

HUNTING & TRAPPING IN VIRGINIA

July 2019-June 2020



Virginia Department of Game and
Inland Fisheries

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HUNTING & TRAPPING IN VIRGINIA

July 2019-June 2020



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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:

Bobcat, photo © Ron Salmon



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| | |
|---|-----------|
| GENERAL INFORMATION | 4 |
| BEAR HUNTING REGULATIONS | 28 |
| DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS | 32 |
| TURKEY HUNTING REGULATIONS | 44 |
| SMALL GAME HUNTING REGULATIONS | 46 |
| FURBEARER HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS | 48 |
| PUBLIC HUNTING LANDS REGULATIONS | 54 |

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.

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Meghan Marchetti / DGIF



As I am writing this, we have just completed another spring turkey season. I was fortunate to begin the season with a youth hunter that I met through an essay contest for the Virginia One Shot Turkey Hunt in 2018. We were unsuccessful on the day of the event (an excited missed opportunity), but I was impressed by the young man, his desire to hunt and his attitude. When youth turkey weekend was approaching and I did not have a partner, I contacted his parents and we worked out the details to get together for the weekend. Luckily, the birds cooperated mid-afternoon and he harvested a mature Tom that strutted in around 5:00.

After 43 years of hunting spring turkeys in Virginia, this has been one of my favorites and I didn't even tag a bird. During the past generation, we have lost nearly 50% of hunters that we once had. If each one of us had nurtured and mentored one new

hunter, our numbers would be the same. Two and we would have doubled. Historically hunters, anglers and boaters have been the backbone of wildlife conservation in this country providing billions of dollars for conservation. Our license and tax dollars have supported the recovery of numerous species and protected habitat for all wildlife.

Engaging people in the outdoors is a priority for DGIF and with the help of our new R3 initiative, we will be able to recruit, retain and reactivate people participating in outdoor activities like hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, boating, and recreational shooting. As people today are spending less and less time outdoors, it is vitally important that DGIF engages new audiences and communicates the importance of mentorship with our current constituents. This year, DGIF will be launching a new Adult Hunting Mentor program that will match current hunters with new adult hunters who need help and more experience in the field. We have also developed a new Refer-A-Friend program to motivate current participants to introduce someone new to the outdoors.

Let us make it a priority to create a future in the outdoors. Take time to mentor someone and introduce him or her to the outdoors. I think you will find that it will be as enjoyable for you as it is for them.

Gary Martel, Acting Executive Director

VIRGINIA'S WILDLIFE RESTORATION PROGRAM AND YOU



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 approximately \$12 million each year from this program, which funds a large portion of the Department's habitat management and wildlife population research projects.

Meghan Marchetti / DGIF



Williamstown, MA | Birmingham, AL

About This Guide

This high-quality guide is offered to you by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

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Headquarters

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Henrico, VA 23228
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Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 90778
Henrico, VA 23228-0778

Note: The Headquarters Office is the only Department location where public visitors may purchase licenses and title/register a boat. These services are not available at the Regional Offices.

Regional Offices

Region 1

3801 John Tyler Memorial Hwy.
Charles City, VA 23030
(804) 829-6580

Region 2

1132 Thomas Jefferson Road
Forest, VA 24551-9223
(434) 525-7522

Region 3

1796 Highway Sixteen
Marion, VA 24354
(276) 783-4860

Region 4

P.O. Box 996, 517 Lee Highway
Verona, VA 24482
(540) 248-9360

1320 Belman Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 899-4169



Additional Contacts

Report Wildlife Violations Only
(800) 237-5712 or wildcrime@dgif.virginia.gov

Boating Registration/License Fees
(804) 367-1000

Checking-in Game
(866) GOT-GAME (866-468-4263)

Quota Hunts
www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com

Virginia Department of Forestry
Headquarters: (434) 977-6555
State Forest: (804) 492-4121 www.dof.virginia.gov/stateforest/recreation/hunting.htm

Department of Conservation and Recreation Reservation Center
www.dcr.virginia.gov
(800) 933-7275

USDA Wildlife Services
(804) 739-7739

U. S. Forest Service Supervisor George Washington and Jefferson Forest
www.fs.usda.gov/gwj
(540) 265-5100

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Federal wildlife inquiries only)
(804) 771-2883; (804) 771-2280

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COMPARE TO Snap-on BLUE-POINT MODEL KRBC10T0PES \$830

ITEM 64031, 64033, 64059, 64721, 64722, 64720, 56429

60249824

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ALL IN A SINGLE SUPER POWERFUL LIGHT

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HARDY SUPER COUPON
POWDER-FREE NITRILE GLOVES PACK OF 100
• 5 mil thickness
Customer Rating ★★★★★

SAVE 59%

COMPARE TO VENOM MODEL: VEN4145 \$14.97

NOW \$5.99

ITEM 97581, 37050, 64417, 64418, 61363, 68497, 61360, 61359, 68498, 68496 shown

60249957

PREDATOR SUPER COUPON
2000 WATT SUPER QUIET INVERTER GENERATOR
• 12 hour run time
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$449⁹⁹

COMPARE TO HONDA MODEL: EU2000I \$1,009

ITEM 62523 \$199⁹⁹ SAVE \$559

60253406

GOOD SUPER COUPON
8 GALLON OIL-LUBE AIR COMPRESSOR
Customer Rating ★★★★★

125 PSI
RELATIVE TANK SIZE @ 125 PSI, 8 GALLONS
STANDARD RUN TIME
4.5 SCFM @ 90 PSI AIR DELIVERY
88 dBA

Not available in AZ, OH, OK and VA.

Customer Rating ★★★★★

ITEM 40400 95386/69667 68740 shown

COMPARE TO HUSKY MODEL: 300816 \$139⁹⁹

NOW \$114⁹⁹ SAVE \$34

60255328

BETTER SUPER COUPON
8 GALLON OIL-FREE AIR COMPRESSOR
Customer Rating ★★★★★

150 PSI
RELATIVE TANK SIZE @ 125 PSI, 13.7 GALLONS
UP TO 70% MORE AIR TOOL RUN TIME*
4.1 SCFM @ 90 PSI AIR DELIVERY
85 dBA

*Based on other compressors in its class.

Customer Rating ★★★★★

ITEM 56269 64294 shown

COMPARE TO KOBALT MODEL: 300841 \$159

NOW \$124⁹⁹ SAVE \$34

60255910

Apache SUPER COUPON
ULTRA-LIGHT, CRUSH PROOF WEATHER-RESISTANT LOCKABLE CASE
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$29⁹⁹

COMPARE TO PELICAN MODEL: 1450 \$194.19

SAVE \$164

ITEM 63927 \$39⁹⁹

14-7/8" L
10-5/8" W
6-1/8" H

Case contents and locks not included.

60262951

HEARING PROTECTOR SUPER COUPON
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$8⁹⁹

COMPARE TO DEWALT MODEL: DP662-C \$23.91

ITEM 64675 \$12⁹⁹ SAVE 62%

60264745

20-60 x 60mm SPOTTING SCOPE WITH TRIPOD SUPER COUPON
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$39⁹⁹

COMPARE TO CELESTRON MODEL: 14593491 \$72.99

SAVE \$49⁹⁹

ITEM 62774 \$49⁹⁹ SAVE 45%

60265210

HEAVY DUTY FOLDABLE ALUMINUM SPORTS CHAIR SUPER COUPON
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$19⁹⁹

COMPARE TO COLEMAN MODEL: 200020293 \$39.99

ITEM 62314/63066/66383 shown

60273356

luminar OUTDOOR SUPER COUPON
250 LUMENS POP-UP LANTERN
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$4⁹⁹

COMPARE TO GO GREEN POWER \$14.99

SAVE \$6.99

ITEM 64110 \$6.99

60273815

PITTSBURGH #1 SELLING JACKS IN AMERICA SUPER COUPON
RAPID PUMP® 3 TON STEEL HEAVY DUTY LOW PROFILE FLOOR JACK
• Weighs 73 lbs.
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$19⁹⁹

COMPARE TO TEQ CORRECT MODEL: T830018Z \$99⁹⁹

ITEM 64264/64266/64879/64881 61282/68049/62326/61253 shown

60280103

AMMO DRY BOX SUPER COUPON
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$3⁹⁹

COMPARE TO RANGEMAXX MODEL: 1312-92 \$9.99

SAVE \$6.99

ITEM 63135/61451 shown

60283284

COVERPRO SUPER COUPON
10 FT. x 17 FT. PORTABLE GARAGE
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$169⁹⁹

COMPARE TO SHELTER LOGIC MODEL: 76377 \$290.75

SAVE \$120

ITEM 62859/63055/62860 shown

60285038

HaulMaster SUPER COUPON
TRI-FOLD ALUMINUM LOADING RAMP
• 1500 lb. capacity
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$74⁹⁹

COMPARE TO REESE TOWPOWER MODEL: 74954700 \$99⁹⁹

SAVE \$66

ITEM 69595/60334/90018 shown

60285878

CHICAGO ELECTRIC POWER TOOLS SUPER COUPON
RECIPROCATING SAW WITH ROTATING HANDLE
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$19⁹⁹

COMPARE TO PORTER-CABLE MODEL: PCE360 \$59.98

SAVE \$66%

ITEM 65570/61884/62370 shown

60287844

CENTTECH SUPER COUPON
3-IN-1 PORTABLE POWER PACK WITH JUMP STARTER
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$49⁹⁹

COMPARE TO SUPER START MODEL: 55001 \$89.99

SAVE \$44%

ITEM 38391/62376/64083/56349/62306 shown

60293482

7 FT. x 9 FT. 6" CAMOUFLAGE WEATHER RESISTANT TARP SUPER COUPON
Customer Rating ★★★★★

NOW \$4⁹⁹

COMPARE TO WEATHERMASTER MODEL: 300063999 \$5.99

SAVE 50%

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Bear

- Bears can now be checked through the electronic checking systems (page 26). Tooth submission is still required; instructions will be provided after a bear license is purchased, when a bear is checked, and online at www.dgif.virginia.gov.
- Albemarle, Amherst, Bedford, Frederick and Nelson counties have been added to the three day early open season (page 30).
- Firearms bear hunting season has been lengthened in all areas that had fewer than 6 weeks of open season (page 30).

Deer

- The deer bag limit on private lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains is now two deer per day. Only one deer per day may be taken on National Forest lands, Department-owned lands, and Department-managed lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and on National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties (page 32).
- Earn A Buck (EAB) has been initiated on private lands in Albemarle, Culpeper, Floyd, Franklin, Grayson, Hanover, Henrico, James City, Pulaski, Shenandoah, and York counties, and the number of antlerless deer necessary to meet EAB requirements on private lands in Clarke, Frederick, and Warren counties has increased (page 34).
- Full season either-sex deer hunting has been established during both the early and late muzzleloading seasons on private lands in Botetourt, Rockingham (east of Routes 613 and 731) and Wythe counties (page 37).
- Apprentice license holders are now included in the Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation (page 35).
- The Youth and Apprentice Antlerless Deer Regulation is now effective statewide, including Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise counties. (page 35).
- The firearms deer season on private lands in western Amherst, Bedford, and western Nelson counties has been extended from two to four weeks in length (page 39).
- Firearms either-sex deer hunting days have been increased in Augusta (private lands), Campbell (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Charles City, New Kent, Page (private lands), Pittsylvania (west of Norfolk Southern Rail-

road), Powhatan, and Smyth (private lands) counties (page 38).

- A firearms either-sex deer hunting day (the last day) has been initiated on National Forest and Department-owned lands in Alleghany, Amherst, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Botetourt, Frederick, Grayson, Highland, Nelson, Page, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Russell, Shenandoah, Smyth, Tazewell, Warren, and Washington counties (pages 38-39).

Chronic Wasting Disease

- Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been discovered in Culpeper County. A second Disease Management Area, designated DMA2 and including Culpeper, Madison, and Orange counties, was created to implement management actions (pages 41-42).
- All deer killed in Culpeper, Madison, Orange, and Shenandoah counties on November 16, 2019, must be brought to a designated check station to be tested for CWD (see page 41). Mandatory CWD testing for deer harvested in Clarke, Frederick, or Warren counties will not occur in fall 2019.
- Transport of whole deer carcasses out of Culpeper, Madison and Orange counties is now prohibited (page 41).
- It is now illegal to import or possess whole deer carcasses and certain high-risk carcass parts originating from outside Virginia (page 41).
- Feeding of deer is now prohibited year round in Albemarle, Buchanan, Clarke, Culpeper, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Greene, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Page, Rappahannock, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Warren, and Wise counties (towns and cities within included) (page 21).
- The Antler Point Restriction was removed in Rockingham and Shenandoah counties (page 33).

Turkey

- The early fall season will begin one week earlier than previous years.
- Fall hunting on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving was added statewide, except in 10 counties with the 2-week season and in areas where no fall hunting is permitted (page 44).
- To meet Wild Turkey Management Plan Goals to increase populations, the fall season was

reduced from eight weeks to six weeks in 27 counties (page 44).

- The fall season was reduced from eight weeks to four weeks in four counties with declining turkey populations (Amelia, Dinwiddie, Greensville, and Powhatan) (page 44).
- Tazewell and Buchanan counties have new fall seasons (page 44).
- The Youth and Apprentice Hunter Weekend now starts on the second Saturday of October (October 12 and 13).

Dog Training

- Cavalier, Mattaponi, and White Oak WMAs have been added to the list of department-owned lands where bird dogs may be trained on wild quail from September 1st to the day prior to opening day of the quail hunting season (page 16).

Drones

- It is unlawful to use drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) to hunt, take, or kill a wild animal and to attempt to locate, surveil, aid, or assist in hunting a wild animal.

Public Lands

- Robert W. Duncan WMA (1,300 acres) and Mattaponi Bluffs WMA (470 acres) in Caroline County have been added to the Department's Wildlife Management Area system.

Trapper Identification Number

- Trappers may now use their Customer Identification Number (CID) to mark their traps instead of their name and address (page 52)

Quota Hunts

- Radford Army Ammunition Plant Deer Hunts, Series #211, are unavailable for the 2019 season (page 63).
- Multispecies (#308) and Spring Turkey (#413) have been added on Mattaponi Bluffs WMA.
- Apprentice Hunter Deer (#221) and Spring Turkey (#414) have been added for Hockley Experimental Forest in King & Queen County.
- Oakley Forest WMA is no longer managed through the quota hunt system. Hunting is open to the public, see website for details.
- Featherfin WMA multispecies hunt #302 is no longer managed through the quota hunt system. Hunting is open to the public.

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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 only hunt foxes with hounds while on horseback, but without firearms.

- 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.



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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 6. 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 the 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 grand-

children, 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.

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.

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.

Apprentice Hunting License

The apprentice hunting license is a one-time purchase and serves as a first-time Virginia resident or nonresident hunting license and is good for two years. Previous Virginia hunting license holders are not eligible to purchase an apprentice license. Apprentice license holders have two years to take an approved Hunter Safety course.

The apprentice license holder 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.

However, 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.

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.

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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. It is unlawful to alter, change, borrow, or lend a hunting license or permit.

For Legacy, Lifetime, and Veterans Lifetime Licenses and information please see page 13.

Resident Hunting Licenses

| LICENSE | FEE |
|--|----------|
| Resident Sportsman's License (age 16 and older) | \$100.00 |
| Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, muzzleloading license, freshwater fishing license, and trout license. | |
| Resident Hunting License* (age 16 and older) | |
| 1-year license | \$23.00 |
| 2-year license | \$44.00 |
| 3-year license | \$65.00 |
| 4-year license | \$86.00 |
| Resident County or City Hunting License* (age 16 and older) | \$16.00 |
| For county or city of residence only. | |
| Resident Apprentice Hunting License* | \$11.00 |
| Valid for 2 years from date of purchase. | |
| Resident Senior Citizen Hunting License* (age 65 and over) | \$9.00 |
| Resident Annual Hunting License for 70 Percent or Greater Service-Connected Partially Disabled Veterans | |
| Resident Veterans rated 70% or greater service-connected by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Administrative Office may apply for a discounted annual hunting license. Please note this license does not include bear, deer/turkey, archery, muzzleloading or other applicable licenses, stamp, and/or permits. Please visit www.dgif.virginia.gov for application, instructions, and prices. Applications may be mailed or brought into our Henrico office location only. | |
| Resident Junior Hunting License* (age 12 to 15; optional for under 12 years old) | \$8.50 |
| Resident Youth Combination Hunting License (age 12 to 15) | \$16.00 |
| Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, and muzzleloading license. | |
| Resident Fox Hunting License | \$23.00 |
| To hunt foxes on horseback with hounds without firearms. Not required of an individual holding a basic license to hunt. | |

* 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.

| LICENSE | FEE |
|---|---------|
| Resident Bear License | \$21.00 |
| Resident Junior Bear License (ages 12-15) | \$6.50 |
| Resident Deer/Turkey License (age 16 and older) | \$23.00 |
| 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. | |
| Resident Junior Deer/Turkey License (age 12 to 15) | \$8.50 |
| Valid July 1 through June 30. | |
| Resident Archery License | \$18.00 |
| Resident Muzzleloading License | \$18.00 |

Nonresident Hunting Licenses

| LICENSE | FEE |
|---|----------|
| Nonresident Hunting License* (age 16 and older) | \$111.00 |
| Nonresident 3-Day Hunt License* (age 16 and older) | \$60.00 |
| Must be 3 consecutive days. | |
| Nonresident Apprentice Hunting License* | \$21.00 |
| Valid for 2 years from date of purchase. | |
| Nonresident Annual Hunting License for 70% or Greater Service-Connected Partially Disabled Veterans and Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Veterans | |
| Nonresident Veterans rated 70% or greater or as Total and Permanent Service-Connected by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Administrative Office may apply for a discounted annual hunting license by application only. Please note this license does not include bear, deer/turkey, archery, muzzleloading or other applicable licenses, stamp, and/or permits. | |
| Special Annual Basic Freshwater Fishing & Hunting Licenses for Partially Disabled Veterans or Special Annual Basic Freshwater Fishing & Hunting License for Nonresident Totally and Permanently Disabled Veterans | |
| Please visit www.dgif.virginia.gov for applications listed above, instructions, and prices. Applications may be mailed or brought into our Henrico office location only. | |
| Nonresident Junior Hunting License* (under age 12) | \$13.00 |
| Nonresident Junior Hunting License* (age 12 to 15) | \$16.00 |
| Nonresident Youth Combination Hunting License (under age 16) | \$31.00 |
| Includes hunting license, bear license, deer/turkey license, archery license, and muzzleloading license. | |

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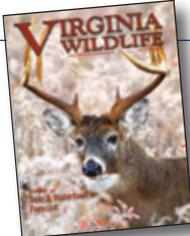
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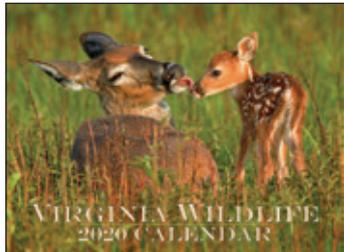
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HUNTING LICENSE

FEES

| LICENSE | FEE |
|---|----------|
| Nonresident Fox Hunting License | \$111.00 |
| To hunt foxes on horseback with hounds without firearms. Not required of an individual holding a general license to hunt. | |
| Nonresident Foxhound Training Preserve License | \$18.00 |
| To hunt within the boundaries of a licensed foxhound training preserve, in lieu of other required licenses. | |
| Nonresident Hunting Preserve License | \$23.00 |
| To hunt within the boundaries of a licensed shooting preserve, in lieu of other required licenses. | |

* 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.

| LICENSE | FEE |
|---|----------|
| Nonresident Bear License | \$151.00 |
| Nonresident Deer/Turkey License Valid July 1 through June 30. | |
| Age 16 and older | \$86.00 |
| Age 12 to 15 | \$16.00 |
| Under age 12 | \$13.00 |
| Nonresident Archery License | \$31.00 |
| Nonresident Muzzleloading License | \$31.00 |

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. A convenient online option is available 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. Waterfowl hunters can still purchase their Federal Duck Stamp at some U.S. Post Offices at a cost of \$25.00.

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.



2019-2020 Federal Duck Stamp artwork by Scot Storm.

Trapping Licenses

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

| LICENSE | FEE |
|---|----------|
| County or City Resident Trapping License | \$21.00 |
| For county or city of residence. | |
| Resident Trapping License | |
| 1-year license | \$46.00 |
| 2-year license | \$90.00 |
| 3-year license | \$134.00 |
| 4-year license | \$178.00 |
| Resident Junior Trapping License (under age 16) | \$11.00 |
| Resident Senior Citizen Trapping License (age 65 and over) | \$9.00 |
| Nonresident Trapping License | \$206.00 |

Miscellaneous Licenses, Permits, and Stamps

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

| PERMITS | FEE |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Resident Bonus Deer Permit (6 antlerless tags) | \$18.00 |
| See page 32 for more information. | |
| Nonresident Bonus Deer Permit (6 antlerless tags) | \$31.00 |
| See page 32 for more information. | |
| National Forest Permit | \$4.00 |
| 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. For fishing in the National Forest this permit is required in addition to other fishing licenses (exceptions: residents under 16 and over 65, nonresidents under 16). | |
| Virginia State Forest Use Permit (age 16 or older) | \$16.00 |
| 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. | |
| Public Access Lands for Sportsmen (PALS) | \$18.00 |
| See page 57 for more information. | |
| Access Permit (see page 54 for permit requirements) | \$4.00 per day / \$23.00 per year |
| Daily group rates are available. For more information go to: www.dgif.virginia.gov/access-permit | |

| STAMPS | FEE |
|--|---------|
| Federal Migratory Duck E-Stamp | \$27.50 |
| 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. | |
| Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp | \$10.00 |
| Required of persons 16 years of age and older, unless license exempt. Valid July 1 through June 30. | |

LIFETIME AND SPECIAL ANNUAL LICENSES

Legacy Lifetime

- Available to Virginia residents and non-residents under the age of 2 years upon date of application receipt to Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.
- The legacy hunting lifetime license is valid until the individual's 12th birthday at which time they must complete an approved hunter education course or equivalent, then transfer the legacy to a regular hunting lifetime at no additional charge.

Lifetime

- Virginia resident and non-residents lifetime licenses available.
- Virginia residents may purchase their lifetime licenses online through www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com provided their Virginia residency status can be verified through Virginia DMV.
- The lifetime hunting license equals the state hunting licenses; all other applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license.

- Resident Junior Lifetime Hunting license is available to Virginia residents under the age of 12. This license will expire on their 12th birthday, and is transferable when they complete and submit the Youth Hunter Education Compliance form and a copy of their Hunter Safety or equivalent completed certificate.

Veteran Total and Permanent Service-Connected Lifetime

- Virginia residents who are rated as total and permanently service-connected disabled by the U.S. Veterans Administration office may apply for this lifetime license(s).
- The Veteran lifetime hunting license includes small game state hunting, bear, deer/turkey, archery, muzzle-loading. All other applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license.

Please visit www.dgif.virginia.gov for applications, prices, and further instructions when applying for a lifetime license.

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 sunrise to sunset for Youth/Apprentice Spring Turkey Hunting Weekend.
- Hours for bear 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 Sundays (on private lands and on public lands as permitted by the landowner) subject to

geographical limitations established by the Director of the Department and except within 200 yards of a house of worship or any accessory structure thereof.

- Hunting is permitted on licensed hunting (shooting) preserves.
- Raccoons may be hunted on Sunday.

Other than these exceptions and other allowances that had been made specifically by law in the past, it will continue to be **unlawful to hunt or kill any wild bird or wild animal, including any nuisance species, with a gun, firearm, or other weapon on Sundays. It will also continue to be unlawful to hunt or kill any deer or bear with a gun, firearm, or other weapon with the aid or assistance of 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.

- 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.

During the muzzleloader seasons for hunting deer with a muzzleloading firearm, every muzzleloader deer hunter and every person accompanying a muzzleloader deer hunter shall wear solid blaze colors as specified above except when they are physically located in a tree stand or other stationary hunting location.

Exceptions

- Blaze colored clothing is not required of waterfowl hunters, dove hunters, individuals participating in hunting dog field trials, and fox hunters on horseback without firearms.
- Hunters hunting with archery tackle during an open firearms deer season in areas where the discharge of firearms is prohibited by state law or local ordinance are exempt from the blaze color requirement.
- Other than muzzleloader deer hunters, blaze colored clothing is not required of any hunters hunting during the muzzleloader deer seasons.

Definitions

Archery Tackle

As used in this digest, archery tackle includes longbow, recurve bow, compound bow, sling-bow, and crossbow.

Arrowgun

A pneumatic-powered air gun that fires an arrow. Explosive propellant arrowguns may not be used for hunting in Virginia.

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.

Drone

An unmanned aerial vehicle, aircraft, or similar device, guided by remote control or onboard computers.

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 Arrowgun

Defined as an arrowgun that has an arrow or bolt inserted on the arrow rest or barrel.

Loaded Crossbow

Defined as 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 charged pan, or has a primer or battery installed in the firearm.

Loaded Firearm

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

Nonmigratory Game Birds

Nonmigratory game bird means grouse, pheasant, bobwhite quail, and turkey.

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

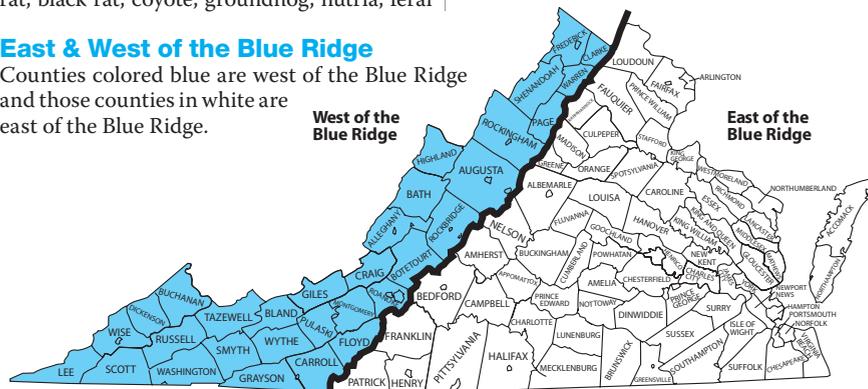
The Route 29 “line” in Amherst County is defined as Business U.S. 29 from the James River to its intersection with U.S. 29 just south of the town of Amherst continuing north on U.S. 29 to the Tye River.

Hunting Weapon

Is any weapon allowable for hunting as defined in 29.1-519 of the Code of Virginia.

East & West of the Blue Ridge

Counties colored blue are west of the Blue Ridge and those counties in white are east of the Blue Ridge.



VIRGINIA WILDLIFE CRIME LINE

Since its inception in October 1986, the Virginia Wildlife Crime Line has become a valuable tool in the enforcement of the Commonwealth’s game, fish, and boat laws. As awareness of this program increases, so do the number of calls to report violations. The program has generated thousands of reported wildlife crime tips that have resulted in over a thousand arrests and over \$80,000 in approved rewards. Reward payments are approved and funded through the Virginia Sportsman Reward Fund, Inc. Their mission is to promote the enforcement of hunting, fishing, and boating laws in Virginia by supporting the Wildlife Crime Line in

cooperation with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. You can help support this effort by sending a tax-deductible donation to: Virginia Wildlife Crime Line, P.O. Box 90778, Henrico, VA 23228-0778.



Report a Wildlife Crime

If you know someone who kills wildlife out of season or over the game limit, help the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries catch the individual and stop others from following that path. If you observe a violation, call the toll-free Virginia Wildlife Crime Line number at **(800) 237-5712** or e-mail wildcrime@dgif.virginia.gov.

Hunting With Dogs

- The hunting of deer or bear with a gun, firearm, or other weapon with the aid or assistance of dogs on Sunday is prohibited.
- 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 decriminalizes 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 searched. Licensed hunters 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 use dogs when hunting any species with archery tackle during any archery season, except bear hounds may be used during the youth/apprentice bear hunting weekend.

- It is unlawful to chase with dogs or hunt with dogs or to attempt to chase or hunt with dogs any wild animal from a baited site or to train dogs on any wild animal from a baited site. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful to place, distribute, or maintain bait or salt for any wild animal for the purpose of chasing with dogs, hunting with dogs, or training of dogs. When hunting or training with dogs, a baited site will be considered to be baited for 10 days following the complete removal of all such bait or salt.
- It is unlawful to intentionally cripple or otherwise harm any game animal 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

TRAINING DOGS ON MILITARY BASES

For training dogs on military bases contact the appropriate base:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Fort A.P. Hill Game Check Station | (804) 633-8984 |
| Fort Belvoir Outdoor Recreation | (703) 805-3081 |
| Ft. Pickett Game Check Station | (434) 292-2618 |
| Quantico Game Check Station | (703) 784-5523 |

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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.

- 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), Cavalier WMA, Chickahominy WMA, Dick Cross WMA, Mattaponi WMA, and White Oak 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 Weston 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 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 3 feet and not more than 6 feet from the ground or normal water surface and visible when approaching the property.
- Signs that specifically prohibit hunting, fishing, or trespassing on the property.

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

LANDOWNERS WANTED

Quail Management Assistance Program

www.dgif.virginia.gov/quail/get-involved/qmap

Q: Is it true that I must wear a blaze color during the muzzleloading seasons for deer when hunting with a muzzleloading rifle?

A: Yes, you and anyone accompanying you. It must be worn to and from your stand or while moving. Once you get to your stand you may remove the blaze colored clothing.



Report Your Lost Hunting Dog

The VHDA missing dog site allows owners of missing Virginia hunting

dogs to record facts, photos, and the exact last sighting location of their missing dogs and print a poster to use locally. Uniquely, it notifies via email Virginia's licensed shelters statewide that the dog is being sought.

www.vahda.org/missingdogfacts.htm

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.

Sale and Purchase of Legally Harvested Game Species

It is unlawful to sell, barter, or purchase any wild bird or wild animal carcass or parts thereof. There are exceptions and a general representation of these are listed below for your reference and is not intended to be all-inclusive. Specific exceptions and requirements are identified in the Code of Virginia and the Virginia Administrative Code.

Bears

- Except for taxidermy mounts referenced below, no portion of a black bear may legally be bought or sold.

Deer and Elk

- The hair, hide, tail, sinew, skull, antlers, bones, and feet as well as products made from these parts may be bought and sold.

Furbearers (beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, otter, raccoon, skunk, and weasels)

- Any hunter, trapper, or person engaged in the business of fur farming can sell raw pelts and unskinned carcasses of legally taken and possessed furbearers at any time.
- Any person who purchases, consigns, or trades in raw pelts and unskinned carcasses of furbearers is required to have a Fur Dealer Permit, except when the pelts or carcasses are to be tanned or used in taxidermy mounts for personal use and not for resale, trade, or other commercial purposes.
- Any person can buy or sell tanned pelts, skinned carcasses, taxidermy mounts, or other furbearer parts (skulls, teeth, claws, bones, glands, secretions, etc.) at any time.
- Legally harvested opossums and raccoons may be bought and sold during the open hunting season.

Migratory Game Birds (brant, coots, doves, ducks, gallinules, geese, mergansers, moorhens, rails, snipe, swans, and woodcock)

- No portion of a migratory game bird may be bought or sold.

Small Game (bobwhite quail, pheasants, rabbits, ruffed grouse, and squirrels)

- The skins, pelts, skulls, bones, teeth, claws, feet, tails, hair, feathers, taxidermy mounts, and other non-meat parts as well as products made from these parts may be bought and sold.
- Legally harvested rabbits and squirrels may

be bought and sold during the open hunting season.

Wild Turkey

- Carcasses, and portions thereof, can be used to make turkey calls for sale and purchase.

Taxidermy Mounts

- Under specific conditions, unclaimed mounts of native wildlife or their processed hides may be sold by a Virginia licensed taxidermist with the exception of migratory waterfowl, migratory birds and state and federally listed threatened and endangered species.
- A licensed Virginia auctioneer or licensed auction firm may sell wildlife mounts and processed hides (including bears, but not migratory game birds) which have undergone the taxidermy process.

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.

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 _____

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 _____

Landowner signature: _____

over

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:

- Hold in captivity any live wild birds or wild animals outside the limits allowed by regulations without a permit.
- Hunt adjacent to forest fires.
- Use antler traps.
- Willfully and intentionally impede the lawful hunting or trapping of wild birds or wild animals.
- Kill or cripple and knowingly allow any nonmigratory game bird or game animal to be wasted without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the animal and retain it in possession.
- Hunt while under the influence of intoxicants or narcotic drugs.
- Take or attempt to take wild animals and wild birds 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.

- 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.
- Destroy, mutilate, or take down "posted" signs or litter. Conviction of littering can result in loss of hunting license.
- 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 live birds or animals to decoy or call game.
- 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.
- Sell or purchase any wild bird or wild animal carcass or parts thereof, except as specifically permitted by law.
- 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.
- 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.

- Use drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) to hunt, take, or kill a wild animal and to attempt to locate, surveil, aid, or assist in hunting a wild animal.
- 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 said person does not have a firearm, bow, crossbow, or arrowgun in their possession.

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

Hunter's Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ St. _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____
 Vehicle Tag No. _____ Driver's License No. _____
 I hereby absolve the landowner of all liability for my person while engaged in recreation on his property.

SPORTSMAN'S PLEDGE

In return for the privilege of using private property, I agree to:

1. Respect the landowner's property, only go where they designate and assume liability for my actions and my person while on this property.
2. Take every precaution against littering and fire.
3. Obey the game, fish, and other wildlife laws.
4. Observe all safety precautions and the traditions of good sportsmanship.

Hunter's Signature _____

Hunter's Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ St. _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____
 Vehicle Tag No. _____ Driver's License No. _____
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3. Obey the game, fish, and other wildlife laws.
4. Observe all safety precautions and the traditions of good sportsmanship.

Hunter's Signature _____

REAL HUNTERS DON'T POACH.

SUPPORT YOUR SPORT. PLEASE REPORT ALL VIOLATIONS.

Call 1-800-237-5712, or email WildCrime@dgif.virginia.gov.



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/

Report Feral Swine



Help Protect Virginia's Agricultural and Natural Resources

1 (855) 571-9003



Please Report
Hog Sightings
Hog Damage



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The Law Office of
John Pierce, Esq.
Bristol, VA



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www.JohnPierceEsq.com

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- * Early and late season dove shoots over sunflowers
- * Guided fishing trips on sandy river reservoir



Contact: Chris McClellan 434-603-2803
Chris@sailorscreekoutfitters.com
www.sailorscreekoutfitters.com

LEGAL USE OF FIREARMS AND ARCHERY TACKLE

| FIREARM, HUNTING DEVICE, AND AMMUNITION | DEER | BEAR | ELK | FALL TURKEY | SPRING GOBBLER |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Shotguns (including muzzleloading shotguns) using ammunition loaded with larger than number 2 fine shot | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | No |
| Shotguns (including muzzleloading shotguns) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Air guns (.35 caliber or LARGER) | ✓ | No | No | ✓ | ✓ |
| Rifles and pistols using rimfire ammunition and air guns (.35 caliber or SMALLER) | No | No | No | ✓ | ✓ |
| Rifles and pistols using centerfire ammunition (.23 caliber or LARGER) Pistols must generate at least 350 foot pounds of energy or greater. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Rifles and pistols using centerfire ammunition (SMALLER than .23 caliber) | No | No | No | ✓ | ✓ |
| Muzzleloading firearms - rifles and pistols (.45 caliber or LARGER) | ✓ ¹ | ✓ ¹ | ✓ ¹ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Muzzleloading firearms - rifles and pistols (SMALLER than .45 caliber) | No | No | No | ✓ | ✓ |
| Archery equipment with broadhead widths/expandables that open to 7/8-inch | ✓ | ✓ ² | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Unplugged shotguns are legal for hunting nonmigratory game and crows.

Shotguns (including muzzleloading shotguns) must NOT be larger than 10 gauge and barrels MUST be at least 18 inches. (Rifled barrels are permitted in areas where slugs may be used)

All game birds and animals may be hunted from a boat (with a SHOTGUN and landowner permission), EXCEPT deer. (Licensed trappers may shoot a .22 caliber rifle or pistol on or over public inland waters to dispatch trapped animals)

¹ Muzzleloaders used for deer/bear/elk must be loaded from the muzzle and fire only a single shot, single bullet or sabot bullet .35 caliber or larger.

Muzzleloading shotguns/rifles, arrowguns, or archery tackle may be used to hunt during the muzzleloading and firearms seasons.

Archery equipment may include: longbows, recurves, compounds, crossbows, sling-bow and pneumatic powered arrowguns/airbows. (Persons with a disability which hinders them from drawing a bow/crossbow may use an arrowgun during archery seasons when in possession of an authorization form provided by DGIF and signed by their physician. physician (www.dgif.virginia.gov/forms/#license-forms).

² Slingbows may NOT be used for bear.

All methods may be used to hunt nuisance species, crow, and small game.

Please refer to page 22 for any additional prohibitions that may be in your locality.

Other Weapons Usage

Unlawful to:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Kill or attempt to kill any deer while in a boat or other type of watercraft.
- Shoot waterfowl or migratory game birds from a boat being propelled by a motor.
- Shoot or attempt to take any wild bird or animal from any vehicle, except as otherwise provided by law.
- Use vehicles or possess firearms (including concealed weapons) while retrieving dogs on private lands without permission of the landowner.
- Hunt with explosive head arrows or arrows to which any drug, chemical, or toxic substance has been added.
- Hunt wild birds and wild animals with fully automatic firearms, (i.e., machine guns).

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.

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 Albemarle, Buchanan, Clarke, Culpeper, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Greene, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Page, Rappahannock, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Spotsylvania, Stafford, 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.

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LOCAL FIREARMS ORDINANCES

The following counties and cities have regulations concerning the use and transportation of firearms. The number or numbers following that county name indicate the regulations listed below for that particular county. In addition, certain counties have ordinances other than those listed, primarily pertaining to possession of firearms near parks or schools, hunting or discharging firearms near populated areas,

residences, or buildings, and age limitations for possession of loaded firearms on public roads. Before hunting in a county or city, hunters should become familiar with all ordinances particular to that county or city by contacting the county or city directly. If a locality is not listed, state firearms restrictions apply (see Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle on page 20).

Local firearms ordinances are established by individual counties/cities. Please contact the appropriate locality for more information.

| COUNTY | # |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Accomack | 43 |
| Albemarle | 16, 54 |
| Alexandria | 1, 54 |
| Amherst | 18 |
| Arlington | 59 |
| Buckingham | 12, 60 |
| Caroline | 17, 83 |
| Campbell | 11 |
| Charles City | 7, 33, 42 |
| Chesapeake | 29, 46 |
| Chesterfield | 7, 14, 21, 22, 37, 54, 70 |
| Clarke | 25, 54 |
| Culpeper | 18, 22, 54 |
| Cumberland | 5, 17, 27, 74 |
| Danville | 54 |
| Dinwiddie | 12, 13, 38, 84 |
| Essex | 86 |
| Fairfax | 2, 22, 25, 45, 51, 54 |
| Fauquier | 14, 18, 22, 36, 54 |
| Franklin | 26 |
| Fredericksburg (city) | 2, 18, 30, 51, 54, 64 |
| Gate City | 55 |

| COUNTY | # |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Gloucester | 14 |
| Goochland | 9, 10, 23, 33, 77 |
| Greensville | 15, 22 |
| Halifax | 33, 61, 75 |
| Hampton (city) | 31, 45 |
| Hanover | 20, 46, 53, 85 |
| Isle of Wight | 8, 12, 35 |
| James City | 40, 54 |
| King and Queen | 49, 68 |
| King George | 6, 17, 22, 26, 54 |
| King William | 17, 18, 28 |
| Lancaster | 6, 12, 26 |
| Loudoun | 18, 54, 62, 64, 65 |
| Louisa | 17, 27 |
| Lunenburg | 17 |
| Madison | 22, 25, 54 |
| Mecklenburg | 27 |
| Middlesex | 26 |
| Nelson | 22 |
| New Kent | 8, 12, 25, 54 |
| Newport News | 1 |
| Northampton | 7, 53 |

| COUNTY | # |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Northumberland | 17, 26, 42, 54 |
| Orange | 18, 22, 34 |
| Petersburg | 54 |
| Pittsylvania | 26 |
| Poquoson (city) | 22, 69, 71, 72 |
| Prince George | 4, 7, 32, 43 |
| Prince William | 2, 12, 20 |
| Rappahannock | 18 |
| Richmond | 7, 66, 67, 68 |
| Richmond (city) | 1, 54 |
| Roanoke | 25, 54, 64, 77, 79 |
| Southampton | 3, 8, 19, 41, 80 |
| Stafford | 81, 82 |
| Suffolk | 44, 52, 76 |
| Surry | 7, 53, 54 |
| Sussex | 7, 48, 73 |
| Virginia Beach | 2, 7, 54, 56, 57, 58 |
| Warren | 54 |
| Westmoreland | 50 |
| Williamsburg | 1, 54 |
| York | 47 |

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.

- No discharge of firearms except on approved ranges.
- No rifles larger than .22 for hunting.
- It is unlawful to hunt with a muzzleloading shotgun loaded with slugs or sabot slugs.
- 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 ten feet in elevation above the ground.
- It is lawful to hunt groundhogs with rifles of a caliber larger than .22 rimfire during the season between March 1 and August 31.
- No rifles larger than .22 for hunting except groundhogs outside of the regular hunting season.
- No rifles for deer hunting.
- No rifles for big game hunting.
- 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 manufacturers' 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.
- 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 muzzle-loader season.
- It shall be unlawful to hunt with a firearm on or within the ditch line of any primary or secondary highway.
- It is lawful to use muzzleloading rifles for game animals in the regular hunting season.
- It is lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles only from stands elevated 10 feet.
- It is unlawful to hunt from the road with firearms.
- It is unlawful to hunt with firearms from the road and within 10 feet of the ditch bank.
- It is unlawful to hunt within 100 feet of the road.
- Muzzleloading rifles are permitted during any authorized deer season where firearms are permitted.
- It is unlawful to hunt with a firearm within 100 yards of a road.
- It is unlawful to transport, possess or carry a loaded rifle in any vehicle while on the road from October 1 through February 15.
- 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, not his own dwelling or residence.
- 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.
- It is unlawful to possess a loaded firearm on the road except when permission to hunt is obtained from landowners on each side.
- It is unlawful to transport, possess, or carry a loaded shotgun or loaded rifle in any vehicle on any public street, road, or highway within



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- the county during the time between sunset and sunrise.
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 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 Ragged 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 Ragged 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 shall be unlawful to shoot an arrow 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 lawful to hunt deer with muzzleloading rifles.
 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 gun, pistol, or other firearms of any kind.
 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 lawful 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 300-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.
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 or use of a rifle, except for a .22 caliber rim fire is prohibited within the city limits.
 72. The use of muzzleloading rifles during the prescribed open seasons for the hunting of game species is permitted in the city; provided, however, that the use of such muzzleloading rifle shall be only from a stand located at least 10 feet above the ground.
 73. No rifles for turkey hunting.
 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 between 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 caliber of .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.
86. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt in the county with a rifle or pistol of a caliber higher than .22 rimfire except as provided hereafter.
 - a. Rifles and pistols greater than .23 caliber shall be permitted for hunting of deer when hunting from an elevated platform at least 8 feet above ground level.
 - b. Turkey shall not be hunted with a rifle greater than .22 caliber.
 - c. Muzzleloading rifles may be used during the prescribed open season.
 - d. Rifles with caliber larger than .22 rimfire may be used for hunting of groundhogs, coyotes, bears, bobcats, feral hogs, and beavers during any respective season as permitted by state law and/or permitted under state law for the control of destructive animals.



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TAG VALIDATION AND CHECKING

REQUIREMENTS

Checking Requirements for Bear, Deer, Elk, Turkey and Bobcat

| | DEER | ELK | BEAR | FALL TURKEY | SPRING TURKEY | BOBCAT | ALL OTHER SPECIES |
|---|----------------|----------------|------|----------------|---------------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Deer/Turkey Check Station (Available from Sept. 1st through first Sat. in January) | ✓ | ✓ | No | ✓ | No | No | Are not required to be checked |
| Bear Check Station (Available during all open bear seasons) | ✓ ¹ | ✓ ¹ | ✓ | ✓ ¹ | No | No | |
| Telephone Checking System (866) GOT-GAME or (866) 468-4263; touch-tone phone only (Available during all open seasons) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Internet Checking System www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com ; click Game Check & Harvest Reporting (Available during all open seasons) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Mobile App (Available during all open seasons) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |

¹ Many bear check stations are also deer/turkey check stations. Locate stations at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/check-stations.

Tagging at Location of Harvest

- 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) prior to moving the animal in any way.
- To validate a tag, the Department provides two options depending upon the type of tag being validated.
 - » **Electronic license tag validation (e-notching):** Requires use of the Department's free [Go Outdoors Virginia mobile app](#). Available for deer/turkey license tags, bonus deer permit tags, and bear tag. 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:** Available for all paper license tags (bear license, deer/turkey license, bonus deer permit, or special permit (DCAP, DMAP, or DPOP)). Hunters must completely remove the designated notch area from the appropriate paper license or permit 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.

General Information

- Bear and deer/turkey check stations can be located at www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/check-stations.
- All bear, deer, elk, and turkeys 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.

- In counties with no bear check station, hunters may transport their harvest to a bear check station in an adjoining county.
- It is unlawful to destroy the identity (sex) of any animal until it is checked. After the appropriate tag is validated, the hunter may dismember the carcass to pack it out as long as all parts of the carcass (excluding internal organs) are present when the animal is checked.
- Upon checking, hunters using a paper license tag shall immediately write the check card number (provided by check station) or confirmation number (provided by the telephone or internet checking system) in ink on the line labeled "check card or confirmation number" of the tag that was validated at the place of kill.

Using Internet or Telephone Checking

Before using these electronic systems, you will need a pen and paper to write down your confirmation number on your paper license or permit or to create a personal check card.

- A confirmation number will be provided at the end of your internet or telephone session.
- Confirmation numbers are a combination of 5-7 letters and numbers.
- If your session is cut off prior to receiving a confirmation number, start the session again and repeat until a complete confirmation number is obtained.
- If a paper license or permit was used, then the confirmation number should immediately be written in ink on the line of the tag that was validated in the field.
- If a paper license was not required, then the hunter must create a personal check card.

- Hunters have the option of printing a check card at the end of the Internet checking session.

Carcass Transferred or Unattended

If the carcass is left unattended or transferred to another individual:

- The check card or personal check card should be kept in possession with the carcass until it is processed.
- If possession of the carcass is transferred to another individual, the check card or personal check card should be given to that individual.
- If the carcass is left unattended, the check card or personal check card should be securely attached to the carcass.
- After the carcass of a game animal has been processed (dissembled), it 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.

Bears – Tooth Submission

- A premolar (a small tooth located directly behind the canines) is required by law to be submitted from each harvested bear.
 - » If checking the bear at a bear check station, the premolar shall be sealed in the envelope attached to the check card and left with the check station operator.
 - » If checking via an electronic checking system, once the harvest record is submitted, the hunter will be sent instructions for submitting the tooth. To comply with the law, the premolar and accompanying information must be mailed or delivered

to the department no later than 14 days after the close of the bear harvest season.

Bobcat Checking

- Any hunter or trapper who kills a bobcat during an open hunting or trapping season, including license exempt hunters and trappers, must check in the bobcat within 24 hours of the time of kill.
- Bobcats legally killed by landowners outside the hunting and trapping seasons are not required to be checked in.
- After checking a bobcat, hunters and trappers shall immediately record the confirmation number in a location where it can later be retrieved to prove compliance with checking requirements or to request a CITES seal.
- Any bobcat received by a taxidermist for mounting or tanning shall have written documentation securely attached to the carcass that includes the full name of the hunter or trapper, date of kill, and the harvest confirmation number. For bobcats that do not require checking, the same information must be attached (except for the confirmation number) with a description of how the bobcat was legally obtained.

Elk – Collection of Biological Samples

- Hunters harvesting an elk are required to validate an appropriate paper or electronic deer tag, check in the animal, as an elk, and must contact the Department at (804) 367-0044.

License-Exempt Hunters

- License-exempt hunters are required to check all bear, deer, elk, turkeys, and bobcats.
- In order to use the internet or telephone checking systems to check a deer, elk, turkey, or bobcat, license-exempt hunters will need:
 - » To select “exempt hunter” when prompted to enter his/her license type.

» To enter his/her date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY) and last four digits of his/her social security number.

» To create a personal check card.

- License-exempt hunters checking a bear electronically are required by law to submit a premolar for each bear harvested (see page 26). To provide the necessary information, a free customer account will be required to check a bear electronically. Any hunter preferring not to set up a customer account must check the bear at a bear check station.

Personal Check Card

A 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.

Q: Do I have 24 hours to check in a bear, deer, or turkey?

A: No. All must be checked the day they are killed upon vehicle transport or at the conclusion of legal hunting hours, whichever occurs first and without unnecessary delay. The only exception to this check the day of kill rule would be an animal that is not recovered until the following day. It should be checked that day it is recovered.



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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

See pages 26 and 27.

Look Up the Age of Your Harvested Bear Online!

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.

Tracking Dogs

Allowed (see page 15 for details).

Archery Bear Season

Season Dates

October 5 through November 15: Statewide

Legal Methods and Restrictions

Special restrictions apply to archery tackle use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 20 for details.

- Archery tackle only, excluding slingshots.
- 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 15) and dogs may be used by youth or apprentice bear hunters to take bears on October 12.
- 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 20.)

YOUTH AND APPRENTICE BEAR HUNTING WEEKEND

October 12 through 13

- Hunting weapons legal during the firearms season are allowed on this weekend.
- 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, Mattaponi Bluffs, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Parker's Branch on Big Woods, Pettigrew, Robert W Duncan, and Ware Creek Wildlife Management Areas.
- Tracking dogs maintained and controlled on a lead may be used to find a wounded or dead bear.
- 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 9 through 15: 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 20, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22 for details.

- Only muzzleloading firearms .45 caliber or larger loaded (propellant and projectile) from the muzzle of the gun.
- Muzzleloading firearms must be single shot, capable of firing only a single bullet or sabot bullet (.35 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 20.)
- 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.
- 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 15).

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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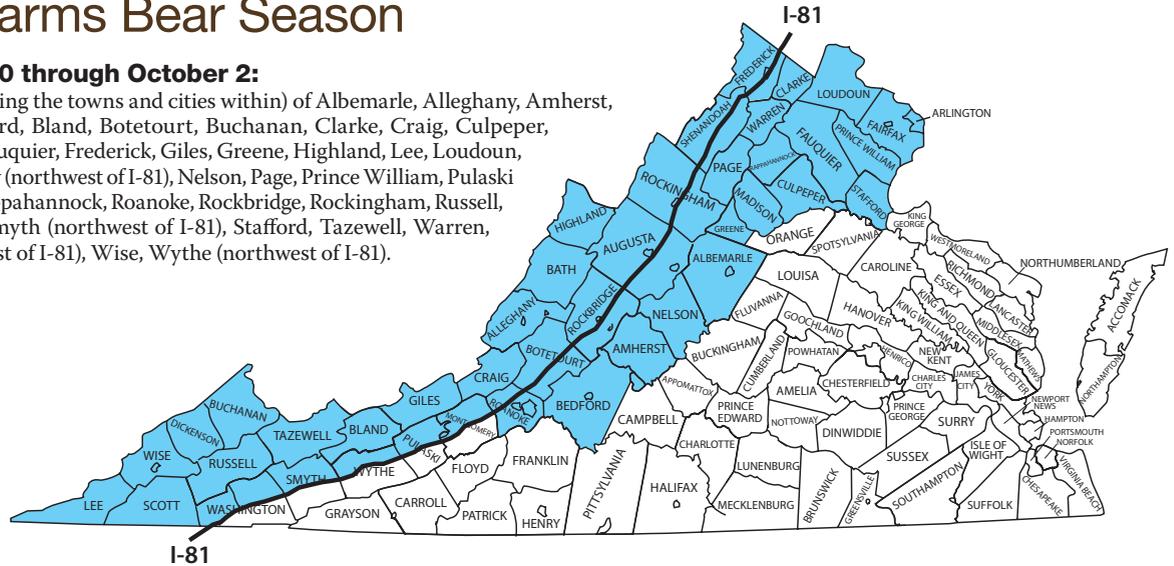
www.virginiabearhunters.org

Early Firearms Bear Season

September 30 through October 2:

In the counties (including the towns and cities within) of Albemarle, Alleghany, Amherst, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Giles, Greene, Highland, Lee, Loudoun, Madison, Montgomery (northwest of I-81), Nelson, Page, Prince William, Pulaski (northwest of I-81), Rappahannock, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Smyth (northwest of I-81), Stafford, Tazewell, Warren, Washington (northwest of I-81), Wise, Wythe (northwest of I-81).

Closed



Firearms Bear Seasons

October 1 through January 4:

In the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.

November 25 through January 4:

In the counties of Albemarle, Alleghany, Amherst, Arlington, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Buchanan, Caroline, Chesterfield, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Fairfax, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Frederick, Giles, Goochland, Greene, Hanover, Henrico, Highland, Lee, Loudoun, Louisa, Madison, Montgomery, (northwest of I-81), Nelson, Orange, Page, Powhatan, Prince William, Pulaski (northwest of I-81), Rappahannock, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Smyth (northwest of I-81), Spotsylvania, Stafford, Tazewell, Warren, Washington (northwest of I-81), Wise, Wythe (northwest of I-81), and on the Clinch Mountain and Hidden Valley Wildlife Management Areas and Channels State Forest.

December 2 through January 4:

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).

December 2 through 21:

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.

Closed

In the counties of Accomack and Northampton.

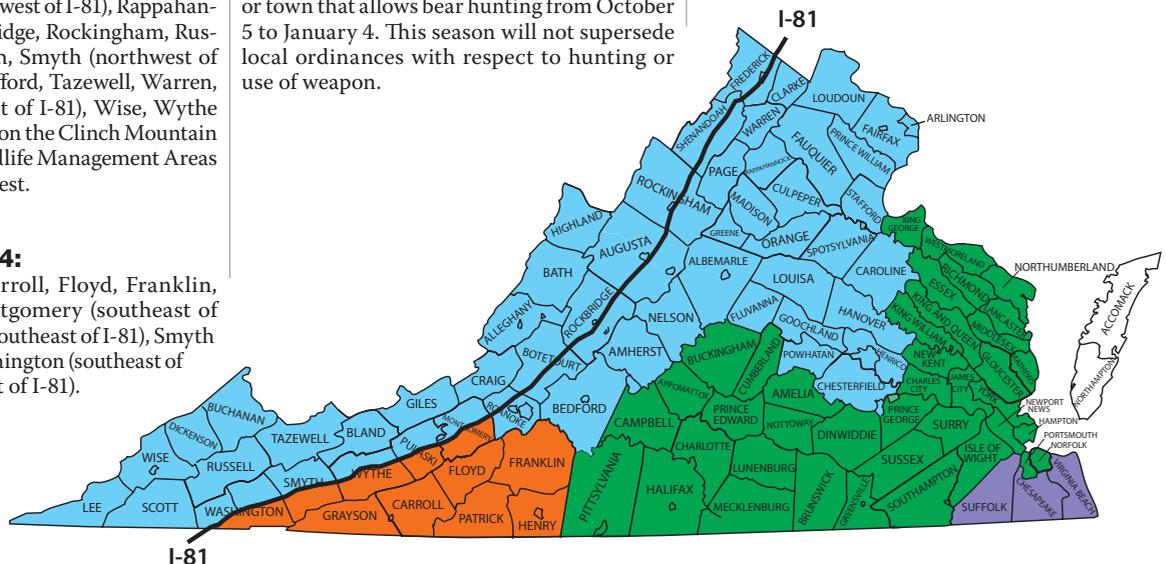
Cities and Towns

Bears may be harvested using any lawful weapon within the incorporated limits of any city or town that allows bear hunting from October 5 to January 4. This season will not supersede local ordinances with respect to hunting or use of weapon.

Legal Methods and Restrictions

Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 20, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22 for details.

- Modern firearms
- Arrowguns are allowed
- Archery tackle (excludes slingbows)
- Muzzleloading firearms



Bear Hound Training/Chase Season

NO BLACK BEAR MAY BE TAKEN DURING THIS SEASON.

Hours

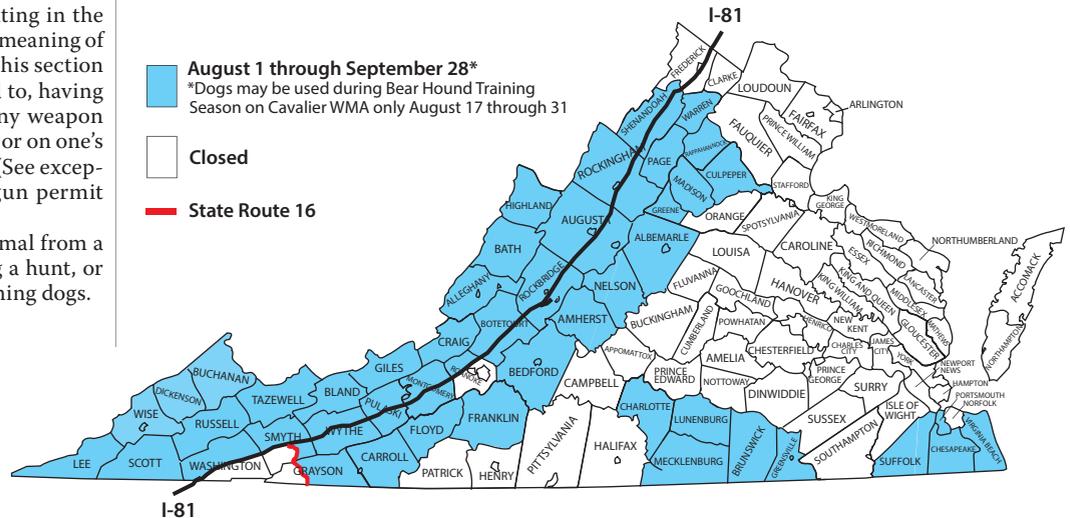
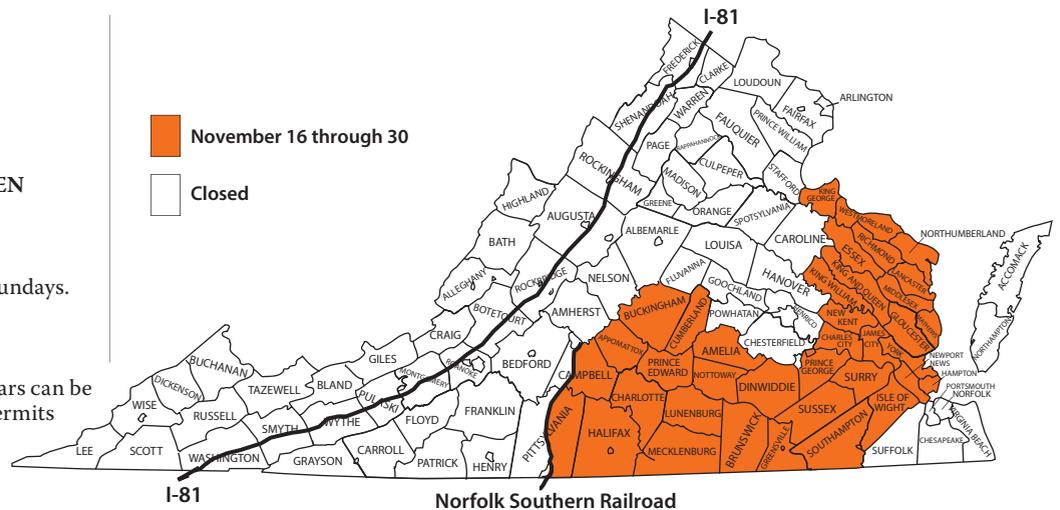
4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., including Sundays.
See maps for dates and locations.

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 while participating in the bear hound training season. 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 20.)
- 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 during the first 16 days of the deer open season 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, Featherfin, G. Richard Thompson, Mattaponi, Mattaponi Bluffs, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Parker’s Branch Tract on Big Woods, Pettigrew, Robert W. Duncan, 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 pages 28 and 29).
- On Cavalier WMA dogs may only be used during the Bear Hound Training Season from August 17 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 20.)

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

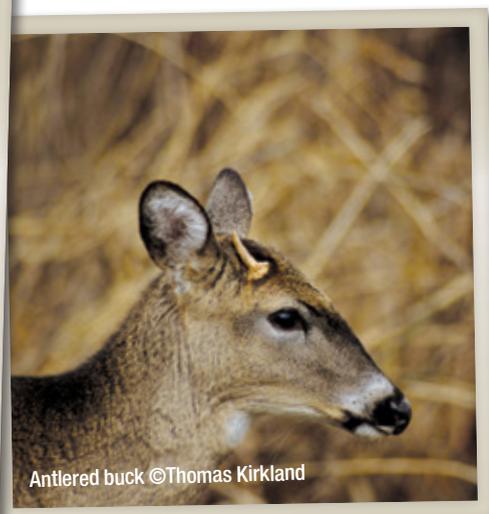
The bag limit for deer shall be two a day and five a license year. Of the five-deer limit, no more than two may be antlered deer and at least three must be antlerless deer (unless noted in the exceptions below).

Exceptions

- Only one deer per day may be taken on National Forest lands statewide and Department-owned and Department-managed lands west of the Blue Ridge.
- If a deer hunter kills two antlered bucks in a license year in Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Highland, or Rockbridge County, at least one of the bucks must have at least four antler points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers.
- Only one elk per day may be taken statewide.

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.



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.

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.

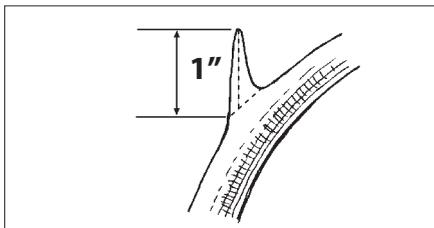
Antlerless Deer

- 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 and Apprentice 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.

Antler Point Restrictions



Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Highland, and Rockbridge Counties

If a deer hunter kills two antlered bucks in a license year, at least one of the bucks must have at least four antler points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers (in each of the counties listed above).

Wildlife Management Areas

Antler point restrictions (APRs) are in effect on the Parkers Branch Tract of the Big Woods WMA, the Quality Deer Management area/portion of the Fairystone WMA, all of the Featherfin WMA. Antlered deer must have at least four antler points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers to be legally harvested. See informational kiosks at these locations for specific details and APR boundaries.

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: Five 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 five 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

Whitetails Unlimited spokesperson and co-host of Michael Waddell’s *Bone Collector* TV Show.

For information, please call WTU’s Virginia Field Director Todd Puckett at (434) 363-8240. www.whitetailsunlimited.com

Earn a Buck (EAB)

Deer taken in one EAB county, city, or town do not “carry over” to any other EAB county, city, or town. Each county, city, or town is its own separate management unit with regards to EAB.

Private lands in Albemarle, Bedford, Culpeper, Fauquier, Floyd, Franklin, Grayson, Hanover, Henrico, James City, Montgomery, Pulaski, Rappahannock, Roanoke, Shenandoah, and York counties

Within a license year and within each individual county listed above, you must have taken at least one antlerless deer on private lands in that county before taking a second antlered deer on private lands in that county. In those counties listed above east of the Blue Ridge Mountains where it is legal to harvest a third antlered deer, you must have taken at least two antlerless deer on private lands in that county before taking a third antlered deer on private lands in that county.

Example -- Within a license year, you must have taken at least one antlerless deer on private lands in Albemarle County before taking a second antlered deer on private lands in Albemarle County. You must have taken at least two antlerless deer on private lands in Albemarle County before taking a third antlered deer on private lands in Albemarle County.

Private lands in Clarke, Frederick, and Warren counties

Within a license year and within each individual county listed above, you must have taken at least two antlerless deer on private lands in that county before taking a second antlered deer on private lands in that county.

Example – Within a license year, you must have taken at least two antlerless deer on private lands in Clarke County before taking a second antlered deer on private lands in Clarke County.

Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William (except on Department of Defense lands) counties

EAB does not apply to Department of Defense (DOD) lands in Prince William County.

Within a license year and within each individual county listed above, you must have taken at least two antlerless deer in that county before taking a second antlered deer in that county. You must have taken at least three antlerless deer in that county before taking a third antlered deer in that county.

Example – Within a license year, you must have taken at least two antlerless deer in Fairfax County before taking a second antlered deer in Fairfax County. You must have taken at least three antlerless deer in Fairfax County before taking a third antlered deer in Fairfax County.

Cities and Towns

EAB does not apply to the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.

Within a license year and within any city or town (except the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach), you must have taken at least one antlerless deer in that city or town before taking a second antlered deer in that city or town. In those cities and towns east of the Blue Ridge Mountains where it is legal to harvest a third antlered deer, you must have taken at least two antlerless deer in that city or town before taking a third antlered deer in that city or town.

Example -- Within a license year, you must have taken at least one antlerless deer in the City of Lynchburg before taking a second antlered deer in the City of Lynchburg. You must have taken at least two antlerless deer in the City of Lynchburg before taking a third antlered deer in the City of Lynchburg.

Earn a Buck questions and answers can be found at

www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/general/#EAB

Gun Rights Restoration

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Q: How are the opening days for deer season set in Virginia?

A: Season Opening Day
Urban Archery..... First Saturday in September
Early Archery..... First Saturday in October
Early Muzzleloader..... Saturday prior to the first Monday in November
Firearms..... Saturday prior to the third Monday in November
Note: Does not apply to the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp line) or Virginia Beach.

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 28 and 29

- 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 and apprentice 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 13).
- Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited, except that tracking dogs are allowed (see Hunting with Dogs, page 15).
- 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 and Apprentice Deer Hunting Weekend questions and answers can be found at:

www.dgif.virginia.gov/youth/hunting/

Youth and Apprentice Antlerless Deer Regulation

Resident or nonresident deer hunters 15 years of age and under and holders of a valid apprentice hunting license may take one antlerless deer per license year on days other than designated either-sex deer hunting days during the muzzle-loading season(s) or the firearms season(s) in all counties. This regulation applies to all private and public lands (National Forest, State Forests, WMAs, etc.) statewide. This regulation is in addition to either-sex deer hunting days. For example, if a youth or apprentice deer hunter 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 deer hunting 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.

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Archery Deer Seasons

Early Archery Season

October 5 through November 15:
Statewide.

Late Archery Seasons

December 1 through January 4:

- 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 2 through January 4:

- On the Chester F. Phelps WMA and on National Forest Lands in Frederick County.
- On National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford and Nelson counties.

December 1 through January 4:

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

December 15 through January 4:

- In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (west of Route 29), Bedford, Floyd, Franklin, Henry, Nelson (west of Route 151), and Patrick..

Archery Either-Sex Deer Hunting

Deer of either sex may be taken full season during the early and late archery deer seasons, including the cities of Chesapeake, Virginia Beach and Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp Line).

Urban Archery Deer Seasons

During this season only antlerless deer 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, James City, Prince William (except DOD land), Roanoke (except on National Forest and Department-owned lands), and York. See EAB section on page 34.

September 7 through October 4 and

January 5, 2020 through March 29, 2020

- 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, Poquoson, Radford, Richmond, Staunton, Suffolk, and Winchester; and in the towns of Altavista, Amherst, Bedford, Blacksburg, Blackstone, Boones Mill, Buchanan, Chatham, Christiansburg, Farmville, Front Royal, Halifax, Hurt, Independence, Irvington, Kenbridge, Lebanon, 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

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

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 13.
- 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.).

NOVA Late Archery Season

During this season only antlerless deer may be taken.

March 30, 2020 through April 26, 2020:

- In Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William (except on Department-owned lands) counties (including the cities and towns within).

Legal Methods and Restrictions During Archery Deer Seasons

Special restrictions may apply during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 20, 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 15).
- 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 20.)

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 2 through 15:

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 Days East of the Blue Ridge:

November 2 through 15 (full season):

In all areas (including Merrimac Farm WMA and Occoneechee State Park) unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 9:** 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 and Apprentice Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days West of the Blue Ridge:

November 2 through 15 (full season):

- On private lands in Botetourt, Carroll, Clarke, Floyd, Frederick, Grayson, Montgomery, Pulaski, Roanoke, Rockingham (east of Route 613 and 731), Scott, Shenandoah, Warren and Wythe counties.

November 9:

- On private lands in Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Bland, Craig, Giles, Highland, Page, Rockbridge, Smyth and Washington 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 and Apprentice Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

Late Muzzleloader Season East of the Blue Ridge December 14 through January 4:

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 Days East of the Blue Ridge:

December 14 through

January 4 (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 30 through January 4:

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

January 4:

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

Late Muzzleloader Season West of the Blue Ridge December 14 through January 4:

In all areas west of the Blue Ridge unless noted in the season exception below.

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 Days West of the Blue Ridge:

December 14 through

January 4 (full season):

- On private lands in Botetourt, Carroll, Floyd, Grayson, Montgomery, Pulaski, Roanoke, Rockingham (east of Routes 613 and 731), Shenandoah, Warren, and Wythe counties.

December 30 through January 4:

- On private lands in Augusta, Bland, Craig, Giles, Page, Rockbridge, Scott, Smyth and Washington counties.

January 4:

- In Alleghany, Bath, Dickenson, Highland, Lee, Rockingham (west of Routes 613 and 731), Russell, Tazewell, and Wise counties.
- On all National Forest and Department-owned lands in all counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

- On Channels State Forest, Grayson Highlands State Park, and Hungry Mother State Park.

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

- In Buchanan County. Special Youth and Apprentice Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

Legal Methods and Restrictions During Muzzleloading Deer Seasons

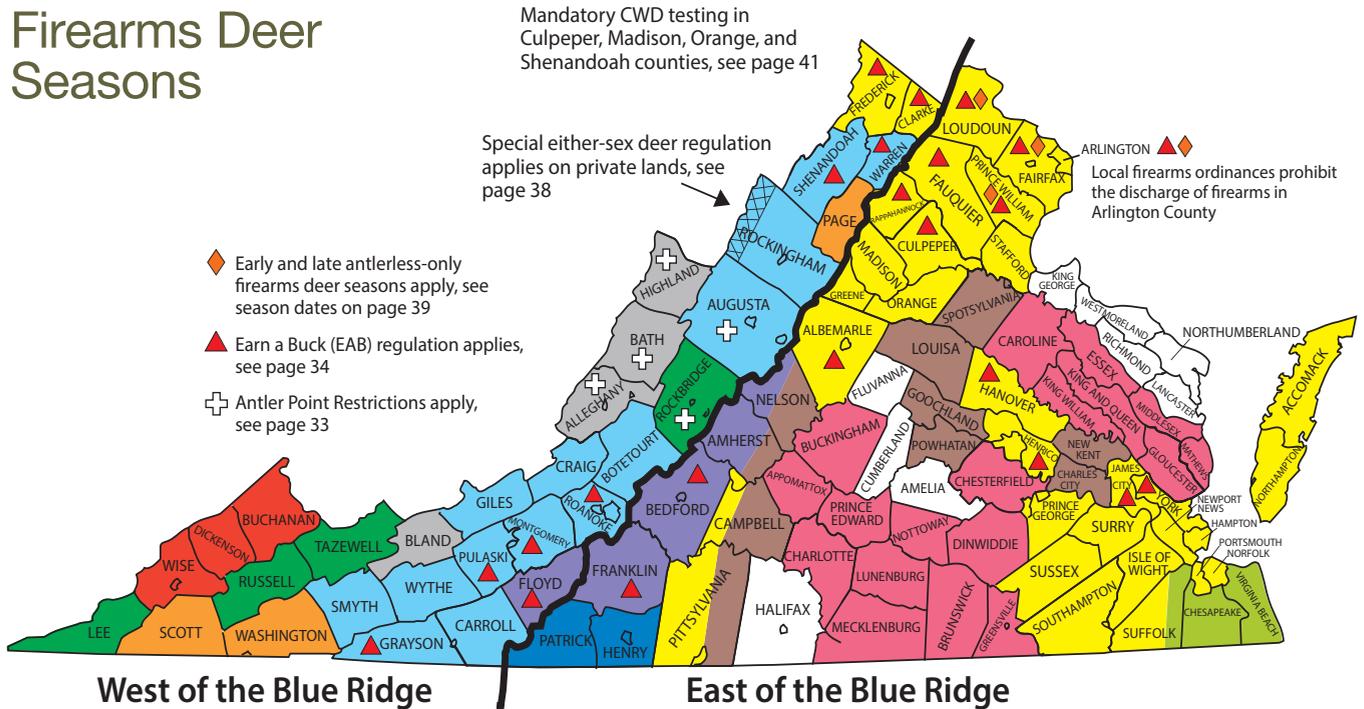
Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms and Archery Tackle, page 20, and Local Firearms Ordinances, page 22, for details.

- Only muzzleloading firearms .45 caliber or larger loaded (propellant and projectile) from the muzzle of the gun.
- Muzzleloading firearms must be single shot, capable of firing only a single bullet or sabot bullet (.35 caliber or larger).
- Flintlock, percussion, or electronic ignitions are permitted.
- Muzzleloading pistols which meet the three 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 20.)
- 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 15).
- 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 muzzleloading 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).

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. Special Youth and Apprentice Deer Regulation applies statewide.

November 16 through 30
In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Augusta, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Giles, Grayson*, Montgomery*, Pulaski*, Roanoke*, Rockingham, Shenandoah*, Smyth, Warren*, and Wythe.

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:
November 16 through 30 (full season):
In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 23 and November 30:** On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Carroll, Craig, and Wythe counties and on National Forest lands in Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski counties.
- **November 30:** On private land west of Routes 613 and 731 in Rockingham County and on National Forest and Department-owned lands in Augusta, Botetourt, Roanoke, and Smyth counties and on National Forest lands in Grayson, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren counties and on portions of Grayson Highlands State Park.

November 16 through 30
In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Lee, Rockbridge, Russell, and Tazewell.

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:
November 23, 29 and 30:
In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 30:** On Department-owned lands in Russell County and on National Forest and Department-owned lands in Rockbridge and Tazewell counties and on the Channels State Forest.
- **Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days:** On National Forest lands in Lee County.

November 16 through January 4
In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Accomack, Albemarle*, Arlington*, Campbell (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), 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, Pittsylvania (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad), 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).
- In the City of Lynchburg* (on private lands for which a special permit has been issued by the Chief of Police).
- In the City of Newport News*: archery only, no special permit is required for archery deer hunting.

- 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.

Season Exception:
November 16 through 30:
On C.F. Phelps WMA and National Forest lands in Frederick County.

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:
November 16 through January 4 (full season):
In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 23 and 30, and December 7 through January 4:** On Rapidan WMA.
- **November 23 and January 4:** On G.R. Thompson WMA.
- **November 23 and 30:** On C.F. Phelps WMA.
- **November 23 and 30 and December 30 through January 4:** On the Big Woods WMA (including the Parkers Branch Tract) and Big Woods State Forest.
- **November 30:** On National Forest lands in Frederick County.
- **Antlered deer only—no either-sex deer hunting days:** On the Carlisle and Stewart tracts of the Hog Island WMA, and on the Ragged Island WMA.

*Denotes Earn a Buck (EAB) County

NOVA Early and Late Firearms Deer Seasons

During these seasons only antlerless deer may be taken.

Early: September 7 through October 4

Late: January 5, 2020 through March 29, 2020

In the counties (including the towns and cities within) of Arlington*, Fairfax*, Loudoun*, and Prince William (except on Department-owned lands).^{*} 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 16 through January 4

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 23 and 30 and December 30 through January 4:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 23 and 30, and December 7 through January 4:** On Featherfin WMA.
- **November 23 and 30:** On Appomattox-Buckingham and Prince Edward State Forests.

November 16 through January 4

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amelia, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Halifax, King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland.

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days: November 23 and 30 and December 23 through January 4:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 23 and 30 and December 30 through January 4:** On Amelia WMA.
- **November 23 and 30:** On Cumberland State Forest.

November 16 through 30:

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

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days: November 23 and November 25 through 30:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 30:** On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Washington County and on National Forest lands in Page County, Channels State Forest, and Hungry Mother State Park.

- **Antlered deer only--no either-sex deer hunting days:** On National Forest lands in Scott County.

November 16 through December 14

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

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days: November 23 and 30 and December 2 through 14:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 23 and December 9 through 14:** On Fairystone Farms and Turkeycock Mountain WMAs, designated areas of Fairystone State Park, and Philpott Reservoir.

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 12, October 19, and November 18 through November 30: In all areas.

November 16 through 30

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

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days: Antlered deer only--no either-sex deer hunting days in all areas.

Special Youth and Apprentice Antlerless Deer Regulation applies.

November 16 through December 14

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (west of Route 29 except on National Forest lands), Bedford* (except on National Forest lands), Floyd*, Franklin*, and Nelson (west of Route 151, except on National Forest lands):

Season Exception

- **November 16 through 30:** On National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties.

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days: November 16 through December 14 (full season):

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 30:** On National Forest lands in Amherst, Bedford, and Nelson counties.

- **November 23 and December 9 through 14:** On Philpott Reservoir and Turkeycock Mountain WMA.

November 16 through January 4

In the counties (including the cities and towns within) of Amherst (east of Rt. 29), Campbell (east of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Charles City, Goochland, Louisa, Nelson (east of Rt. 151), New Kent, Pittsylvania (east of Norfolk Southern Railroad), Powhatan, 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 23 and 30, and December 7 through January 4:

In all areas unless otherwise noted below.

- **November 23 and 30 and December 23 through January 4:** On Powhatan WMA.
- **November 23 and December 30 through January 4:** On James River WMA.
- **November 23 and January 4:** On White Oak Mountain WMA.
- **Antlered deer only--no either-sex deer hunting days:** On Chickahominy WMA.

November 16 through 30

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

Either-sex Deer Hunting Days:

- **November 23 and 30:** On all private lands in the counties listed above and on National Forest lands in Bland County and on the Highland WMA.
- **November 30:** On National Forest and Department-owned lands in Bath County and on National Forest lands in Alleghany and Highland counties.

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*Denotes Earn a Buck (EAB) County

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 firearms 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 except Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach. See page 34.

Legal Methods and Restrictions During Firearms Deer Seasons

Special restrictions apply to specific firearms use during this season. See Legal Use of Firearms, page 20, 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, Mattaponi Bluffs, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Parker's Branch Tract on Big Woods, Pettigrew, Chester F. Phelps, G. Richard Thompson, Robert W. Duncan, 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 15 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.
 - » **Only one elk per day may be taken statewide.**
 - » 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.

HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

We hope you will consider helping the Hunters for the Hungry program. As a hunter, we would ask, if you are able, to consider donating to help us feed those who struggle with hunger. There are two ways to donate:

First, you can donate a deer, or multiple deer. If you are blessed in your hunting efforts, deer can be donated to our program through participating processors and/or collection sites all across Virginia. These deer will be professionally processed and the venison distributed to local feeding programs in Virginia which, at no cost,** help men, women, and children who struggle with hunger!

Second, if you are able, you can contribute financially to help us cover the processing costs for donated deer. Financial contributions are a huge blessing to our feeding efforts. In 2003, legislation honoring our program's founder David Horne was passed enabling hunters to voluntarily make a donation when they purchase their hunting licenses.

No financial donations are required to donate deer to our program; however, for every \$1.00 hunters contribute, we are able to process and distribute

more than 4 servings of venison to those in need as well as promote our hunting heritage in a positive way.

Since 1991, our program, through the generous support of many hunters and non-hunters working together, has been able to process and distribute over 6.9 million pounds of venison to feeding programs throughout our state. This volume of venison equates to over 27.7 million quarter pound servings!

For more information about our program, to learn how you can get involved, or to make a financial contribution please call 1-800-352-4868, visit www.h4hungry.org, or write us at P. O. Box 304, Big Island, VA 24526.

Please consider helping us to help those who hunger.

**If you are asked to pay any part of the processing fees for a donated deer please contact us. The only exception is Linthicum Slaughtering.



CWD Surveillance in Virginia

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is an infectious, fatal, neurologic disease of deer. Since 2009, a total of 67 CWD-positive deer have been detected in Virginia in western Frederick and northern Shenandoah counties. In fall 2018, CWD was detected for the first time in a single deer in Culpeper County.

Disease Management Area Boundaries

The boundaries of Disease Management Area 1 (DMA1), formerly known as the CWD Containment Area, include all of Frederick, Shenandoah, Warren, and Clarke counties. DMA2 includes all of Culpeper, Madison, and Orange counties.

CWD Testing in DMA1

All deer killed in Shenandoah County on November 16 must be brought to a designated CWD sample station for testing. There will be no mandatory CWD testing in Clarke, Frederick, or Warren counties in fall 2019.

- Sample station hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- CWD sample stations include: Graden's Supermarket, Larkin's Store, and Town & County.
- Deer killed any day of the season in DMA1 may be tested for CWD by dropping off the head plus 4 inches of neck at a CWD deer head drop location and following posted instructions. Deer head drop locations include: North Mountain Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company 19 in Winchester, the Winchester-Frederick County Conservation Club, the Enders Fire Department in Berryville, the Elks Lodge in Front Royal, the South Warren Volunteer Fire Department in Bentonville, and the Department of Forestry in Edinburg.

CWD Testing in DMA2

All deer killed in Culpeper, Madison, and Orange counties on November 16 must be brought to a designated CWD sample station for testing.

- CWD sample station hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- CWD sample stations include: Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Dept., Germanna Gas & Food Mart, Merrimac Grocery & Sports

- Shop, and Reuwers Grocery in Culpeper County; Hidden Pines Deer Processing and The Little Country Store in Madison County; Baker's Store, The Market at Locust Grove, Rollins Meat Processing, and Somerset Center Store in Orange County.
- Deer killed any day of the season in DMA2 may be tested for CWD by dropping off the head plus 4 inches of neck at a CWD deer head drop location and following posted instructions. Deer head drop locations include: Brandy Station Volunteer Fire Dept., Eppards Processing, George Washington Carver Agricultural Research Center, Hidden Pines Deer Processing, Merrimac Grocery & Sports Shop, and The Market at Locust Grove.

Whole Deer Carcass Transport Into and Within a DMA

Whole deer carcasses originating in Virginia but not from within a DMA can be legally transported into a DMA. Whole deer carcasses originating within a DMA may be transported only to other locations within that same DMA.

Whole Deer Carcass Transport Out of a DMA

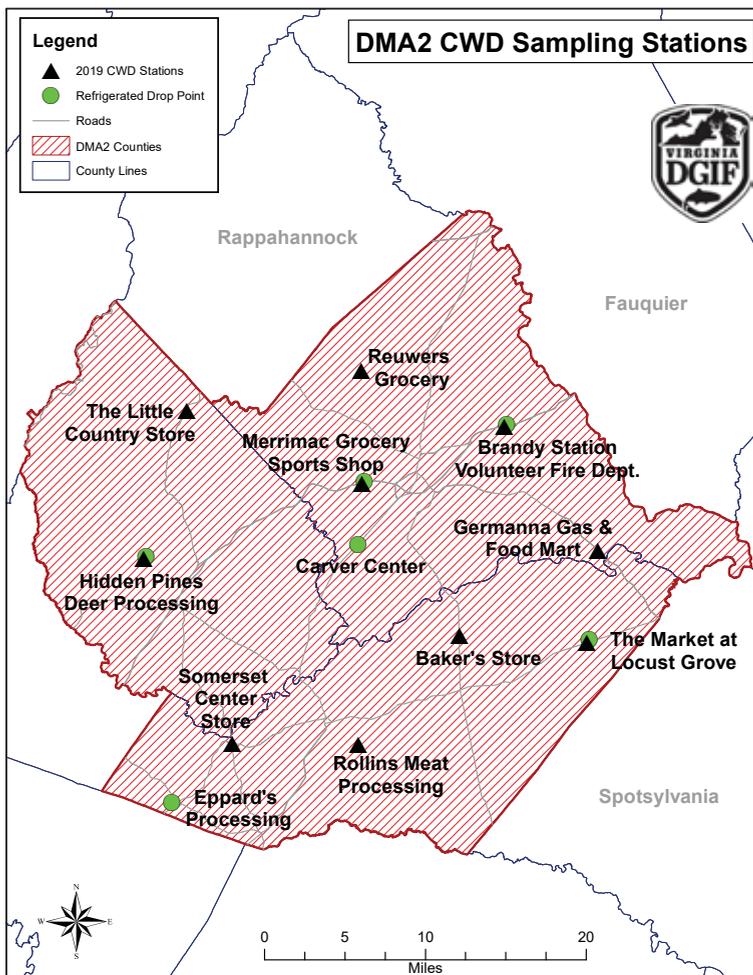
To prevent the spread of CWD, whole deer carcasses and high-risk deer parts cannot be transported out of a DMA. Carcass parts allowed to be transported out of a DMA include:

- Boned out meat.
- 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.

Out-of-State Whole Deer Carcass Importation Prohibited

To prevent the introduction of CWD into new areas of Virginia, importation or possession of whole deer carcasses, or any parts of a carcass not included in the list above, originating from anywhere outside of Virginia are prohibited. This includes all members of the deer family - white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose, etc. The carcass parts listed above may be legally imported and possessed.

Packages or containers holding allowed carcass parts shall have affixed a legible label stating the following information: the species of animal, the state or province where the animal originated, and the name and address of the person who killed or possesses the allowed parts of the animal in Virginia. 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.



Carcass Disposal Recommendations

All hunters are strongly encouraged to dispose of deer carcass remains in local designated dumpsters, lined landfills, or using regular trash pick-up that will eventually be taken to a landfill. See the agency website listed below for dumpster locations in DMA1 and DMA2. If it is necessary to bury a carcass, hunters are advised to bury it as close to the kill site as possible and deep enough to prevent scavengers from digging it up.

What Hunters Can Do to Help Fight CWD

- Keep hunting
- Avoid long-distance movements of a whole deer carcass
- Don't discard leftover deer carcass parts on the landscape –dispose in a landfill or bury
- Don't feed the deer and remove mineral licks
- Have deer harvested in a DMA tested for CWD

For more information on CWD in Virginia, go to:

www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/diseases/cwd





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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.

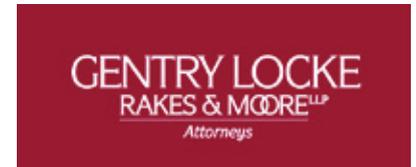


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by an adult over the age of 18 who has a valid Virginia hunting license or is exempt from purchasing a hunting license. Nonresident youth of any age need to have the appropriate licenses (unless exempt from purchasing a license).

- 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 4 and 5

- 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.

SPRING TURKEY HUNTERS NEEDED FOR SURVEY!

For years the Department has conducted a statewide survey of spring turkey hunters to collect their observations and opinions, but participation has been declining. Survey results help the Department with many wild turkey conservation issues. Participants receive an annual report. To participate, send your name and mailing address to dgifweb@dgif.virginia.gov with "turkey survey" in the subject line.



- » 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 11 through May 3

- Statewide.
- One-half hour before sunrise until 12 noon each day.

May 4 through 16

- 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 20, 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 15).
- 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.

SPRING GOBBLER QUOTA HUNTS

Quota spring gobbler hunting opportunities are offered on seven WMAs, the New Kent Forestry Center, and the Adams Daniel Farm in 2020. For more information about these hunts see pages 64-65. To apply see information on page 62.

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 20, 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 17 through March 20 on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

September 2 through March 10

On National Forest Lands and Department lands on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only.

- 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.

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 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 26 through February 8: west of I-95.

Continuous closed season: east of I-95.

Bag Limit

Three per day.

Quail & Pheasant

Season Dates

November 9 through January 31

Quail is closed on all public lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Bag Limits

Quail: six per day.

Pheasant: no daily or seasonal bag limit.

Rabbit

Season Dates

November 2 through February 29

Bag Limit

Six per day.

Squirrel (Gray, Red, Fox)

Bag Limit

All squirrels combined—six per day.

Fall Seasons

Gray and Red Squirrels: September 7 through February 29

Statewide.

Fox Squirrels: September 7 through January 31 in the following designated areas only:

Counties west of the Blue Ridge and in the counties of Albemarle, Bedford, Culpeper, Fauquier, Franklin, Greene, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Patrick, Prince William, and Rappahannock.

Spring Season

June 6 through 20, 2020: Closed on National Forest lands.

During the Spring Season:

Gray and red squirrels may be harvested statewide, unless otherwise posted, and on the following wildlife management areas: Amelia, Big Survey, Big Woods, Briery Creek, Cavalier, Chickahominy, Clinch Mountain, Crooked Creek, Dick Cross, Doe Creek, Fairystone (including Fairystone State Park and Philpott Reservoir), Featherfin, Gathright, Goshen, Hardware River, Havens, Hidden Valley, Highland, Hog Island (Carlisle Tract only), Horsepen, James River, Lake Robertson, Lands End (Salem Church tract only), Little North Mountain, Mattaponi, Mattaponi Bluffs, Merrimac Farm, Oakley Forest, Pettigrew, Phelps, Powhatan (including the Goochland Tract), Rapidan, Short Hills, Stewarts Creek, G. Richard Thompson, Robert W. Duncan, Turkeycock Mountain, Ware Creek, and White Oak Mountain.

Fox squirrels may be harvested on all lands, unless otherwise posted, in all counties with an open fall fox squirrel season and on the following

wildlife management areas: Big Survey, Clinch Mountain, Crooked Creek, Gathright, Goshen, Havens, Hidden Valley, 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.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Grouse Hunting Survey

The Department annually monitors fall populations of ruffed grouse by surveying avid grouse hunter success rates flushing and harvesting grouse. Grouse populations have been declining so we are very interested in getting more help with this survey. If you are an avid grouse hunter and are willing to participate please consider joining the survey. Hunters are asked to provide information on the number of grouse they flush and kill on a daily basis. In addition, we ask co-operators to send us some tail and wing feathers so we can estimate age and sex ratios of hunter-killed birds. All survey instructions and materials will be provided. The Department provides cooperators with a summary report at the end of the season. To participate, send your name and mailing address to dgifweb@dgif.virginia.gov with "grouse survey" in the subject line or call 540-248-9360.

Quail Hunting Survey

Please consider joining our quail hunter cooperator survey. Help us keep records on wild quail hunting success rates and habitats where quail are being found. Contact Marc Puckett at: Marc.Puckett@dgif.virginia.gov.

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 20, 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 15).
- Electronic calls may be used on private lands for bobcat, coyote, fox, and raccoons with written permission of the landowner and on public lands except where specifically prohibited.
- 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 on private lands with written permission of the landowner.
- No Sunday hunting of furbearers on public lands, except for raccoons.

Bobcat

Bag Limit

Two per hunting party taken between noon one day and noon the following day.

Archery Season

October 5 through 31:
Statewide.

Legal Methods and Restrictions

- It is unlawful to use dogs when hunting with archery tackle during the bobcat archery season.
- It is unlawful to have a firearm in possession. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 20.)
- 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.

Firearms Season

November 1 through February 29:
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.

Electronic 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 that does not require checking, you must se-

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.

curely 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 29:

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.



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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.

Licenses Required

License requirements are the same as those for hunting foxes with firearms. However, a Fox Hunting License to hunt foxes on horseback with hounds without firearms may be purchased in lieu of a basic hunting license. This license exempts the licensee from having to complete the hunter education program.

Continuous open season statewide (including Sundays) unless noted below.

- Closed March 1 through October 31 and during the firearms season for deer on the George Washington/Jefferson National Forests and on Gathright, Goshen, Highland, and Little North Mountain WMAs.
- Closed March 1 through October 31 on G. Richard Thompson and Rapidan WMAs.

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 or on one's person, vehicle, or conveyance. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 20.)

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.

Firearms Season

October 15 through March 10:
Statewide.

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.

Chase-Only Seasons

NO RACCOON MAY BE TAKEN EXCEPT DURING THE FIREARMS SEASON.

Continuous open season statewide (including Sundays):

Except on Department-controlled lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and on National Forest lands.

Licenses Required

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

August 1 through September 28 (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 20.)

SPOTTED SKUNK INFORMATION NEEDED

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.



Eastern spotted skunk ©Bob Gress

ELECTRONIC CALLS

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.

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.

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>.



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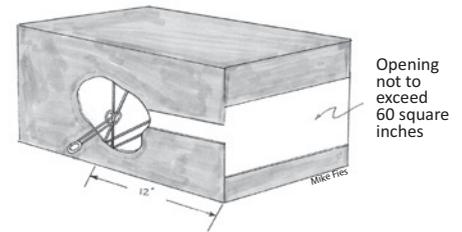


General Trapping Regulations

- 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, trappers may shoot wild 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 lawful to set traps in water from December 1 through the last day of February, both dates inclusive, and at any time 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, except as otherwise specifically provided by Department permit or by local ordinances.

- Any person setting or in possession of a steel 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

Body-gripping Trap Enclosure



- 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 2½ 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. Beginning in 2019, trappers may use their customer identification number (CID) to mark their trap tags if they prefer not to use their name and address. This 7-digit number was assigned to you when you registered to purchase a license. A trapper's CID number is confidential and the database containing this information can only be accessed by Department personnel. Please remember that marking your trap tags with a CID number is OPTIONAL. You may continue to use tags with your name and address or a permanent 5-digit trapper ID number assigned to you prior to June 1, 2019.



Photo by Sally Mills

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 29

Bobcat

November 15 through February 29
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 29:
Fox trapping is prohibited in Clarke (except on G. Richard Thompson WMA), Fauquier (except on Chester F. Phelps WMA and G. Richard Thompson WMA), Loudoun, and Rappahannock counties.

Mink

December 1 through February 29

Muskrat

December 1 through February 29

Nutria

Continuous open season.

Opossum

November 15 through February 29

Otter

December 1 through February 29
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 29

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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 29

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.

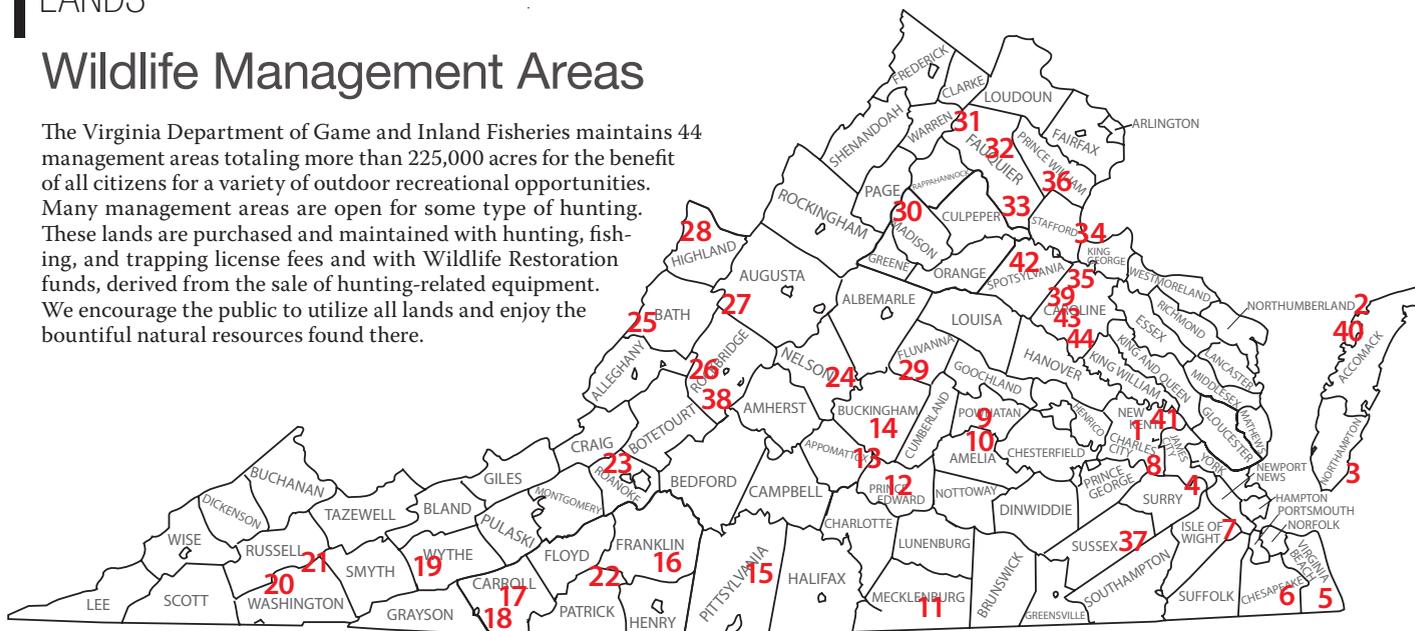
Trapping Best Management Practices (BMPs) are carefully researched **recommendations** designed to ensure animals are **humanely captured**. Developed as part of the largest trap research effort ever conducted, BMPs feature the **latest scientific information** about trapping techniques and equipment, along with practical advice from experienced trappers and wildlife biologists. More than **600 types of traps** have been evaluated and trapping BMPs exist for **23 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>



Wildlife Management Areas

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries maintains 44 management areas totaling more than 225,000 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 lands 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.



| WMA | ACRES |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. * Game Farm Marsh WMA | 530 acres |
| 2. Saxis WMA | 5,574 acres |
| 3. * Mockhorn Island/GATR WMA | 7,642 acres |
| 4. */# Hog Island/Carlisle WMA | 3,908 acres |
| 5. */# Princess Anne WMA | 1,546 acres |
| 6. Cavalier/Dismal Swamp WMA | 4,485 acres |
| 7. Ragged Island WMA | 1,537 acres |
| 8. * Chickahominy WMA | 5,218 acres |
| 9. Powhatan WMA | 4,463 acres |
| 10. * Amelia WMA | 2,217 acres |
| 11. * Dick Cross WMA | 1,400 acres |
| 12. Briery Creek WMA | 3,164 acres |
| 13. */## Featherfin WMA | 3,084 acres |
| 14. Horsepen WMA | 2,910 acres |
| 15. White Oak Mt. WMA | 2,748 acres |
| 16. Turkeycock Mt. WMA | 2,678 acres |
| 17. Crooked Creek WMA | 1,796 acres |
| 18. Stewarts Creek WMA | 1,138 acres |
| 19. Big Survey WMA | 7,564 acres |
| 20. Hidden Valley WMA | 6,400 acres |
| 21. Clinch Mt. WMA | 25,477 acres |
| 22. ## Fairystone WMA | 5,414 acres |
| 23. Havens WMA | 9,023 acres |
| 24. James River WMA | 1,213 acres |

| WMA | ACRES |
|---|--------------|
| 25. Gathright WMA | 13,428 acres |
| 26. Lake Robertson WMA | 581 acres |
| 27. Goshen/Little North Mt. WMA | 33,697 acres |
| 28. Highland WMA | 14,283 acres |
| 29. Hardware River WMA | 1,175 acres |
| 30. Rapidan WMA | 10,870 acres |
| 31. Thompson WMA | 3,963 acres |
| 32. ** Weston WMA | 271 acres |
| 33. # C. F. Phelps WMA | 4,540 acres |
| 34. Lands End WMA (Salem Church tract, squirrel only) | 450 acres |
| 35. Pettigrew WMA | 934 acres |
| 36. * Merrimac Farm WMA | 301 acres |
| 37. ## Big Woods WMA | 4,208 acres |
| 38. Short Hills WMA | 4,232 acres |
| 39. Mattaponi WMA | 2,542 acres |
| 40. * Doe Creek WMA | 637 acres |
| 41. * Ware Creek WMA | 2,600 acres |
| 42. Oakley Forest WMA | 2,911 acres |
| 43. *Mattaponi Bluffs WMA | 470 acres |
| 44. Robert W. Duncan WMA | 1,300 acres |

* Some or all hunting by quota hunt drawing (see pages 62–65).
 ** Hunting is not allowed.
 # Managed hunt opportunities offered (see page 66–68).
 ## Antler point restrictions (APR-see page 33).

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, as 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.

Cave Access

- All caves are closed to access without written authorization from the Department.

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 a firearm or any hunting weapon that is not unloaded and cased or dismantled:
 - » While on Department-owned lands statewide, except during the period when it is lawful to take bear, deer, grouse, pheasant, quail, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, turkey, waterfowl or migratory game birds on these lands.
 - » 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 hunting weapon in or on any vehicle at any time on Department-owned lands statewide. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 20.)
- 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 (trotilines, 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.

Horseback/Bicycle Riding & Hiking

- Horseback and bicycle riding only on roads and trails designated for these uses. No riding in cultivated or planted fields, or on eroded areas.
- Hiking is welcome.
- Riders, cyclists, and hikers should be mindful of all open hunting and trapping seasons. Please avoid engaging in these activities when they may interfere with hunters, anglers, and wildlife watchers.
- A blaze colored hat or clothing is recommended for non-hunters during hunting seasons.

Resource & Property Damage

- It is unlawful to construct or occupy any permanent structure (including a permanently-affixed tree stand) except by Department permit.
- It is unlawful to cut, mutilate, destroy, or remove vegetation or to remove other minerals, artifacts or other property from this area. Metal detecting/artifact hunting is prohibited.
- 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 barricades 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.
- It shall be unlawful to use a drone or other unmanned aircraft on department-owned lands.

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

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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 lake 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 backing, 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 is 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. Snow and ice may result in temporary range closures in January, February, and March. For information contact: Marion Regional Office, (276) 783-4860.

Gathright 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:

A 6-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 1 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 1 to December 31. For more information contact: North River Ranger District, (540) 432-0187.

The Wythe Shooting Range:

Offers 10 lanes with covered benches. Five lanes allow shooting from 5-25 yards. The remaining five lanes offer shooting from 5-100 yards. Pistols and rifles may be used on any lane depending upon the shooting distance desired. No shotguns, moving targets, or archery allowed. The range is open year round, but closed from daylight to noon on Wednesdays for cleaning. 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 Valleypointe 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/gwj, 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 have in possession a firearm or any hunting weapon which is not unloaded and cased or dismantled on all National Forest lands, all Department-owned lands and on lands managed by the Department under cooperative agreement statewide except during the period when it is lawful to take bear, deer, grouse, pheasant, quail, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, turkey, waterfowl or migratory game birds on these lands. (See exception for valid concealed handgun permit holders on page 20.)

It shall be unlawful to possess or transport any loaded firearm or loaded hunting weapon 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 20.)

"Hunting weapon" is any weapon allowable for hunting as defined in 29.1-519 of the Code of Virginia.

"Loaded firearm" is defined as a firearm in which ammunition is chambered or loaded in the magazine or clip, when such magazine or clip is found engaged or partially engaged in a firearm.

The definition of a "loaded muzzleloader" will include a muzzleloader which is capped, or has a charged pan, or has a primer, or battery installed in the muzzleloader.

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.

The definition of a "loaded arrowgun" is an arrowgun that has an arrow or bolt inserted on the arrow rest or barrel.

The word "possession" shall include, but not be limited to, having any firearm or weapon used for hunting in or on one's person, vehicle or conveyance.

It is unlawful to chase with a dog or train dogs on National Forest lands or Department-owned lands except during authorized hunting, chase or training seasons that specifically permit these activities on these lands.

Collecting any portion of the American ginseng plant for personal or commercial use from the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests and Department-owned lands is prohibited.

Commercial hunting or fishing outfitter activities on the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests require a permit from the National Forest.

Access Roads

Hunter access roads on Department lands seasonally open to motor vehicles will be open (weather permitting) from the last Saturday in September to the 2nd Saturday in February and the 1st Saturday in April to the 3rd Saturday in May.

Opening and closing dates of hunter access roads on National Forest lands may vary by ranger district. Opening and closing dates are determined by management considerations for the areas accessed by these roads. Contact the local ranger district listed at left for opening and closing dates on specific roads.

Any motor driven vehicle using roads normally open to motor vehicles on Department and National Forest lands shall conform with all state laws for highway travel. No cross country travel is permitted. All terrain vehicle (ATV) and off-road vehicle (ORV) travel is permitted only on designated National Forest roads and trails.

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.

Camping on the George Washington/Jefferson National Forests for more than 21 consecutive days without terminating occupancy for a minimum of 10 consecutive days within a 31-day time period is prohibited. For more information, please visit the National Forest website www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj or call the appropriate office. No trash service is provided. "Pack it in, Pack it out."

Structures

It is unlawful to construct, maintain, or occupy any permanent structure, except by permit, on Department-owned lands and National Forest lands.

It is unlawful to maintain any temporary dwelling on Department-owned land for more than 14 consecutive days. Persons constructing or occupying such structures are responsible for complete removal of temporary structures.

Tree Stands

It is unlawful to construct, maintain, or occupy any permanent tree stand on Department-owned lands, National Forest lands, and on Department of Conservation and Recreation-owned or controlled lands. Portable tree stands, which are not permanently affixed, may be used. Use of a full body safety harness while hunting from tree stands is strongly recommended.

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 are 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 black-powder only), Conway Robinson State Forest in Prince William County (lottery permit only), Cumberland State Forest, Dragon Run State Forest in King and Queen County, Lesesne State Forest in Nelson County (archery and black-powder 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. Moore's Creek State Forest in Rockbridge County is also open to hunting, however, there is no public road access at this time.

A valid State Forest Use Permit and valid hunting license is required and may be purchased from license 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 5 through November 15. Either-sex all season.

Muzzleloading

November 2 through 15. Either-sex hunting on November 9.

General Firearms

November 16 through January 4. 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 5 through November 15.

Muzzleloading

November 2 through 15.

General Firearms

November 16 through January 4. 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.

Dove:

Hunting permitted on Wednesdays 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. For more information about seasons and special restrictions, contact Ft. Pickett Game Check Station at (434) 292-2618 or visit <https://ftpickett.isportsman.net>. Open Tuesday-Saturday and closed on state-recognized holidays.

Quantico Marine Reservation

Deer:

Archery Season

October 5 through November 15.

General Firearms

November 16 through January 4. 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. Background checks may be required for some individuals to access the base.

Fort Belvoir

Archery Only

Qualification required.

Deer:

September 7 through March 28.

September 28 is Youth/Apprentice Day

Fall Turkey:

Oct. 19-Nov. 1; Nov. 27-28;

Dec. 2-28 and Jan. 11-25.

Spring Turkey:

April 4 is Youth/Apprentice Day

April 11-May 16

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 62-65.

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.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

1930 Mays Chapel Road, Boydton, VA 23917 (434) 738-6143 or <https://CorpsLakes.erdc.dren.mil/visitors/projects.cfm?ID=K708350>.

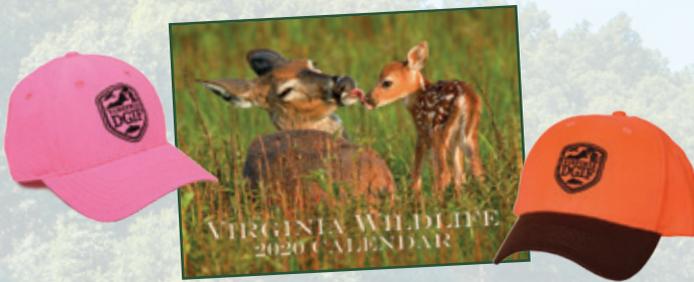
John W. Flannagan Reservoir

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.

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>

VIRGINIA WILDLIFE GRANT PROGRAM



Your hunting license purchase supports conservation; your merchandise purchase supports the hunting heritage and other outdoor activities through the Virginia Wildlife Grant Program which awarded \$80,000 in 2018 to connect youth to the outdoors. To make a purchase go to GoOutdoorsVirginia.com



Grant submission date opens on August 1, 2019. See more at: virginiawildlife.gov/grant-program



THE VIRGINIA CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER *Protectors of Virginia's Wildlife and Natural Resources*

The badge of the Conservation Police Officer (CPO) represents those who have dedicated their lives to the protection of wildlife and natural resources, as well as promoting a safe environment for anglers, hunters, boaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts. To earn it requires comprehensive training and highly specialized skills, along with a passion for the outdoors and its wildlife.

Conservation Police Officers are fully certified sworn officers through the Department of Criminal Justice Services, with the authority to enforce all of the laws of Virginia. However, due to the unique nature of this profession, those who wear the badge of the CPO are unlike any other police officer.

Each CPO must be able to take on many different roles — from educator and ambassador to outdoor enthusiast; from evidence technician to boat collision reconstructionist; and from crime analyst to wildlife crime detective responsible for managing informants. CPOs also provide public safety and emergency response, sometimes during severe weather conditions, requiring that they put their lives on the line to rescue others.

CPOs frequently conduct patrols in remote areas on foot, ATV, and boat — usually without back-up and often under the cover of darkness. In these types of stressful situations, CPOs must “...maintain calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; demonstrate self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others.” (CONSERVATION POLICE OFFICER'S CODE OF ETHICS)



CITIZEN FEEDBACK:

Your feedback, whether positive or negative, is important. Visit dgif.virginia.gov/ops to see how you can file an Officer Commendation or Complaint, or express a Law Enforcement Division Praise or Dissatisfaction.

State Parks

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 2019-2020 Season

| LOCATION | HUNTING DATES | RESERVATION PERIOD BEGINS | NUMBER OF HUNTERS/DAY | WEAPONS ALLOWED | RESERVATION FEE | HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIRED |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Belle Isle Lancaster County 804-462-5030 | 11/5-6 | 9/20 | 12 | M | \$15 | ✓ |
| | 12/10-11 | 9/20 | 12 | M,S | \$15 | ✓ |
| Caledon King George County 540-663-3861 | 11/7 | 9/4 | 10 | M | \$15 | ✓ |
| Claytor Lake Pulaski County 540-643-2500 | 1/3-4 | 10/3 | 20 | M,Ss | \$15 | ✓ |
| Grayson Highlands Grayson County 276-579-7092 | 11/4-5 | 9/6 | 30 | M | \$15 | ✓ |
| | 11/18-19 | 9/6 | 30 | G | \$15 | ✓ |
| James River Buckingham County 434-933-4355 | 12/9-10 | 9/13 | 15 | M,S | \$15 | ✓ |
| Kiptopeke Northampton County 757-331-2267 | 12/3-5 | 9/11 | 12+ | A, M, S | \$15 | ✓ |
| Lake Anna Spotsylvania County 540-854-5503 | 11/6 | 9/26 | 27 | M | \$15 | ✓ |
| | 12/4-5, 12/11-12 | 9/26 | 27 | M, Ss | \$15 | ✓ |
| Leesylvania Prince William County 703-730-8205 | 12/2, 12/9 | 10/4 | 15 | Ss* | \$15 | ✓ |
| Loudoun County Property 571-409-0030 | 11/18, 11/25 | 9/5 | 8 | Ss | \$15 | ✓ |
| Natural Tunnel Scott County 276-940-2674 | 11/12-13 | 9/27 | 15 | M | \$15 | ✓ |
| | 1/10-11 | 9/27 | 15 | M, Ss | \$15 | ✓ |
| Pocahontas Chesterfield County 804-796-4255 | 11/4-6 | 9/25 | 10+ | A, M | \$15 | ✓ |
| | 12/10-12 12/17-19 | 9/25 | 25+ | A, M, S | \$15 | ✓ |
| Shenandoah River Warren County 540-622-6840 | 11/19 | 9/18 | 7 | YG | \$15 | ✓ |
| Smith Mountain Lake Bedford County 540-297-6066 | 11/4-5 11/11-12 | 9/12 | 30 | A, M | \$15 | ✓ |
| Widewater Stafford County 540-288-1400 | 12/5, 12/12 | 10/2 | 10 | Ss* | \$15 | ✓ |
| York River James City County 757-566-3036 | 11/12-13 | 9/19 | 5, 37 | A, M | \$15 | ✓ |

Key:

A Archery

M Muzzleloading firearms

S Shotgun

s slugs only

G General Firearms

YM .. Youth Muzzleloading firearms

YG... Youth General Firearms

* special qualification required

+ some slots allow for hunting buddy

Call the State Parks Customer Service Center at 1-800-933-PARK (7275) to participate. All hunts have special regulations.

Contact the individual park or the customer service center to obtain the hunt specific rules.

All of Virginia State Parks' managed hunts will be filled by reservation, except the Cooperative Hunts listed below.

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 hunt is planned for Monday, November 19 at Shenandoah River State Park (general firearms). 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 7 through January 2 and are limited to a total of 100 permits. All normal DGIF 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, Dec. 7. 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: \$350/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 and at Lake Anna State Park on Tuesday, Nov. 5. A special General Firearms hunt will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23 at Staunton River State Park. Applications will be available Aug. 1, and the deadline is Sept. 30. Apply or download the application at <http://vanwtf.com/wheelin.aspx>. Contact Robin Clark, 434-249-6154, huntvaws@gmail.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. 19, Dec. 3, and a bonus hunt day and youth hunt day on Dec. 10. 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 Aug. 1 to Sept. 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 Department of Game & Inland Fisheries on Dec. 13-14. 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. 28 and 29 while the hunt will take place on Dec. 5 and Dec. 12. 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 Widewater State Park, 101 Widewater State Park Rd, Stafford, VA 22554. Notifications will be sent out by Sept. 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.



Virginia

Don't forget: Boating Safety Classes are Required

www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/education/requirement/

2019-2020 Quota Hunts

General Information/Application

Quota hunts provide hunters 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 pre-season 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 online through the Department's website at www.goooutdoorsvirginia.com. Successful applicants can find their hunt materials online by logging into their Quota Hunts landing page.

New for the 2019-2020 Quota Hunt Season

- Radford Army Ammunition Plant Deer Hunts, Series #211, is unavailable for the 2019 season. See description under #211 Deer Hunt.
- NEW Mattaponi Bluffs WMA Multispecies and Spring Turkey hunts Series #308 & 413.
- NEW Hockley Experimental Forest Apprentice Deer and Spring Turkey hunts, Series #221 & 414
- Oakley Forest WMA and the Featherfin Multi-Species hunt are no longer managed through the Virginia Quota Hunts system. Hunting is open to the public. For details go to <https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wma/oakley-forest/>.

Quota Hunts Having Early Application Deadlines:

- Princess Anne WMA Early Season Waterfowl Hunt, Series #112 — Applications must be received on or before July 31, 2019

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 general 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. 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.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 general 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; 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.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

Dutch Gap Conservation Area Waterfowl Hunts - Series #103

Hunt waterfowl on the Dutch Gap Conservation Area in Chesterfield County. Hunt days are Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday during the last two segments of the general 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.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 Chopawamsic Creek on the Prince William / Stafford County line.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

Lake Orange Waterfowl Hunts - Series #105

Hunt waterfowl on Lake Orange, in Orange County. Hunt days are Wednesdays and Saturdays during the last two segments of the general 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.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 general duck season. Two hunters will be randomly selected for each hunt date and selected hunters may bring two guests. Hunts begin one half hour before sunrise and end at 3:00 p.m.. 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.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday during the last two segments of the general 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 hunt day, hunters present will select their blind in the order assigned by the pre-season 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 at www.virginia.gov/wma/princess-anne.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

Plum Tree National Wildlife Refuge Waterfowl Hunts - Series #108

Hunt waterfowl for full days on the Cow Island Unit of Plum Tree Island National Wildlife Refuge in the City of Poquoson. Hunting is available on Wednesday, Saturday, and some holidays from licensed blind locations. Hunters select preferred dates for two-day hunt packages during the last two segments of the general duck season and each selected hunter may bring two guests. Hunters must provide their own decoys, hunting gear, and boat access to the refuge. Use of retrieval dogs is permitted and encouraged. The nearest boat launch access to the hunting area is from the Rens Road Public Boat Ramp in Poquoson or from Owens Marina (launching fee collected on-site).

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019
- **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 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!

- **Applications due:** July 31, 2019

Game Farm Marsh (WMA) #113

Hunting at Game Farm Marsh WMA in New Kent County is by Quota Hunt drawing on the first two dates of the October segment and the opening day of the November and December segments. 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. No other equipment is provided. You will need a boat to access the WMA. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

For the remainder of the October, November, and December/January segments of the duck season, Game Farm Marsh WMA is open for hunting on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, with no restrictions on the number of hunters. Hunters may not occupy the area before 5:00 a.m. and must vacate the area by 1:00 p.m.

Deer

Hog Island WMA Archery Deer Hunts - Series #201

Hunt for white-tailed deer on the Hog Island WMA in Surry County during the early archery deer season. 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.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

Hog Island WMA Deer Shotgun and Muzzleloader Hunts - Series #202

Shotgun, archery, or muzzleloader 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.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

The Nature Conservancy, North Landing River - Series #203

Hunt deer on a 2300-acre tract on the North Landing River in Virginia Beach during the entire deer season. Please note: this tract is accessible only by boat and is composed of very dense wetland habitat. Hunters must provide their own boat for access. There is no high-ground access for foot travel, and hunters are highly recommended to provide their own map/GPS equipment to navigate interior travel. Fifty hunters will be selected to hunt this property and selected hunters may bring one guest. Successful applicants must return a signed waiver prior to the season. Failure to submit a waiver will result in revocation of hunting privileges.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

Mockhorn Island WMA Deer Hunts - Series #204

Hunt for white-tailed deer on the GATR Tract of Mockhorn Island WMA in Northampton County during the muzzleloading deer season.

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.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

Presquile National Wildlife Refuge - Series #209

Firearms 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 and hunting gear to the island. 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.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019
- **More information:** USFWS or (804) 829-9020.

James River National Wildlife Refuge - Series #210

Archery hunting for white-tailed deer on the James River National Wildlife Refuge in Prince George County. Please note: For successful applicants (and guest,) there will be an additional hunt fee of \$50/season per hunter.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019
- **More information:** USFWS or (804) 829-9020.

Radford Army Ammunition Plant Deer Hunts - Series #211

Due to a change in Department of the Army policy, Radford Army Ammunition Plant leadership has informed the DGIF that the 2019 Public Deer Hunt held at the New River Unit in Dublin, VA is cancelled. This action was taken to allow the Army ample time to complete requirements associated with the policy change, evaluate the public deer hunt in light of the policy change, and work with the DGIF to ensure that any future hunts can be carried out in a manner that complies with these policy changes.

Because of the change, the DGIF will not be accepting applications for the Radford Hunt in 2019. Hunters who have previously applied for the Radford Hunt will retain their application points. For more information, please visit <https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/quota-hunts/raap-faq/>

Lone Star Lakes Park - Series #212 (Hunters Choice)

Hunt for white-tailed deer within Suffolk's Lone Star Lakes Park in October. Eight hunters will be randomly selected for the hunt dates and selected hunters may bring one guest. Hunters

PUBLIC HUNTING

QUOTA HUNTS

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. Hunters may use shotgun, muzzleloader, or archery equipment.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

Lone Star Lakes Park - Series #213 (Hunters Choice)

Hunt 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. Hunters may use shotgun, muzzleloader or archery equipment.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

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. Hunters may only use muzzleloader or archery equipment.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

Doe Creek WMA Archery or Muzzleloader Deer Hunts - Series #217

Muzzleloader or archery hunt for white-tailed deer and turkey when in season on designated lands of the Doe Creek WMA and Mink Farm Tract in Accomack County. Five hunters will be randomly selected for each set of hunt dates and selected hunters may bring one guest. An official permit slip to access.

- Following muzzleloader quota hunts, the Mink Farm Tract is open without quota restriction to archery deer hunting; the Doe Creek tract is closed through the duck season.
- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

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. Ten hunters will be randomly selected. 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 time:** Gates open 1 hour before sunrise till 1 hour after sunset
- **All Applications due:** September 27, 2019

Apprentice Hunter -New Kent Forestry Center Archery/Muzzleloader/Firearms Deer Hunt - Series #219

This hunt allows hunters to hunt for 7 days on designated lands at the New Kent Forestry Center in New Kent County. Twenty-five hunters will be randomly selected. 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 time:** Gates open 1 hour before sunrise till 1 hour after sunset
- **All Applications due:** September 27, 2019

NEW Chickahominy WMA Firearm Season Antlerless Deer Tag – Series #220

Firearm deer season on the Chickahominy WMA in Charles City County is limited to antlered deer only. This quota drawing allows 30 hunters to receive 1 antlerless deer tag good for the entire firearm season on Chickahominy WMA.

- **Hunt dates:** General Firearms Deer Season, No Deer Hunting on Sundays)
- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

NEW Hockley Experimental Forest Apprentice Hunter Deer Hunt – Series #221

This hunt allows apprentice and mentor hunters to hunt deer (Archery, Muzzleloader, Firearm) on Saturdays and Federal Holidays at the Hockley Experimental Forest in King and Queen County. 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 mentor.

- **Selected:** 6 Selected for Deer Season days
- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

Multi-Species WMA Hunts

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. On Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must accompany a youth or apprentice hunter if hunting deer. All youth/apprentice hunting regulations apply for this day. Hunter quota restrictions do not apply on open hunting season dates outside the Quota Hunt period.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

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 hunters may bring up to 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. On Youth/Apprentice Hunting Days, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must accompany a youth or apprentice hunter. All youth/apprentice hunting regulations apply for these days.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

NEW Mattaponi Bluffs WMA - Series #308

Hunt any game species in season on the Mattaponi Bluffs WMA in Caroline County. One hunter will be randomly selected for each set of hunt days and each successful applicant will be allowed 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 outside the quota hunt season.

- **Applications due:** August 30, 2019

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 and for the last two weeks of the season.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 the last two weeks of the turkey season.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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. On Youth/Apprentice Day, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect for the May segment of the season.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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. On Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter. Hunting is on Saturdays, Mondays, and Thursdays only.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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. On Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect during May.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 time:** 1 Hour before sunrise to noon
- **Selected:** 4 Selected on date, 1 guest allowed, 1 must be Apprentice Licensed
- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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. On Youth/Apprentice Hunting Day only youth and apprentice licensed hunters may carry a weapon and must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older. Hunter quota restrictions are not in effect during May.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 harvest only one turkey on Adams Daniel Farm during the spring season. On Youth/Apprentice Hunting Weekend, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter. Selected applicants will be issued a hunting pass which must be carried and a windshield pass which must be displayed.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

NEW Mattaponi Bluffs WMA - Series #413

Hunt spring gobblers on Mattaponi Bluffs WMA in Caroline County. One hunter will be randomly selected for each hunt segment and each successful applicant may bring one guest. On Youth/ Apprentice Hunting Day, adults are not permitted to carry firearms and must chaperone one youth 15 years of age or younger or an apprentice hunter.

- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

NEW Hockley Experimental Forest Apprentice Hunter Spring Turkey– Series #414

This hunt allows apprentice and mentor hunters to hunt turkey during the spring season on Saturdays and Federal Holidays at the Hockley Experimental Forest in King and Queen County. 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 mentor.

Selected: 6 Selected for Deer Season days, 1 selected for Spring Turkey Season days

- **All Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 time:** Sunrise-Sunset
- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 time:** Sunrise-Sunset
- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 time:** Sunrise to sunset
- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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 time:** Sunrise to sunset
- **Applications due:** September 27, 2019

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.

2019-2020 Managed Hunts & Workshops

Managed Hunts are generally by on-site random drawings or by application through the local Resource Office. Hunting opportunities are provided on various Department Wildlife Management Areas and National Wildlife Refuges.

Managed Waterfowl Hunts Hog Island WMA September Waterfowl Hunts

Hunt resident Canada geese and teal when in season on the first, third and fourth Wednesdays in September until 11:00 a.m. on Hog Island WMA in Surry County. A total of 10 parties of no more than 3 hunters per party will be selected each morning of the hunt. There are no blinds or decoys provided for

these hunts. Hunters should call in advance to determine field hunting conditions (crops in/out of the fields). Phone number: (757) 357-5224. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- Drawing begins promptly at 4:15 a.m.

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 youth waterfowl hunting day. 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 served. To register, contact the Hog Island WMA between September 13-20, 2019, at (757) 357-5224. There are no blinds or decoys provided for these hunts. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- 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 served. To register, contact the Hog Island WMA between January 3-17, 2020, at (757) 357-5224. Dogs are allowed and recommended.

- Hunters to arrive by 4:30 a.m.

Princess Anne WMA Impoundments September Canada Goose/Teal Hunts

This is an opportunity to hunt September Canada geese/teal 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.

- 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:** 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 when 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 days:** October and February Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days
- Hunters may not occupy area before 5:00 a.m.



Notes from the Field



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CONSERVATION POLICE NOTEBOOK

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 28, 2019

Princess Anne WMA October Archery

Archery hunt for deer on the Whitehurst and Beasley tracts of Princess Anne WMA in Virginia Beach. 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.

- **Hunt days:** Mondays–Saturdays
- 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, disabled 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 with archery tackle, muzzle-loader, or firearms.. Two hunters will be chosen by random drawing to hunt each day during the archery, muzzleloader, and general firearms 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 6, 2019.

- **Hunting days:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and State Holidays

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 hunt 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 hunt



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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 served basis. Hunters must purchase a purchase a Refuge Bear Hunt Permit from the Go Outdoors Virginia License website. 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. There is a refuge fee of \$25 per hunter. For more information about the bear hunt program, visit the Great Dismal Swamp NWR website.

- **Scouting date:** October 31 (also a deer hunt permit can be purchased for additional scouting access to hunt areas prior to the scouting day; see deer hunt # 701)

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 workshop and hunts. One will take place at Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve in Loudoun County on October 19-20 with hunt days on December 6, 13, and 20. The other will be at Widewater State Park in Stafford County on September 28-29 with hunt days on December 5 and 12.

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).

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, 2019. 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 Widewater State Park, 101 Widewater State Park Rd., Stafford, VA 22554; Phone: 540-288-1400; Email: widewater@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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Index

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------|--|----------------|---|------------|
| Access Permit | 13, 54 | Electronic Calls | 17, 46, 48, 50 | Public Access Land | |
| Access Roads | 57 | Elk | 14, 40 | for Sportsmen (PALS) | 12, 57 |
| Air Rifles | 20 | Federal Refuges | 58 | Public Hunting Lands | 54 |
| Antler Point Restrictions | 33 | Feeding Wildlife (Unlawful) | 21 | Quail Mgmt. Assistance Prog. | 16 |
| Antlered & Antlerless Deer | 32 | Firearm, Loaded (Definition) | 14 | Quail and Pheasant Hunting | 14, 46 |
| Apprentice License | 7, 9, 10 | Fisher | 14, 49, 53 | Quota Hunts & Workshops | 62 |
| Archery Tackle (Definition) | 14 | Fox | 14 | Rabbit | 14 |
| Arrowgun (Definition) | 14 | Chase Only..... | 50 | Training Dogs..... | 16 |
| Assisting with Hunt | 20 | Hunting..... | 49 | Hunting..... | 46 |
| ATV Laws | 21 | Trapping..... | 53 | Trapping..... | 53 |
| Bait | 14, 15, 18, 52 | Furbearer Species (Definition) | 14 | Raccoon | 14 |
| Bear | 14 | Game Species (Definition) | 14 | Chase-only Season..... | 50 |
| Archery..... | 28 | Groundhog Hunting | 14, 46 | Hunting..... | 50 |
| Bag Limits, Size Requirements..... | 28 | Grouse Hunting | 14, 46 | Trapping..... | 53 |
| Checking/Check Stations..... | 26, 28 | HIP 1-888-788-9772 | | Ranges (Public) | 56 |
| Firearms..... | 30 | Hogs, Feral | 14, 19 | Regions/Phone Numbers | 4 |
| Hound Training/Chase Season..... | 31 | Hours (Hunting) | 13 | Residency Qualifications | 8 |
| Muzzleloader..... | 29 | Hunter Education | 7 | Sale/Purchase of Wildlife | 17 |
| Youth/Apprentice Hunting Weekend..... | 28 | Hunters for the Hungry | 40 | Shooting | |
| Beaver | 14, 53 | Hunting Shooting Preserves | 12, 46 | From Boat..... | 20 |
| Blaze Colored Requirements | 13 | Landowner Liability | 16 | From Road..... | 20 |
| Bobcat | 14 | Lead Exposure | 42 | Over Public Water..... | 20, 52 |
| Hunting/Trapping..... | 48, 53 | Legal Use of Archery Equipment | 20 | Skunk | 14 |
| Electronic Checking..... | 48 | Legal Use of Firearms | 20 | Hunting..... | 51 |
| Tagging Requirements (CITES)..... | 48 | License Exemptions | 8, 27 | Spotted Skunk..... | 50, 51 |
| Bonus Deer Permits | 12, 32 | License Requirements | | Trapping..... | 53 |
| Bowhunter Survey | 36 | Hunting..... | 8 | Squirrel Hunting | 14, 46 |
| Camping Policy (WMA/Nat. Forest) | 57 | Trapping..... | 8 | Fox Squirrel..... | 46, 47 |
| Carcass | | License (Replacement) | 9 | State Forest Hunting | 57 |
| Disposal of Deer..... | 34 | Licenses & Fees | 10-13 | State Parks | 60-61 |
| Transferring/Left Unattended..... | 26 | Lifetime License Requirements | 13 | Structures (National Forest) | 57 |
| CWD Carcass Movement (Deer)..... | 41-42 | Lights (Use of) | 20, 49 | Sunday Hunting | 13 |
| Concealed Handguns | 20 | Local Firearms Ordinances | 22 | Sunrise/Sunset Table | 72 |
| Coyote Hunting/Trapping | 49, 53 | Managed Hunts | 66 | Tag Validation | 26 |
| Crossbow | | Migratory Game Birds (Definition) | 14 | Telephone/Internet Checking | 26 |
| Definition..... | 14 | Military Areas | 58 | Tracking Dogs | 15, 28, 40 |
| Legal Use..... | 20 | Mink | 14, 53 | Training Dogs | 16 |
| Crow Hunting | 46 | Muskrat | 14, 53 | Trap Tagging | 52 |
| CWD - Chronic Wasting Disease | 41-42 | Muzzleloader | | Trapper ID #'s | 52 |
| Deer | 14 | Electronic Ignition..... | 29, 37 | Trapping | 14, 52 |
| Antler Point Restrictions..... | 33 | Loaded, Unloaded..... | 14, 57 | Traps | |
| Archery - Early, Late, and | | National Forest Hunting | 57 | Checking..... | 52 |
| Late Antlerless-only..... | 36 | National Parks | 58 | Foothold..... | 52 |
| Bag Limits..... | 32 | Nonmigratory Game Birds (Definition) .. | 14 | Tree Stands | 57 |
| Checking..... | 26 | Nuisance Species (Definition) | 14 | Tree Stand Safety..... | 36 |
| Firearms..... | 38 | Nutria | 14, 51 | Turkey | 14 |
| Firearms, Early/Late Antlerless-Only..... | 39 | Trapping..... | 53 | Archery..... | 44 |
| Muzzleloader - Early..... | 37 | Opossum | 14 | Checking..... | 26 |
| Muzzleloader - Late..... | 37 | Hunting..... | 50 | Fall Firearms..... | 44 |
| Urban Archery..... | 36 | Trapping..... | 53 | Spring..... | 45 |
| Youth /Apprentice Antlerless Deer Reg. | 35 | Other Weapons Usage | 20 | Youth/Apprentice Hunting | |
| Youth/Apprentice Hunting Weekend..... | 35 | Otter | 14 | Weekends..... | 44-45 |
| Definitions | 14 | Tagging Requirements (CITES)..... | 53 | Unlawful Feeding | 21 |
| Disabled Hunts | 66 | Trapping..... | 53 | Unlawful Methods | 18 |
| Dismal Swamp Line (Definition) | 14 | Permission to Hunt Form | 17-18 | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | 58 |
| DMAP/DCAP | 32 | Personal Check Card | 27 | Unplugged Shotguns | 20 |
| Dogs | | Pistols/Revolvers (Hunting with) | 20 | Violations (Report) 1-800-237-5712 ... | 4, 14 |
| Hunting with..... | 15 | Possession/Transporting Wildlife | 14, 18 | Weasel | 14, 53 |
| Tracking..... | 15, 28, 40 | Preserves (Hunting/Shooting) | 12, 46 | What's New | 6 |
| Training..... | 16 | Private Property | | Wildlife Management Areas | 54 |
| Earn a Buck | 34 | Hunting, Posting..... | 16 | | |
| East and West of Blue Ridge | 14 | Liability..... | 16 | | |

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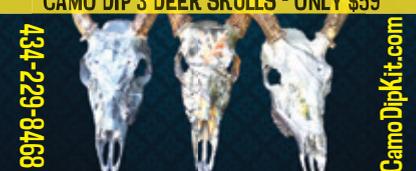
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SHOOTERS & HUNTERS: HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES.

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.

- **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.**



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GENERAL INFORMATION

SUNSET/SUNRISE TIMETABLE

Sunrise and Sunset Timetable – Richmond, Virginia

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

| DAY | JULY 2019 | | AUG. 2019 | | SEPT. 2019 | | OCT. 2019 | | NOV. 2019 | | DEC. 2019 | | JAN. 2020 | | FEB. 2020 | | MAR. 2020 | | APR. 2020 | | MAY 2020 | | JUNE 2020 | |
|-----|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) | RISE (AM) | SET (PM) |
| 1 | 5:52 | 8:35 | 6:14 | 8:18 | 6:40 | 7:39 | 7:05 | 6:53 | 7:35 | 6:12 | 7:06 | 4:52 | 7:25 | 5:02 | 7:14 | 5:33 | 6:40 | 6:04 | 6:55 | 7:33 | 6:14 | 8:00 | 5:50 | 8:26 |
| 2 | 5:53 | 8:35 | 6:15 | 8:17 | 6:41 | 7:38 | 7:06 | 6:52 | 7:36 | 6:11 | 7:07 | 4:52 | 7:25 | 5:03 | 7:13 | 5:35 | 6:39 | 6:05 | 6:53 | 7:34 | 6:13 | 8:01 | 5:50 | 8:26 |
| 3 | 5:53 | 8:35 | 6:15 | 8:16 | 6:42 | 7:36 | 7:07 | 6:50 | 6:37 | 5:10 | 7:07 | 4:52 | 7:25 | 5:04 | 7:12 | 5:36 | 6:38 | 6:06 | 6:52 | 7:35 | 6:12 | 8:02 | 5:50 | 8:27 |
| 4 | 5:54 | 8:35 | 6:16 | 8:15 | 6:42 | 7:35 | 7:08 | 6:49 | 6:38 | 5:09 | 7:08 | 4:51 | 7:25 | 5:05 | 7:11 | 5:37 | 6:36 | 6:07 | 6:50 | 7:36 | 6:11 | 8:03 | 5:49 | 8:28 |
| 5 | 5:54 | 8:34 | 6:17 | 8:14 | 6:43 | 7:33 | 7:09 | 6:47 | 6:39 | 5:08 | 7:09 | 4:51 | 7:25 | 5:05 | 7:10 | 5:38 | 6:35 | 6:08 | 6:49 | 7:37 | 6:10 | 8:04 | 5:49 | 8:28 |
| 6 | 5:55 | 8:34 | 6:18 | 8:13 | 6:44 | 7:32 | 7:10 | 6:46 | 6:40 | 5:07 | 7:10 | 4:51 | 7:25 | 5:06 | 7:09 | 5:39 | 6:33 | 6:09 | 6:47 | 7:38 | 6:09 | 8:05 | 5:49 | 8:29 |
| 7 | 5:55 | 8:34 | 6:19 | 8:12 | 6:45 | 7:30 | 7:10 | 6:44 | 6:41 | 5:06 | 7:11 | 4:51 | 7:25 | 5:07 | 7:08 | 5:40 | 6:32 | 6:10 | 6:46 | 7:39 | 6:08 | 8:06 | 5:49 | 8:29 |
| 8 | 5:56 | 8:34 | 6:20 | 8:11 | 6:46 | 7:29 | 7:11 | 6:43 | 6:42 | 5:05 | 7:12 | 4:51 | 7:25 | 5:08 | 7:07 | 5:41 | 7:30 | 7:11 | 6:44 | 7:39 | 6:07 | 8:07 | 5:48 | 8:30 |
| 9 | 5:57 | 8:33 | 6:20 | 8:10 | 6:47 | 7:27 | 7:12 | 6:41 | 6:43 | 5:04 | 7:13 | 4:51 | 7:25 | 5:09 | 7:06 | 5:42 | 7:29 | 7:12 | 6:43 | 7:40 | 6:06 | 8:08 | 5:48 | 8:30 |
| 10 | 5:57 | 8:33 | 6:21 | 8:09 | 6:47 | 7:26 | 7:13 | 6:40 | 6:44 | 5:03 | 7:13 | 4:52 | 7:25 | 5:10 | 7:05 | 5:43 | 7:28 | 7:13 | 6:41 | 7:41 | 6:05 | 8:08 | 5:48 | 8:31 |
| 11 | 5:58 | 8:33 | 6:22 | 8:07 | 6:48 | 7:24 | 7:14 | 6:39 | 6:45 | 5:02 | 7:14 | 4:52 | 7:25 | 5:11 | 7:04 | 5:44 | 7:26 | 7:14 | 6:40 | 7:42 | 6:04 | 8:09 | 5:48 | 8:31 |
| 12 | 5:58 | 8:32 | 6:23 | 8:06 | 6:49 | 7:23 | 7:15 | 6:37 | 6:46 | 5:01 | 7:15 | 4:52 | 7:24 | 5:12 | 7:03 | 5:46 | 7:25 | 7:15 | 6:39 | 7:43 | 6:03 | 8:10 | 5:48 | 8:32 |
| 13 | 5:59 | 8:32 | 6:24 | 8:05 | 6:50 | 7:21 | 7:16 | 6:36 | 6:47 | 5:01 | 7:16 | 4:52 | 7:24 | 5:13 | 7:02 | 5:47 | 7:23 | 7:16 | 6:37 | 7:44 | 6:02 | 8:11 | 5:48 | 8:32 |
| 14 | 6:00 | 8:31 | 6:25 | 8:04 | 6:51 | 7:19 | 7:17 | 6:34 | 6:48 | 5:00 | 7:16 | 4:52 | 7:24 | 5:14 | 7:01 | 5:48 | 7:22 | 7:17 | 6:36 | 7:45 | 6:01 | 8:12 | 5:48 | 8:33 |
| 15 | 6:00 | 8:31 | 6:26 | 8:02 | 6:52 | 7:18 | 7:18 | 6:33 | 6:49 | 4:59 | 7:17 | 4:53 | 7:24 | 5:15 | 7:00 | 5:49 | 7:20 | 7:18 | 6:34 | 7:46 | 6:00 | 8:13 | 5:48 | 8:33 |
| 16 | 6:01 | 8:30 | 6:26 | 8:01 | 6:52 | 7:16 | 7:19 | 6:32 | 6:50 | 4:58 | 7:18 | 4:53 | 7:23 | 5:16 | 6:59 | 5:50 | 7:19 | 7:19 | 6:33 | 7:47 | 5:59 | 8:14 | 5:48 | 8:33 |
| 17 | 6:02 | 8:30 | 6:27 | 8:00 | 6:53 | 7:15 | 7:20 | 6:30 | 6:51 | 4:58 | 7:18 | 4:53 | 7:23 | 5:17 | 6:57 | 5:51 | 7:17 | 7:19 | 6:32 | 7:48 | 5:59 | 8:14 | 5:48 | 8:34 |
| 18 | 6:03 | 8:29 | 6:28 | 7:59 | 6:54 | 7:13 | 7:21 | 6:29 | 6:52 | 4:57 | 7:19 | 4:54 | 7:23 | 5:18 | 6:56 | 5:52 | 7:16 | 7:20 | 6:30 | 7:49 | 5:58 | 8:15 | 5:49 | 8:34 |
| 19 | 6:03 | 8:29 | 6:29 | 7:57 | 6:55 | 7:12 | 7:22 | 6:28 | 6:54 | 4:57 | 7:20 | 4:54 | 7:22 | 5:19 | 6:55 | 5:53 | 7:14 | 7:21 | 6:29 | 7:49 | 5:57 | 8:16 | 5:49 | 8:34 |
| 20 | 6:04 | 8:28 | 6:30 | 7:56 | 6:56 | 7:10 | 7:23 | 6:26 | 6:55 | 4:56 | 7:20 | 4:55 | 7:22 | 5:20 | 6:54 | 5:54 | 7:13 | 7:22 | 6:28 | 7:50 | 5:56 | 8:17 | 5:49 | 8:34 |
| 21 | 6:05 | 8:27 | 6:31 | 7:55 | 6:57 | 7:09 | 7:24 | 6:25 | 6:56 | 4:55 | 7:21 | 4:55 | 7:21 | 5:21 | 6:52 | 5:55 | 7:11 | 7:23 | 6:26 | 7:51 | 5:56 | 8:18 | 5:49 | 8:35 |
| 22 | 6:06 | 8:27 | 6:32 | 7:53 | 6:57 | 7:07 | 7:24 | 6:24 | 6:57 | 4:55 | 7:21 | 4:56 | 7:21 | 5:22 | 6:51 | 5:56 | 7:10 | 7:24 | 6:25 | 7:52 | 5:55 | 8:19 | 5:49 | 8:35 |
| 23 | 6:06 | 8:26 | 6:32 | 7:52 | 6:58 | 7:06 | 7:25 | 6:22 | 6:58 | 4:54 | 7:22 | 4:56 | 7:20 | 5:23 | 6:50 | 5:57 | 7:08 | 7:25 | 6:24 | 7:53 | 5:54 | 8:19 | 5:50 | 8:35 |
| 24 | 6:07 | 8:25 | 6:33 | 7:51 | 6:59 | 7:04 | 7:26 | 6:21 | 6:59 | 4:54 | 7:22 | 4:57 | 7:19 | 5:25 | 6:49 | 5:58 | 7:07 | 7:26 | 6:22 | 7:54 | 5:54 | 8:20 | 5:50 | 8:35 |
| 25 | 6:08 | 8:24 | 6:34 | 7:49 | 7:00 | 7:02 | 7:27 | 6:20 | 7:00 | 4:54 | 7:23 | 4:57 | 7:19 | 5:26 | 6:47 | 5:59 | 7:05 | 7:27 | 6:21 | 7:55 | 5:53 | 8:21 | 5:50 | 8:35 |
| 26 | 6:09 | 8:23 | 6:35 | 7:48 | 7:01 | 7:01 | 7:28 | 6:19 | 7:01 | 4:53 | 7:23 | 4:58 | 7:18 | 5:27 | 6:46 | 6:00 | 7:04 | 7:28 | 6:20 | 7:56 | 5:53 | 8:22 | 5:51 | 8:35 |
| 27 | 6:10 | 8:23 | 6:36 | 7:46 | 7:02 | 6:59 | 7:29 | 6:17 | 7:02 | 4:53 | 7:23 | 4:58 | 7:18 | 5:28 | 6:45 | 6:01 | 7:02 | 7:29 | 6:19 | 7:57 | 5:52 | 8:22 | 5:51 | 8:35 |
| 28 | 6:10 | 8:22 | 6:37 | 7:45 | 7:03 | 6:58 | 7:30 | 6:16 | 7:03 | 4:53 | 7:24 | 4:59 | 7:17 | 5:29 | 6:43 | 6:02 | 7:01 | 7:30 | 6:17 | 7:58 | 5:52 | 8:23 | 5:51 | 8:35 |
| 29 | 6:11 | 8:21 | 6:37 | 7:44 | 7:03 | 6:56 | 7:31 | 6:15 | 7:04 | 4:52 | 7:24 | 5:00 | 7:16 | 5:30 | 6:42 | 6:03 | 6:59 | 7:30 | 6:16 | 7:59 | 5:51 | 8:24 | 5:52 | 8:35 |
| 30 | 6:12 | 8:20 | 6:38 | 7:42 | 7:04 | 6:55 | 7:33 | 6:14 | 7:05 | 4:52 | 7:24 | 5:01 | 7:15 | 5:31 | | | 6:58 | 7:31 | 6:15 | 7:59 | 5:51 | 8:24 | 5:52 | 8:35 |
| 31 | 6:13 | 8:19 | 6:39 | 7:41 | | | 7:34 | 6:13 | | | 7:24 | 5:01 | 7:15 | 5:32 | | | 6:56 | 7:32 | | | 5:51 | 8:25 | | |

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

| LOCATION | CORRECTION | LOCATION | CORRECTION |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Bristol..... | +19 minutes | Newport News..... | -5 minutes |
| Cape Charles..... | -6 minutes | Norfolk..... | -5 minutes |
| Charlottesville..... | +4 minutes | Roanoke..... | +10 minutes |
| Chincoteague..... | -8 minutes | Tazewell..... | +16 minutes |
| Danville..... | +8 minutes | Williamsburg..... | -3 minutes |
| Fredericksburg..... | 0 minutes | Winchester..... | +3 minutes |

Information obtained from:

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



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