

Free Public Hunting Permit Program 2024-2025

Maryland Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife and Heritage Service

Call the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Office for Southern Region properties at **301-743-5161**.

Call the Gwynnbrook Wildlife Office for Central or Eastern Region properties at **410-356-9272**.

For specific information on SPRING TURKEY SEASON see the Spring Turkey Hunting Guide.

For specific information on WATERFOWL HUNTING see the Waterfowl Hunting Guide.

PUBLIC HUNTING PERMIT AVAILABILITY

Option A - Online	Option B - In Person	Option C - Mail
Online through COMPASS . Detailed instructions on how to obtain the Free Public Hunting Permit online, click here .	After purchasing your hunting license, the Free Public Hunting Permit can be obtained in person at the Gwynnbrook or Myrtle Grove Office.	Mail a copy of your hunting license to the Gwynnbrook or Myrtle Grove Office. Note properties of interest. Include an addressed envelope with postage.
If you are Hunting License exempt or have a Senior Lifetime Consolidated License please call the Gwynnbrook or Myrtle Grove Wildlife Office for instructions on how to get your permit.		

RESERVATION AVAILABILITY and REGULATIONS

Gwynnbrook (Central/Eastern Region):	7:30am-11:30am, August 19, 2024 - February 15, 2025 (Mon-Fri)
Myrtle Grove (Southern Region):	8:00am-12:00pm, August 19, 2024 - February 14, 2025 (Mon-Fri) 8:00am-9:00am, February 18, 2025 - March 7, 2025 (Tuesdays and Fridays)
Spring Turkey (Gwynnbrook):	April 7, 2024 - April 21, 2025 (Mondays ONLY)
(Myrtle Grove):	April 7, 2025 – May 19, 2025 (Mondays ONLY)

Reservation Rules and Limitations:

- See Pages 3-8 for information on which properties require reservations.
- No walk-in reservations are allowed for the first hour of office hours. **Offices are closed all State Holidays.**
- Hunters may call a maximum of 8 calendar days prior to the day of the hunt, except for designated waterfowl sites. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide regulation packet for more details.
- A hunter may make 2 reservations per phone call and may only hold one reservation per day.
- Hunters must speak to a permit coordinator to make a reservation. Reservations left on the answering machine will not be honored and calls will not be returned.
- If unable to hunt, you MUST cancel your reservation at least one business day in advance before the office closes so that another hunter may utilize the opportunity to hunt. Cancellations may be left on the answering machine.
- Hunters may check their current reservations for [Gwynnbrook](#) or [Myrtle Grove](#) using their DNR ID and birthday.

MENTORED HUNT PROGRAM: SPECIAL PHEASANT HUNTS

McKee-Beshers WMA Nov 23, 2024 Old Bohemia WMA Nov 23-24, 2024 Myrtle Grove WMA Nov 23, 2024 Chicamuxen WMA Nov 23, 2024	Who is eligible? These hunts are for junior hunters, apprentice hunters, and lapsed hunters (lapsed hunters have not had a license in three of the last five years). Pheasant hunting without lottery authorization will be prohibited in designated areas during the Special Pheasant Hunt. Additional information and lottery applications will be available online. https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/hunt_trap/Mentored-Hunt-Program.aspx
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DEER FIREARMS SEASON LOTTERY:

Lottery applications will be available online by September 1, 2024 on the Central Region webpage.
The opening day of deer firearms season (November 30, 2024) is reserved by lottery on the following properties: Avondale WMA, Hanover Watershed CWMA, Hugg-Thomas WMA, Maring CWMA, Sawmill CWMA, Spiegel CWMA, Woodbrook CWMA, Stoney Demonstration Forest, Seneca Creek SP Shaeffer Farm Tract.
Lottery Due Date: October 18, 2024 @ 11:30am Drawing Date: October 21, 2024 @ 12:00pm
Only one application may be submitted per individual. Individuals who submit more than one application will have ALL applications removed from the lottery. Hunters may submit as a group. The maximum group size is THREE. Any remaining reservations will be available through regular reservation procedures. Only successful applicants will be notified.

REGULATIONS FOR ALL PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS

**All State, Federal, County, and Property laws apply.
Failure to comply with these rules or regulations will result in a
fine and/or suspension from the program (Below).**

Emergency Info: To report violations please call Natural Resources Police IMMEDIATELY at 410-260-8888.

- No building or using permanent tree stands. All portable tree stands must be removed at the end of the day.
- Take trash with you. Pick up empty shotgun shells.
- No placing or hunting over bait for any wildlife species.
- No target shooting, camping, building fires, and/or hunting in safety zones or restricted areas.
- Parking on State owned or controlled property is only allowed in designated areas. Do not block gates.
- The cutting of trees, branches, shrubs, or other vegetation is prohibited. This includes cutting shooting lanes.
- Trapping is allowed on certain properties with written permission. Call for more information.
- Off-road vehicle use is prohibited, except on designated properties with a Universal Disability Pass. Call for more info.
- Hunters are permitted to have a non-hunting guest accompany them. This person does not need a permit or reservation but must remain with the hunter and unarmed at all times. (C&D Canal Lands require a non-hunting permit, available online)
- Do not walk in or damage fields until crops are harvested.
- If entering through a closed and/or locked gate, close and lock the gate behind you when entering and leaving.

In addition to the regulations above, hunters must abide by the following restrictions on State Parks (SP, NEA, or NRMA):

- Hunters must contact NRP (410-260-8888) before tracking wounded deer after hours, off State Park Property, or outside of the designated hunting area.
- For most State Parks, hunters may enter a hunting area 1.5 hours before sunrise and must be out by 1.5 hours after sunset. See individual property notes in the chart on Pages 3-8 for exceptions or additional entry restrictions.
- Camping and campfires are only permitted in designated areas by reservation.

Public Hunting Land Tips and Reminders:

- Know all regulations in the [Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping](#). Be respectful of our lands, other hunters, and non-hunting users. Pick-up or report litter. Do not leave gut piles on trails or parking lots. Please help preserve this privilege.
- Deer, waterfowl, and small game hunting, as well as trapping, could be occurring at the same time on certain properties.
- Wear hunter orange/pink, even when not required to. **Archery hunters MUST wear hunter orange/pink during muzzleloader and firearms seasons, even on properties that don't allow firearms hunting.**
- We strongly encourage the use of a full body safety harness when hunting from an elevated tree stand.

PERMIT SUSPENSION REGULATIONS

COMAR 08.07.06.03 (Hunting in State Parks)

A. (7) An individual may not hunt in violation of provisions of a permit issued for the purpose of hunting in a State park.

COMAR 08.03.02.27 (All Permit Areas)

E. The Service may suspend or revoke a permit if the permittee fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit or otherwise violates any wildlife law, or regulation in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §10-808, Annotated Code of Maryland.

*A permittee who commits the following permit violations on a permit hunting area shall have their permit suspended for 4 weeks:

- (a) Hunting without a reservation when a reservation is required;
- (b) Failure to Sign-In on site when required;
- (c) Hunting in an area or on a date other than the area or date the permittee has reserved;
- (d) Using or constructing permanent blinds or tree stands or leaving temporary blinds or tree stands overnight on the permit area; and
- (e) Driving a motor vehicle in an unauthorized area.

*A permittee who commits the following permit violations on a permit hunting area shall have their permit suspended for 8 weeks:

- (a) Placing bait or hunting over bait;
- (b) Falsifying permit application information or the unauthorized use of a permit issued to another person;
- (c) Hunting in a safety zone or an area closed to hunting; and
- (d) Hunting an unauthorized species.

*A permittee who commits the following permit violations on a permit hunting area shall have their permit suspended for 16 weeks:

- (a) Destruction of public property;
- (b) Hunting with a hunting device in violation of area rules;
- (c) Hunting a permit hunting area while permit is suspended; and
- (d) A separate permit violation within 12 months of a suspension issued pursuant to this regulation resulting from a separate incident than the violation for which the prior suspension was imposed.

*The Service shall notify the permittee in writing of the reason for the suspension, the duration of the suspension and provide a method to appeal the suspension.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS CHART:

- WMA = Wildlife Management Area (managed by Wildlife and Heritage Service)
- SP = State Park (Managed by Park Service)
- NRMA = Natural Resource Management Area (Managed by Park Service)
- NEA = Natural Environment Area (Managed by Park Service)
- MHA = Managed Hunt Area (Owned by Army Corps, access managed by DNR)
- CWMA = Cooperative Wildlife Management Area (Properties not owned by the state but managed by Wildlife and Heritage Service for hunting access)
- SF = State Forest (Managed by the Forest Service)
- Res = Reservations
- M = Muzzleloader
- SWC = Straight-walled cartridge rifles or handguns
- A = Archery
- S = Shotgun
- R= Rifle
- * =additional information
- Incl. = Including

Properties in WHITE:
Reservations handled by the Gwynnbrook Office 410-356-9272

Properties in GRAY:
Reservations handled by the Myrtle Grove Office 301-743-5161

This chart only includes properties that require the Free Public Hunting Permit. For additional hunting opportunities, see the Public Lands section of the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping, go to dnr.maryland.gov, or contact the Gwynnbrook or Myrtle Grove Wildlife Office.

Maps: Public land maps are available online. Some maps are in geo-referenced PDF form. Several applications can utilize the geo-referenced data embedded inside the PDF document. Map users can interact with maps on their mobile devices in both online and offline environments. One such application is PDF Maps from Avenza, Inc. It is available for both IOS and Android devices. After downloading the application, you can load the maps from the website and utilize the functions available.

Co	Area	Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code	
Anne Arundel	Crownsville CWMA	550	Reservation	12	Deer Only, Mon after Thanksgiving through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	All Legal	428	
	NEW! Holly Beach Farm NRMA	Zone 1	293	Reservation	2	Access is strictly prohibited without a permit and reservation. Scouting reservations available on Sundays for up to 5 hunters. Hunters MUST Park in designated parking areas. Zone 1 open for all species, exc. turkey, w/archery from Sept through Feb. Zones 2&3 are open for all species, exc. turkey, with all legal weapons through the 2-Day Jan Deer Firearms Season. Then, Zone 2&3 will be combined for small game only with 1 group reservation of up to 6 hunters through Feb. Waterfowl only allowed at designated sites. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for information.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	609
		Zone 2			5*			All Legal	
		Zone 3			3*				
	Sandy Point SP - Corcoran Tract	215	Both	8	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl site information.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	429	
Seyern Run NEA	490	Reservation	18	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	607		
Baltimore	Gwynnbrook WMA	35	Reservation	4	All Seasons, Year-Round, Reservations only required Sept 1-Jan 31. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	345	
	Gunpowder Falls SP	Hereford Zone Area A	1300	Sign-In	25	Deer Only- Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	343
		Hereford Zone Area B	700	Sign-In	25	Deer Only – October 17, 2024 through Primitive Season	Thur-Sat	Archery Only	
		NEW! Dundee Area	170	Reservation	5	Deer Only- Dec 1 through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
		NEW! Franklinville Area	200	Reservation	5	Deer Only- Oct 11, 2024 through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
		NEW! Sweet Air Area	600	Reservation	20	Deer Only- October 7, 2024 through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
		NEW! Jarrettsville Pike Area	225	None	No Limit	Deer Only- Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
	Waterfowl Sites 1-11, 26, 27		See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.						
Additional Notes: Jarrettsville Pike Area has limited parking. Property adjoins the Loch Raven hunting area.									
North Point SP	Zone 1	39	Reservation	2	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	348	
	Zone 2	55		2					
	Zone 3	77		3					
	Zone 4	38		2					
	Zone 5	84		4					
Waterfowl Sites		See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.							

Co	Area		Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code
Baltimore	Soldiers Delight NEA	Zone 1	280	Reservation	10	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	All Legal	346
		Zone 2	150		4	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season			
		Zone 3	140		4	Deer Only, Nov 25th through Primitive Season			
		Zone 4	115		4	Deer Only, Nov 11th through Primitive Season			
		Zone 5	230		8	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season			
		Zone 6	230		10	Deer Only, Nov 11th through Primitive Season			
		Zone 7	150		4	Deer Only, Nov 11th through Primitive Season			
		Zone 8	130		6	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season			
		Additional Notes: Special 3-day Firearms hunt Nov 6, 11, and 23. Parking area on Deer Park Rd between Zones 5 and 6 is locked. The lock code accompanies the parking permit. Lock gate behind you. No scouting is allowed until the opening date of each zone.							
Baltimore, Carroll, Howard, and Anne Arundel	Patapsco Valley SP	Area 1: Raincliffe Road	350	Sign-In	4	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season Can scout starting Sept 1	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	319
		M.E.S. Lot			6				
		Area 2: Gorsuch Switch Rd	350		5				
		Gorsuch Switch Lt			10				
		Area 3: Henryton Road	170		8				
		Area 4: River Road	450		20				
		Area 5: Marriotsville Rd	400		12				
		Area 6: Driver Road	600		22				
		Area 7: Hollofield South	100		10				
		Area 8: Hollofield North	275		8				
		Morgan Run Area 9: Old Washington Rd	158		5	Deer Only, Oct 16 through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	A, M, S, SWC	314
		Morgan Run Area 10: Ben Rose Ln	325		14	Can scout starting Oct 16	Wed-Sat*		
		Morgan Run Area 17: Cherry Tree Ln	175		5	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season Can scout starting Sept 1	Mon-Sat		
		Area 11: Norbeck Area (Old Mercer)	150		8	Deer Only, Nov 11 through Primitive Season, No Scouting			
		Area 12: Pickall	300		10	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season Can scout starting Sept 1	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	344
		Area 13: Mears Property	120		8				
		Area 14: College Avenue	115		8				
		Area 15: Hilltop Road	140		10	Deer Only - Nov 30 through Primitive Season, Can scout starting Nov 30.			
Area 16: Woodstock	570	12	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	344			
Woodstock Rd.		12							
Area 18: Stoney Run	129	10	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	608			
Additional Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18 are accessed through locked gates. If you unlock the gate you must lock it behind you. Code is given with the parking pass. • Hunt from vehicle (UDP required) is allowed at Area 12 (Pickall) on the Park Road parking lots and at Area 7 (Hollofield South) between camp sites 445-460. • Areas 9 and 10 will be open Mon-Sat during the Muzzleloader and Firearm Seasons. • Hunters must park in designated areas. No scouting allowed before opening day. All Patapsco Valley State Park trails are open year round. 									
Calvert	Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm CWMA		175	Both	6	All Deer&Turkey Seasons from the Fri after Labor Day through Primitive Season & Spring Turkey. *No Saturdays until after Dec 1 st .	Mon-Sat*	All Legal	458
	NEW! Hughes Tree Farm CWMA		170	Reservation	6	All Deer&Turkey Seasons from the Fri after Labor Day through Primitive Season & Spring Turkey. One hunter max on Hunt-From-Vehicle trail.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	611
	Flag Ponds Park CWMA		100	Reservation	5	Deer Only. Mon before Late Muzz Season thru Primitive Season.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	456
	Parker's Creek WMA		1810	None	No Limit	No permit req. Deer only, Fri after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	All Legal	454
	Calvert Cliffs SP		600	Both*	See sign-in sheets	Year Round, All Seasons. *Permit and reservations are only required for waterfowl sites. See Waterfowl Regulation Packet for more information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	455
	Hall Creek NRMA		275				Mon-Sat	All Legal	459
Kings Landing NRMA - Huntingtown Area		960	Mon-Sat				All Legal	457	

Co	Area	Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code		
Carroll	Avondale WMA	180	Reservation*	5	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days or the Primitive Season . See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	630		
	Farver CWMA	45	Reservation	3	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	633		
	Hahn CWMA	25	Reservation	3		MWF	Archery Only	634		
	Hanover Watershed CWMA	337	Reservation	10	Sept 1-Feb 15, All Seasons within dates. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	316		
	Maring CWMA	237	Reservation	5	Sept 1-Feb 15, All Seasons within dates. No Waterfowl hunting allowed at Sawmill or Speigel.	Mon-Sat	AMS, No Rifles	633		
	Sawmill CWMA	600	Reservation	12		MWF*	AMS, No Rifles	317		
	Speigel CWMA	250	Reservation	8		MWF*	AMS, No Rifles	317		
	Woodbrook CWMA	522	Reservation	10		MWFS*	AMS, No Rifles	632		
Additional Notes: Sawmill, Speigel, and Woodbrook are open for hunting Mon-Sat during the 2 week Firearms Season.										
Cecil	C&D Canal Lands	Bethel MHA	400	None	No Limit	Year Round, All Seasons	Sat and Sun Only	Deer archery only. Shotgun allowed for other species. No Rifles. AMS, No Rifles	362	
		Courthouse Point MHA	315	Reservation*	No Limit	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations only required for waterfowl sites.	Sun-Sat			
		Elk Forest MHA	242	Reservation*	No Limit	A section of Welch Point MHA is designated as a No Firearms Zone (see map). This area is archery only.				
		Welch Point MHA	145	Reservation*	No Limit					
		Grove Neck MHA	Waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.						NA	
	Stemmers Run MHA	Stemmer's Run MHA will be CLOSED to ALL VISITORS until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience.								
	Elk Neck State Park	Carter Property	99	Sign-In	8	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	A, M, S & SWC	360	
		Rogues Harbor	128		12	Deer Only, Oct 5 - Jan 31		Archery Only		
		Mauldin Mountain	Closed For 2024-2025 Season							NA
		Turkey Point	167	Sign-In	12	Deer Only, November 2 nd through Jan 31	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	360	
		Waterfowl Sites 28-34	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.							
	Bohemia River State Park		200	Both	6	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	* See Notes	365	
		Additional Notes: Hunting is ARCHERY ONLY except for shotgun/SWC rifles will be allowed Dec 9-14 and Jan 10-11. Park is closed to general use during firearms hunts. Gate code given to hunters when a reservation is made. This code allows hunters to enter 2 hours before sunrise. Walking through crops before they are harvested is prohibited. No boat access is allowed.								
	Fair Hill NRMA	Area A	735	Sign-In	No Daily Limit	Deer Only November 1 st through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	364	
		Area B	440							
Area D		375								
Area E		310								
Area F		975								
Area G		70								
Additional Notes: For info on falconry or raccoon hunting permits contact Fair Hill NRMA at 410-398-1246.										
Grove Farm WMA	General Hunting	988	Reservation*	15*	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days or Primitive Season .	All	All Legal	366		
	Mourning Dove			25	Reservations required opening day through the second Saturday. Non-toxic shot only for Doves.	MWS in Sept	All Legal	NA		
	Waterfowl	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.								
	Turkey	See the Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information.								

Co	Area	Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code	
Cecil	Earleville WMA	195	Reservation*	6	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days or Primitive Season .	All	All Legal	363	
	Old Bohemia WMA	General Hunting	1000	Reservation*	12*	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days or Primitive Season .	All	All Legal	367
		Mourning Dove			25	Reservations required opening day through the second Saturday. Non-toxic shot only for Doves.	MWS in Sept		NA
		Special Pheasant Hunt		Lottery	Pheasant hunting without lottery authorization prohibited in designated areas during the Special Pheasant Hunt (Pg 1). Maps and signs posted at parking areas and online. All other hunting permitted as usual.				
		Waterfowl	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.						
		Turkey	See the Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information.						
Charles	Chapman State Park	800	None	No Limit	All Deer and Waterfowl Seasons. Call for mobility impaired access. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	397	
	Cedarville State Forest	1600	Sign-In	70	Permit not required. Year Round, All Seasons. Day use charge.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	405	
	Chapel Point State Park	550	Sign-In	45	Permit not required. Year Round, All Seasons. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for info on Indian Creek and Chapel Point waterfowl sites.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	403	
	Doncaster Demonstration Forest	1700	None	No Limit				402	
	Myrtle Grove WMA	5191						401	
	Pope's Creek WMA	522						396	
	Indian Creek NRMA	650	Sign-In	40				406	
	Cedar Point WMA	1920	Reservation only for waterfowl sites	No Limit	Year Round, All Seasons. Permit and reservations are only required for waterfowl sites. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	399	
	Chicamuxen WMA	381				Mon-Sat	All Legal	407	
	Nanjemoy Creek WMA	224				Mon-Sat	All Legal	404	
	Riverside WMA	927				Mon-Sat	All Legal	395	
	Tayloes Neck Tract State Forest	470				Mon-Sat	All Legal	402	
	Nanjemoy WMA	1806	Reservation only for waterfowl sites	No Limit	Year Round, All Seasons. *Archery only zone in Ben Doane Area. Permit and reservations are only required for waterfowl sites. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl info.	Mon-Sat	All Legal except in archery zone*	398	
Zekiah Swamp NEA	NA	Reservation	NA	Waterfowl only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for info.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA		
Harford	Stoney Demonstration Forest	James Run Tract	Reservation	10	All Legal Seasons between Sept 1 and the end of February and Saturdays during Spring Turkey Season	Mon-Sat	A, M, Shotgun, SWC, Rimfire rifles for small game and furbearers	329	
		Grays Run Tract		520					4
	Additional Notes: The gate to the parking area at the James Run Tract will remain locked except during the deer firearms seasons. Hunters must park near the gate on the side of the road. Do not block gate. See Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information on turkey hunting.								
	Rocks State Park	Cameron Area	105	Sign-In	5	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	325
		Deer Creek Area	120		15				
Susquehanna State Park	Area A	560	Sign-In	25	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. Campground is removed from Area A, no hunting allowed in Campground.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	328	
	Area B	90		10					
	Waterfowl Sites 35-45		See Waterfowl Guide for detailed information.						

Co	Area	Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code
Howard	Hugg-Thomas WMA	276	Reservation*	8	All Seasons Year Round. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days or the Primitive Season . See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	415
Kent	Millington WMA	Permit only required for blindsites and Spring Turkey seasons. See Waterfowl or Spring Turkey Guides for information.						
	Sassafras NRMA	Permit only required for the blind site on Lloyds Creek. Boat access only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.						
MO	Strider WMA 1	100	Reservation*	6	All Seasons, Year Round. *Reservations only required Sept 1-Jan 31. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	444
	Strider WMA 2	70	Reservation*	4				
	Seneca Creek SP - Schaeffer Farm Tract	850	Reservation	25	Deer Only. Open Opening Day of Deer Firearms Season through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	A, M, Shotgun & SWC	625
PG	Aquasco Farm CWMA	150	Both	12	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	All Legal	480
	Gardner Road Park CWMA	120		4		Mon-Sat	All Legal	477
	Marlboro Natural Area CWMA	637	Reservation	12		Mon-Sat	Archery Only	710
	Belt Woods NEA	458	Reservation*	12	Deer Only, All Seasons. *Reservations ONLY required during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days. Scouting permitted starting August 1 st .	Mon-Sat	All Legal	476
	Bowen WMA	300	Reservation only for waterfowl	No Limit	Boat access only. Rail and waterfowl hunting only. Permit and reservations are only required for waterfowl sites. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA
	Cheltenham WMA (Free public archery range)	60	Reservation	Deer - 4 Dove - 6	First split of Dove Season, Deer from Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season.	Mon-Sat	Deer Archery Only All legal for dove	478
	Milltown Landing NRMA	250	Both*	See sign-in sheets	Year Round, All Seasons. *Permit and reservation are only required for waterfowl sites. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for more information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	482
	Nottingham NRMA	329				Mon-Sat	All Legal	483
	Spice Creek NRMA	230				Mon-Sat	All Legal	481
PG	National Park Service Blind Sites	NA	Reservation	NA	Waterfowl sites only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA
	Billingsley CWMA (Patuxent River Park)	400	Reservation	6	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. Open Mon-Fri 9am until half hour after sunset. Scouting may occur 2 weeks prior to archery deer season and Sundays after that with reservation. Call Myrtle Grove for gate code.	Mon-Fri	Archery Only	488
	Queen Anne Bridge Road CWMA	182	Reservation	5	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	475
	Rosaryville State Park	460	Sign-In*	No Limit	Day use charge. Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season *Reservations required for Hunt-From-Vehicle access. Sign-in for all other hunting.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	485
	Merkle NRMA	1300	Reservation	20	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	474
Queen Anne' s	Browns Branch WMA	1100	Reservation*	10	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required for dove hunting in September, waterfowl sites or to hunt deer during a deer Muzzleloader or Firearms Season . Reservations are not required for Junior Deer Hunt days or the Primitive Season . See Waterfowl Hunting Guide and Turkey Hunting Guide for more information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	392
				25	NEW! Reservations required opening day through the 2nd Saturday	MWS in Sept		
	Waterfowl	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.						
	Turkey	See the Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information.						

Co	Area	Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code
Saint Mary's	Elms CWMA	545	Sign-In	25	All Legal, except groundhog. Turkey Sat only (see Turkey Guide)	Mon-Sat	All Legal	466
	Historic St. Mary's City CWMA	175	Reservation	7	Deer Only, Dec 1 through Feb 3, Closed Christmas Day No hunting from or shooting across trails.	Tues-Sat	All Legal	468
	Greenwell State Park	187	Sign-In	8	Permit not required. Year Round, All Legal Seasons. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	469
	Point Lookout State Park (Jacob's Tract)	240	Sign-In	6	Permit not required. Deer, Winter Turkey, and Waterfowl Hunting only. Archery only for deer during the early muzzleloader season. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal, Archery only during Early Muzzleloader	464
	Myrtle Point Park CWMA	192	Reservation	6	Deer Only, Oct 15 - Primitive Season, *Oct open Mon-Fri, Nov-Jan open Mon-Sat. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl info.	Mon-Fri or Sat*	Archery Only	600
	Newtowne Neck State Park	360	Reservation	20	Year Round, All Legal seasons. Only Archery equipment allowed until Nov 1 st . See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only until Nov 1 st , then all legal allowed	462
	Salem State Forest	1550	None	No Limit	Year Round, All Legal Seasons.	Sun-Sat	All Legal	467
	St. Clement's Island State Park	63	Reservation for deer and small game only.	4	Boat access only. Small game and deer archery hunting allowed starting the first day of rabbit season through the end of the season (end of Primitive Season for deer and end of February for small game). See Waterfowl Packet for information on the designated Waterfowl Hunting Zone.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only for deer, All Legal for small game and waterfowl	610
	St. Inigoe's State Forest	600	Reservation	20	Year Round, All Legal Seasons. No deer hunting east of Beachville Rd.	Sun-Sat	All Legal	463
	St. Mary's River State Park	General Hunting	2200	Sign-in	6 per lot	No permit required. Must park in designated areas. Year Round, All Legal Seasons in designated area.	Mon-Sat	All Legal
St. Mary's Lake		NA	Yes	NA	Waterfowl sites only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA

FREE PUBLIC HUNTING PERMIT - PARKING PERMIT 2024-2025

Maryland Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife and Heritage Service

Call the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Office for reservations for Southern Region properties at **301-743-5161**.

Call the Gwynnbrook Wildlife Office for reservations for Central or Eastern Region properties at **410-356-9272**.

Special rules and regulations for hunting are in effect for the areas covered by the Free Public Hunting Permit. By accepting and using the Free Public Hunting Permit, the permittee agrees to read and abide by the rules and regulations contained in the permit packets. These regulation packets can be found on the pages below.

[Central Region Public Lands](#)

[Southern Region Public Lands](#)

For reservations and Sign-In sheets you will use your DNR ID as your permit number.

Free Public Hunting Permit – Parking Permit

VALID: August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025

DNR ID: _____

(Found on Hunting License. Write your DNR ID in BOLD, large numbers)

Place this permit on the dash of your vehicle.

This permit is not valid unless the free Public Hunting Permit has been purchased through COMPASS and appears on your hunting license.

Special rules and regulations for hunting are in effect for the areas covered by the Free Public Hunting Permit. By accepting and using the Free Public Hunting Permit, the permittee agrees to read and abide by the rules and regulations contained in the permit packets.



Updated August 1, 2024

Cut along dotted line