



**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**



**Natural Resources Police
Hunting Incident Report
FY 2010**

Age (Shooter or responsible person)	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Under 10 Years				1
10 – 19 Years				
20 – 29 Years		1		1
30 – 39 Years		1		2
40 – 49 Years				2
50 – 59 Years				2
60+ Years				2
Unknown				
TOTALS		2		10

Causes	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Careless Handling				4
Fall From Tree Stand				6
Victim Mistaken for Game				
Victim Covered by Shooter		2		
Finger on Trigger				
TOTALS		2		10

Distance From Shooter To Victim	Two Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
00 – 10 Yards		
11 – 50 Yards		1
51 Yards & Over		2
TOTALS		3

Victim Wearing Hunter Orange	Two Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Yes		3
No		
Not Applicable		3
Unknown		
TOTALS		6

Weather and/or Lighting Conditions	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Clear		2		6
Partly Overcast				
Pre-Dawn/Dusk				4
Unknown				
TOTALS		2		10

Game Species Hunted	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Deer		2		5
Squirrel				
Dove				
Geese/Ducks				2
Rabbit				2
Turkey				
TOTALS		2		9

Hunting Device Used	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Rifle				
Muzzleloader				
Shotgun		2		4
Bow				
Unknown				
TOTALS		2		4

Summary

A 55 year old Dorchester County rabbit hunter was shot by his 55 year old hunting companion. The shooter shot at a running rabbit with a .20 gauge shotgun in a thicket. The shot pellets traveled approximately 30 to 40 feet through the thicket striking the victim. The victim received injuries to the right side of his head, neck, eye, arm and left hand. Non Fatal. Shooter was charged with Negligent Hunting.

A 21 year old Washington County rabbit hunter received a self inflicted shotgun wound to his left hand and wrist. While loading up his hunting dogs at the end of the day, the victim placed a loaded .410 shotgun on the top of an ice covered dog box sitting on the truck bed. The shotgun fell from the vehicle onto the ground causing a discharge. Non Fatal.

A 7 year old Kent County duck hunter received a self inflicted laceration above his right eye. While shooting at game, the victim improperly mounted the shotgun to his shoulder. As the firearm recoiled, the hammer of the shotgun struck the victim's face. Non Fatal.

A 58 year old Dorchester County duck hunter received a self inflicted shotgun wound to his left arm. While retrieving game, the victim rested a loaded .12 gauge shotgun against a shrub. The firearm fell and discharged. Non Fatal

A 53 year old Howard County deer hunter was shot by his 36 year old hunting companion. The shooter shot at a standing deer with a .12 gauge slug in an open field at approximately 243 yards. The bullet missed the deer, striking the victim sitting in a wooden ground blind at the opposite end of the field. The victim received injuries to his right arm and hand. Non Fatal. Charges pending an investigation

A 42 year old Kent County deer hunter fell from a wooden tree stand. The victim stepped off the side of the platform and the side railing broke away. The victim fell 16 feet landing on his back, receiving minor injuries. The victim was not wearing a safety harness. Non Fatal

A 33 year old Kent County deer hunter fell from a portable tree stand. The victim climbed into a stationary tree stand, then attempted to climb into a portable tree stand affixed above the stationary stand. When entering the portable stand, the tree strap on the portable stand broke and the victim fell 25 feet. The victim received facial lacerations and back injuries. The victim was not wearing a safety harness. Non Fatal

A 46 year old Queen Anne's County deer hunting was shot by his 25 year old hunting companion. With both subjects participating in a deer drive, the shooter shot at a running deer twice with a .20 gauge shotgun slug. A slug traveled 70 yards, striking the victim positioned at the opposite end of the field in the left leg. Non Fatal. Negligent Hunting charges pending.

A 43 year old Caroline County deer hunter fell from a portable tree stand. While stepping onto the platform of a portable affixed tree stand, the tree strap broke. The victim fell 15 feet suffering abdominal pains. The victim was not wearing a safety harness. Non Fatal

A 66 year old Cecil County deer hunter fell from a portable tree stand. Upon entering and sitting down on the seat of the ladder stand, the tree strap broke, causing the ladder stand to shift, ejecting the victim and falling 12 feet. The victim received injuries to the back, ribs and pelvis. The victim was not wearing a safety harness. Non Fatal

A 39 year old Frederick County deer hunter fell from a wooden tree stand. While climbing up the stand, the victim fell 8 feet. The victim received injuries of bruised ribs. The victim was not wearing a safety harness. Non Fatal

A 59 year old Frederick County deer hunter fell from a portable tree stand. After shooting a deer, the victim unfastened his safety harness to descend from the stand. As he exited the stand, he placed his foot on a branch instead of a foot peg. The branch broke causing the victim to fall 15 feet. The victim's injuries included a dislocated right hip, fractured and dislocated right shoulder, and bruised ribs. Non Fatal

Property Damage Only

A Frederick County garage window was struck by a bullet from an unknown source. An investigation could not recover the projectile nor related evidence. This incident occurred during the firearm's deer season.