



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
 Natural Resources Police
 Hunting Incident Report
 FY 2002



Age (shooter or responsible person)	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Under 10 years				
10-19 yrs.				1
20-29 yrs.		1	1	1
30-39 yrs.		2		9
40-49 yrs.		1		5
50-59 yrs.			1	1
60 + yrs.		2		4
unknown		1		
Totals	0	7	2	21

Causes	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Careless Handling				5
Fall From Tree Stand			2	14
Ricochet		1		
Game Flew Between Victim and Shooter		2		
Victim out of site of shooter		3		
Victim mistaken for game		1		
Victim slipped				1
Firearm/ammunition problem				1
Totals	0	7	2	21

Distance From Victim to Shooter	Two-Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
0-10 yds.		
11-50 yds.		1
51 yds. & over		6
Totals	0	7

Victim Wearing Hunter Orange	Two -Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Yes		3
No		4
Totals	0	7

Weather	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Clear		4	1	11
Partly Overcast		2		5
Fog				2
Cloudy		1	1	2
Unknown				1
	0	7	2	21

Species Hunted	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Deer		1	2	17
Pheasant		1		
Turkey		1		1
Geese		1		
Rabbits		2		
Ducks		1		1
Squirrel				2
Totals	0	7	2	21

Hunting Device Used	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Rifle		1	1	5
Muzzleloader				3
Shotgun		6		8
Bow				4
Muzzleloading Handgun				1
Unknown			1	
Totals	0	7	2	21

Narrative
A 64 year old Garrett County turkey hunter was shot by another turkey hunter 130 feet away when the victim's red hands were mistaken for a turkey. Victim received shotgun pellets to leg and groin. Non-fatal
A 53 year old Dorchester County goose hunter was struck in the neck, hand and leg when his 35 year old hunting companion shot at geese and did not see the victim in the marsh . Victim was 70 yards away. Non-fatal.
A 31 year old Anne Arundel County deer hunter fell 15 feet from his tree stand when a board broke. He was not wearing a safety harness. Victim sustained two broken wrists, broken nose and back/neck injuries. Non-fatal
A 27 year old Montgomery County deer hunter fell while climbing into his tree stand. When he put his weight on the stand, a lag bolt that was securing the stand to the tree pulled free. He was not using a safety harness. Victim suffered a broken arm. Non-fatal
A 34 year old Dorchester County duck hunter was searching for a crippled bird 50 yards away from the blind when his hunting partner shot at another bird and struck the victim in the face and head with 4-5 pellets. Non-fatal.
A 66 year old Howard County squirrel hunter slipped on rocks, with his right foot which slipped into an adjacent hole causing his weight to be transferred and breaking his leg. Non-fatal.
A 64 year old Allegany County deer hunter had the hammer down on the cap of his muzzleloading pistol because the caps kept falling off. When he started to move to change hunting locations, the pistol fell from his hand, hit his shoe and discharged, breaking his toe and removing the tip of the toe. Non-fatal.
A 37 year old Dorchester County deer hunter shot off a toe while loading his muzzleloader when it slipped out of his hand and discharged. Non-fatal.
A 32 year old Baltimore County deer hunter fell when his tree stand broke. The victim sustained a broken pelvis and ankle. Non-fatal.
A 37 year old Carroll County deer hunter fell 20 feet when his tree stand fell to the ground. Victim landed on his feet, breaking both heels. Non-fatal.
A 30 year old Garrett County deer hunter shot himself in the hand when he was unloading his firearm, had one hand in front of the muzzle and the other on the trigger. Non-fatal.
A 38 year old Kent County deer hunter sustained minor back injuries when he fell while descending from his tree stand. Non-fatal.
A 58 year old Dorchester County deer hunter fell from his tree stand resulting in numerous injuries. Fatal.
A 37 year old Queen Anne's County deer hunter sustained back injuries when he fell about 14 feet to the ground while climbing down his ladder. Non-fatal.
A 75 year old Frederick County deer hunter fell while climbing out of his tree stand. He received lacerations to his face and leg. Non-fatal.
A 40 year old Talbot County deer hunter fell when his wooden ladder step broke. Victim suffered numerous head, neck and abdominal injuries. Non-fatal.
A 47 year old Kent County deer hunter fell while climbing into his tree stand. He received broken ribs and a lacerated spleen. Non-fatal.
A 69 year old Frederick county deer hunter fell while climbing out of his tree stand. Spikes in the tree were being used for climbing when his hand slipped and he fell, breaking his arm. Non-fatal.
A 53 year old Caroline County deer hunter fell 2 feet while climbing down a ladder and broke his ankle. Non-fatal.
A 30 year old Cecil County deer hunter possibly received a concussion probably from a fall from a tree stand. Non-fatal.

Narrative
A 39 year old Anne Arundel County deer hunter leaned forward to shoot when his tree stand failed. While he was wearing a safety belt, it was not tightened and did not prevent him from falling to the ground. The fall resulted in a broken collar bone, damaged spleen, and neck injury. Non-fatal.
A 26 year old Frederick County deer hunter fell 40 feet from his tree stand. Fatal.
A 40 year old Talbot County deer hunter was standing on the ground when he claimed to hear a shot about 200 yards behind him and the bullet coming through the brush. The bullet hit him in the shoulder. He was treated at the hospital with a band aid. Non-Fatal
A 37 year old Somerset County waterfowl hunter using a 65 year old rusty shotgun, suffered wounds to his hand when the barrel exploded upon shooting the firearm. non-fatal.
A 20 year old Caroline County pheasant hunter was shot by his 34 year old hunting partner when a pheasant flushed, he shot and shot struck the victim in the neck, lip and leg. Shooter's view of victim was obstructed by vegetation. Non-fatal.
A 13 year old Caroline County deer hunter had the muzzleloader on the top of his shoe and pulled the trigger. Victim sustained injuries to 2 toes. Non-fatal.
A 50 year old Queen Anne's County rabbit hunter was hit with a ricochet when his hunting partner shot a rabbit. Victim received bruise under eye. Victim was not wearing fluorescent orange. Non-fatal.
A 67 year old Queen Anne's County rabbit hunter was hit in the cheek with a pellet when his hunting partner shot at a rabbit. Non-fatal.
A 40 year old Dorchester County deer hunter broke his back when he fell out of his tree stand. He was not wearing a safety harness. Non-fatal.
A 43 year old Dorchester County turkey hunter accidentally shot himself in the calf when something hit his safety and put it in the on position and the victim unintentionally pulled the trigger. Non-fatal.