, such as a rock quarry. The landowner may wish to consider insuring the property subject to casualty and obtain comprehensive liability insurance. These are relatively inexpensive additions to standard and homeowner insurance policies. Sportsmen can be asked to help provide financial or other support in return for permission to use the lands.

Fundamentally, sportsmen are responsible for their own safety and for any damages they cause to the property of others. Lease agreements and individual permit cards (samples available here and on the Department website) include codes of ethical conduct while the holders are on the property.

Furthermore, landowners can require sportsmen to show proof of insurance. Sportsman insurance is available through insurance companies and national sportsman organizations.

Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle

Special restrictions may apply to specific firearms in some counties. See Local Firearms Ordinances, pg. 22 for details.

- No restrictions on shot size except for spring gobbler season when it is unlawful to have any shot in possession larger than number 2 fine shot while hunting.
- Shotguns must not be larger than 10 gauge.
- Unplugged shotguns are legal for hunting nonmigratory game and crows.
- Shotgun barrels must be at least 18 inches long.
- Shotguns with rifled barrels are permitted in areas where slugs may be used.
- All game birds and animals, except deer, may be hunted with shotguns from boats. Hunters must have permission from the landowner to hunt/retrieve game located on private land.
- Centerfire rifles used for deer or bear must be .23 caliber or larger.
- Rifles (including air rifles) may be used for taking wild animals and wild birds, except migratory game birds and waterfowl, and where prohibited by local ordinances. Air rifles used for deer must be .35 caliber or larger. Bear and elk may not be taken with an air rifle.
- Rifles (including air rifles), pistols, and revolvers may be used for hunting crows and turkeys, except where prohibited by local ordinances.
- Arrowguns may be used for hunting wild birds and animals.
- Pistols, revolvers, and muzzleloading pistols may be used for small game, except where prohibited by local ordinances.
- Pistols and revolvers are lawful for deer and bear hunting only in those counties where hunting deer and bear with rifles is lawful. Cartridges used must be .23 caliber or larger and have a manufacturer’s rating of 350 foot-pounds muzzle energy or more.
- Muzzleloading pistols of .45 caliber or larger (.50 caliber or larger is recommended) are
FERAL HOGS

Feral hogs (wild hogs, wild pigs, wild boar, or Russian boar) are designated as a nuisance species in Virginia and are defined as “any hog that is wild or for which no proof of ownership can be made.” Feral hogs have been found to destroy turkey, grouse, and quail nests. They can also prey on deer fawns, destroy sensitive wetland habitat, contaminate waterways, and compete with our native wildlife for food resources. Feral hogs carry numerous diseases that can affect wildlife, domestic animals, and humans.

If feral hogs or hog damage are observed, or if feral hogs are harvested or trapped on private or public property, we ask you to make a report by calling our toll-free Virginia Wildlife Conflict Helpline (1-855-571-9003). It is illegal to transport live feral hogs or to release feral hogs to the wild in Virginia. Any feral hog trapped must be immediately killed at the trap site.

For more information on feral hogs please visit: www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/feral-hogs/hunting-faq/

Valid Concealed Handgun Permit Holders

Nothing in any Department regulation shall prohibit the possession and transport of a concealed handgun when the individual possesses a valid concealed weapon permit as defined in the Code of Virginia. The granting of a concealed handgun permit shall not thereby authorize the possession of any handgun or other weapon on property or in places where such possession is otherwise prohibited by law or is prohibited by the owner of private property. Furthermore, the possession of a concealed handgun permit does not authorize the use of the concealed handgun for hunting.

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Rugged enough for the toughest terrain, with precision seed meters for use with a wider variety of seeds, The Plotters’ Choice is the most versatile food plot seeder on the market.

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Valid Concealed Handgun Permit Holders

Nothing in any Department regulation shall prohibit the possession and transport of a concealed handgun when the individual possesses a valid concealed weapon permit as defined in the Code of Virginia. The granting of a concealed handgun permit shall not thereby authorize the possession of any handgun or other weapon on property or in places where such possession is otherwise prohibited by law or is prohibited by the owner of private property. Furthermore, the possession of a concealed handgun permit does not authorize the use of the concealed handgun for hunting.

Feral hogs (wild hogs, wild pigs, wild boar, or Russian boar) are designated as a nuisance species in Virginia and are defined as “any hog that is wild or for which no proof of ownership can be made.” Feral hogs have been found to destroy turkey, grouse, and quail nests. They can also prey on deer fawns, destroy sensitive wetland habitat, contaminate waterways, and compete with our native wildlife for food resources. Feral hogs carry numerous diseases that can affect wildlife, domestic animals, and humans.

If feral hogs or hog damage are observed, or if feral hogs are harvested or trapped on private or public property, we ask you to make a report by calling our toll-free Virginia Wildlife Conflict Helpline (1-855-571-9003). It is illegal to transport live feral hogs or to release feral hogs to the wild in Virginia. Any feral hog trapped must be immediately killed at the trap site.

For more information on feral hogs please visit: www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/feral-hogs/hunting-faq/
Unlawful Methods
Penalties for a violation may include hunting or trapping privilege revocation for one year to life and forfeiture of firearms.

A person found guilty of a violation a second time within three years of a previous conviction shall have their hunting or trapping privilege revoked by the court trying the case.

It is unlawful to:
• Hunt or kill any wild bird or wild animal, including any nuisance species, with a gun, firearm, or other weapon, or to hunt or kill any deer or bear with a gun, firearm, or other weapon with the aid or assistance of dogs, on Sundays. See Sunday Hunting on page 16 for exceptions.
• Use antler traps.
• Hunt migratory game birds with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber, combined, unless allowed by federal regulations and authorized by the Department.
• Hold in captivity any live wild birds or wild animals outside the limits allowed by regulations without a permit.
• Discharge a firearm, arrowgun, or archery tackle in or across or within the right-of-way of any public road.
• Cast a light attached to a vehicle or from a vehicle beyond a roadway upon places used by deer without written permission of the landowner or at anytime while in the possession of a rifle, shotgun, pistol, arrowgun, archery tackle, or speargun.
• Handle any firearm in a reckless manner so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person.
• Destroy, mutilate, or take down “posted” signs or litter.
• Take or attempt to take wild animals and wild birds with the exception of bobcats, coyotes, crows, foxes, and raccoons by the use or aid of recorded animal or bird calls or sounds or recorded or electrically amplified imitation of animals or bird calls or sounds, provided, that electronic calls may be used on private lands for hunting bobcats, coyotes, raccoons, and foxes with written permission of the landowner and on public lands except where specifically prohibited.
• Hunt adjacent to forest fires.
• Willfully and intentionally impede the lawful hunting or trapping of wild birds or wild animals.
• Kill or cripple and knowingly allow any non-migratory game bird or game animal to be wasted without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal and retain it in possession.
• Hunt under age 12 without being accompanied and directly supervised by a licensed parent, guardian, or other adult designated by the parent or guardian. The term “accompanied and directly supervised” means the adult maintains close visual and verbal contact, provides adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm.
• Hunt with an Apprentice Hunting License prior to completing hunter education unless accompanied and directly supervised by an adult over the age of 18 who has, on his person, a valid Virginia hunting license. See “Hunter Education Requirements” on page 7 for further explanation.
• Shoot a rifle or pistol at wild birds or animals on or over the public inland waters of the state. However, licensed trappers may shoot a .22 caliber rimfire rifle or pistol on or over public inland waters for the purpose of dispatching trapped animals.
• Carry a loaded rifle or pistol on a boat or other floating device on public inland waters for hunting wild birds or animals.
• Shoot waterfowl or migratory game birds from a boat being propelled by a motor.
• Hunt while under the influence of intoxicants or narcotic drugs.
• molest nest, eggs, den, or young of any wild bird or animal, except nuisance species, at any time without a permit as required by law.
• Occupy any baited blind or other baited place for the purpose of taking or attempting to take any wild game bird or wild game animal or to put out bait or salt for the purpose of taking or killing any wild game bird or wild game animal, except for the purpose of trapping furbearing animals.
• Shoot or attempt to take any wild bird or animal from any vehicle, except as otherwise provided by law.
• Exceed the bag limit or possess over the daily limit of any wild bird or animal while in the forests, fields, or waters of this state.
• Use vehicles or possess firearms (including concealed weapons) while retrieving dogs on private lands without permission of the landowner.
• Use live birds or animals to decoy or call game.
• Kill or attempt to kill any deer while in a boat or other type of watercraft.
• Hunt or attempt to kill or trap any species of wild bird or wild animal after having obtained the daily bag or season limit during such day or season. However, any properly licensed person, or a person exempt from having to obtain a license, who has obtained such daily bag or season limit while hunting may assist others who are hunting game by calling game, retrieving game, handling dogs, or conducting drives if the weapon in possession is an unloaded firearm, unloaded arrowgun, a bow without a nocked arrow, or an unloaded crossbow. Any properly licensed person, or person exempt from having to obtain a license, who has obtained such season limit prior to commencement of the hunt may assist others who are hunting game by calling game, retrieving game, handling dogs, or conducting drives, provided he does not have a firearm, bow, or crossbow, or arrowgun in his possession.
• Alter, change, borrow, or lend a hunting license or permit.
• Hunt with explosive head arrows or arrows to which any drug, chemical, or toxic substance has been added.
• Possess or transport any wild bird or wild animal or the carcass or the parts thereof, unless specifically allowed and only in accordance with regulations.
• Hunt wild birds and wild animals with fully automatic firearms, (i.e., machine guns).
• Sell or purchase any wild bird or wild animal carcass or parts thereof, except as specifically permitted by law.
• Use radio tracking equipment, except on dogs or on raptors permitted by a falconry permit, to aid in the chase, harvest or capture of wildlife.
• To possess or use deer scents or lures that contain natural deer urine or other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife in Virginia.

Q: Is it legal to kill snakes in Virginia?
A: No, under normal circumstances. Snakes can only be killed when their presence represents an immediate human health hazard or they are creating some other type of nuisance issue. State or federally protected species (e.g. canebrake rattlesnake) may never be killed under any circumstance. The indiscriminate killing of snakes is contrary to the Department’s conservation ethic.

Eastern kingsnake attacking a copperhead. ©Tricia Pearsall

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UNLAWFUL FEEDING OF CERTAIN WILDLIFE

Not only is it illegal to hunt, chase with dogs, or attempt to kill game birds and animals from a baited site, it is also illegal to feed some wildlife under certain circumstances. The Department does not encourage the feeding of wildlife at any time of the year. Feeding restrictions help control the transmission of diseases, nuisance problems, littering concerns, and enforcement issues about hunting with bait.

- It is unlawful to place or direct the placement of, deposit, distribute, or scatter food or salt capable of attracting or being eaten by bear, deer, or turkey year round on National Forest and Department-owned lands.
- Cities and towns have the authority to prohibit the feeding of deer by local ordinance. Contact localities for details.
- Department regulation makes it illegal to place, distribute, or allow the placement of food, minerals, salt, carrion, trash, or similar substances to feed or attract the following:
  - **Deer and Elk:**
    - September 1 – first Saturday in January; statewide
    - During any open deer or elk season; statewide
    - Year round in Buchanan, Clarke, Dickenson, Frederick, Shenandoah, Warren, and Wise counties (towns and cities within included)
  - **Bears:** year round; statewide
  - **All species:** Illegal to feed any wild animal when the feeding results in property damage, endangers people or wildlife, or creates a public health concern

Upon notification by Department personnel, if anyone continues with any of these activities for any purpose and it results in the presence of species mentioned previously in this box, such person shall be in violation of the law and subject to a fine of up to $500. No part of this regulation shall be construed to restrict bonafide agronomic plantings (including wildlife food plots) or distribution of food to livestock.

ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV) LAWS

No ATV shall be operated:

- On any public highway, or other public property, except as authorized by proper authorities or to the extent necessary to cross a public highway by the most direct route.
- By any person under the age of 16, except that children between the ages of 12 and 16 may operate ATVs powered by engines of no less than 70 cubic centimeters nor more than 90 cubic centimeters displacement.
- By any person unless he is wearing a protective helmet of a type approved by the Superintendent of State Police for use by motorcycle operators.
- On another person’s property without the written consent of the owner of the property or as explicitly authorized by law.
- With a passenger at any time, unless vehicle is designed and equipped to be operated with more than one rider.

The above does not apply to members of the household or employees of the owner or lessee of private property on which the ATV is operated.
Local firearms ordinances are established by individual counties/cities. Please contact the appropriate locality for more information.

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Permanently disabled hunters possessing a valid hunting license, hunters holding a lifetime disabled hunting license, and hunters holding a lifetime disabled veterans hunting license are exempt from any local ordinance requiring hunting from an elevated platform or tree stand.

1. No discharge of firearms except on approved ranges.
2. No rifles larger than .22 for hunting.
3. It is unlawful to hunt with a muzzleloading shotgun loaded with slugs or sabot slugs.
4. Deer hunting with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire is prohibited in the county. However, hunting of groundhogs with a rifle of a caliber larger than a .22 rimfire between March 1 and August 31 is permitted, and a rifle of a caliber larger than a .22 rimfire may be used for hunting all other game, bird, and varmint species as allowed by state law and regulations. Deer hunting with a shotgun loaded with slugs is permitted so long as such hunting is conducted from a stand located at least 10 feet in elevation above the ground.
5. It is lawful to hunt groundhogs with rifles of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire during the season between March 1 and August 31.
6. No rifles larger than .22 for hunting except groundhogs outside of the regular hunting season.
7. No rifles for deer hunting.
8. No rifles for big game hunting.
9. It shall be unlawful to hunt in the county with a rifle, pistol, or revolver of a caliber larger than .22 caliber or with a shotgun loaded with slugs, except that rifles of a larger caliber, shotguns loaded with slugs and pistols or revolvers firing cartridges rated in manufacturer’s tables at 350 foot pounds of energy or greater may be used to hunt from a stand elevated at least 10 feet from the ground, provided that no cartridge shall be used with a bullet of less than .23 caliber.
10. It shall be unlawful to have in immediate possession any hunting firearm other than a muzzleloading rifle while hunting with a muzzleloading rifle during the early muzzleloader season.
11. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a firearm on or within the ditch line of any primary or secondary highway.
12. It is lawful to use muzzleloading rifles for game animals in the regular hunting season.
13. It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles only from stands elevated 10 feet.
14. It is unlawful to hunt from the road with firearms.
15. It is unlawful to hunt with firearms from the road and within 10 feet of the ditch bank.
16. It is unlawful to hunt within 100 feet of the road.
17. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during any authorized deer season where firearms are permitted.
18. It is unlawful to hunt with a firearm within 100 yards of a road.
19. It is unlawful to transport, possess or carry a loaded rifle in any vehicle while on the road from October 1 through February 15.
20. It shall be unlawful to discharge or shoot any firearm or other weapon in or along any public road or street or within 100 yards thereof or within 100 yards of any building occupied or used as a dwelling or place where the public gathers, his or her dwelling or residence.
21. Except for target shooting, no person shall shoot an arrow from a bow with a peak draw weight of 10 pounds or more within 150 feet of a business, public building, public gathering, public meeting place, or dwelling of another unless they have the permission of the dwelling owner or occupant.
22. It is unlawful to possess a loaded firearm on the road except when permission to hunt is obtained from landowners on each side.
23. It is unlawful to transport, possess, or carry a loaded shotgun or loaded rifle in any vehicle on any public street, road, or highway.
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24. No rifles over .22 caliber for hunting except for groundhogs between March 1 and August 31.

25. No hunting with firearms of game species from within 100 yards of a road.

26. No hunting with firearms of any game animal from the road right-of-way.

27. No hunting with firearms from the road including ditch to ditch.

28. No hunting with a rifle larger than .22 caliber during the deer season.

29. When 100 yds. from a road and elevated from a stand 15 ft. above ground a rifle may be used to hunt big game east of the Dismal Swamp line.

30. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt any bird or game animal using a muzzleloading rifle or a shotgun loaded with slugs, except from a stand elevated at least 10 feet above the ground.

31. All hunting within the City of Hampton is prohibited, with the exception of waterfowl blinds licensed by the Commonwealth where no firearm other than shotguns loaded ed with shot not heavier than double ought buckshot shall be discharged and no shot shall be discharged landward within 500 feet of the shoreline.

32. It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles only from stands elevated at least 10 feet above the ground; however, this requirement shall be expressly inapplicable to all legally handicapped persons.

33. The use of a muzzleloading rifle shall be permitted during the early muzzleloading season and during the entire regular firearms season for deer hunting.

34. It is unlawful to transport or possess a loaded shotgun or rifle in a vehicle on a road during open deer season.

35. It shall be unlawful to possess outside of a vehicle, or shoot or hunt with a rifle, muzzleloader, pistol, or shotgun loaded with slugs, or to possess shotgun slugs on Rugged Island Wildlife Management Area in Isle of Wight County. In addition, it shall be unlawful to discharge any firearm within 100 yards of the boardwalk or nature trail on Rugged Island Wildlife Management Area.

36. It is unlawful to discharge a firearm from or across any sidewalk, highway or on public land.

37. It is unlawful for minors to carry firearms on public highways or public lands unless accompanied by certain adults.

38. It shall be unlawful to use a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire except that groundhogs may be hunted with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire between March 1 and August 31 and coyotes may be hunted for the entire year.

39. It shall be lawful to use muzzleloading rifles for deer and squirrels during the regular seasons.

40. It shall be unlawful to discharge a rifle larger than .22 caliber, a muzzleloader larger than .36 caliber, or a shotgun loaded with slugs except from stands elevated at least 10 feet above the ground, except for groundhogs in certain areas between March 1 and September 1.

41. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a muzzleloading rifle at any time.

42. It shall be unlawful to use a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire except that groundhogs may be hunted with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire between March 1 and August 31.

43. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a firearm on or within 50 feet of the center of any primary and secondary highway.

44. Rifles are permitted for bear and deer hunting when used from stands elevated at least 15 feet above the ground (except legally handicapped hunters are exempt from tree stand requirements).

45. The discharge or use of a rifle, pistol, muzzleloader, or shotgun loaded with slugs is prohibited.

46. It is unlawful to discharge any firearms, spring propelled rifle or pistol, or air-propelled rifle or pistol from on, across or within 150 yards of any city building, dwelling, street, sidewalk, alley, roadway or public place within the city limits: check local county/city ordinances.

47. No discharge of rifles larger than .22 except as specifically approved by local County ordinance.

48. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during the special muzzleloading season.

49. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during any authorized firearms season for the hunting of game animals except for the hunting of turkeys during the spring gobbler season.

50. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt in the county with a shotgun loaded with slugs or a muzzleloading rifle other than during the prescribed open season for the hunting of big game species or with a rifle of a caliber larger than .22 caliber.

51. It is unlawful to shoot an arrow from a bow in a manner that can be reasonably expected to result in the impact of the arrow upon the property of another without permission from the owner or tenant of such property.

52. It shall be unlawful to discharge a firearm within any densely populated area: within 200 yards from any structure or within 100 yards from any public street, secondary road, or highway within the city, except on a permitted firing range or at or upon the property of another without permission.

53. It is unlawful to shoot a rifle or a bow from a very near point having been established by an easily visible fixed marker, with a .23 or larger caliber. However such rifles can only be loaded while the hunter is in the elevated tree stand, within

54. It is unlawful to transport, possess, or carry a loaded rifle or shotgun in any vehicle on any public street, road or highway.

55. It shall be unlawful for any person in the town, except a duly authorized officer in the course of his duty, to fire or discharge any

56. No discharge of firearms across or within 150 yards of any building, dwelling, street, sidewalk, alley, roadway, public land, or public place.

57. No discharge of firearms north or west of a line from the Chesapeake-Virginia Beach boundary; thence northwardly along North Landing Road; thence eastwardly along Indian River Road; thence northeastwardly along New Bridge Road; thence eastwardly along Sandbridge Road to the Atlantic Ocean, or across any land north of False Cape Park and east of Shipps Bay and Point Creek. No discharge of rifles larger than .22 south of this line except muzzleloading rifles may be used to hunt deer during the firearms deer season.

58. Shotguns firing pellets are lawful on certain agricultural lands of 50 contiguous acres or more, and on certain lands south of a line from the Chesapeake-Virginia Beach boundary, thence northeastwardly along Elbow Road; thence southeastwardly along Salem Road; thence northeastwardly along North Landstown Road; thence southeastwardly along Princess Anne Road; thence eastwardly along Sandbridge Road to the Atlantic Ocean. The property must be permitted by the City Manager for this purpose.

59. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or shoot off a firearm in the county. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or shoot or throw any dangerous missiles by mechanical, explosive, air- or gas-propelled means, or similar method or device onto or across any public sidewalk, path, or roadway, at any public structure or building, or at or onto the property of another. It is unlawful for any person to shoot a compound bow, crossbow, longbow, or recurve bow at or upon the property of another without permission. It shall be unlawful to discharge a projectile from any of the aforementioned bows within 100 yards of any public road, public building or structure, private residence or structure, or property of another. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prohibit the use of firearms or other instruments or missiles or compound bows, crossbows, longbows, or recurve bows in lawful self defense or in the lawful defense of property, or to prohibit the use of firearms or other missiles or compound bows, crossbows, longbows, or recurve bows in supervised sport, recreation, or training conducted on safety-inspected and approved ranges and courses, provided the same is not contrary to existing law.

60. It shall be unlawful to hunt deer and bear from a stand elevated at least 10 feet from the ground or within a ten (10) foot perimeter from a stationary, pre-identified and marked point, such point having been established by an easily visible fixed marker, with a .23 or larger caliber. However such rifles can only be loaded while the hunter is in the elevated tree stand, within
the 10 feet of the stationary pre-identified and marked point, if ground hunting, or while attempting to recover wounded game within a 30 yard perimeter of the elevated stand or the pre-identified and marked point from which the game was shot.

61. It is unlawful to hunt or attempt to hunt on a primary or secondary state maintained highway, and within the side ditches of such highways.

62. Discharging firearms is prohibited within certain areas (check local county ordinance for area description), except deer hunting is permitted with handguns, shotguns, or muzzleloading rifles using a single projectile and all other hunting is allowed with rifles of .22 caliber rimfire or less, handguns, shotguns, and muzzleloading rifles using single or multiple projectiles.

63. The discharge of firearms is prohibited within 50 yards of a highway in the primary or secondary system of state roads.

64. Discharge of firearms is prohibited within 100 yards of any public park or school.

65. Discharge of firearms is prohibited within 100 yards of a building with a current occupancy permit unless the owner or authorized agent has given permission.

66. Muzzleloaders shall be legal firearms during any firearms season.

67. Shotgun slugs shall be permitted for deer hunting.

68. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a rifle larger than .22 caliber, except rifles of a larger caliber may be used for hunting groundhogs and coyotes outside the general firearms deer season.

69. It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge an air gun, spring gun, or firearm from, along, across or toward, or within 300 yards of any paved public street, highway or road, or any building in the city.

70. It shall be lawful to hunt game species with a muzzleloading rifle during the prescribed open seasons.

71. The discharge of a rifle larger than a .22 caliber rimfire within 100 yards of any residential or occupied building without the written approval of the owner or lessee of the property. It shall be unlawful to discharge a rifle larger than .22 caliber rimfire from an elevated stand within 100 yards of an adjoining property line without first obtaining written permission of the owner or, if different than the owner, the occupant of the adjoining property or within 100 yards of any public street or primary or secondary state-maintained highway.

72. The use of muzzleloading rifles during the open seasons for hunting game species from stands elevated at least 10 feet above the ground (except legally handicapped hunters are exempt from tree stand requirements). No early muzzleloader season east of the Dismal Swamp Line.

73. No person shall hunt using a rifle larger than a .22 caliber rimfire within 100 yards of any residence or occupied building without the written approval of the owner or lessee of the property.

74. It is unlawful to hunt deer during the regular hunting season with a rifle of .23 caliber or larger either on public lands or in the area of the county bordered to the north by the James River, to the west by Route 602 from the Willis River, and to the south by Route 45 and Route 684 to the county line (generally known as Cartersville Historic District); except from a tree stand elevated at least 10 feet above the ground. It shall be lawful to hunt with a muzzleloading rifle from the ground or from a tree stand elevated to any height.

75. No person shall hunt using a rifle larger than a .22 caliber rimfire within 100 yards of any residence or occupied building without the written approval of the owner or lessee of the property. It shall be unlawful to discharge a rifle larger than .22 caliber rimfire from an elevated stand within 100 yards of an adjoining property line without first obtaining written permission of the owner or, if different than the owner, the occupant of the adjoining property or within 100 yards of any public street or primary or secondary state-maintained highway.

76. Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during the open seasons for hunting game species from stands elevated at least 10 feet above the ground (except legally handicapped hunters are exempt from tree stand requirements). No early muzzleloader season east of the Dismal Swamp Line.

77. It shall be unlawful to engage in hunting with a firearm within the right-of-way of any primary or secondary highway.

78. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in hunting with a firearm or to discharge a firearm within 100 yards of a dwelling house or occupied building not his or her own.

79. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in hunting with a bow or to discharge arrows from bows within 100 yards of a dwelling house or occupied building not his or her own. A “bow” includes all compound bows, crossbows, longbows, and recurves that have a peak draw weight of 10 pounds or more. The term “arrow” means a shaft-like projectile intended to be shot from a bow.

80. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a rifle larger than .22 caliber rimfire, except rifles of a larger caliber may be used for hunting groundhogs and coyotes during the winters of March 1 and August 31.

81. It shall be unlawful to shoot or hunt with a firearm within 100 yards of any regularly occupied structure without written permission of its owner or occupant or within 100 yards of any private road located in a subdivision where lots are 10 acres or less in size without written permission of the owner or occupant.

82. It shall be unlawful to shoot or hunt on any county property including, but not limited to, schools, parks, pools, the courthouse and other county offices.

83. It shall be unlawful to hunt with a rifle larger than a .22 caliber in the county, except in the hunting of groundhogs, coyotes, and feral hogs outside the general firearms deer season.

84. It shall be lawful to hunt with rifles larger than .22 caliber only from stands elevated at least 10 feet.

85. Rifles, .23 caliber or larger, may be used to hunt deer during the firearms deer season provided the hunter is in an elevated stand at least 10 feet above ground level. The rifle may only have a round in its chamber when it is on the elevated stand.
Validation of Tags

• All hunters (unless license exempt) killing a bear, deer, elk, or turkey are required to validate an appropriate tag on their bear license, deer/turkey license, bonus deer permit, or special permit (DCAP, DMAP, or DPOP) at the place of kill prior to moving the animal in any way.

• Beginning with the 2018-2019 hunting season, hunters with deer/turkey tags and bonus deer tags will have the choice of two options for tagging a harvested deer or turkey. These two options are an electronic "e-notching" of the tag on the Department's mobile app and the traditional physical removal (notching) of a notch on their paper license.

• To validate a license tag:
  » Electronic license tag validation (e-notching): Requires use of the Department’s Go Outdoors Virginia mobile app. Applies only to deer/turkey license tags and bonus deer tags. When viewing the electronic license within the mobile app, touch the designated notch area of the appropriate license tag. See www.dgif.virginia.gov/enotch for a demonstration.
  » Paper license tag validation: Applies to all license tags, bonus deer permit tags, and DPOP/DCAP/DMAP program tags. Hunters must completely remove the designated notch area from the appropriate paper license or permit tag.
  • Hunters killing an elk are required to validate an appropriate deer tag.
  • It is unlawful for any person to validate (notch) a tag from any license or special permit prior to the killing of an animal. A paper tag that is mistakenly validated (notched) prior to the killing of an animal must be voided immediately by the licensee or permittee by writing, in ink, the word "VOID" on the line provided on the tag.

Successful hunters are allowed to dismember the carcass to pack it out from the place of kill as long as they do not destroy the identity of the sex and all the parts of the carcass (excluding internal organs) are present when the animal is checked.

• After the carcass of a game animal has been processed (i.e., disassembled), its parts may be legally transported; however, upon request of a law enforcement officer, sufficient verbal or written information must be furnished to establish legal possession.

• All bear, deer, elk, and turkey must be checked by all hunters, including license-exempt hunters, upon vehicle transport of the carcass or at the conclusion of legal hunting hours, whichever occurs first and without unnecessary delay.

Check Stations for Bear, Deer, Elk, and Fall Turkeys

• Bear, deer, elk, and fall turkey check stations can be found online at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/check-stations. You may also call a Department office listed on page 4 during normal business hours for locations.

• Bears must be checked at an official black bear check station. In counties without established bear check stations, hunters may transport their kill to a bear check station in an adjoining county.

• Hunters checking animals at a check station will be given a check card furnished by the Department. The hunter shall immediately write the check card number in ink on the line labeled “check card or confirmation number” of the tag that was validated (notched) at the place of kill.

• The check card must be kept in possession with the carcass until processed.

• If the carcass of an animal that was checked at a check station is left unattended, the check card must be securely attached to the carcass.

• Hunters needing a copy of a lost check card should call the appropriate Department regional office listed on page 4 after March 1st.

Using Mobile App, Internet, or Telephone Checking

Only deer, elk, turkey, and bobcat (see page 48) can be checked using the mobile app, Internet, or telephone. Before using either system, you will need your deer/turkey license and a pen and paper to record your confirmation number. If you are exempt from purchasing such license, you will need your date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY) and the last four digits of your Social Security number.

Telephone Checking System

Call the toll-free number, (866) GOT-GAME (866-468-4263). Only touch-tone phones may be used.

Mobile App

Download for free. See page 11.

Internet Checking System

Go to www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com and click on "Game Check & Harvest Reporting". Hunters have the option of printing a check card at the end of the Internet-checking session.
Follow the instructions and provide the requested information.
You will be given a confirmation number at the end of the telephone or Internet session. Write it down. Licensed hunters must then immediately write this confirmation number, in ink, on the line labeled “check card or confirmation number” of the tag that was validated (see page 26). When using the mobile app, Internet, or telephone, be sure that the confirmation number is a combination of 5-7 letters and numbers. If your telephone or Internet checking session is cut off or your confirmation number is not complete, start the session again and repeat steps until the complete confirmation number is obtained.

- Bucks that have shed their antlers are considered antlerless deer and may be tagged with an antlerless-only deer tag. For the process of checking in these shed-antlered bucks on the telephone and Internet, they should be checked in as an antlered deer with zero antler points.
- The telephone deer checking system will only accept antlered bucks with up to 29 antler points. If you kill a buck with more than 29 points that is checked in by telephone, just enter antler points as 29.

Carcass Transferred or Unattended

- If the kill is reported using the mobile app, Internet, or telephone checking system by a hunter who validated a tag, no personal check card is required as long as the hunter is in possession of the carcass.
- If the carcass is transferred to the possession of another individual or left unattended, a personal check card or Internet check card must be created and kept with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the personal check card must be securely attached to the carcass.

License-Exempt Hunters

License-exempt hunters such as resident hunters under the age of 12, hunters age 65 and over hunting private lands in the county of residence, holders of the disabled veteran’s lifetime license and those using the landowner exemption must check all bear, deer, elk, turkey (see page 26) and bobcat (see page 48). When using the telephone or Internet system the license-exempt hunter will be classified as “exempt from purchasing a hunting license” or “exempt hunter” when prompted as to what type of license they have. When prompted, license-exempt hunters must enter their date of birth in a MM/DD/YYYY format followed by the last four digits of their social security number. If the telephone or Internet was used, the license-exempt hunter must create a personal check card (see below) which must be kept with the carcass until it is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the personal check card must be securely attached to the carcass.

Personal Check Card

An animal reported using the mobile app, Internet, or telephone checking system will require the creation of a personal check card if:

1. The hunter is license exempt.
2. The hunter possesses a Veteran’s Disabled Lifetime License.
3. The carcass is transferred to someone else.
4. The carcass is left unattended.

The personal check card may be written on any type of paper using a pen and must include the hunter’s full name, date of kill, and confirmation number.

Carcass Transferred or Unattended

- If the kill is reported using the mobile app, Internet, or telephone checking system by a hunter who validated a tag, no personal check card is required as long as the hunter is in possession of the carcass.
- If the carcass is transferred to the possession of another individual or left unattended, a personal check card or Internet check card must be created and kept with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the personal check card must be securely attached to the carcass.

License-Exempt Hunters

License-exempt hunters such as resident hunters under the age of 12, hunters age 65 and over hunting private lands in the county of residence, holders of the disabled veteran’s lifetime license and those using the landowner exemption must check all bear, deer, elk, turkey (see page 26) and bobcat (see page 48). When using the telephone or Internet system the license-exempt hunter will be classified as “exempt from purchasing a hunting license” or “exempt hunter” when prompted as to what type of license they have. When prompted, license-exempt hunters must enter their date of birth in a MM/DD/YYYY format followed by the last four digits of their social security number. If the telephone or Internet was used, the license-exempt hunter must create a personal check card (see below) which must be kept with the carcass until it is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the personal check card must be securely attached to the carcass.

Personal Check Card

An animal reported using the mobile app, Internet, or telephone checking system will require the creation of a personal check card if:

1. The hunter is license exempt.
2. The hunter possesses a Veteran’s Disabled Lifetime License.
3. The carcass is transferred to someone else.
4. The carcass is left unattended.

The personal check card may be written on any type of paper using a pen and must include the hunter’s full name, date of kill, and confirmation number.
BEAR HUNTING
REGULATIONS

General Information

Bear License
To hunt bears, residents and nonresidents must purchase a bear license in addition to all other applicable licenses, permits or stamps, unless license exempt.

KEEP BEARS WILD!
Unlawful to Feed Bears
See page 21 for details.

Unlawful to Shoot Without Intent to Retrieve the Bear
No person shall kill or cripple and knowingly allow any game animal to be wasted without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal and retain it in their possession.

Unlawful to Dislodge and Continue to Hunt
It is unlawful to dislodge an animal from a tree for the intent of continuing a hunt, chase, or for the purpose of training dogs.

Bag Limits
One per license year, at least 100 pounds live weight or 75 pounds dressed weight (all internal organs removed). Females with cubs may not be harvested.

Bear Checking
All bears must be checked at an official bear check station. Locations for bear check stations are available on the DGIF website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/age. The age of your harvested bear will be available online 9 to 10 months after the hunting season ends at www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/bear/age.

Look Up the Age of Your Harvested Bear Online!

Tracking Dogs
Allowed (see page 16 for details).

Archery Bear Season

Season Dates
October 6 through November 16: Statewide

Legal Methods and Restrictions
Special restrictions apply to archery tackle use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18 for details.

• Archery tackle only, excluding slingbows.
• Persons with a disability that prevents them from drawing a bow or crossbow may hunt with an arrowgun during the special archery season provided they have in possession an authorization form provided by the Department that has been completed by their physician.
• Broadhead widths must be at least 7/8-inch wide or expand upon impact to 7/8-inch.
• It is unlawful to use explosive head arrows or arrows to which any drug, chemical, or toxic substance has been added.
• It is unlawful to use dogs, except that dogs may be used to track wounded or dead bear (see Hunting with Dogs, page 16) and dogs may be used by youth or apprentice bear hunters to take bears on October 13.
• It is unlawful to have a firearm in possession, except that a muzzleloading firearm as defined in the muzzleloader bear season section may also be in possession when and where there is an overlap with a muzzleloading bear season where bear hunting with a rifle or muzzleloading firearm is permitted. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)

YOUTH AND APPRENTICE BEAR HUNTING WEEKEND

October 13 through 14
• Statewide (Sunday hunting on private lands only)
• Resident and nonresident youth hunters 15 years of age and under or holders of a valid apprentice hunting license, when in compliance with all applicable laws and licenses, may hunt when accompanied and directly supervised by an adult over the age of 18 who has a valid Virginia hunting license or is exempt from purchasing a hunting license. Nonresident youth of any age need to have the appropriate licenses (unless exempt from purchasing a license).
• Bear bag limit, weight limits, and all other take restrictions apply. If a bear is taken on this weekend, the youth or apprentice hunter may not take another bear in any season.
• Blaze color is required in areas with an open deer firearms season during this weekend. If hunting in an area with no open deer firearms season this weekend, blaze color is strongly recommended.
• Bears may be taken with the aid of dogs on Saturday statewide except:
  » In the counties of Accomack, Campbell (west of the Norfolk Southern Railroad), Fairfax, Grayson (west of State Route 16), Henry, Loudon, Northampton, Patrick, Pittsylvania (west of the Norfolk Southern Railroad), Roanoke (south of I-81), Smyth (that part south of I-81 and west of State Route 16), and Washington (south of I-81) and the city of Lynchburg.
  » On the Amelia, Chester F. Phelps, Featherfin, G. Richard Thompson, Mattaponi, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Parker’s Branch on Big Woods, Pettigrew and Ware Creek Wildlife Management Areas.
• Tracking dogs maintained and controlled on a lead may be used to find a wounded or dead bear.
• All bears must be checked at an official bear check station.
• Adult hunters accompanying youth or apprentice bear hunters:
  » do not need a bear license on this weekend.
  » shall not carry or discharge a firearm.
  » shall maintain close visual and verbal contact with, provide adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm.
Muzzleloader Bear Season

Season Dates
November 10 through 16: Statewide in all areas where hunting with a muzzleloading rifle is permitted.

Legal Methods and Restrictions
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22 for details.

- Only muzzleloading firearms, .45 caliber or larger, loaded from the muzzle of the gun.
- Muzzleloading firearms must be single shot, capable of firing only a single bullet or sabot bullet (.38 caliber or larger).
- Flintlock, percussion, or electronic ignitions are permitted.
- It is unlawful to have in immediate possession any firearm other than a muzzleloading firearm while hunting with a muzzleloader. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)
- Must use at least 50 grains of black powder or black powder equivalent.
- Smokeless powder is allowed in muzzleloading firearms designed for it. Never use smokeless powder of any type in any quantity in a muzzleloading firearm that is not specifically designed for it.
- Scopes are permitted.
- For the purposes of transportation in a vehicle, muzzleloading firearms are considered “unloaded” when all powder has been removed from the flashpan, or the percussion cap, primer, or battery has been removed from the firearm. For complete safety, a muzzleloader should be emptied by shooting into soft ground.
- Arrowguns are allowed.
- It is unlawful to use dogs, except that dogs may be used to track wounded or dead bear (see Hunting with Dogs, page 16).

Q: Why do you collect a tooth from harvested bears?
A: The premolar from a bear is used to determine the age of the bear. The age structure of the annual harvest is used to analyze trends and is an important tool needed to manage bear populations in Virginia.

Q: Are bear attractant scents legal in Virginia?
A: Yes and no. They are illegal if they are used in a way that a bear can consume it. A good rule of thumb about these products is if a bear can only smell it, it is considered just a scent and is legal. If a bear can consume it or whatever it is applied to can be consumed, it is considered bait and is illegal.

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Early Firearms Bear Season

October 1 through 3:

Closed

November 26 through January 5:
In the counties of Albemarle, Alleghany, Amherst, Arlington, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Caroline, Chesterfield, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Frederick, Giles, Goochland, Greene, Hanover, Henrico, Highland, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Montgomery, (northwest of I-81), Nelson, Orange, Page, Powhatan, Prince William, Pulaski (northwest of I-81), Rappahannock, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Smyth (northwest of I-81), Spotsylvania, Stafford, Tazewell, Warren, Washington (northwest of I-81 and east of Route 19), Wythe (northwest of I-81), and on the Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley Wildlife Management Areas and Channels State Forest and within the incorporated limits of any independent city, not listed, that allows bear hunting.

December 3 through January 5:
In the counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Washington (northwest of I-81 and west of Route 19), and Wise.

Exception
- Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley Wildlife Management Areas and Channels State Forest (see November 26 –January 5 season).

December 3 through 8:
In the counties of Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charles City, Charlotte, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Essex, Gloucester, Greensville, Halifax, Isle of Wight, James City, King and Queen, King George, King William, Lancaster, Lunenburg, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, New Kent, Northumberland, Nottoway, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Prince George, Richmond, Southampton, Surry, Sussex, Westmoreland, and York.

December 3 through 22:
In the counties of Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Grayson, Henry, Montgomery (southeast of I-81), Patrick, Pulaski (southeast of I-81), Smyth (southeast of I-81), Washington (southeast of I-81), Wythe (southeast of I-81).

Firearms Bear Seasons

October 1 through January 5:
In the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.

November 26 through January 5:
In the counties of Albemarle, Alleghany, Amherst, Arlington, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Caroline, Chesterfield, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Frederick, Giles, Goochland, Greene, Hanover, Henrico, Highland, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Montgomery, (northwest of I-81), Nelson, Orange, Page, Powhatan, Prince William, Pulaski (northwest of I-81), Rappahannock, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Smyth (northwest of I-81), Spotsylvania, Stafford, Tazewell, Warren, Washington (northwest of I-81 and east of Route 19), Wythe (northwest of I-81), and on the Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley Wildlife Management Areas and Channels State Forest and within the incorporated limits of any independent city, not listed, that allows bear hunting.

December 3 through 8:
In the counties of Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charles City, Charlotte, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Essex, Gloucester, Greensville, Halifax, Isle of Wight, James City, King and Queen, King George, King William, Lancaster, Lunenburg, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, New Kent, Northumberland, Nottoway, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Prince George, Richmond, Southampton, Surry, Sussex, Westmoreland, and York.

Legal Methods and Restrictions:
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22 for details.

- Modern firearms
- Archery tackle (excludes slingbows)
- Muzzleloading firearms
Bear Hound Training/Chase Season

NO BLACK BEAR MAY BE TAKEN DURING THIS SEASON.

**Hours**

4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., including Sundays. See maps for dates and locations.

**Licenses Required**

Same for hunting seasons where bears can be taken. See licenses, stamps, and permits section for appropriate required licenses.

**Unlawful Methods**

- It is unlawful to have in possession a firearm, archery tackle or any weapon capable of taking a black bear in or on one’s person, vehicle, or conveyance. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)
- It is unlawful to dislodge an animal from a tree for the intent of continuing a hunt, or chase, or for the purpose of training dogs.

**DOGS MAY NOT BE USED TO HUNT BEARS:**

- During the firearms deer season in the counties west of the Blue Ridge and in the counties of Amherst (west of Rt. 29), Bedford, and Nelson (west of Rt. 151).
- During the first 14 hunting days of the firearms deer season in Madison and Greene counties.
- During the firearms bear season in the counties of Campbell (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Carroll (east of the New River), Fairfax, Floyd, Franklin, Grayson (east of the New River), Henry, Loudoun, Montgomery (south of I-81), Patrick, Pittsylvania (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Pulaski (south of I-81), Roanoke (south of I-81), and Wythe (south-east of the New River or that part bounded by Rt. 21 on the west, I-81 on the north, the county line on the east, the New River on the southeast and Cripple Creek on the south), and in the city of Lynchburg.
- On the Amelia, Chester F. Phelps, Featherin, G. Richard Thompson, Mattaponi, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Parker’s Branch Tract on Big Woods, Pettigrew, and Ware Creek Wildlife Management Areas.
- When hunting during the archery or muzzleloading bear seasons, except in certain counties during the youth/apprentice bear hunting weekend (see page 28).
- On Cavalier WMA dogs may only be used during the Bear Hound Training Season from August 12 through 31.
- On Sundays while in possession of a weapon. The meaning of “possession” for the purpose of this section shall include, but not be limited to, having a firearm, bow, crossbow, or any weapon capable of taking a black bear in or on one’s person, vehicle, or conveyance. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)
General Information

Bag Limits
East of the Blue Ridge (except on National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties)
The bag limit for deer shall be two a day, six a license year. Of the six-deer limit, no more than three may be antlered deer and at least three must be antlerless deer (unless noted in the exception below).

Exception
- The daily bag limit for deer shall be unlimited in Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties (including the cities and towns within). However, no more than three antlered deer may be killed in a license year.

West of the Blue Ridge and on National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties
The bag limit for deer shall be one a day and five a license year. Of the five-deer limit, no more than two may be antlered deer and at least three must be antlerless deer (unless noted in the exceptions below).

Exceptions
- The daily bag limit for deer shall be two a day on private lands in Clarke, Frederick, Roanoke, Shenandoah, and Warren counties (including the cities and towns within).
- If a deer hunter kills two antlered bucks in a license year in Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge, Rockingham, or Shenandoah County, at least one of the bucks must have at least four antler points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers.

Bag Limit Exceptions
- Deer hunters, including those exempt from purchasing a license, on private land and authorized public lands may take more than the license-year bag limit of antlerless deer by using bonus deer permits or special permits (DCAP, DMAP, and DPOP).
- DCAP, DMAP, and DPOP tags do not count against the daily or season bag limit.

Antlered and Antlerless Deer

Deer Tags
- Either-sex deer tags (commonly called “buck” tags) may be used on antlered or antlerless deer.
- Antlerless-only deer tags (commonly called “doe” tags) may only be used on antlerless deer.

Antlered Deer
- Antlered deer must have antlers visible above the hairline.
- An antlered deer must be tagged with an either-sex deer tag.

Antlerless Deer
- Antlerless deer may only be taken during designated either-sex deer hunting days during the archery season(s), muzzleloading season(s), and firearms season(s). Youth deer hunters, see Youth and Apprentice Deer Hunting Weekend and Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation provisions on page 35.
- Antlerless deer (does, button bucks, and shed-antlered bucks) may be tagged with an antlerless-only deer tag or an either-sex deer tag.
- Button bucks, male fawns approximately six months old, are considered antlerless deer. The hair covered bumps on a button buck’s head are not antlers. They are the pedicels from which the antlers will grow the next year.
- Antlered deer that have shed their antlers, usually in late December or early January, are also considered antlerless deer. When checking a shed-antlered buck by telephone or Internet, it should be checked as an antlered deer with zero antler points.

BONUS DEER PERMITS
- Are valid for one year from date of purchase.
- Are valid for antlerless deer only.
- Are valid only on private lands and authorized public lands.
- Are valid only on designated either-sex deer hunting days.
- Are valid during all archery, muzzleloader, and firearms deer seasons.
- Allow deer to be taken in addition to the license year bag limit.
- Do not allow the daily bag limit to be exceeded.
- Are not valid on National Forest and Department-owned lands.
- Are not valid in Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise counties.
- Come with no restriction on number that may be purchased and used.
Q: Are deer cover scents/lures legal in Virginia?
A: Yes, but there are two restrictions. First, they are illegal if they are used in a way where a deer can lick or consume it. A good rule of thumb about these products is if a deer can only smell it, it is a cover scent and it is legal. If a deer can lick and ingest it, it is considered bait and it is illegal. Second, the possession or use of deer scents/lures that contain natural deer urine or other bodily fluids from deer is also illegal.

Q: Seven western counties have an antler point restriction (APR) limiting deer hunters to killing one small antlered buck per license year. If I deer hunt in two of these counties, can I legally kill a small buck in one APR county and then another small buck in a second APR county in the same license year?
A: Yes, the APR restrictions are county specific.

Q: In the seven counties with an antler point restriction is there a specific order in which the deer must be killed within each county?
A: No. The rule limits hunters to killing one small buck per year. It does not specify the order. For example, if a hunter killed a small buck first, his or her next buck would have to be a big buck (have 4 or more points on one side). However, if they killed a big buck first, their second buck could legally be a small buck or a second big buck.

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~ Travis “T-Bone” Turner
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For information, please call WTU’s Virginia Field Director Todd Puckett at (434) 363-8240.
www.whitetailsunlimited.com
Earn a Buck (EAB)

For the purposes of this section, the term “license year” defines the period between July 1 and June 30 of the following year.

Cities and Towns
During a license year in any town or city (except Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach) east of the Blue Ridge Mountains, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer prior to taking at least two antlerless deer in that town or city, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer prior to taking at least two antlerless deer in that town or city. During a license year in any town or city west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer prior to taking at least one antlerless deer in that town or city.

Arlington County
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer in Arlington County prior to taking at least two antlerless deer in Arlington County, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer in Arlington County prior to taking at least three antlerless deer in Arlington County. Local firearms ordinances prohibit the discharge of firearms in Arlington County.

Bedford County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Bedford County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Bedford County, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer on private lands in Bedford County prior to taking at least two antlerless deer on private lands in Bedford County.

Clarke County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Clarke County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Clarke County.

Fairfax County
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer in Fairfax County prior to taking at least two antlerless deer in Fairfax County, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer in Fairfax County prior to taking at least three antlerless deer in Fairfax County.

Fauquier County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Fauquier County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Fauquier County, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer on private lands in Fauquier County prior to taking at least two antlerless deer on private lands in Fauquier County.

Frederick County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Frederick County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Frederick County.

Loudoun County
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer in Loudoun County prior to taking at least two antlerless deer in Loudoun County, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer in Loudoun County prior to taking at least three antlerless deer in Loudoun County.

Montgomery County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Montgomery County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Montgomery County.

Prince William County except on Department of Defense (DOD) lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer in Prince William County (except on DOD lands) prior to taking at least two antlerless deer in Prince William County (except on DOD lands), and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer in Prince William County (except on DOD lands) prior to taking at least three antlerless deer in Prince William County (except on DOD lands).

Rappahannock County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Rappahannock County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Rappahannock County, and it shall be unlawful to take a third antlered deer on private lands in Rappahannock County prior to taking at least two antlerless deer on private lands in Rappahannock County.

Roanoke County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Roanoke County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Roanoke County.

Warren County on private lands
During a license year, it shall be unlawful to take a second antlered deer on private lands in Warren County prior to taking at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Warren County.

Earn a Buck questions and answers can be found at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/general/#EAB

ACT RESPONSIBLY

Dispose of Your Deer Carcass!

Don’t give hunters a bad name by leaving deer parts in public locations, in parking lots, in waterways, or along roads. A recommended method of disposing of unused deer carcass parts is to double bag them and take them to a lined landfill or dumpster location which accepts deer carcasses. A second method is to simply dig a pit in which the deer carcass parts are placed, provided no other trash is placed in the pit. After the hunting season, cover the pit with at least six inches of soil. If you are caught dumping a carcass or deer parts in an unauthorized area, you may be charged with littering.
Youth and Apprentice Deer Hunting Weekend

**September 29 and 30**
- Statewide.
- Resident and nonresident youth hunters 15 years of age and under or holders of a valid apprentice hunting license, when in compliance with all applicable laws and licenses, may hunt when accompanied and directly supervised by an adult over the age of 18 who has a valid Virginia hunting license or is exempt from purchasing a hunting license. Nonresident youth of any age need to have the appropriate licenses (unless exempt from purchasing a license).
- Deer of either sex may be taken.
- Antlerless deer taken on the youth and apprentice deer hunting weekend are in addition to an antlerless deer taken under the youth antlerless deer regulation and on either-sex deer hunting days.
- Deer harvested by youth or apprentice hunters count against their daily and season bag limit.
- Blaze colored requirements and exceptions for firearms deer season are in effect (see page 16).
- Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited, except that tracking dogs are allowed (see Hunting with Dogs, page 16).
- Adult hunters accompanying youth or apprentice deer hunters:
  - do not need a deer/turkey license on this weekend.
  - shall not carry or discharge a weapon.
  - shall maintain close visual and verbal contact with, provide adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm.
- Unless specified above, all other normal firearm deer regulations apply (e.g., daily and season bag limits, tagging and checking, EAB, antler point restrictions, etc.).

Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation

Resident or nonresident deer hunters 15 years of age and under may take one antlerless deer per license year on days other than designated either-sex deer hunting days during the muzzleloading season(s) or the firearms season(s) in all counties that have at least one either-sex deer hunting day during the firearms deer season. This regulation applies to all private and public lands (National Forest, State Forests, WMAs, etc.) statewide (except on public and private lands in Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise counties). This regulation is in addition to either-sex deer hunting days. For example, if a youth deer hunter, 15 years of age or younger, killed one or more antlerless deer on designated either-sex deer hunting days, he or she could still take one antlerless deer on a day not designated an either-sex day.

Q: If an apprentice license holder has had their hunter safety course, must they still be accompanied and directly supervised by a mentor over 18 on the youth and apprentice deer hunting weekend?
A: Yes. The youth deer hunting weekend regulation requires that all youth and apprentice license holders be accompanied by an adult mentor.
**Archery Deer Seasons**

**Early Archery Season**

**October 6 through November 16:**
Statewide.

**Late Archery Season**

**December 2 through January 5:**
- In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (west of Route 29), Bedford, and Nelson (west of Route 151).
- In all areas west of the Blue Ridge unless noted in the season exception below.
- Season Exception: Clarke and Floyd counties and on private lands in Frederick County.

**December 3 through January 5:**
- On the Chester F. Phelps WMA and on National Forest and Department-owned lands, Colonial Heights, Danville, Emporia, Franklin, Fredericksburg, Galax, Hopewell, Lexington, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Newport News, Poquoson, Radford, Richmond, Staunton, Suffolk, and Winchester; and in the towns of Altavista, Amherst, Bedford, Blacksburg, Blackstone, Boones Mill, Buchanan, Christiansburg, Farmville, Front Royal, Halifax, Hurt, Independence, Irvington, Kenbridge, Pearisburg, Pulaski, Richlands, Rocky Mount, Saltville, Smithfield, Stuart, Tazewell, Victoria, West Point, and Wytheville; and in the counties of Chesterfield (may be limited to certain areas, see website), Fairfax, James City, Prince William (except DOD land), Roanoke (except on National Forest and Department-owned lands), Stafford, and York.
- Archery or crossbow deer hunters hunting during the early urban archery deer season are required to wear blaze color on the Youth and Apprentice Deer Hunting Weekend. For exceptions to the blaze colored requirement see page 16.
- Lists of properties available for hunting are not maintained by the Department or local governments.
- Go to www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/urban-archery-season for local restrictions and other urban archery information.

**Northern VA Late Antlerless-only Archery Season**

During this season only antlerless may be taken.

**April 1, 2019 through April 28, 2019:**
- In Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties (including the cities and towns within).

**Urban Archery Deer Seasons**

During this season only antlerless may be taken. Earn A Buck (EAB) applies to all the cities (except Chesapeake and Suffolk) and all the towns listed below and in the counties of Fairfax, Prince William (except DOD land), and Roanoke (except on National Forest and Department-owned lands). See EAB section on page 34.

**September 1 through October 5 and January 6, 2019 through March 31, 2019:**
- Within the incorporated limits of the cities of Charlottesville, Chesapeake (except on Department-owned lands), Colonial Heights, Danville, Emporia, Franklin, Fredericksburg, Galax, Hopewell, Lexington, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Newport News, Poquoson, Radford, Richmond, Staunton, Suffolk, and Winchester; and in the towns of Altavista, Amherst, Bedford, Blacksburg, Blackstone, Boones Mill, Buchanan, Christiansburg, Farmville, Front Royal, Halifax, Hurt, Independence, Irvington, Kenbridge, Pearisburg, Pulaski, Richlands, Rocky Mount, Saltville, Smithfield, Stuart, Tazewell, Victoria, West Point, and Wytheville; and in the counties of Chesterfield (may be limited to certain areas, see website), Fairfax, James City, Prince William (except DOD land), Roanoke (except on National Forest and Department-owned lands), Stafford, and York.
- Archery or crossbow deer hunters hunting during the early urban archery deer season are required to wear blaze color on the Youth and Apprentice Deer Hunting Weekend. For exceptions to the blaze colored requirement see page 16.
- Lists of properties available for hunting are not maintained by the Department or local governments.
- Go to www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/urban-archery-season for local restrictions and other urban archery information.
- All other “normal” deer regulations apply (e.g., daily and season bag limits, tagging and checking, DMAP, DCAP, EAB, special antler restrictions, etc.).

**TREE STAND SAFETY GUIDELINES**

- Use a full-body safety harness to secure yourself to the tree. Stay attached whenever you are off the ground. Minimize slack in the tether so that if you fall, it will not be very far. This reduces the risk of injury and may allow you to climb back into your stand. Hanging in a harness for a long time may cause irreversible injury or death. Have a plan for self-rescue.
- Never climb with equipment; use a haul line to get your unloaded gun or bow into and out of the tree stand. Crossbows may be raised while cocked, but should never be loaded with an arrow until you are securely in the stand and ready to hunt. It can be dangerous to try to cock a crossbow while in a tree.
- Keep manufactured tree stands in good working condition. Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions carefully.
- Many falls occur because of the failure of homemade stands, especially as they age. It is best to avoid them.
- While most manufactured tree stands are safe if used properly, they are occasionally found to be defective and recalled. To find out if your stand has been recalled, check the Consumer Product Safety Commission website at www.CPSC.gov.

Additional Information on safety harnesses: www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/education/treestand-safety

**Legal Methods and Restrictions During Archery Deer Seasons**

Special restrictions may apply during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22 for details.

- Archery tackle.
- Persons with a disability that prevents them from drawing a bow or crossbow may hunt with an arrowgun during the special archery season provided they have in possession an authorization form provided by the Department that has been completed by their physician.
- Broadhead widths must be at least 7/8-inch wide or expand upon impact to 7/8-inch.
- It is unlawful to use explosive head arrows or arrows to which any drug, chemical, or toxic substance has been added.
- It is unlawful to use dogs, except that dogs may be used to track wounded or dead deer (see Hunting with Dogs, page 16).
- It is unlawful to have a firearm in possession except that a muzzleloading firearm, as defined in the muzzleloader deer seasons section, may also be in possession when and where there is an overlap with a muzzleloading deer season where deer hunting with a rifle or muzzleloading firearm is permitted. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)

**BOWHUNTERS NEEDED FOR SURVEY**

The Department has an ongoing statewide bowhunter survey to obtain information on bear, deer, turkey, small game, and furbearer populations. Participants will receive an annual survey form to complete during the early archery deer season and a copy of the results after they are compiled. To participate, please contact Mike Fies with your mailing address at mike.fies@dgif.virginia.gov.
Muzzleloader Deer Seasons

In all areas where hunting with a muzzleloading rifle is permitted.

Note: Deer hunters west of the Blue Ridge Mountains may take both of their season limit of two antlered deer during the early muzzleloading season.

Muzzleloader deer hunters and persons accompanying a muzzleloader deer hunter shall wear blaze color, except when physically located in a tree stand or other stationary hunting locations.

Early Muzzleloader Season November 3 through 16:
There is no early muzzleloader season in the cities of Chesapeake, Virginia Beach, or Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp line) since it occurs during the general firearms season.

Antlered deer may be taken every day of the season. Antlerless deer may only be taken on the designated either-sex deer hunting days listed below.

Either-sex Deer Hunting East of the Blue Ridge:
November 3 through 16 (full season):
In all areas (including Merrimac Farm WMA and Occoneechee State Park) unless otherwise noted below.

November 10:
- On State Forest lands, State Park lands (except Occoneechee State Park), Department-owned lands (except Merrimac Farm WMA), and Philpott Reservoir.
- Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days: On National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

Either-sex Deer Hunting West of the Blue Ridge:
November 3 through 16 (full season):
- On private lands in Carroll, Clarke, Floyd, Frederick, Grayson, Montgomery, Pulaski, Roanoke, Scott, Shenandoah, and Warren counties.

November 10 and November 12 through November 16:
- On private lands in Botetourt County.

November 10:
- On private lands in Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Bland, Craig, Giles, Highland, Page, Rockbridge, Rockingham (except on private lands west of Routes 613 and 731), Smyth, Washington, and Wythe counties, and on the Highland WMA.

Antlered deer only–no either-sex deer hunting days:
- On all National Forest and Department-owned lands in all counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains (except the Highland WMA).
- In Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Rockingham (west of Routes 613 and 731), Russell, Tazewell, and Wise counties.
- On Channels State Forest, Grayson Highlands State Park, Hungry Mother State Park, PALS (Public Access Lands) in Dickenson County, and Flannagan Reservoir.
- Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies (except on public and private lands in Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise counties).

Late Muzzleloader Season East of the Blue Ridge:
December 15 through January 5 (full season):
- In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (west of Route 29), Bedford, Franklin, Henry, Nelson (west of Route 151), and Patrick, and in the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp line), and Virginia Beach.

Either-sex Deer Hunting East of the Blue Ridge:
December 15 through January 5 (full season):
- In the counties of Amherst (west of Route 29 except on National Forest lands), Bedford (except on National Forest lands), Franklin, Henry, Nelson (west of Route 151 except on National Forest lands), and Patrick.

December 31 through January 5:
- In the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp line), and Virginia Beach.

January 5:
- On National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties.

Late Muzzleloader Season West of the Blue Ridge:
December 15 through January 5:
Season Exception:
- There is no late muzzleloader season in Clarke County and on private lands in Frederick County since it occurs during the general firearms season.

Either-sex Deer Hunting West of the Blue Ridge:
December 15 through January 5 (full season):
- On private lands in Carroll, Floyd, Grayson, Montgomery, Pulaski, Roanoke, Shenandoah, and Warren counties.

November 10:
- On private lands in Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Bland, Craig, Giles, Highland, Page, Rockbridge, Rockingham (except on private lands west of Routes 613 and 731), Smyth, Washington, and Wythe counties, and on the Highland WMA.

Antlered deer only–no either-sex deer hunting days:
- On all National Forest and Department-owned lands in all counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains.
- On all National Forest and Department-owned lands in all counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains.
- In Buchanan County. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation does not apply.

Legal Methods and Restrictions During Muzzleloading Deer Seasons
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Only muzzleloading firearms, .45 caliber or larger, loaded from the muzzle of the gun.
- Muzzleloading firearms must be single shot, capable of firing only a single bullet or saboted bullet (.35 caliber or larger).
- Flintlock, percussion, or electronic ignitions are permitted.
- Must use at least 50 grains of black powder or black powder equivalent.
- Muzzleloading pistols which meet the four restrictions listed above are legal.
- It is unlawful to have in immediate possession any firearm other than a muzzleloading firearm while hunting with a muzzleloader. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)
- Smokeless powder is allowed in muzzleloading firearms designed for it. Never use smokeless powder in a muzzleloading firearm that is not specifically designed for it.
- Scopes are permitted.
- For the purposes of transportation in a vehicle, muzzleloading firearms are considered “unloaded” when all powder has been removed from the flashpan, or the percussion cap, primer, or battery has been removed from the firearm.
- Arrowguns are allowed.
- It is unlawful to hunt deer with dogs, except that dogs may be used to track wounded or dead deer (see Hunting with Dogs, page 16).
- It is lawful to carry archery tackle when and where there is an overlap with a deer archery and muzzleloader season.

Muzzleloader Either-Sex Deer Hunting for Incorporated Cities and Towns
Deer of either sex may be taken full season during the muzzleloader seasons within the incorporated limits of any city or town in the Commonwealth that allows deer hunting (except in the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach) and only with the weapons (archery tackle and/or muzzleloaders) authorized by each individual city or town.

Earn a buck applies to all cities and towns except Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach (see page 34).
DEER HUNTING

SEASONS

Firearms Deer Seasons

Antlered deer may be taken every day of the season. Antlerless deer may only be taken on designated either-sex deer hunting days.

**November 17 through December 1**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (west of Rt. 29), Bedford*, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Giles, Grayson, Montgomery*, Nelson (west of Rt. 151), Pulaski, Roanoke*, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Wythe.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

November 17 through December 1 (full season):

- **November 24 and December 1:** On National Forest lands and Department-owned lands in Carroll County and on National Forest lands in Craig, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, and Wythe counties and on Big Survey WMA.
- **December 1:** On private lands west of Routes 613 and 731 in Rockingham County.
- **Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days:** On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Rockbridge County, on National Forest lands in Lee, Page, and Tazewell counties, and on Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley WMAs, and Channels State Forest. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Accomack, Albemarle, Arlington*, Clarke*, Culpeper (see season exception for C. F. Phelps WMA below), Fairfax*, Fauquier* (see season exception for C. F. Phelps WMA below), Frederick* (see season exception for National Forest lands below), Greene, Hanover, Henrico, Isle of Wight, James City, Loudoun*, Madison, Northampton, Orange, Prince George, Prince William*, Rappahannock*, Southampton, Stafford, Suffolk (west of the Dismal Swamp line), Surry, Sussex, and York.

- In Arlington County*, City of Hampton*, and City of Richmond* (in the City of Richmond: archery only, no special permit is required for archery deer hunting). Note: Local Ordinances prohibit the discharge of firearms in these areas (see Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22).

- Mandatory CWD testing in Clarke, Frederic, Shenandoah, and Warren counties, see page 41
- Earn a Buck (EAB) regulation applies, see page 38
- Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days: On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Rockbridge County, on National Forest lands in Lee, Page, and Tazewell counties, and on Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley WMAs, and Channels State Forest. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

**Season Exception:**

November 17 through December 1: On C.F. Phelps WMA and National Forest lands in Frederick County.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

November 17 through January 5 (full season):

- In all areas unless otherwise noted below.
- **November 24, December 1, and December 8 through January 5:** On Rapidan WMA.
- **November 24 and January 5:** On G.R. Thompson WMA.
- **November 24 and December 1:** On C.F. Phelps WMA.
- **November 24, December 1, and December 31 through January 5:** On the Big Woods WMA (including the Parkers Branch Tract) and Big Woods State Forest.
- **Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days:** On National Forest lands in Frederick County, on the Carlisle and Stewart tracts of the Hog Island WMA, and on the Ragged Island WMA. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

*Denotes Earn a Buck (EAB) County

**DEER HUNTING SEASONS**
**Northern VA Early and Late Antlerless-only Firearms Deer Seasons**

During these seasons only antlerless deer may be taken.

**Early:** September 1 through October 5

**Late:** January 6, 2019 through March 31, 2019

In the counties of Arlington*, Fairfax*, Loudoun*, and Prince William* (including the cities and towns within). Local firearm ordinances prohibit the discharge of firearms in Arlington County. In Fairfax County*, firearm hunting is restricted by location and parcel size. Contact the Div. of Animal Control, 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 for details. No parcel size restrictions exist for archery deer hunting.

All legal deer hunting weapons including bows, crossbows, muzzleloaders, pistols, shotguns, and rifles are legal. Local firearm ordinances still apply.

All other “normal” deer regulations apply (e.g., daily and season bag limits, tagging and checking, DCAP, DMAP, EAB, etc.).

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Caroline, Charlotte, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Essex, Gloucester, Greensville, King & Queen, King William, Lunenburg, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, Nottoway, and Prince Edward.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24 and December 1:
- November 24 through December 15:

**November 17 through December 15**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Henry and Patrick.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24, December 1, and December 3 through 15:

**November 17 through December 15**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Augusta, Scott, Smyth, and Washington.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24 and November 26 through December 1:

**Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days:**

- On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Augusta County and on National Forest lands in Scott, Smyth, and Washington counties, and on Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley WMAs, Hungry Mother State Park, and Channels State Forest. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (east of Rt. 29), Campbell, Goochland, Louisa, Nelson (east of Rt. 151), Pittsylvania and Spotsylvania. Note: Dogs may not be used for deer hunting in Campbell County (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad) and in Pittsylvania County (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad).

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24, December 1, and December 8 through January 5:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- November 24 and December 31 through January 5:

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Alleghany, Bath, Bland, and Highland.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24 and December 1: On all private lands in the counties listed above and on National Forest lands in Bland County and on the Highland WMA.

**Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days:**

On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Bath County and on National Forest lands in Alleghany and Highland counties. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (east of Rt. 29), Campbell, Goochland, Louisa, Nelson (east of Rt. 151), Pittsylvania and Spotsylvania. Note: Dogs may not be used for deer hunting in Campbell County (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad) and in Pittsylvania County (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad).

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24, December 1, and December 8 through January 5:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- November 24 and December 31 through January 5:

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Henry and Patrick.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24, December 1, and December 3 through 15:

**November 17 through December 15**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- October 1 through November 30:

**October 1 through November 30**

In the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp line), and Virginia Beach.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- October 13, October 20, and November 18 through November 30:

**November 17 through December 1**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Augusta, Scott, Smyth, and Washington.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24 and December 10 through 15:

- On Fairystone Farms and Turkeycock Mountain WMAs, designated areas of Fairystone State Park, and Philpott Reservoir.

**November 17 through January 5**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amelia WMA.

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24, December 10 through 15:

- On James River WMA.

**November 17 through December 1**

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Pittsylvania and Spotsylvania. Note: Dogs may not be used for deer hunting in Campbell County (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad) and in Pittsylvania County (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad).

**Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:**

- November 24 and December 10 through 15:

- Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days: On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Augusta County and on National Forest lands in Scott, Smyth, and Washington counties, and on Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley WMAs, Hungry Mother State Park, and Channels State Forest. Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.
It is illegal to possess or use deer scents or lures that contain natural deer urine or other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife in Virginia.

Firearms Either-sex Deer Hunting For Incorporated Cities and Towns
• Deer of either sex may be taken full season in the incorporated limits of any city or town in Virginia that allows deer hunting (except in the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach), but only with the specific weapons authorized by each individual city or town.
• Earn a Buck applies to all cities and towns.
• Hunters are allowed to use archery tackle or air rifles must be .35 caliber or larger.
• Arrowguns are allowed.
• Modern firearms.

Legal Methods and Restrictions During Firearms Deer Seasons
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Modern firearms.
- Arrowguns are allowed.
- Air rifles must be .35 caliber or larger.
- Hunters are allowed to use archery tackle or muzzleloading firearms to deer hunt during the firearms deer season with the following conditions:
  » all hunters are required to comply with the either-sex deer hunting days for the firearms deer season.
  » use of muzzleloading firearms is allowed only if not otherwise restricted.
- muzzleloader deer hunters must wear blaze color during the firearms deer season.
- archery deer hunters must wear blaze color during the firearms deer season except when hunting in areas where the discharge of firearms is prohibited.

Dogs May Not Be Used For Deer Hunting
• West of the Blue Ridge.
• East of the Blue Ridge in Bedford, Fairfax, Franklin, Henry, Loudoun, Northampton, and Patrick counties, and Amherst (west of Rt. 29), Campbell (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Nelson (west of Rt. 151), Pittsylvania (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), and the City of Lynchburg.
• On Sunday while in possession of a weapon.
• When hunting during archery and muzzleloading seasons and on the Youth and Apprentice Deer Hunting Weekend.
• On many military areas. Check individual Post regulations.
• On Amelia, Cavalier, Doe Creek, Featherfin, Mattaponi, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Parker’s Branch Tract on Big Woods, Pettigrew, Chester F. Phelps, G. Richard Thompson, and Ware Creek Wildlife Management Areas.
• During the first 14 hunting days of the firearms deer season in Madison and Greene counties.

Tracking Dogs
Allowed (see page 16 for details).

Elk Hunting
Elk hunting is closed in Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise Counties.

In All Areas Outside of Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise Counties:
Any elk (bull, cow, or calf) can be taken on any day of an open deer season (archery, muzzleloader, or firearms) in the county/locality in which the individual is hunting. Legal weapons for taking elk coincide with legal weapons for deer during that specific season except that elk may not be taken with a slingbow or air rifle.

Checking requirements for elk are the same as those for deer, but the animal should be checked in as an elk. Successful elk hunters must contact the Department at (804)367-0044 to schedule a time for collection of biological samples. This number is ONLY intended for making arrangements for tissue sample collection from harvested elk. It is illegal to destroy the sex identity of any harvested elk until checked. Elk may be dismembered to pack it out of the place of kill but the sex and all parts of the carcass (except internal organs) must be present when the elk is checked.

- The taking of an elk counts toward a hunter’s daily and seasonal bag limits for deer.
- An animal with antlers above the hairline counts toward a hunter’s either-sex (buck) deer limit.
- An animal without antlers counts toward a hunter’s daily and seasonal antlerless deer limit.
- Elk cannot be harvested on DPOP, DMAP, or DCAP tags.
CWD Surveillance in Virginia

A total of 38 deer with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) have been found in northwestern Virginia. Virginia’s first CWD-positive deer was harvested in 2009 in western Frederick County. Since then, infected deer have been identified in Frederick County and the northern part of Shenandoah County.

Containment Area Boundaries

The CWD Containment Area (CA) will not change in 2018. The CA includes all of Frederick, Shenandoah, Warren, and Clarke counties.

All deer killed by hunters within the CWD Containment Area on the following dates must be brought to a designated sampling station for CWD testing:

November 17 and 24, 2018
- CWD sampling station hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- CWD sampling stations will include: Crossroads Grocery, Gore Grocery, Round Hill Shopping Center, and T&R Processing in Frederick County; Fort Valley Grocery, Gradens Supermarket, Larkin’s Store, and Town & Country in Shenandoah County; Foodway Supermarket and Riverton Shell Gas Station in Warren County; and the Clarke County Fairgrounds.

Special hunting season regulations will continue to apply on private lands in Clarke, Frederick, Shenandoah, and Warren counties and the city of Winchester, including:
- Daily bag limit of two deer per day.
- All hunting seasons, including early and late muzzleloader seasons, full season either-sex on private lands.
- Earn-A-Buck, except in Shenandoah County.

Feeding of deer is prohibited year-round in Clarke, Frederick, Shenandoah, and Warren counties, and the city of Winchester.

For more information on CWD in Virginia, go to: www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/diseases/cwd

For more information on CWD in West Virginia, go to: www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/ChronicWaste.shtm

Carcass Movement Regulation

To prevent the spread of CWD into new areas, Virginia’s carcass transportation movement regulation prohibits the importation or possession of whole deer carcasses or specified high-risk parts of carcasses originating from any enclosure intended to confine deer or elk or from any carcass-restriction zones designated by the Department (see page 42). This includes any member of the deer family Cervidae (including, but not limited to, white-tailed deer, black-tailed deer, mule deer, fallow, axis, and sika deer, elk, moose, and caribou). However, the following carcass parts may be imported and possessed:
- Boned out meat that is cut and wrapped (either commercially or privately).
- Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached.
- Hides and capes with no heads attached.
- Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skulls and skull plates with or without antlers attached.
- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
- Upper canine teeth, also known as “buglers,” “whistlers,” or “ivories.”
- Finished taxidermy products.

A legible label shall be affixed to packages or containers holding the allowed carcass parts with the following information: the species of animal, the state or province from where the animal originated, and the name and address of the person who killed or owned the animal. Any person who imports into Virginia any deer carcass or parts described above and is notified that the animal has tested positive for CWD must report the test results to the Department within 72 hours of receiving the notification. In order to facilitate the proper disposal of any infected material, the Department may take into possession any imported carcass or carcass part of an animal if the animal has tested positive for CWD. For out-of-state hunters, please check the...
CWD regulations in your home state, the state in which you will be hunting, and states which you will travel through en route home from your hunting area. A summary of state-by-state carcass transportation regulations is provided on the CWD Alliance website (www.cwd-info.org) under the Regulations section.

Transporting Deer Carcasses Out of Virginia
Restrictions for nearby states can be found at the following websites:

• Kentucky: http://fwky.gov
• Maryland: http://dnr2.maryland.gov
• North Carolina: http://www.ncwildlife.org
• Pennsylvania: http://www.pgc.pa.gov
• Tennessee: https://www.tn.gov
• West Virginia: http://www.wvdnr.gov

Transporting Deer Carcasses into Virginia
Whole carcasses and designated parts are prohibited from any enclosure in North America intended to confine deer or elk.

Whole carcasses and designated parts* are prohibited from the entire state or province: Alberta, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Saskatchewan, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Maryland: Whole carcasses and designated parts* are prohibited from Allegany and Washington counties only.

West Virginia: Whole carcasses and designated parts* are prohibited from Berkeley, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, and Morgan counties only.

* Carcasses must be boned out or quartered so the brain and spinal cord is removed. Boned out meat, quarters without spinal column or head attached, antlers, cleaned skull plates, cleaned upper canines, caped hides, and finished taxidermy products are allowed.

Natural Deer Lures/Scents Prohibited
It is illegal to possess or use deer scents or lures that contain natural deer urine or other bodily fluids while taking, attempting to take, attracting, or scouting wildlife in Virginia.

Reducing Lead Exposure
Bald eagle populations may have rebounded from historical bounties, habitat loss, and exposure to DDT, but they now face a newly recognized challenge: lead poisoning from ingestion of contaminated carcasses and gut piles left in the field by hunters. The effects of lead poisoning are not limited to bald eagles but also extend to golden eagles, vultures, ravens, and other species.

Why is there lead in carcasses and gut piles?
Bullets, especially those fired from high-powered rifles, leave fragments throughout a carcass anywhere from 2 to 18 inches away from the wound tract. Up to 55% of the fragments are found embedded in the internal organs and are thus available for consumption by scavengers feeding on gut piles; 90% of deer gut piles examined in Wyoming and California between 2002 and 2004 were found to be contaminated with lead fragments.

What happens to scavenging birds that ingest lead from a carcass or gut pile?
Eagles and other birds that consume enough lead to become clinically ill may exhibit weight loss, seizures, paralysis, inability to fly, weakness (droopy head and wing), impaired reproduction, and/or death. Once lead reaches toxic levels, clinical signs will not resolve without medical intervention, which is not practical in wild birds.

What can hunters do to minimize lead exposure in wildlife and humans?
As dedicated conservationists, hunters can reduce lead exposure in the environment by using non-toxic, non-lead ammunition alternatives, such as copper or copper alloys. Other practices such as burying or removing gut piles from the field can reduce lead intake by scavengers. Gut piles should be buried and then covered with rocks or brush to prevent animals from digging them up. Leftover carcass parts should also be either buried, or double-bagged and taken to a landfill, or covered with rocks or brush to prevent access by scavengers. Human exposure to lead at the dinner table can be reduced by liberally trimming meat from both the entrance and exit wounds and avoiding consumption of internal organs.
A BIG THANK YOU
to our Grand Slam, Eastern, and Osceola Sponsors!

We’d also like to thank everyone who participated this year!
Be sure to save the date for next year’s OneShot …

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 2019
General Information

Bag Limits

General
One per day, three per license year, no more than two of which may be taken in the fall.

Archery and Fall Firearms Season
One per day, either sex may be taken.

Spring Turkey Season
One per day, bearded turkeys only.

Checking Fall and Spring Turkeys

- Wild turkeys killed in the fall (except those killed in January) must be checked at a Game Check Station, by telephone, or the Internet checking system.
- Wild turkeys killed in January must be checked using the telephone or Internet checking system.
- Wild turkeys killed in the spring gobbler season must be checked using the telephone or Internet checking system.

Archery Turkey Season

Season Dates
October 6 through November 9
Statewide except in areas where there is a closed firearm season on turkey.

Legal Methods and Restrictions for Archery Turkey Season
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22 for details.

- Archery tackle only.
- Persons with a disability that prevents them from drawing a bow or crossbow may hunt with an arrowgun during the special archery season provided they have in possession an authorization form provided by the Department that has been completed by their physician.
- Decoys and blinds may be used.
- Broadhead widths must be at least 7/8-inch wide or expand upon impact to 7/8-inch.

Fall Firearms Seasons

October 27 through November 9 and November 22
In the counties of Albemarle, Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Greene, Highland, Madison, Orange, Page, Rockingham, and Warren.

October 27 through November 9, November 22, December 3 through 29, and January 12 through 26

Youth and Apprentice Fall Turkey Hunting Weekend

Season Dates
October 20 and 21
Statewide in counties, cities, and areas with a fall turkey season.

- Bag limit is one turkey (either sex) per youth/apprentice hunter, per weekend.
- Resident and nonresident youth hunters 15 years of age and under or holders of a valid apprentice hunting license, when in compliance with all applicable laws and licenses, may hunt when accompanied and directly supervised.

Legal Methods and Restrictions for Fall Firearms Seasons and Youth and Apprentice Fall Turkey Hunting Weekend
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Modern firearms.
- Arrowguns are allowed.
- Archery tackle.
- Muzzleloading firearms.
- Decoys and blinds may be used.
- Dogs may be used.
- Unlawful to use electronic calls.
by an adult over the age of 18 who has a valid Virginia hunting license or is exempt from purchasing a hunting license. Nonresident youth of any age need to have the appropriate licenses (unless exempt from purchasing a license).
- Hunting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
- Turkeys harvested by youth or apprentice hunters count against their daily and season bag limit.
- Adult hunters accompanying youth or apprentice turkey hunters:
  » do not need a deer/turkey license.
  » may assist with calling.
  » shall not carry or discharge a firearm.
  » shall maintain close visual and verbal contact with, provide adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm.

Youth and Apprentice Spring Turkey Hunting Weekend

Season Dates
April 6 and 7
- Statewide.
- Bag limit is one turkey (bearded bird only) per youth/apprentice hunter, per weekend.
- Resident and nonresident youth hunters 15 years of age and under or holders of a valid apprentice hunting license, when in compliance with all applicable laws and licenses, may hunt when accompanied and directly supervised by an adult over the age of 18 who has a valid Virginia hunting license or is exempt from purchasing a hunting license. Nonresident youth of any age need to have the appropriate licenses (unless exempt from purchasing a license).
- Hunting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.
- Turkeys harvested by youth or apprentice hunters count against their daily and season bag limit.
- Adult hunters accompanying youth or apprentice turkey hunters:
  » do not need a deer/turkey license on this weekend.
  » may assist with calling.
  » shall not carry or discharge a weapon.
  » shall maintain close visual and verbal contact with, provide adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm.

Spring Turkey Season

Bag Limit
One per day, bearded turkeys only. Hunters may take one, two, or three bearded turkeys depending on how many turkeys were taken in the fall season.

Season Dates
April 13 through May 5
- Statewide.
- One-half hour before sunrise until 12 noon each day.

May 6 through 18
- Statewide.
- One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Legal Methods and Restrictions for Spring Firearms and Youth and Apprentice Spring Turkey Hunting Weekend
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during these seasons. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Arrowguns are allowed.
- Modern firearms.
- Archery tackle.
- Muzzleloading firearms.
- Decoys and blinds may be used.
- It is unlawful to use electronic calls.
- It is unlawful to use dogs, except that dogs may be used to track wounded or dead turkeys (see Hunting with Dogs, page 16).
- When using a shotgun it is unlawful to use or have in possession any shot larger than number 2 fine shot during spring turkey season.

Q: Why is spring gobbler hunting limited to noon during portions of the gobbler season?
A: During Department research to determine survival rates of wild turkey hens, it was discovered that at least 6% of the hen population is poached during the early part of the spring gobbler season. The rate could be as high as 9% if birds with transmitters that disappeared under suspicious circumstances are included. We believe accidental kills of hens primarily occur early in the season when hens are with gobblers. The risk that a hen will be shot drops sharply when they begin incubating a nest. The peak of onset of incubation is normally the first week of May. By delaying all-day hunting until most of the hens are incubating nests, we reduce potential additional incidental or intentional kill that would likely occur with all-day hunting early in the season.
General Information

Legal Methods and Restrictions
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Modern firearms.
- Arrowguns are allowed.
- Archery tackle.
- Muzzleloading firearms.
- Dogs may be used.

Crow

Season Dates
August 18 through March 15
on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

- Crows are a federally regulated migratory species; however, no HIP registration is required and hunters may use unplugged shotguns to hunt them.
- Electronic calls may be used on private and public lands. Written permission of the landowner is not required to hunt crows with electronic calls, except when hunting on posted property. Electronic calls may not be attached to or played from a vehicle.

Groundhog

Season Dates
Continuous open season on private lands.

- Groundhog hunting on National Forest lands and Department lands is permitted from September 1–March 10 and during the spring turkey season.
- Groundhog hunting is permitted during the spring squirrel season only on Department lands that are open for spring squirrel hunting.
- Groundhog hunting is not permitted on National Forest lands during the spring squirrel season.

Grouse

Season Dates
October 27 through February 9: west of I-95.

Continuous closed season: east of I-95.

Bag Limit
Three per day.

Goschen, Havland, Highland, Lake Robertson, Little North Mountain, Merrimac Farm, Phelps, Rapidan, Short Hills, Stewarts Creek, and G. Richard Thompson.

Hunting Preserves

Pen-raised game birds may be taken on licensed hunting preserves from September 1 through April 30, including Sundays. A list of hunting preserves open to the public may be obtained at the Department’s Henrico office or at www.dgif.virginia.gov. A resident hunting on a licensed hunting preserve is required to have a hunting license. A nonresident is required to have either a nonresident hunting license or a special nonresident hunting (shooting) preserve license which is valid only within the boundaries of licensed hunting preserves.
FOX SQUIRREL INFORMATION NEEDED

Our Department would like to know if you have seen this animal in one of the blue counties depicted on the accompanying map. The fox squirrel (Sciurus niger) is one of three species of squirrels that are considered “game species” in some or all of Virginia. It is the largest squirrel species that occurs in Virginia. Many have orange, red, black, or white markings. They are approximately 1.5 to two times the size of a gray squirrel. Fox squirrels are common west of the Blue Ridge and along its east slope. They are less common in southeastern Virginia, and occur sporadically in the Piedmont of Virginia but may be expanding their range. In an effort to better document the occurrence of fox squirrels in Virginia, we ask you to report any sightings you have in the counties depicted in blue on the map. Be as descriptive as possible about the location. If you can gather GPS coordinates, please do so. If you can safely take a photograph, please provide that, too. Send sighting information to Small Game Project Leader Marc Puckett at: marc.puckett@dgif.virginia.gov.

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It starts with being BEAR AWARE.

Important information on how to keep bears away from your home or campsite, and what to do if you encounter one.

www.dgif.virginia.gov/bear-aware
Furbearer Hunting
Seasons

Legal Methods and Restrictions
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during these seasons. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 18, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Modern firearms.
- Arrowguns are allowed.
- Archery tackle.
- Muzzleloading firearms.
- Dogs may be used (except where prohibited, see Hunting with Dogs, page 16).
- Electronic calls may be used for bobcat, coyote, fox, and raccoons as long as the call is not attached to or played from a vehicle.
- Hunting permitted day or night.
- Lights may be used as long as the light is not attached to or cast from a vehicle.
- Night vision scopes and laser sights may be used.
- Sunday hunting of furbearers is permitted.
- Lights may be used as long as the light is not attached to or cast from a vehicle.
- It is unlawful to use dogs when hunting with firearms.

Firearms Season
November 1 through February 28:
Statewide.

Dogs May Not Be Used to Hunt Bobcats
During the firearms season for deer in the counties of Alleghany, Amherst (west of Route 29), Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Botetourt, Campbell (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Clarke, Frederick, Highland, Nelson (west of Rt. 151), Page, Pittsylvania (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren and within the boundaries of the George Washington/Jefferson National Forests.

Electronically Checking Requirement for Bobcats
All hunters or trappers who kill a bobcat are required to report the kill within 24 hours through the Department’s electronic harvest reporting system. Bobcats can be checked with a touch-tone telephone (a rotary phone will not work) by calling the toll-free number 1-866-GOT-GAME (468-4263). Bobcats can also be checked using the mobile app or Internet. Successful hunters and trappers can go to www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com and click on “Game Check & Harvest Reporting.”

Before using the telephone or Internet checking system, you will need your hunting license number, a pen, and a piece of paper to record your confirmation number. If you are exempt from purchasing a license, you will need your date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY) and the last four digits of your Social Security number.

At the end of the check-in session, you will be provided with a confirmation number that is a combination of 6 to 7 letters and numbers. Write this number down and store it in a secure location where it can be retrieved to prove compliance with the checking requirement or to request CITES tags. If your telephone or Internet session is cut off before you get a complete confirmation number, start the session again and continue until the complete confirmation number is obtained. If you have more than one bobcat to check in, you will have the opportunity to report additional animals at the end of the session.

If you plan to take the bobcat to a taxidermist, you must securely attach written documentation to the carcass that includes the full name of the hunter or trapper, date of kill, and the harvest confirmation number.

Bobcats legally killed by landowners outside the season are not required to be checked in using the electronic harvest reporting system. If you plan to take a bobcat to a taxidermist, you must securely attach written documentation to the carcass that includes the full name of the hunter or trapper, date of kill, and the harvest confirmation number.

Before a sale, the trapper or hunter harvesting the animal needs to obtain a CITES tag. To obtain a CITES tag for a bobcat, contact License Sales and Information at (804) 367-1000 during regular business hours. If you cannot reach License Sales and Information, you can contact a Conservation Police Officer through your nearest Department regional office (listed on page 4) or your local Sheriff’s Office (after hours). Every effort will be made to provide CITES tags as quickly as possible, but we may not be able to accommodate short notice requests received on weekends or after hours. Nonresident hunters or trappers who need to leave the state before they can secure a CITES tag should plan to leave the bobcat pelt or carcass in the care of someone in Virginia until a tag can be attached.

Make sure that you have a valid harvest confirmation number for each CITES tag requested. Tags ordered from our Customer Service Center will be mailed directly to the hunter or trapper, along with instructions for tagging. If a bobcat pelt is required to have a CITES tag affixed, it must be tagged by April 1 of the season of harvest.

CITES TAGGING REQUIREMENT FOR BOBCATS

Raw bobcat pelts and unskinned carcasses that are bought, sold, bartered, traded, solicited for purchase, or transported out of state must also have a CITES tag affixed to each pelt by the trapper or hunter who harvested the animal. A valid confirmation number will be needed to obtain a CITES tag. No CITES tag is needed to have a bobcat mounted by a Virginia taxidermist or to ship a bobcat pelt out-of-state for tanning purposes (unless required by the state where the tannery is located).

Before a sale, the trapper or hunter harvesting the animal needs to obtain a CITES tag. To obtain a CITES tag for a bobcat, contact License Sales and Information at (804) 367-1000 during regular business hours. If you cannot reach License Sales and Information, you can contact a Conservation Police Officer through your nearest Department regional office (listed on page 4) or your local Sheriff’s Office (after hours). Every effort will be made to provide CITES tags as quickly as possible, but we may not be able to accommodate short notice requests received on weekends or after hours. Nonresident hunters or trappers who need to leave the state before they are able to secure a CITES tag should plan to leave the bobcat pelt or carcass in the care of someone in Virginia until a tag can be attached.

Make sure that you have a valid harvest confirmation number for each CITES tag requested. Tags ordered from our Customer Service Center will be mailed directly to the hunter or trapper, along with instructions for tagging. If a bobcat pelt is required to have a CITES tag affixed, it must be tagged by April 1 of the season of harvest.
that does not require checking, you must securely attach the same information described above (except for the confirmation number) and a description of how the bobcat was legally obtained.

**Coyote**

**Season**
Continuous open season except on National Forest lands and Department lands. Coyote hunting on National Forest lands and Department lands is permitted from September 1 through March 10 and during the spring turkey season. Coyotes may also be hunted on Department lands during the spring squirrel season unless otherwise posted (see page 46 for list of open areas).

**Coyote Bounty Law**
Coyote bounties are not administered by DGIF. Counties have the option of establishing their own coyote bounty system. For more information, hunters and trappers should contact their County Administrator or County Board of Supervisors.

**Fisher**
Continuous closed season for hunting or trapping fisher. Please report verifiable sightings (see below).

**Fox**

**Firearms Season**
November 1 through February 28:
Closed in Albemarle, Clarke, Culpeper, Fauquier (except Quantico), Loudoun, Louisa, and Rappahannock counties.

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**Q: Are laser sights, night vision scopes, and infrared scopes legal to use when legally hunting at night?**

**A: Yes, these devices are legal to use when legally hunting at night. The following animals are legal to hunt at night: bobcat, coyote, feral hog, fox, opossum, raccoon, and skunk.**

---

**DO YOU HAVE A TRAIL CAMERA PHOTO OF THIS ANIMAL?**

If you have a trail camera photo of this animal, we would like to hear from you. The fisher (*Martes pennanti*) once occurred in the western mountains of our state, but populations were likely extinct by the 1900s. After a long absence, fishers appear to be reestablishing themselves as part of our fauna.

Fishers are members of the Mustelid or weasel family. They are stocky animals with an elongated body and relatively short legs. Adult fishers are about the size of a fox, typically weighing 4 to 12 pounds and measuring 30 to 47 inches from the nose to the tip of the tail. Their fur is dark brown and black. The face and shoulders often have a golden or silver sheen. The underside may have patches of white or cream colored fur.

Please note that it is illegal to hunt or trap fishers in Virginia. If you have verifiable information (i.e. trail camera photos, video, etc.) regarding occurrences of fishers in Virginia, please contact our furbearer biologist, Mike Fies, at (540) 248-9390 or by e-mail at mike.fies@dgif.virginia.gov.
Dogs May Not Be Used to Hunt Foxes:
During the firearms season for deer on the Gathright, Goshen, Highland, and Little North Mountain Wildlife Management Areas and within the boundaries of the George Washington/Jefferson National Forests.

Chase-Only Season
NO FOXES MAY BE TAKEN EXCEPT DURING THE FIREARMS SEASON.

Restrictions
• Unlawful to have in possession a firearm when hunting fox outside of the firearms fox season. Possession shall include, but not be limited to, having any firearm in one’s person, vehicle, or conveyance. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)

Continuous open season statewide (including Sundays)
NO RACCOON MAY BE TAKEN EXCEPT DURING THE FIREARMS SEASON.

Restrictions
It is unlawful to have in possession a firearm, bow, axe, or any tree climbing device when chasing raccoons outside of the firearms season. Possession shall include, but not be limited to, having these devices in or on one’s person, vehicle, or conveyance while engaged in the act of chasing. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)

Opossum

Firearms Season
October 15 through March 10:
Statewide.

Raccoon

Bag Limits

East of the Blue Ridge: Two per hunter taken between noon one day and noon the following day.

West of the Blue Ridge: Two per hunting party (individual or organized) taken between noon one day and noon the following day.

Legal Methods and Restrictions
• Raccoons may be hunted on Sundays.
• Lights may be used as long as the light is not attached to or cast from a vehicle.

License requirements are the same as those for hunting raccoons with firearms.

August 1 through September 29 (including Sundays):
On Department-controlled lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and on National Forest lands where bear hound training is permitted (see page 31).

Restrictions
It is unlawful to have in possession a firearm, bow, axe, or any tree climbing device when chasing raccoons outside of the firearms season. Possession shall include, but not be limited to, having these devices in or on one’s person, vehicle, or conveyance while engaged in the act of chasing. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)

License requirements are the same as those for hunting raccoons with firearms.

Electronic calls may be used to hunt bobcats, coyotes, crows, foxes and raccoons, but not other species. With the exception of crows (see page 46), written permission of the landowner is required to hunt with electronic calls on private lands. Electronic calls may also be used on public lands (except where specifically prohibited) during periods when the use of firearms is allowed. Electronic calls may not be attached to or played from a vehicle.

Our Department would like to know if you have seen the animal in this photograph. The Eastern spotted skunk (Spilogale putorius), also known as a “civet cat,” is one of two species of skunks found in Virginia. Most people are familiar with the common striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis) that is statewide in distribution. The spotted skunk, however, is lesser known and generally found only in the western portion of the state. They are small, slender animals, usually not much larger than a squirrel (1 to 2½ pounds) and noticeably smaller than most striped skunks. The glossy black fur has four to six broken white stripes along the back and sides that resemble “spots.” The tail usually has a white tip and the head often has an inverted triangular white patch above the nose. The status of spotted skunks in Virginia is largely unknown, but populations are believed to have declined precipitously during the last half of the 20th century. Loss of suitable habitat has almost certainly contributed to this decline, but may not completely explain the spotted skunk’s decrease in numbers. Please note that it is illegal to shoot or trap spotted skunks (unless they are causing damage) and their pelts may not be sold. If you have information regarding occurrences of spotted skunks in Virginia, particularly trail camera photos or other verifiable evidence, please contact our furbearer biologist, Mike Fies, at (540) 248-9390 or by e-mail at mike.fies@dgif.virginia.gov.
REPORT A NUTRIA IN VIRGINIA

As part of a multi-agency effort, the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries is continuing to monitor the distribution of nutria in Virginia. The nutria (Myocastor coypus) is an invasive semi-aquatic mammal native to South America. A casual observer may misidentify a muskrat or beaver as a nutria. Compared to a muskrat, nutria are considerably larger (average 12 pounds), have a round tail, white whiskers, and orange teeth. Nutria cause considerable damage to North American wetlands and are legally defined as a nuisance species in Virginia. Although the current distribution of nutria in the Commonwealth is not completely known, confirmed reports have been limited to areas east of Interstate 95 and south of the James River. Improving our understanding of where nutria occur is necessary to support potential eradication efforts. If you believe you have seen a nutria in Virginia, please visit the website below and report your sighting. The information you provide will assist us with the management of this invasive species: https://cmi.vt.edu/ReportNutria.html.

Skunk

Season
Continuous open season to hunt striped skunk except on National Forest lands and Department lands. Striped skunk hunting on National Forest lands and Department lands is permitted from September 1 through March 10 and during the spring turkey season. Striped skunks may also be hunted on Department lands during the spring squirrel season unless otherwise posted. (See page 46 for list of open areas.)

Continuous closed season for taking spotted skunks, and the pelts of spotted skunks may not be sold.

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General Trapping Regulations

- Residents under 16 years of age do not need a license to trap when accompanied by any person 18 years of age or older who possesses a valid state or county license to trap. Residents under 16 years of age who hold a resident junior trapping license are not required to be accompanied by a licensed adult while trapping. County residents 65 years of age and over do not need a license to trap on private property in their county of residence. Resident or nonresident landowners, and their spouses, children, grandchildren, spouses of such children and grandchildren, and the landowner’s parents do not need a license to trap within the boundaries of their own lands.

- Trapping is allowed on any day of the week, including Sundays. In addition, trap sets may be accompanied by work animals caught in traps on any day of the week (including Sundays) in order to dispatch them. No additional license is required other than a valid Virginia trapping license (unless you are license exempt).

- Trapping on Department-owned or controlled lands and waters is allowed under the regulations of the Board unless prohibited by posted rules. The posted rules may require written authorization to trap on some areas or may specify other restrictions. National Forest lands will be open during the regular trapping seasons. Check local ordinances before trapping near highways.

- It is unlawful to intentionally set foothold or body gripping trap or snare shall have it marked by means of a nonferrous metal tag bearing his name and address or a permanent identification number issued by the Department. This requirement shall not apply to landowners on their own land, nor to a bona fide tenant or lessee within the bounds of land rented or leased by him, nor to anyone transporting any such trap from its place of purchase.

- Trappers must visit all traps once each day and remove all animals caught therein, except for completely submerged body-gripping traps which must be visited once every 72 hours.

- The use of body-gripping traps with a jaw spread in excess of 7½ inches is prohibited except when such traps are at least half submerged by water.

- It is unlawful to set on land any steel foothold trap with teeth set upon the jaws or with a maximum inside jaw spread exceeding 6½ inches measured perpendicular to the hinges.

- It is unlawful to set above the ground any body gripping trap with a jaw spread in excess of 5 inches when using any bait, lure or scent. However, baited body-gripping traps with a jaw spread greater than 5 inches and up to 7½ inches may be used within an enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and the trap trigger recessed at least 12 inches from all openings (see diagram). Traps must be staked to prevent enclosures from turning over and may only be used on private lands with written permission of the landowner.

- It is unlawful to intentionally set foothold traps, body-gripping traps, or snares within 50 feet of an animal carcass or animal parts, unless the carcass or parts are completely covered at the time the trap is set or visited. For the purposes of this requirement, completely covered is defined as not being visible from above. A carcass is defined as the body, portions of the body, meat, organs, or viscera of any animal, including fish. Feathers (including those with attached skin or entire bird wings), hair (with or without skin or hide), and bones that include no attached meat, organs, or viscera, are excluded from this definition.

- No deadfall traps may be used. Snares set on land must have loops 12 inches or less in diameter with the bottom of the snare loop no more than 12 inches above ground level. Snares with the top of the snare loop set higher than 12 inches above ground level must include a single-piece lock that is not power-assisted, a cable stop that prevents the snare loop from closing smaller than ½ inches in diameter, and a break-away device that has been tested to break or disassemble at no more than 285 pounds pull. Land snares may only be used with written permission of the landowner.

- It shall be lawful to kill wild animals legally captured in live traps using any humane method of dispatch not specifically prohibited by law.

- It is unlawful to willfully molest, damage, or remove any trap, or any lawfully caught bird or animal from or in any way disturb traps or snares legally set by another person.

- It is unlawful to shoot a rifle or pistol at wild birds or animals on or over public inland waters; however, a licensed trapper may shoot a .22 caliber rimfire rifle or pistol on or over public inland waters for the purpose of dispatching a trapped animal.

PERMANENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FOR TRAP TAGS

Trappers have the option of using a permanent identification number on their trap tags instead of their name and address. The Department will assign a unique number to interested trappers for permanent use. To obtain a trapper ID number, contact the Verona Regional Office at (540) 248-9360 for instructions. To ensure confidentiality, permanent trapper ID numbers will only be provided to trappers via a written letter mailed directly to the assignee. ID numbers will NOT be provided to trappers over the telephone or via e-mail. Please remember that this method of tag marking is OPTIONAL and that you may continue to use tags with your name and address, if you prefer.
Trapping Best Management Practices (BMPs) are carefully researched recommendations designed to ensure animals are humanely captured. Developed as part of the largest trap research effort ever conducted, BMPs feature the latest scientific information about trapping techniques and equipment, along with practical advice from experienced trappers and wildlife biologists. More than 400 types of traps have been evaluated and trapping BMPs exist for 22 different species of furbearers. Help SPREAD THE WORD about BMPs to sustain the future of regulated trapping methods and modern furbearer management.

For more information visit https://www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-inspires/furbearer-management

**Trapping Seasons**

There is a continuous open season to trap beaver, muskrat, opossum, and raccoon within the incorporated limits of any city or town in the Commonwealth, and in the counties of Arlington, Chesterfield, Fairfax, Henrico, James City, Loudoun, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Roanoke, and York.

When beavers are damaging crops or lands, the owner of the premises, his agent, or tenant, may kill the animals or have them killed. This includes shooting, except in areas where the discharge of firearms is prohibited.

**Beaver**
December 1 through February 28

**Bobcat**
November 15 through February 28
All trapped bobcats must be reported within 24 hours through the Department’s electronic harvest reporting system. A CITES tag may also be required for some bobcats. Please see page 48 for details regarding electronic bobcat checking and CITES tagging procedures.

**Coyote**
Continuous open season.

**Fisher**
Continuous closed season.

**Fox**
November 15 through February 28:
Fox trapping is prohibited in Clarke (except on G. Rich Thompson WMA), Fauquier (except on Chester F. Phelps WMA and G. Rich Thompson WMA), Loudoun, and Rappahannock counties.

**Mink**
December 1 through February 28

**Muskrat**
December 1 through February 28

**Nutria**
Continuous open season.

**Opossum**
November 15 through February 28

**Otter**
December 1 through February 28

Bag Limit: The season bag limit shall be 4 otters in all counties west of the Blue Ridge. There is no season bag limit in counties east of the Blue Ridge.

**CITES Tagging Requirement for Otter**
Raw otter pelts and unskinned carcasses that are bought, sold, bartered, traded, solicited for purchase, or transported out of state must also have a CITES tag affixed to each animal. No CITES tag is needed to have an otter mounted by a Virginia taxidermist or ship an otter pelt out-of-state for tanning purposes (unless required by the state where the tannery is located). To obtain a CITES tag, the individual harvesting the animal must contact a local Conservation Police Officer through your nearest Department regional office (listed on page 4). If an otter pelt is required to have a CITES tag affixed, it must be tagged by April 1 of the season of harvest.

**Rabbit**
May be taken with box traps from October 15 through January 31, provided no traps shall be set on the lands of another without written permission of the landowner. Trappers using box traps for rabbits do not need a license.

**Raccoon**
November 15 through February 28

**Skunk**
Continuous open season for striped skunk. Continuous closed season for taking spotted skunk, and the pelts of spotted skunk may not be sold.

**Weasel**
December 1 through February 28

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**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

**Sustaining the Future of Regulated Trapping**

Trapping in North America is heavily regulated by state and provincial wildlife agencies, providing a critical wildlife management technique used to:

1) capture wildlife for sustainable use by the public,
2) protect property,
3) recover and protect endangered species,
4) manage population levels, and
5) capture animals for scientific research.
Wildlife Management Areas

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries maintains 42 management areas totaling more than 203,000 acres for the benefit of all citizens for a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities. Many management areas are open for some type of hunting. These areas are purchased and maintained with hunting, fishing, and trapping license fees and with Wildlife Restoration funds, derived from the sale of hunting-related equipment. We encourage the public to utilize all lands and enjoy the bountiful natural resources found there.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WMA Name</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. * Game Farm Marsh WMA</td>
<td>530 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Saxis WMA</td>
<td>5,574 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. * Mockhorn Island/GATR WMA</td>
<td>7,642 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. */# Hog Island/Carlisle WMA</td>
<td>3,908 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. */# Princess Anne WMA</td>
<td>1,546 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Cavalier/Dismal Swamp WMA</td>
<td>4,485 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Ragged Island WMA</td>
<td>1,537 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. * Chickahominy WMA</td>
<td>5,218 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Powhatan WMA</td>
<td>4,463 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. * Amelia WMA</td>
<td>2,217 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. * Dick Cross WMA</td>
<td>1,400 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Briery Creek WMA</td>
<td>3,164 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. */# Featherfin WMA</td>
<td>3,084 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Horsepen WMA</td>
<td>2,910 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. White Oak Mt. WMA</td>
<td>2,712 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Turkeycock Mt. WMA</td>
<td>2,678 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Crooked Creek WMA</td>
<td>1,796 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Stewarts Creek WMA</td>
<td>1,138 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Big Survey WMA</td>
<td>7,564 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. Hidden Valley WMA</td>
<td>6,400 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>21. Clinch Mt. WMA</td>
<td>25,477 acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. ## Fairystone WMA</td>
<td>5,414 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Havens WMA</td>
<td>9,023 acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wildlife Management Area: General Rules and Regulations

These lands are held in trust by the Department to conserve habitat for wildlife. The goal of the Wildlife Management Area system is to maintain and enhance habitats that support game and nongame wildlife while providing opportunities to hunt, fish, trap, and view wildlife. Other uses of WMAs may be allowed by written authorization of the Director, so long as they do not interfere with the goals and uses of WMAs. NOTE: Not all activities listed below are available on each WMA; check our website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/wma for specific WMA information.

### Access Permit
- Any person 17 years of age or older accessing a DGIF Wildlife Management Area or Fishing Lake must have in possession one of the following valid Virginia licenses/permits: freshwater fishing license, hunting license, trapping license, boat registration, or DGIF Access Permit.

### Camping/Fires
- Primitive camping is permitted for up to 21 consecutive days when occupants are engaged in authorized activities. No more than 3 camping units are permitted per site.
- Camping is prohibited on or within 100 yards of any boat ramp, fishing lake, or at other specific sites as posted.
• It is unlawful to leave a campfire unattended. From February 15 to April 30 campfires are allowed only between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and midnight.

**Disabled Hunter Access**
- Trails are open to manual and power wheelchairs and personal mobility assistive scooters (for indoor/outdoor use) designed primarily to assist people with disabilities. Individuals are encouraged to use caution when selecting trails, as many were designed for foot traffic only. Terrain may make them unsuitable for personal mobility devices.
- Electric vehicles up to 54 inches in width are permitted only on designated trails.

**Dogs**
- It is lawful to chase with dogs or train dogs on Department-owned lands only during authorized hunting, chase, or training seasons that specifically permit these activities.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times outside of open hunting, chase, or training seasons.

**Firearms**
- It is unlawful to have in possession or in a vehicle a bow, crossbow, or any firearm that is not unloaded and cased or dismantled:
  » While on Department-owned lands west of the Blue Ridge except when it is lawful to take bear, deer, grouse, pheasant, quail, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, turkey, or waterfowl.
  » While on Department-owned lands east of the Blue Ridge except when it is lawful to take bear, deer, grouse, pheasant, quail, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, turkey, waterfowl, or migratory game birds.
- Except when possessing a permit issued by the Department.
- Except when possessing a handgun and a valid concealed carry permit issued by a Circuit Court.
- It is unlawful to possess or transport any loaded firearm or loaded crossbow in or on any vehicle at any time on a WMA.
- Target shooting is permitted only on designated ranges.

**Fishing, Boating, & Swimming**
- Refer to the current Virginia Freshwater Fishing Regulations guide and posted signs for special fishing rules which apply to this WMA.
- It is unlawful to use boats propelled by a gasoline motor, sail, or mechanically operated recreational paddle wheel unless otherwise posted.
- Swimming is prohibited unless otherwise posted. Anglers, hunters, and trappers actively engaged in fishing, hunting, or trapping may wade in public waters.
- Only rod and reel angling is permitted. All other methods of take (trotlines, juglines, limblines, etc.) are prohibited.

**General**
- Activities involving groups of more than 12 persons require written authorization from the Department.
- Display or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public is prohibited.
- Commercial activities are prohibited except by written authorization from the Department.
- Berry picking and gathering of mushrooms or other fruits is allowed.
- It is unlawful to damage, deface, or remove any building, gate, fence, sign or other property.
- No posting of unauthorized signs, notices, and flyers anywhere on the WMA.

**Vehicles**
- Motor vehicles are prohibited behind barriers or gates designed to prevent entry or within areas otherwise posted to prohibit motor vehicles.
- Operation of ATVs and other unlicensed motor vehicles is prohibited.
- Cross-country motor vehicle travel is prohibited.
- Motor vehicles, campers, and trailers may be parked on Department-owned lands only when the owners/responsible party are engaged in authorized activities.
- Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) is prohibited without written authorization from the Department.

For more information on the Department’s Wildlife Management Area System: <www.dgif.virginia.gov/wma>

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**Find your most up-to-date regulations online.**

**HUNTING & TRAPPING IN VIRGINIA**
July 2018–June 2019

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**WWW.DGIF.VIRGINIA.GOV 2018–2019 VIRGINIA HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS**
Public Ranges on WMAs and National Forests

The Department has public sighting-in ranges available at the Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) listed below. These ranges were built for sportsmen to properly sight-in their firearms before going afield during the hunting seasons. All Department public sighting-in ranges are handicapped accessible. Range rules and hours of operation are prominently posted at each range to promote shooting safety and proper care of the facilities. Range users must adhere to posted rules and hours of operation. No reservations are required. Any person 17 years of age or older accessing a WMA or DGIF fishing license must have in their possession a valid hunting, freshwater fishing, or trapping license; current boat registration; or Access Permit. Shooters are limited to one hour of shooting when range is full. Be sure to bring your own paper targets, cardboard backings, clothespins, and tape. In order to help maintain the ranges, all target materials and brass must be removed for proper disposal off site. “Leave No Trace.” Specific hours and dates of operation, range rules, scheduled closures, travel directions, and other information is posted on the Department website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/sighting-in-ranges.

The use of firearms at public ranges during closed general firearms hunting seasons is restricted to the area within the established range boundaries for target shooting purposes only. Such weapons are required to be unloaded and cased or dismantled on all national forest and Department-owned lands outside the range boundaries during this period.

Department Sighting-In Ranges

Amelia Wildlife Management Area:
Six covered bench positions from 25–100 yards for rifle, muzzleloader, and shotgun patterning at stationary paper targets; area for clay bird shooting (bring own thrower and targets). Pistol shooting is prohibited. General dates of operation are September 1 to March 31. With the exception of state holidays, the range will be closed on Mondays for maintenance.
For information contact: Forest Regional Office, (434) 525-7522.

Chickahominy Wildlife Management Area:
Ten covered bench shooting positions from 25–100 yards for rifle, muzzleloader, and shotgun sighting-in at stationary paper targets. Additional covered area for stand up shotgun patterning. Pistol and clay target shooting are prohibited. General dates of operation are September 1 to March 31. With the exception of state holidays, the range will be closed on Mondays for maintenance. For information contact: Charles City Regional Office, (804) 829-6580.

Clinch Mountain Wildlife Management Area:
Six covered bench-rest stations from 25–100 yards for rifle, muzzleloader, and shotgun patterning at stationary paper targets. Pistol and clay target shooting are prohibited. General dates of operation are September 1 to March 31. With the exception of state holidays, the range will be closed on Mondays for maintenance.
For information contact: Marion Regional Office, (276) 783-4860.

Gatright Wildlife Management Area:
Six covered bench-rest stations from 25–100 yards for rifle, muzzleloader, and shotgun patterning at stationary paper targets. Pistol and clay target shooting are prohibited. General dates of operation are September 1 to March 31. With the exception of state holidays, the range will be closed on Mondays for maintenance.
For information contact: Verona Regional Office, (540) 248-9360.

C. F. Phelps Wildlife Management Area:
Six covered bench-rest stations from 25–100 yards for rifle, muzzleloader, and shotgun patterning at stationary paper targets. Pistol and clay target shooting are prohibited. General dates of operation are September 1 to March 31. With the exception of state holidays, the range will be closed on Mondays for maintenance.
For information contact: Fredericksburg Regional Office, (540) 899-4169.

White Oak Mountain Wildlife Management Area:
Six covered bench positions from 25–100 yards for rifle, muzzleloader, and shotgun patterning at stationary paper targets. Pistol and clay target shooting are prohibited. General dates of operation are September 1 to March 31. With the exception of state holidays, the range will be closed on Mondays for maintenance.
For information contact: Forest Regional Office, (434) 525-7522.

NOTE: The Department reserves the right to manage the use and access of these facilities as deemed appropriate. These facilities are subject to emergency closures.

National Forest Shooting Ranges

These ranges are open sunrise to sunset during the operating season. Users must bring their own paper targets to all ranges. Use stationary paper targets only. Moving targets, including skeet and/or clay targets, are prohibited except at the Blacksburg Range where clay targets are allowed. No tracer or incendiary type ammunition is allowed. Shooters under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited. All of the ranges have vault toilet restroom buildings. None of these sites have drinking water.

The Blacksburg Shooting Range in Montgomery County:
Two facilities: an 18-lane rifle/pistol range with covered benches for firing at stationary paper targets for up to 100 meters, and a single position shotgun (trap) range for shooting clay targets. Archery is allowed at the shotgun range. Shooting benches and restrooms are wheelchair accessible although some shooters will need assistance with hanging and retrieving targets. This year-round range is closed on Tuesdays for cleaning. For information contact: Eastern Divide Ranger District, (540) 552-4641.

The Bath County Shooting Range:
A 5-lane range with covered benches for shooting stationary paper targets at 50–100 yards. Pistols and rifles are allowed. Shotguns are allowed only when shooting at a stationary paper target. Shooting at any moving target is strictly prohibited. This range is open year round. For information contact: Warm Springs Ranger District, (540) 839-2521.

The Hite Hollow Shooting Range in Augusta County:
Provides a 5-lane rifle range for shooting approximately 50, 100, and 150 yards, and a 2-lane pistol range for shooting approximately 25 yards. Both of these facilities have covered benches. This range is open from May 2 through December 31. For information contact: North River Ranger District, (540) 432-0187.

The Low Moor Shooting Range in Alleghany County:
Provides a 5-lane rifle range for shooting 50 and 100 yards, and a 3-lane pistol range for shooting up to 25 yards. Shotguns are allowed only when shooting at a stationary paper target. Shooting at any moving target is strictly prohibited. Both ranges offer covered benches. This range is open year round. For information contact: James River Ranger District, (540) 962-2214.

The Pott’s Slope Shooting Range in Craig County:
Provides a 9-lane, covered bench, rifle and pistol range for shooting targets at 25, 50, and 100 yards. No shotguns or moving targets are allowed. Shooting benches and restrooms are wheelchair accessible although some shooters will need assistance with hanging and retrieving targets. This range is open year-round, but is closed on Tuesdays for cleaning. For information contact: Eastern Divide Ranger District, (540) 552-4641.

The West Side Shooting Range:
Provides 8 shooting lanes of various lengths for rifles, shotguns and pistols. All 8 lanes have covered shooting benches. No moving targets are allowed. This range is open from May 2 to December 31. For more information contact: North River Ranger District, (540) 432-0187.
The Wythe Shooting Range:
Offers a total of 10 lanes with covered benches. Five are dedicated pistol lanes (25 yards only), three are dedicated rifle lanes (100 yards) and the final two are intermittent lanes where targets can be set at 7, 10, 15, 25, 50, and 100 yards. No shotguns, moving targets or archery allowed. This range is open year round. For more information, contact: Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area, (800) 628-7202.

NOTE: On National Forests, please remember firearms may be discharged for target practice only at established shooting ranges. Discharging a firearm in a developed recreation site is dangerous and prohibited. For more information contact: the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest Headquarters at 5162 Val leypointe Parkway, Roanoke, VA 24019, or call (540) 265-5100.

National Forests
Day use fees are required on certain recreation areas. Please visit the George Washington/ Jefferson National Forest website, www.fs.usda.gov, or contact the appropriate office below for more information on fees and seasonal pass information.

Supervisor’s Office ..........(540) 265-5100
Clinch ....................................(276) 679-8370
North River .........(540) 432-0187
Glenwood-Pedlar ............(540) 291-2188
James River ..............(540) 962-2214
Lee .......................................(540) 984-4101
Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area ........(276) 783-5196
Eastern Divide .................(540) 552-4641
Warm Springs ..............(540) 839-2521

Regulations Specific to National Forest and Department Lands
It shall be unlawful to possess or transport a loaded firearm or loaded crossbow in or on any vehicle at any time on National Forest lands or Department-owned lands. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 19.)

Camping Policy
Primitive camping (no water, electric hookups, bathrooms or other facilities) is permitted on Department-owned lands, except as otherwise posted. Camping is prohibited on or within 100 yards of any Department-owned or controlled boat ramp or fishing lake. Camping on Department-owned lands is not to exceed 21 consecutive days. No more than 3 camping units are permitted per site.

Public Access Lands for Sportsmen (PALS)
PALS is a program that opens additional lands for public use. Through this cooperative private/public program the Department has opened more than 32,000 acres of private land. Properties include:
- Dickenson and Wise counties – 30,000 acres
- James City County – 260 acres
- Rockbridge County – 2,700 acres

The Department manages access to these properties for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing. PALS permits are available through DGIF license agents, online at the DGIF website, or through the GoOutdoors mobile app. The fee is $18.00. Inquiries about these areas should be directed to the website www.dgif.virginia.gov or to the appropriate regional office.

The Department hopes to provide additional PALS lands in the future across other parts of the Commonwealth.

State Forests
The State Forests of Virginia serve as demonstration sites for multiple use management which focuses on the advantages and benefits of managing the total resource. Environmental protection, water quality, aesthetics, wildlife habitat, forest research and recreation are as important as a sustained timber harvest. The State Forests are operated under a separate, self-supporting
budget. Most of the funds are generated through timber sales, but use permits for hunting and other activities and important as well.

Hunting is allowed on many of the State Forest properties in Virginia including: Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, Big Woods State Forest in Sussex County, Browne State Forest in Essex County, Channels State Forest in Washington and Russell Counties, Chilton Woods State Forest in Lancaster County (archery and blackpowder only), Conway Robinson State Forest in Prince William County (lottery permit only), Cumber-land State Forest, Dragon Run State Forest in King and Queen County, Lesesne State Forest in Nelson County (archery and blackpowder only within designated dates), Matthews State Forest in Grayson County (archery only in designated areas), Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest, and Sandy Point State Forest in King William County. A valid State Forest Use Permit and valid hunting license is required and may be purchased from licensed agents or online. Hunting is allowed on these properties only in accordance with state hunting regulations. No motorized vehicles, including ATVs, are permitted on gated roads and trail whether the gate is open or closed.

Further information on regulations governing the use of specific State Forest properties for hunting or other recreational activities is available at the Virginia Department of Forestry’s website (www.dof.virginia.gov/stateforest/recreation/hunting.htm) or by calling 804-492-4121.

National Parks

Hunting is prohibited in all National Parks in Virginia. For current information related to any permitted hunting activities view Park specific websites or contact via Park public information telephone lines. Example: Blue Ridge Parkway www.nps.gov/blri or (828) 298-0398.

Military Areas

**Fort A.P. Hill**
- **Archery**
  - October 6 through November 16. Either-sex all season.
- **Muzzleloading**
  - November 3 through 16. No Either-sex hunting.
- **General Firearms**
  - November 17 through January 5. See Fort A.P. Hill Hunting Regulations for either-sex hunting days.
  - One deer per day, two bucks total combining all seasons. See Fort A. P. Hill Hunting Regulations for antler restrictions.
  - Closed: at 12:00 p.m. Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve, and closed all day Christmas.
  - Contact Fish and Wildlife Branch (804) 633-8984 for details. Fort A.P. Hill regulations and requirements differ from state and county regulations.

**Fort Pickett**
- **Deer**: Archery
  - October 6 through November 16.
- **Muzzleloading**
  - November 3 through 16.
- **General Firearms**
  - November 17 through January 5. Two per day, six per year. See Fort Pickett Hunting Regulations for either-sex hunting days.
- **Quail**: Hunting permitted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays only.
  - All persons 12 years of age and older must present a hunter education certificate in order to purchase a Fort Pickett hunting permit. No apprentice licenses will be accepted. Contact the Ft. Pickett Game Check Station at (434) 292-2618 for further details about seasons and special restrictions. Open Tuesday-Saturday and closed on state-recognized holidays.

**Quantico Marine Reservation**
- **Deer**: Archery Season
  - October 6 through November 16.
- **General Firearms**
  - November 17 through January 5. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day. Open half day on Thanksgiving Day.
  - No Muzzleloading Season.

For hunting information, contact the Game Checking Stations at (703) 784-5523 or www.quantico.marines.mil/Offices-Staff/G-F-Installation-and-Environment/Natural-Resources-Environmental-Affairs/Quantico-Sportsman/Hunting/. The Game Checking Station is open seasonally, September–January and April–May.

Spring Turkey:
- April 6 is Youth/Apprentice Day
- April 13–May 18

Waterfowl hunting is also available during prescribed seasons.

Contact Outdoor Recreation staff at (703) 805-3081 for further details.

Federal Refuges

Hunting is allowed on the following National Wildlife Refuges in Virginia. For more information, contact the appropriate refuge manager at:

- **Back Bay**..............................(757) 301-7329
- **Chincoteague**...........................(757) 336-6122
- **Great Dismal Swamp**..............(757) 986-3705
- **Eastern Shore**..........................(757) 331-2760
- **Rappahannock**........................
- **River Valley**........................... (804) 333-1470
- **James River**............................(804) 829-9020
- **Plum Tree Island**....................(804) 829-9020
- **Presquile**..............................(804) 829-9020
- **Mason Neck/Occoquan**............(703) 490-4979

* Quota hunts are offered through the DGIF Quota Hunt program; see pages 62–68.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**John H. Kerr Reservoir**

The John H. Kerr Reservoir is a federally managed multipurpose facility located on the Virginia-North Carolina border. It consists of a 50,000 acre reservoir and 55,000 acres of land surrounding the lake which offers 40,000 acres open to hunting. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintains 26 wildlife management areas located around Kerr Reservoir.

For more information contact:

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

1930 Mays Chapel Road, Boydton, VA 23917

**John W. Flannagan Reservoir**

The John W. Flannagan Reservoir in western Dickenson County provides 6,400 acres of land open to public hunting. The area offers deer, black bear, wild turkey, and small game hunting opportunities.

For further information contact:

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

192 White Water Rd., Haysi, VA 24256-9739
(276) 835-9544 or https://CorpsLakes.erdc.dren.mil/visitors/projects.cfm?ID=H108550

Spring Turkey: April 6 is Youth/Apprentice Day April 13–May 18

Waterfowl hunting is also available during prescribed seasons.

Contact Outdoor Recreation staff at (703) 805-3081 for further details.
VIRGINIA WILDLIFE GRANT PROGRAM

WILDLIFE VIEWING, HUNTING, FISHING, ARCHERY. Outdoor activities like these are great opportunities for kids to put down their phones, learn, make new friends, and create a connection with nature that can last a lifetime. That’s why the Virginia Wildlife Grant Program was created – to provide funding to non-profits, schools, and local government with a focus on connecting youth to the outdoors.

Your Support Will Have A Huge Impact.

We want to do everything in our power to ensure that youth all across Virginia have the opportunity to explore and learn about everything the outdoors has to offer. That’s where you come in. If you feel a connection with our mission and want to contribute, we hope you will join us.

Visit virginiawildlife.gov/grant-program or email Tom Wilcox at tom.wilcox@dgif.virginia.gov for more details. Thank you!

Virginia Conservation Police
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The mission of the DGIF Law Enforcement Division’s Office of Professional Standards (O.P.S.) is to utilize best practices in order to provide the highest level of service and preserve public trust. The three essential functions of the O.P.S. are Recruitment, Training and Internal Affairs.

CORE VALUES
• Act with integrity
• Render a high standard of public service
• Perform in a way that promotes trust in our profession
• Treat others impartially with dignity & respect
• Take responsibility for one’s actions

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES
• Create a diverse and cohesive team environment to fulfill our agency mission
• Provide both the strategic direction and the necessary tools to be successful
• Follow accepted standards to measure our public service delivery system
• Employ proactive and collaborative efforts to enhance effectiveness and reduce risk
• Communicate and implement change in a positive and constructive manner

To learn more about the Office of Professional Standards, visit dgif.virginia.gov/ops
Virginia State Parks offer a wide variety of hunting opportunities as well as countless other outdoor activities for the entire family. Hunting opportunities range from open hunting in designated areas to managed deer hunts where individuals participate through a reservation or lottery system.

Specific sites that offer hunting may change from year to year. Managed deer hunts are a tool in Virginia State Parks’ overall deer management program. Participating hunters are asked to support our management efforts by following harvest guidelines associated with each hunt.

For more information about hunting in a Virginia State Park or to make reservations go on the Web at www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/hunting.shtml or call (800) 933-PARK (7275).

Overnight accommodations are available at many sites during part of the hunting season; contact the Customer Service Center or visit the website for additional information and to reserve cabins or campsites. Detailed hunting opportunities are listed below.

### Virginia State Parks and Natural Areas Hunting Opportunities 2018-2019 Season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>HUNTING DATES</th>
<th>RESERVATION PERIOD BEGINS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF HUNTERS/DAY</th>
<th>WEAPONS ALLOWED</th>
<th>RESERVATION FEE</th>
<th>HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIRED</th>
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<td>Belle Isle</td>
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<td>9/21</td>
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<td>9/5</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>9/21</td>
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**Key:**

- A ---- Archery
- M ---- Muzzleloading firearms
- S ---- Shotgun
- bs ---- buckshot only
- s ---- slugs only
- YM ---- Youth Muzzleloading firearms
- YG ---- Youth General Firearms
- * ---- special qualification required
- + ---- some slots allow for hunting buddy

Contact the State Parks Customer Service Center at 1-800-933-PARK (7275) to participate. All hunts have special regulations.
Reservation Hunts
Hunters may reserve a preferred day and at some sites, a preferred stand or zone. There is a non-refundable reservation fee of $15 per day; there may be limits to the number of reservations allowed per call. Proof of hunter education certification and required licenses must be presented at check-in. To make a reservation call the State Parks Customer Service Center at 1-800-933-PARK (7275) to participate.

Special Youth Hunts
A special youth muzzleloader hunt is planned for Monday, November 12 at Shenandoah River State Park. To participate, youth ages 12–17 should follow the same process as for our other hunts. Note that youth ages 16–17 may hunt alone, youth ages 12–15 must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult (with valid hunter safety certification).

Pocahontas Archery Hunt by Permit
Pocahontas State Park offers an opportunity for archery hunters to obtain a permit for archery hunting in special designated areas. Approximately 3,000 acres are open Monday through Thursday only to archery hunters who obtain a permit through the main park office. Permits are valid from October 8 through January 3 and are limited to a total of 100 permits. All normal VDGIF regulations and bag limits apply to this hunt. Proof of hunter safety education course completion is required to obtain a permit.

Special Southern Heritage Hunt
Chippokes Plantation State Park hosts a traditional hunting experience on Saturday, December 1. This is an old-fashioned hunt featuring three traditional meals, a blessing of the hounds, rides to and from the hunt stands and a butchering service. Reservations may be made up to one year in advance. Fee: $325/adult or youth 16 and older; $200/child, ages 12–17, if stand is shared with a paying adult; $50 per non-hunting companion.

Cooperative Hunts
Wheelin’ Sportsmen Hunt
There are three special opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in hunts. Special Muzzleloader hunts will be held at Shenandoah River State Park on Monday, Nov. 5, and at Lake Anna State Park on Tuesday, Nov. 6. A special General Firearms hunt will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17 at Staunton River State Park. Applications will be available August 1, and the deadline is September 30. Apply or download the application at http://vanwtf.com/wheelin.aspx. Contact Robin Clark, 434-249-6154, weezeel@aol.com for more info.

Mason Neck State Park
This hunt is run in conjunction with the Potomac River National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Hunt dates are Nov. 27, Dec. 4, and a bonus hunt day on Dec. 11. All selected hunters must attend an orientation and show proof of weapons qualification in order to participate. There is an application and hunt fee. Applications will be accepted from August 1 to September 15. Lottery information and applications are available by calling the Refuge office at 703-490-4979 or online at www.fws.gov/refuge/Mason_Neck/visit/deerhunt.html.

Claytor Lake State Park Youth Deer Hunting Workshop
This workshop and hunt for youth (ages 12–17) is held in conjunction with the VA Department of Game & Inland Fisheries on Dec. 7–8. Workshop includes a Friday evening seminar on deer biology/management, hunting safety/ethics and muzzleloader safety, and a Saturday guided muzzleloader hunt. Participants must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult, and meet all hunter education and licensing requirements. For more information and to register contact Tracy Howard at (540) 731-3639, tracy.howard@radford.va.gov.

Widewater State Park Novice Hunter Workshop
This workshop is held in cooperation with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries on Sept. 22 and 23 while the hunt will take place on Dec. 6 and Dec. 13. This workshop for novice hunters (ages 18 and over) will consist of two classroom sessions that cover a variety of topics beyond the required hunter education course, such as hunter safety, hunting laws, deer biology and habitat, and hunting techniques. The classroom sessions will be followed by two days of shotgun hunting with an assigned mentor. Any interested novice must mail a completed application with the non-refundable processing fee of $5 by Aug. 31 to Leesylvania State Park at 2001 Daniel K. Ludwig Drive, Woodbridge VA, 22191. Notifications will be sent out by Sep. 8 and upon being selected the final payment of $45 for the workshop and State Park hunting permit must be paid by Sept. 15. The final payment for the workshop can be made with the Customer Service Center at 800-933-PARK.

Hunters and Trappers
If you use a boat—remember to boat smart!

Wear Your Life Jacket

Safety Tips

✓ Check the weather before leaving.
✓ Wear a life jacket, vest or float coat.
✓ Anchor from the bow, never from the stern.
✓ Properly load your boat.
✓ Leave the alcohol at home.
✓ Stay with your boat if it should capsize.
✓ Guard against hypothermia.
✓ Remain seated and keep weight evenly distributed.

Don’t forget: Boating Safety Classes are Required

www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/education/requirement/
2018-2019 Quota Hunts

General Information/Application
Quota hunts provide hunters unique opportunities to access public lands that otherwise may be closed to hunting. Hunters can participate in random drawings to hunt waterfowl, white-tailed deer, black bear, quail, rabbits and turkeys. To participate, hunters must apply preseason and submit a non-refundable application fee. Applicants should be aware there is a risk and no guarantee that you will be selected for the hunt or hunt dates. Your application fee(s) will not be returned. Your application fee(s) are used to process the application, conduct computer random hunter selections and post online hunter notifications. Application fees are $7.50 for each hunt.

A hunter may only apply through the Department’s website at www.gooutdoors-virginia.com. Successful applicants can find their hunt materials online by logging into their Quota Hunts landing page.

New for the 2018-2019 Quota Hunt Season
- Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge Hunts are now administered through the refuge: https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Rappahannock_River_Valley/visit/visitor_activities.html
- Hunt #305 Oakley Forest WMA Multispecies Hunt
- Hunt #411 Oakley Forest WMA Spring Turkey Hunt

Quota Hunts Having Early Application Deadlines:
- Princess Anne WMA Early Season Waterfowl Hunt, Series #112 — Applications must be received on or before July 27, 2018
- Radford Army Ammunition Plant Deer Hunts, Series #211 — Applications must be received on or before Friday, July 27, 2018
- Adam’s Daniel Farm — Dove Hunt, Series, #609 - Application must be received on or before July 27, 2018

Waterfowl
Hog Island Wildlife Management Area (WMA) - Series #101
Hunt waterfowl at Hog Island WMA in Surry County. Hunt includes morning hunt until 11:00 a.m. each Saturday during the last segments of the duck season. Hunter check-in begins at 4:00 a.m. and ends promptly at 4:30 a.m. Stand-by drawings to replace “no show” vacancies will be held at 4:15 a.m.; individuals with a current “unsuccessful draw notification letter” will be given priority. Individuals age 16 years and older must have a valid picture ID for security. Hunting parties are provided a blind and boat. Decoys will no longer be provided for this hunt. Hunters without decoys may call (757) 357-5224 in advance for decoy availability. Nine hunters will be randomly selected for each day of hunting, and selected hunters may bring two guests. Limited access to the area requires hunters be transported by Department personnel to their blind location. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- Hunt dates: November 24; December 1, 15, 22, 29; January 5, 12, 19, 26
- Applications due: September 28, 2018

Princess Anne WMA Waterfowl Hunts - Series #102
Hunt waterfowl on managed impoundments at Princess Anne WMA in Virginia Beach. Hunt includes half day hunting each Saturday during the last two segments of the duck season. Four hunters will be randomly selected for each day of hunting and selected hunters may bring three guests. Hunter check-in is from 4:30-5:00 a.m. Stand-by drawings will be held to replace “no show” vacancies at 5:00 a.m.; individuals with a current “unsuccessful draw notification letter” will be given priority. Dogs are allowed and recommended. All hunters are required to stop hunting at 1:00 p.m. and have all decoys retrieved and be away from the impoundments by 2:00 p.m. Note: Hunters are to provide their own decoys.

- Hunt dates: November 24; December 1, 15, 22, 29; January 5, 12, 19, 26
- Applications due: September 28, 2018

Dutch Gap Conservation Area Waterfowl Hunts - Series #103
Hunt waterfowl on the Dutch Gap Conservation Area in Chesterfield County. Hunt days are during the last two segments of the duck season. Three hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunting dates and selected hunters may bring two guests. Hunting is from floating blinds at designated blind stakes only.

- Hunt days: Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays
- Hunt dates: November 22-24; Nov. 29-Dec. 1; December 20-22; 27-29; January 3-5; 10-12, 17-19; 24-26
- Applications due: September 28, 2018

Tundra Swan Permit - Series #104
Tundra Swan hunting is by permit only. Each permit holder will be authorized to take one tundra swan. The hunt area is limited to east of U.S. Route I-95 and south of Choppawamisc Creek on the Prince William / Stafford County line.

- Tundra Swan season: November 21–January 31
- Applications due: September 28, 2018

Lake Orange Waterfowl Hunts - Series #105
Hunt waterfowl on Lake Orange, Orange County. Hunt days are Wednesdays and Saturdays during the last two segments of the duck season. One hunter will be randomly selected for each hunt date and selected hunters may bring two guests. Hunting will only be allowed on a designated section(s) of Lake Orange. Only floating blinds, anchored within 50 feet of shore, or portable blinds along the designated shoreline will be allowed.

- Hunt dates: November 21, 24, 28; December 1, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29; January 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26
- Applications due: September 28, 2018

Dick Cross WMA Waterfowl Hunts - Series #106
Hunt waterfowl on designated impoundments at Dick Cross WMA in Mecklenburg County. Hunt days are every Wednesday during the last two segments of the duck season. Two hunters will be randomly selected for each hunt date and selected hunters may bring two guests. Hunt begins one half hour before sunrise and end at 3:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Hunters must provide decoys. Dogs are allowed. There are no boat landings or direct vehicular access provided. Small boats or canoes may be used but must be transported on foot.

- Hunt dates: November 21, 28; December 19, 26; January 2, 9, 16, 23
- Applications due: September 28, 2018

Princess Anne WMA Floating Blind Stake Waterfowl Hunts - Series #107
Hunt waterfowl for half days on the waters of Back Bay and the North Landing River in the City of Virginia Beach during the last two segments of the duck season. There are 55 floating blind stakes available for hunting. Drawing order will be randomly selected for each hunt day prior to the hunting season. Each hunting day, hunters present will select their blind in the order assigned by the preseason drawing. Drawings start promptly at 5:00 a.m. Hunters who are late or without a draw number can participate in a standby drawing starting after the quota drawing. Limited water access to the area requires that all hunting parties have a boat/float blind and float blind license. All hunters are required to stop hunting at 1:00 p.m. and have all decoys retrieved and be away from the blind stakes by 2:00 p.m. It is recommended that each hunting party visit the hunting area prior to the season to locate boat access, blind stakes, and scout the area in general. You must be familiar with the area to locate the blind stakes before shooting time! See Princess Anne WMA page for maps.

- Hunt days: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays
- Please note: On Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) - the blind stakes at Princess Anne WMA will be open without quota on a first-come, first-served basis
- Hunt dates: Nov. 21, 24, 26, 28; Dec. 1, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29; Jan. 2, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26
- Applications due: September 28, 2018
**Game Farm Marsh (WMA) #113**

Hunt waterfowl on the Game Farm Marsh WMA in New Kent County. Seven parties will be randomly selected to hunt the area on these days. Each successful applicant will be allowed two guests and must check-in with Department staff at Eagles Landing by 5:00 a.m. Stand-by drawings to replace "no show" vacancies will be held at 5:15 a.m.; individuals with a current "unsuccessful draw notification letter" will be given priority. Hunt locations will be on a "first-come, first-served" basis and hunting parties are asked to maintain a respectful distance from each other. A limited number of DGIF-licensed stationary blinds are available on the area. Hunters may use these blinds if desired, but are not required to hunt from the blinds. Hunters may also hunt from floating blinds or while standing on Game Farm Marsh property. Hunting out of floating blinds is not permitted within 500 yards of any privately licensed stationary blinds. Hunters may not occupy the area before 5:00 a.m. and must vacate the area by 1:00 p.m. Successfully drawn hunters must have their award notification with them during the hunt period. No other equipment is provided. You will need a boat to access the WMA. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- **Hunt dates:** Opening days, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and some holidays
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018
- **More information:** USFWS or (804) 829-9020.

**Princess Anne WMA Early Season Waterfowl Hunt #112**

Hunt September Canada geese/teal (during the September teal season) and waterfowl (during the October waterfowl season) on the Princess Anne WMA and North Landing River in Virginia Beach. Resident goose season prior to the teal season is open on a first-come, first-served basis. Quota hunting begins with the opening of teal season. There are 55 floating blind stakes available for hunting. Drawing order will be randomly selected for each hunt day prior to the hunting season. Each hunt day, hunters present will select their blind in the order assigned by the preseason drawing. Drawings start promptly at 5:00 a.m. Hunters who are late or without a draw number can participate in a standby drawing after the quota drawing. Limited water access to the area requires that all hunting parties have a boat/float blind and float blind license. All hunters are required to stop hunting at 1:00 p.m. and have all decoys retrieved and be away from the blind stakes by 2:00 p.m. It is recommended that each hunting party visit the hunting area prior to the season to locate boat access, blind stakes, and scout the area in general. You must be familiar with the area to locate the blind stakes before shooting time!

- **Hunt dates:** Three days weekly, Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Opening Day.
- **Hunt dates:** September 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29; October 5, 6, 8
- **Applications due:** July 27, 2018

**Hog Island WMA Deer Archery Deer Hunts - Series #201**

Archery hunting for white-tailed deer on the Hog Island WMA in Surry County. Seven hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunters must be present for a 4:45 a.m. pre-hunt briefing on first hunt day of assigned period. Stand-by drawings will be held to fill “no-show” vacancies at 5:00 a.m. on first day of each hunt period. Individuals age 16 years and older must have a valid picture ID for security. Pre-application scouting is highly recommended.

- **Hunt dates archery:** October 6-10 (no Sunday hunting), 11-13, 15-17, 18-20
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

**Mockhorn Island WMA Deer Hunts - Series #204**

Muzzleloader hunting for white-tailed deer on the GATR Tract of Mockhorn Island WMA in Northampton County. The 365-acre GATR Tract is the mainland portion of Mockhorn Island WMA on the Eastern Shore. This tract is accessible by vehicle. Two hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt dates and selected hunters may bring one guest.

- **Hunt dates:** November 3-7 (no Sunday hunting), 8-10, 12-14, 15-16
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

**Presquile National Wildlife Refuge - Series #210**

Archery hunting for white-tailed deer on the Presquile National Wildlife Refuge in Chesterfield County. Presquile is an island in the James River near Hopewell, Virginia. Hunters must provide their own boat access to the island and hunting gear. The nearest boat launch access to the refuge is from Deep Bottom public boat ramp (Henrico County) or Hopewell Marina (launch fee collected on site), City of Hopewell. Please note: For successful applicants a $20 hunt permit fee is charged to cover both the applicant and one guest.

- **Hunt dates:** November 19, 24; December 8
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018
- **More information:** USFWS or (804) 829-9020.
Radford Army Ammunition Plant Deer Hunts - Series #211
Hunt quality white-tailed deer at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RAAP) in Pulaski County. Bow hunting and shotgun hunting are allowed. Hunters and the day they will hunt are selected by computer drawing. Hunters must apply for and participate in an antlerless hunt before they are eligible to apply for and participate in a buck hunt. Applications are limited to one per hunter per year. Hunters who are drawn must submit a background check as required by the Department of Defense. Information regarding background checks will be supplied to successful applicants.

- **Hunt dates archery:** October 6-27 (no Sunday hunting)
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018
- **More information:** USFWS or (804) 829-9020.

Lone Star Lakes Park - Series #214 (Muzzleloader/Archery)
Hunting for white-tailed deer within Suffolk’s Lone Star Lakes Park. Eight hunters will be randomly selected for hunt dates and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunters must be present for a 5:00 a.m. pre-hunt briefing on the first day of assigned period. Please note: For successful applicants there will be an additional hunt fee of $25.00 due on the day of the hunt for the City of Suffolk. Please make checks payable to Ronald H. Williams, Treasurer. Stand-by drawings for no-shows slots will be held prior to the pre-hunt briefing on a walk-in basis only.

- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

Lone Star Lakes Park - Series #215 (Urban Archery Hunting)
Archery hunting for ANTLERLESS white-tailed deer only within Suffolk’s Lone Star Lakes Park. This hunt is part of the new Urban Archery season which has been incorporated within the City of Suffolk. Eight hunters will be randomly selected for hunt dates and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunters must be present for a 5:00 a.m. pre-hunt briefing on the first day of assigned period. Please note: For successful applicants there will be an additional hunt fee of $25.00 due on the day of the hunt for the City of Suffolk. Please make all checks payable to Ronald H. Williams, Treasurer. Stand-by drawings for no-show slots will be held prior to the pre-hunt briefing on a walk-in basis only.

- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

Lone Star Lakes Park - Series #219 (Hunters Choice)
Hunting for white-tailed deer within Suffolk’s Lone Star Lakes Park. Eight hunters will be randomly selected for the hunt dates and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunters must be present for a 5:00 a.m. pre-hunt briefing on the first hunt day of assigned period. Please note: For successful applicants there will be an additional hunt fee of $25.00 due on the day of the hunt for the City of Suffolk. Please make all checks payable to Ronald H. Williams, Treasurer. Stand-by drawings for no-show slots will be held prior to the pre-hunt briefing on a walk-in basis only.

- **Applications due:** October 13-20
- **Applications due shotgun:** November 7, 14, 17, 24, 28 and December 1
- **Applications due:** On or before July 27, 2018
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

Multi-Species WMA Hunts

Featherfin WMA - Series #302
Hunt any game species in season on the Featherfin WMA in Appomattox, Buckingham, and Prince Edward counties. Fourteen hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunters may bring one guest. Applicants who do not receive their preferred hunt dates will be assigned random hunt dates. Hunter quota restrictions do not apply on open hunting season dates other than those listed below. A special 4-pt. antler rule is posted and applies during all open deer seasons.

- **Hunt dates:** November 3-7 (no Sunday hunting)
- **Hunt time:** Gates open 1 hour before sunrise till 1 hour after sunset
- **Selected:** 10 Selected with 1 Guest Allowed, 1 must be a Licensed APPRENTICE
- **All Applications due:** September 28, 2018

Merrimac Farm WMA - Series #303
Hunt any game species in season (except quail) on Merrimac Farm WMA in Prince William County. One hunter will be randomly selected for each hunt day and selected hunters may bring up to two guests. When hunting deer with a muzzleloader or shotgun, hunters must use an elevated stand. Two handicapped accessible blinds are located on the WMA and are available for disabled hunter use. Dogs may be used to find and retrieve game, except that dogs may not be used to pursue deer. September 29 is the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day.

- **Hunt dates:** November 3-7 (no Sunday hunting)
- **Hunt time:** Gates open 1 hour before sunrise till 1 hour after sunset
- **Selected:** 25 Selected with 1 Guest Allowed, 1 must be a Licensed APPRENTICE
- **All Applications due:** September 28, 2018

Youth Hunter - York River Archery/ Crossbow Hunt - Series #218
This archery and crossbow hunt allows hunters to hunt for 7 days on designated lands at the York River State Park in James City County. All successful adult applicants must bring one Licensed YOUTH Hunter (age 12–15) as their guest to hunt. YOUTH HUNTERS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO APPLY but must bring a Licensed Adult Hunter as a guest.

- **Hunt dates:** November 3-10 (no Sunday hunting)
- **Hunt time:** Gates open 1 hour before sunrise till 1 hour after sunset
- **Selected:** 10 Selected with 1 Guest Allowed, 1 must be a Licensed YOUTH
- **All Applications due:** September 28, 2018

Merrimac Farm WMA - Series #303
Hunt any game species in season (except quail) on Merrimac Farm WMA in Prince William County. One hunter will be randomly selected for each hunt day and selected hunters may bring up to two guests. When hunting deer with a muzzleloader or shotgun, hunters must use an elevated stand. Two handicapped accessible blinds are located on the WMA and are available for disabled hunter use. Dogs may be used to find and retrieve game, except that dogs may not be used to pursue deer. September 29 is the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day. Adults
are not permitted to carry firearms on this day if they are accompanying a youth or apprentice deer hunter. The successful applicant may chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter on September 29. If a youth or apprentice hunter is selected for September 29, they can hunt as long as they are accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older.

- **Hunt dates:** September 29; October 6, 10, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29, 31; November 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 28; December 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 24, 26, 29, 31; January 1, 5
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

**Adams Daniel Farm #304**

Hunt any game species in season on the Adams Daniel Farm in Pittsylvania County. This property is owned by the Wildlife Foundation of Virginia. One hunter will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunter may bring one licensed guest. Dogs may be used to find and retrieve game, except that dogs may not be used to pursue deer, turkey or bear. Selected applicants will be issued a hunting pass which must be carried and a windshield pass which must be displayed. Youth/ Apprentice Hunting weekends include September 29-30 for Deer, October 13-14 for Bear, and October 20-21 for Turkey. Adults are not permitted to carry firearms on these days if they are accompanying a youth or apprentice hunter. The selected applicant may chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter during Youth/Apprentice hunting days. If a youth or apprentice hunter is selected, they can hunt as long as they are accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older. There is a limit of one deer or one turkey per hunter per hunting segment.

- **Hunt dates:** September 29-30; October 6-7, 12-14, 19-21, 26-28; November 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, December 7-9, 14-16, 21-23, 28-30; January 4-5
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

**Oakley Forest WMA – Series #305**

Hunt any game species in season on the Oakley Forest WMA in Spotsylvania County. Ten hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunters may bring one guest. Applicants who do not receive their preferred hunt dates will be assigned random hunt dates. Hunter quota restrictions do not apply on open hunting season dates other than those listed below. A special 4-pt. antler rule is posted and applies during all open deer seasons.

- **Hunt dates:** November 3-7 (no Sunday Hunting), 8-10, 12-14, 15-17, 19-21, 22-24, 26-28, Nov. 29-Dec. 1, 3-5, 6-8, 10-12, 13-15, 17-19, 20-22, 24-26, 27-29 and Dec. 31 – Jan. 2, 3-5
- **Applications due:** August 31, 2018

**Spring Turkey Hunts**

**Featherfin WMA – Series #401**

Hunt spring gobblers on the Featherfin WMA in Appomattox, Buckingham, and Prince Edward counties. Six hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect on the Youth/Apprentice Hunt Day (April 6, 2019) and from May 6-18, 2019.

- **Hunt dates:** April 13-17 (no Sunday hunting), 18-20, 22-24, 25-27; April 29-May 1, 2-4
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Amelia WMA – Series #402**

Hunt spring gobblers on the Amelia WMA in Amelia County. Three hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect on the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day (April 6, 2019) and from May 6-18, 2019.

- **Hunt dates:** April 13-17 (no Sunday hunting), 18-20, 22-24, 25-27; April 29-May 1, 2-4
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Mockhorn Island WMA Spring Turkey Hunts – Series #403**

Hunt spring gobblers on the GATR Tract of Mockhorn Island WMA, Northampton County. The GATR Tract is the mainland part of Mockhorn Island WMA on the Eastern Shore. One hunter will be randomly selected for each hunting segment and selected hunters may bring two guests. April 6, 2019 is a youth/apprentice turkey hunting day. Adults are not permitted to carry firearms on this day. To apply for the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, applicants must be licensed adults 18 years of age or older. The successful applicant must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter on April 6. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect from April 29-May 18, 2019.

- **Hunt dates:** April 13-17 (no Sunday hunting), 18-20, 22-24, 25-27; April 29-May 1, 2-4
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Merrimac Farm WMA - Series #404**

Hunt spring gobblers on Merrimac Farm WMA in Prince William County. One hunter will be randomly selected for each hunt segment and selected hunters may bring one guest. Each hunter may harvest no more than one turkey for the entire spring season on Merrimac Farm WMA. April 6, 2019 is the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day. Adults are not permitted to carry firearms on this day. The successful applicant must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter on April 6. If a youth or apprentice hunter is selected for Segment 1, which includes the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, they can hunt as long as they are accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older.

- **Hunt dates:** Saturdays, Mondays and Thursdays only.
  - **Segment 1:** April 6 (Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day), 13, 15, 18
  - **Segment 2:** April 20, 22, 25
  - **Segment 3:** April 27, 29, May 2
  - **Segment 4:** May 4, 6, 9
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Doe Creek WMA Spring Turkey Hunts - Series #405**

Hunt spring gobblers on the Doe Creek WMA and Mink Farm Tract in Accomack County. These lands are on the bayside of the Eastern Shore. Three hunters will be randomly selected for each hunt segment and selected hunters may bring two guests. A permit to access Mink Farm Tract will be included in the packet and must be signed and carried. Guests must hunt with the applicant. April 6, 2019 is the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day. Adults are not permitted to carry firearms on this day. To apply for the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, applicants must be licensed adults 18 years of age or older. The successful applicant must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter on April 6. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect from April 29-May 18, 2019.

- **Hunt dates:** April 6, (Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day only), April 13-17 (no Sunday hunting), and 18-20, 22-24, 25-27
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Apprentice Hunter- New Kent Forestry Center Spring Turkey - Series #408**

This is a 1 day opportunity to take and mentor an APPRENTICE Hunter, on a Spring Turkey Hunt on designated lands at New Kent Forestry Center. All successful applicants must bring one Licensed APPRENTICE Hunter as their guest to hunt. APPRENTICE HUNTERS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO APPLY but must bring a Licensed Hunter as a guest.

- **Hunt date:** April 27
- **Hunt time:** 1 Hour before sunrise to noon
- **Selected:** 4 Selected on date, 1 guest allowed, 1 must be Apprentice Licensed
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Ware Creek WMA – Spring Turkey – Series # 409**

Hunt spring gobblers on the Ware Creek WMA in New Kent County. Five hunters will be randomly selected for each hunt segment and selected hunters may bring two guests. Guests must hunt with the applicant. Successfully drawn hunters must have their award notification with them during the hunt period. April 6, 2019 is the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day. Only Youth and/or Apprentice Licensed Hunters may carry a weapon and one accompanying person must be a licensed adult 18 years of age or older. To apply for the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, applicants must be licensed adults 18 years of age or older. The successful applicant must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or older.
of age or younger or an apprentice hunter on April 6. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect from April 20-May 18.

- **Hunt date:** April 6 (Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day only), April 13-17 (no Sunday hunting), and 18-20, 22-24, 25-27.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Adams Daniel Farm – Spring Turkey – Series #410**

Hunt spring gobblers on the Adams Daniel Farm in Pittsylvania County. One hunter will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and selected hunters may bring one licensed guest. Each hunter may not harvest more than one turkey. April 6-7, 2019 is the Youth/Apprentice Hunting Weekend. Adults are not permitted to carry firearms on Youth/Apprentice Weekend and must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter. If a youth or apprentice hunter 18 years old or older applies and is selected for the Youth/Apprentice Weekend, they can hunt as long as they are accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older. Selected applicants will be issued a hunting pass which must be carried and a windshield pass which must be displayed.

- **Hunt dates:** April 6-7 Youth and Apprentice Weekend, April 13-14, 19-21, 26-28, May 3-5 10-12, 17-18.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Oakley Forest WMA – Series #411**

Hunt spring gobblers on the Oakley Forest WMA in Spotsylvania County. A total of six hunters are selected to hunt during each set of hunt days. Successful applicants will be entitled to bring one guest. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect on the Youth/Apprentice Hunt Day (April 6, 2019) and from May 6 – May 18, 2019.

- **Hunt dates:** April 13-17 (no Sunday hunting), 18-20, 22-24, 25-27, 29-May 1, 2-4.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Small Game**

**New Kent Forestry Center Rabbit Hunts - Series #602**

Hunt rabbits on designated lands at the New Kent Forestry Center in Providence Forge. Dogs are encouraged. One hunter will be randomly selected for the hunt day and selected hunter may bring four licensed guests.

- **Hunt date:** February 16.
- **Hunt time:** Sunrise-Sunset.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**New Kent Forestry Quail Hunt - Series #603**

Hunt quail on designated lands at the Department of Forestry Center in Providence Forge. Dogs are encouraged. One hunter will be randomly selected for the hunt day and selected hunter may bring two guests.

- **Hunt date:** January 12.
- **Hunt time:** Sunrise-Sunset.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Apprentice Hunter - New Kent Forestry Center Rabbit Hunts #606**

Take this opportunity to hunt designated and managed lands for rabbits and mentor an APPRENTICE Licensed Hunter at New Kent Forestry Center in Providence Forge. Dogs are encouraged. One hunter will be randomly selected for the hunt day and selected hunter may bring four guests. At least one guest must be an Apprentice Hunting Licensed hunter. APPRENTICE HUNTERS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO APPLY but must bring a Licensed Adult Hunter as a guest.

- **Hunt date:** February 9.
- **Hunt time:** Sunrise to sunset.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Apprentice Hunter - New Kent Forestry Center Quail Hunt #607**

Take this opportunity to hunt designated and managed lands for quail and mentor an APPRENTICE Licensed Hunter at New Kent Forestry Center in Providence Forge, New Kent County. Dogs are encouraged. One hunter will be randomly selected for the hunt day and selected hunter may bring two guests. One guest must be an Apprentice Hunting Licensed hunter. APPRENTICE HUNTERS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO APPLY but must bring a Licensed Adult Hunter as a guest.

- **Hunt date:** January 5.
- **Hunt time:** Sunrise to sunset.
- **Applications due:** September 28, 2018

**Adams Daniel Farm – Dove Hunt #609**

Hunt doves on managed fields on the Adams Daniel Farm in Pittsylvania County during the early dove season segment. Eight hunters will be randomly selected for each hunt day and selected hunters may bring one guest. Selected applicants will be issued a hunting pass which must be carried and a windshield pass which must be displayed. Dogs are allowed. Hunting hours are from 12 noon until sunset. HIP number required.

- **Hunt dates:** September 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15.
- **Applications due:** July 27, 2018

**Hog Island - Youth October Waterfowl Day**

The Department in cooperation with The Wildlife Foundation of Virginia will host a youth waterfowl hunting day for 20 youths on the Hog Island WMA in Surry County. Only youth may hunt and carry a firearm. The hunt is restricted to youths (15 years of age and under) and each youth must be accompanied by a licensed adult. All youth hunters must register for this event and registration will be first-come, first-serve. To register, contact the Hog Island WMA between September 14–21, 2018, at (757) 357-5224. There are no blinds or decoys provided for these hunts. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- **Hunt date:** October 20.
- **Hunters to arrive by:** 4:30 a.m.

**Hog Island-Youth February Waterfowl Day**

This is an opportunity for nine youths to hunt waterfowl on the Hog Island WMA in Surry County on the February Youth Waterfowl Hunt Day. Only youths may hunt and carry a firearm. The hunt is restricted to youths (15 years of age and under) and each youth must be accompanied by a licensed adult. All youth hunters must register for this event and registration will be first-come, first-serve. To register, contact the Hog Island WMA between January 4-18, 2019, at (757) 357-5224. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- **Hunt date:** February 2, 2019.
- **Hunters to arrive by:** 4:30 a.m.
**Public Hunting**

**Managed Hunts and Workshops**

**Princess Anne WMA Impoundments September Canada Goose/Teal Hunts and October Waterfowl**

This is an opportunity to hunt September Canada goose/teal and waterfowl during the October waterfowl season on the Princess Anne WMA in Virginia Beach. The area's impoundment system will be open on a first-come, first-served basis for half-day hunting on Saturdays. All hunters are required to stop hunting at 1:00 p.m. and have all decoys retrieved and be away from the impoundments by 2:00 p.m. Hunters are required to park in the designated parking areas off Munden Road. There are no blinds or decoys provided for these hunts.

- **Hunt days:** Saturdays
- **Hunt dates:**
  - September Geese: September 1, 8, 15, 22
  - September Teal: September 22, 29
  - October Waterfowl: October 6
- **Hunters may not occupy area before 5:00 a.m.**

**Princess Anne WMA Light Goose Conservation Order Season (Snow and Ross' Geese)**

This is an opportunity for float blind hunters to hunt snow geese (light geese) at the Princess Anne WMA after the general duck season. The Princess Anne blind stakes and impoundments at Back Bay are available for snow goose hunting after the general duck season. These hunts will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Daily hunting times will be one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. The impoundments are open for late snow goose hunting on Wednesdays, Saturdays and state holidays. The blind stakes may be hunted Mondays–Saturdays.

- **Conservation Order Season:** February 1–April 5, 2019 (No Sunday hunting).

**Princess Anne WMA - Youth Waterfowl Days**

Float blind stakes and the impoundments will be open on a first-come, first-served basis to youth 15 years or younger who accompanied by an adult on youth waterfowl hunting days. Only youth may hunt and carry a firearm. Youth hunters must be accompanied by a licensed adult. There are no blinds or decoys provided for these hunts.

- **Hunt dates:** October 20 and February 2
- **Hunters may not occupy area before 5:00 a.m.**

**Managed Deer Hunts**

**Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Managed Deer - Series #701**

Public deer hunting by shotgun and bow on Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, in designated areas. Either-sex deer may be taken all season. Hunting conditions could be considered “rigorous.” First time hunters are encouraged to visit the Refuge and attend scouting day to familiarize themselves with hunting conditions. During the hunt, some areas may close early or be closed completely due to weather, road conditions, or emergency operations. There is a refuge fee of $15.00. For more information and details on how to stay updated during the hunt, please visit the Great Dismal Swamp NWR website. Hunters must purchase a Refuge Deer Hunting Permit by going to the GoOutdoors Virginia license website.

- **Scouting date:** September 29, 2018
- **Hunt dates:** October 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, and November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17

**Princess Anne WMA October Archery**

Archery hunt for deer on the Whitehurst and Beasley tracts of Princess Anne WMA in Virginia Beach. Permits will not longer be required. Hunters must stay within the wooded areas, or along wooded edges while hunting. No hunting in the impoundments. Hunters are required to park in the designated parking areas off Munden Road, and scouting is allowed on Sundays.

- **Hunting days:** Mondays–Saturdays
- **Hunt dates:** October 1-31 (Buck only October 1-5)
- **Hunters may not occupy area before 5:00 a.m.**

**C. F. Phelps WMA Deer Hunt for the Disabled**

This is an opportunity for disabled hunters, defined as mobility impaired due to a permanent physical condition, to hunt deer on the Hogue Tract of C.F. Phelps WMA in Fauquier County. Two hunters will be chosen by random drawing to hunt each day during the archery, muzzleloader, and general firearm deer seasons. Each successful applicant may be accompanied by one companion who may hunt if properly licensed. Applications for this managed hunt must include the name, address, telephone number(s) (home, cell, and/or business), e-mail address, hunting license number, vehicle description and vehicle license number of the disabled hunter and companion hunter/helper, and 2 preferred hunting dates for each season they want to hunt. Please indicate which blinds you want to hunt for each of your preferred hunting dates (there are only two choices, blinds 1 & 2 or blinds 3 & 4). Mail the application to: Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, ATTN: Hogue Tract Hunt, 1320 Belman Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. Applications must be received by the close of business on September 7, 2018.

- **Hunting days:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and State Holidays
- **Archery hunt dates:** October 6-31
- **Muzzleloader hunt dates:** November 3 through November 14
- **Firearms hunt dates:** November 17 through December 1

**Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve Deer Hunt**

This is an opportunity to hunt deer on Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve in Loudoun County. For more information go to www.loudoun.gov/webtrac or call 703-777-0343.

**Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge Deer Hunt**

Selected hunters must attend an orientation and show proof of weapons qualification in order to participate. There is an application and hunting fee. Lottery information and applications are available by calling the Refuge office at 703-490-4979 or online at http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Occoquan_Bay/Visit/DeerHunt.html.

**Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge and State Park Deer Hunt**

Selected hunters must attend an orientation and show proof of weapons qualification in order to participate. There is an application and hunting fee. Lottery information and applications are available by calling the Refuge office at 703-490-4979 or online at www.fws.gov/refuge/Mason_Neck/Visit/deerhunt.html.

**Bear**

**Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge - Series #501**

Shotgun hunting (slugs only) for black bears on Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, in designated areas of the Virginia portion of the refuge. A total of 100 hunters will be selected to hunt on a first-come first-serve basis. Hunters must purchase a purchase a Refuge Bear Hunt Permit from the Go Outdoors Virginia License website. The Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries has partnered with the Great Dismal Swamp NWR to sponsor two bear hunting opportunities. For more information about the bear hunt program, visit the Great Dismal Swamp NWR website.

- **Scouting date:** November 1 (also a deer hunt permit can be purchased for additional scouting access to hunt areas prior to the scouting day; see deer hunt # 701)
- **Hunt dates:** November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 (permittee hunt six days)

**Novice Deer Hunter Workshops**

The Virginia Department Game & Inland Fisheries has partnered with Loudoun County and Virginia State Parks to sponsor two novice deer hunter workshops and hunts. One will take place at Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve in Loudoun County on October 20–21 with hunt days on December 7, 14, and 21. The other will be at Widewater State Park in Stafford County on December 6 and 13.
PUBLIC HUNTING
MANAGED HUNTS AND WORKSHOPS

These workshops are to educate novice hunters beyond the state required hunter education course and to prepare them for real field experiences. These workshops for novice hunters 18 and over will consist of two days of classroom sessions that cover hunter safety, deer habitat, and hunting technique. Classroom sessions will be followed by hunting days of shotgun hunting (archery hunting also available at Banshee Reeks only) with an assigned mentor.

**Banshee Reeks Workshop**

Persons interested for the Banshee Reeks workshop must register for the lottery through Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Services (PRCS). Individuals must first establish a free household account. New and existing household account information is available online at [www.loudoun.gov/webtrac](http://www.loudoun.gov/webtrac). After establishing a household account number and password, hunters can register for the lottery.

The lottery registration fee is $15 per chance. A $60 fee is required if selected in the lottery.

Online registration begins, August 1 and runs through 12:00 a.m. (midnight), August 31, 2018. In-person lottery registration will also be available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the PRCS Administrative Office, 20145 Ashbrook Place, Ashburn, VA 20147. For additional registration assistance, call 703-777-0343.

**Widewater State Park**

Persons interested in the Widewater State Park workshop should see page 61. For any additional information contact Leesylvania State Park, 2001 Daniel K. Ludwig Dr., Woodbridge, VA 22191; Phone: 703-730-8205; Email: Leesylvania@dcr.virginia.gov

The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries reserves the right to manage hunter access and hunter use on Department-owned and controlled lands as deemed appropriate.

This program received Federal financial assistance in Sport Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to the Office for Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 300, Arlington, VA 22203.
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---

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### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### SUNSET/SUNRISE TIMETABLE

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Location:** W077 28, N37 32
- **U. S. Naval Observatory**
- **Washington, DC 20392-5420**
- **Astronomical Applications Dept.**

#### Sunrise and Sunset Timetable – Richmond, Virginia

**Times below are Eastern Standard Time and reflect Daylight Saving Time when in use.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>CORRECTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>+19 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Charles</td>
<td>-6 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlottesville</td>
<td>+4 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chincoteague</td>
<td>-8 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danville</td>
<td>+8 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fredericksburg</td>
<td>0 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Information obtained from:**

- **Astronomical Applications Dept.**
  - Location: W077 28, N37 32
  - U. S. Naval Observatory
  - Washington, DC 20392-5420

**Eastern Standard Time**

- **Washington, DC 20392-5420**

**Location:** W077 28, N37 32

#### LOCATION CORRECTION

- **(AM) RISE**
- **(PM) SET**

- **JULY 2018**
- **AUG. 2018**
- **SEPT. 2018**
- **OCT. 2018**
- **NOV. 2018**
- **DEC. 2018**
- **JAN. 2019**
- **FEB. 2019**
- **MAR. 2019**
- **APR. 2019**
- **MAY 2019**
- **JUNE 2019**

### Apply corrections below to Richmond sunrise-sunset times to obtain official times at other Virginia locations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>CORRECTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newport News</td>
<td>-5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norfolk</td>
<td>-5 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roanoke</td>
<td>+10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tazewell</td>
<td>+16 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamsburg</td>
<td>-3 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester</td>
<td>+3 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Website:** [WWW.DGIF.VIRGINIA.GOV](http://WWW.DGIF.VIRGINIA.GOV)
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