

**BOW HUNTING RULES  
FAIR HILL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AREA  
2025 - 2026 Season**

**(September 5, 2025 – February 4, 2026)**

**Area Names and Permit Names Have Changed Please Read Carefully**

**RESERVATIONS**

None required. There will be a sign-in sheet at each parking area. Hunters must sign in and out with their DNR ID. Hunters can only sign THEMSELVES in. Hunters must record any harvested deer (number and type) on the sign-in sheet prior to leaving the area. Deer must still be checked in according to state regulations.

**PARKING**

1. See attached maps for designated parking areas. Bow Hunting parking areas are indicated with a letter **"P"**. **Hunters may park in designated areas only.**  
\*\* Contact Fair Hill NRMA at 410-218-1698 for assistance
2. All hunters **must** display a Free Public Hunting Permit on the dash of their vehicle, and it **must be obtained prior to hunting**. Permits can be obtained as follows:

OPTION A: Using the online MD Outdoors portal at <https://mdoutdoors.maryland.gov/login>. You must have an account, or set one up using your DNR ID. For questions and assistance regarding this new process please call [410-498-4361](tel:410-498-4361)

OPTION B: Hunters may also visit the DNR Wildlife and Heritage Gwynnbrook Office @ 3740 Gwynnbrook Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21117 during office hours (Mon.-Fri. 7:30AM-11:30AM) to obtain their permit. Hunters must present their hunting license at that time and the permit will be issued immediately.

Please contact the Gwynnbrook Wildlife Office at 410-356-9272 for more information or other options for obtaining the permit.

\*The Free Public Hunting Permit is not yet available through Licensing Agents such as WalMart and Dicks Sporting Goods

**HUNTING**

1. The \$35.00 Managed Hunting Permit has been DISCONTINUED and is no longer required for archery whitetail hunting at FHNRM.
2. *Hunters may enter/remain on park property outside of the regular posted hours if they are engaged in legitimate, authorized hunting activity. Legal hunting time begins one half hour before sunrise. Legal hunting time ends one half hour after sunset. If a hunter is pursuing a deer after legal shooting time that they believe is alive, they must contact the Natural Resources Police at 410-260-8888*
3. Hunters are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the hunting area boundary lines, safety zones, and established trails throughout the hunting areas. Hunters may park in the Day Use Parking Lots to scout during hunting season, but are required to pay the Honor Box fee if the Hunting Permit has not yet been obtained.
4. Portable tree stands and steps are permitted, but cannot be screwed or nailed into trees. All stands must be removed at the end of each day. The use of tree stands is recommended at all times, especially when hunting near established trails.
5. Hunters are no longer required to harvest an antlerless deer first at the Fair Hill NRMA. Please ensure that any deer you harvest complies with all applicable rules and regulations as noted in the State of Maryland Hunting Regulations. Deer harvested at Fair Hill NRMA will count toward total bag limit for Region B as published in the 2025-2026 Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.
6. Hunters must contact a Park Ranger (410-218-1698) or Natural Resources Police Officer (410-260-8888) before tracking a wounded deer off state park property and onto private property, or to be in the park after legal hours for any reason.
7. All harvested deer must be tagged before being moved. Do not field dress deer near trails, parking lots or any areas used by other park visitors. Harvested deer must be checked in within 24 hours after the deer is field tagged. Deer can be checked in through your COMPASS account at <https://compass.dnr.maryland.gov/dnrcompassportal>, over the phone (1-888-800-0121), or on the DNR smartphone app (Access DNR).
8. **The following is prohibited at the Fair Hill NRMA:** the cutting of trees, branches, shrubs, or other vegetation; target shooting and hunting in safety zones; off road vehicle operation; firearms; placing or hunting over bait; hunting on Sundays, trail cameras are not permitted.
9. Non-hunters may accompany a permitted hunter if they are unarmed and stay with the hunter at all times.

**GENERAL**

1. **AREA "A", Area "B", and Area "D" WILL NOT OPEN TO BOW HUNTING UNTIL NOVEMBER 1, 2025. Area "C" WILL NOT OPEN TO BOW HUNTING UNTIL DECEMBER 1, 2025.**
2. All State and Federal hunting laws, as well as park regulations, will be strictly enforced.
3. Maryland State Parks are "TRASH FREE". All trash must be packed out.
4. Bow Hunting Parking Permits are not valid for general day-use.
5. The future of this hunting program depends on **YOU**. Please exercise caution and conduct yourself in an ethical, sportsmanlike manner.
6. Violating the rules of this program will result in the loss of your hunting permit.