

# **RACCOON HUNTING RULES**

## **FAIR HILL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AREA**

**2026 – 2027**

**(Firearm and Dog Hunting: October 15 – March 15)**

- 1. All applicable State and Federal Hunting Regulations must be followed and will be strictly enforced. All Raccoon Hunters are required to purchase and carry their Furbearer Permit, as well as a Maryland Hunting License.**
- 2. The 2026 - 2027 Raccoon Hunting season at Fair Hill NRMA begins on October 15, 2026 and concludes on March 15, 2027.**
- 3. Raccoon Hunting hours begin at sunset each day and end at 2400 hours (midnight). Hunting is only permitted on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Hunters and dogs must be back to their vehicles no later than 2400 hours.**
- 4. Raccoon Hunting is approved in three (3) designated areas only. Hunting areas may be altered, closed or shifted without prior notice if deemed necessary by DNR personnel. The Fair Hill Training Center's leased area is off limits. See the associated map for approved Raccoon Hunting locations. It is each hunter's responsibility to familiarize themselves with each designated hunting area.**
- 5. Raccoon Hunters must obtain a Fair Hill Raccoon Hunting Permit from the park office. Permits can be obtained at the office during regular business hours (M – F from 0800 – 1600) or requested over the phone (410.398.1246), and by email at [fairhill.dnr@maryland.gov](mailto:fairhill.dnr@maryland.gov). Individuals must display proof of their hunting license and furbearer permit in order to obtain their Fair Hill Raccoon Hunting Permit. A parking permit will be issued by the Fair Hill DNR office and must be visibly displayed on the vehicle dash. Parking is authorized only in designated areas (see attached map).**
- 6. Raccoon Hunting is by reservation only. Reservations must be made through the Fair Hill park office no more than two weeks prior to requested hunting date. Same day hunting reservations are not approved.**
- 7. The maximum number of personnel and dogs authorized in each Raccoon Hunting Party is three and five, respectively. Raccoon Hunting without raccoon chasing hounds is prohibited. All dogs must be inoculated for rabies. Each hunting party may possess one (1) .22 Caliber Rim Fire Rifle (.22 Magnum excluded), and the permit holder must be in possession of the firearm at all times. All other firearms or weapons, such as a hunting bow, whether in a vehicle or in the hunter's possession during a Raccoon Hunt are prohibited.**
- 8. Killing or harvesting any animal other than raccoons during Raccoon Hunting is prohibited.**
- 9. To assist the department in managing the raccoon population, raccoons harvested must be reported to the Fair Hill office the day following the hunt.**
- 10. For questions concerning Raccoon Hunting at Fair Hill, please call 410-398-1246. For emergencies, during non-duty hours, call Natural Resources Police at 410-260-8888.**