

Free Public Hunting Permit Program 2025-2026

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 MD Outdoors . 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 18, 2025 - February 13, 2026 (Mon-Fri)

Myrtle Grove (Southern Region): 8:00am-12:00pm, August 18, 2025 - February 13, 2026 (Mon-Fri)
8:00am-9:00am, February 17, 2026 - March 7, 2026 (Tuesdays and Fridays)

Spring Turkey (Gwynnbrook): April 6, 2026 - April 20, 2026 (Mondays ONLY)
(Myrtle Grove): 8:00am-12:00pm, April 6, 2026 – May 18, 2026 (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 you are 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 made through [Gwynnbrook](#) or [Myrtle Grove](#) using their DNR ID and birthday.

MENTORED HUNT PROGRAM: SPECIAL PHEASANT HUNTS

McKee-Beshers WMA Nov 22, 2025
Old Bohemia WMA Nov 22-23, 2025
Myrtle Grove WMA Nov 22, 2025
Chicamuxen WMA Nov 22, 2025

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

DEER FIREARMS SEASON LOTTERY:

Lottery applications will be available online by September 1, 2025 on the [Central Region](#) webpage.

The opening day of deer firearms season (November 29, 2025) 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 17, 2025 @ 11:30am **Drawing Date:** October 20, 2025 @ 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 or blinds. All portable tree stands or blinds 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. Hunters parked on State owned or controlled property that require the Free Public Hunting Permit must display their Parking Permit on the dash of their vehicle while engaged in hunting activities. The Parking Permit must be readable from the outside of the vehicle.
- 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.
- Hunters may enter/remain on park property outside of the regular posted hours if they are engaged in legitimate, authorized hunting activity. However, on the following park service managed properties you may only enter 1.5 hours before sunrise and you must exit 1.5 hours after sunset: Gunpowder Falls SP, Patapsco Valley SP, North Point SP, Soldiers Delight NEA, Bohemia River SP, Morgan Run NEA, Sandy Point SP, Holly Beach Farm NRMA, Rosaryville SP, Calvert Cliffs SP, Milltown Landing NRMA, Cedarville State Forest, Elk Neck SP and Newtowne Neck SP.
- 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 (including Junior Deer Hunt dates), 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.

Free Public Hunting Permit Properties

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 in note
- 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
	Holly Beach Farm NRMA	Zone 1	293	Reservation	3	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 in Zone 1	609
		Zone 2			5*			All Legal in Zones 2 and 3	
		Zone 3			2*				
	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
	Severn Run NEA		490	Reservation	18	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	607
Baltimore	Gwynnbrook WMA		35	NEW! None	No Limit	All Seasons, Year-Round, 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 16 through Primitive Season	Thurs-Sat		
		Dundee Area	170	Reservation	5	Deer Only- Dec 1 through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
		Franklinville Area	200	Reservation	5	Deer Only- Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
		Sweet Air Area	600	Reservation	20	Deer Only- Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	
		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.								

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	North Point SP	Zone 1	39	Sign-in	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.									
	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 dates: TBD													
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				
		Lot at Rt 32			6								
		Area 2: Gorsuch Switch Rd	350		5					Deer Only, Nov 11 through Primitive Season, No Scouting	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	417
		Henryton Lot			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	Reservation	5	Deer Only, Oct 16 through Primitive Season. Can scout starting Oct 16	Mon-Sat	A, M, S, SWC	314				
		Morgan Run Area 10: Ben Rose Ln	325		14	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		319				
		Area 11: Norbeck Area (Old Mercer)	150		8								
		Area 12: Pickall	300	Sign-In	10	Deer Only, Nov 11 through Primitive Season, No Scouting	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	344				
		Area 13: Mears Property	120		8	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. Can scout starting Sept 1			417				
		Area 14: College Avenue	115		8								
		Area 15: Hilltop Road	140		10								
		Area 16: Woodstock	570		12	Deer Only - Nov 29 through Primitive Season. Can scout starting Nov 29.			Mon-Sat	Archery Only	344		
		Hernwood Rd.			12								
		Area 18: Stoney Run	129		10	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season			608				
		Additional Notes:											
• 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.													
• Area 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.													

Co	Area	Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code		
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 Dec1 st and during Spring Turkey Season.	Mon-Sat*	All Legal	458		
	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. Permanent blind available for use on HFV trail, first-come, first-served.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	611		
	Flag Ponds Park CWMA	100	Reservation	5	Deer Only. Mon before Late Muzz Season through 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*	25	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	Both*	25		Mon-Sat	All Legal	459		
	Kings Landing NRMA - Huntingtown Area	960	Both*	40		Mon-Sat	All Legal	457		
Carroll	Avondale WMA	180	Reservation*	5	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during the 3-day early Muzzleloader season, the opening day of Firearms Season through the second Saturday, and the late Firearms 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 through 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 through Feb 15, All Seasons within dates. No Waterfowl hunting is allowed at Sawmill or Spiegel.	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, Spiegel, 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. Shotguns allowed for other species. No Rifles.	362
Courthouse Point MHA			315	Reservation*	No Limit	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations only required for waterfowl sites. A section of Welch Point MHA is designated as a No Firearms Zone (see map). This area is archery only.	Sun-Sat	AMS, No Rifles		
Elk Forest MHA			242	Reservation*	No Limit					
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 4 through end of Primitive Season.		Archery Only		
		Mauldin Mountain	Closed For 2025-2026 Season							NA
		Turkey Point	167	Sign-In	12	Deer Only, November 1 st through end of Primitive Season.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	360	
		Waterfowl Sites 28-34	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.							
Bohemia River State Park		200	Both*	6-Firearm 10-Archery	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during the two-week Firearms Season and late two-day firearm season. Sign-in is required outside of these times.	Mon-Sat	* See Notes	365		
		Additional Notes: Hunting is ARCHERY ONLY except shotgun/SWC rifles will be allowed during the two week and late two day firearms seasons. No firearm use permitted during Junior Hunt or Primitive season. Walking through fields before crop is harvested is prohibited.								

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	Fair Hill NRMA	Area A	735	Sign-In	No Daily Limit	Deer Only	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	364	
		Area B	440			November 1 st through Primitive Season				
		New! Area C	630			Deer Only- Dec. 1 through Primitive Season				
		Area D	375			Deer Only- November 1 st through Primitive Season				
		Area E	310			Deer Only-Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season				
		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 the 3-day early Muzzleloader season, the opening day of Firearms Season through the second Saturday, and the late Firearms Season. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	All	All Legal	366	
		Mourning Dove			25	Reservations required opening day through the first 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.							
	Earleville WMA		195	Reservation*	6	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during the 3-day early Muzzleloader season, the opening day of Firearms Season through the second Saturday, and the late Firearms Season. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey 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 the 3-day early Muzzleloader season, the opening day of Firearms Season through the second Saturday, and the late Firearms Season. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	All	All Legal	367	
		Mourning Dove			25	Reservations required opening day through the first 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 is not required. Year Round, All Seasons. Day use charge.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	405	
	Chapel Point State Park		550	Sign-In	45	Permit is 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	

Co	Area		Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code
Charles	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
	NEW! Smallwood SP – Newburg Property		NA	Reservation	NA	Waterfowl only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for info.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA
	NEW! Maxwell Hall Park		NA	Reservation	NA		MW Sat	All Legal	NA
	Zekiah Swamp NEA		NA	Reservation	NA		Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA
Harford	Stoney Demonstration Forest	James Run Tract	318	Reservation	10	All Legal Seasons from Sept 1 through 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 SP	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 SP	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.							
Howard	Hugg-Thomas WMA		276	Reservation*	8	All Seasons Year Round. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during the 3-day early Muzzleloader season, the opening day of Firearms Season through the second Saturday, and the late Firearms Season. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	415
Kent	Millington WMA		Permit only required for blind sites 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	NEW! None	No Limit	All Seasons, Year-Round. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	444
	Strider WMA 2		70	NEW! None	No Limit				
	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	MNCPPC Properties	Aquasco Farm CWMA	150	Both	12	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. Hunter access allowed 1.5 hours before sunrise until 1.5 hours after sunset. Gate codes required for Gardner Rd, Marlboro Natural Area, and Queen Anne Bridge Rd. Codes given when making a reservation.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	480
		Gardner Road Park CWMA	120		4			All Legal	477
		Marlboro Natural Area CWMA	637		12			Archery Only	710
		Queen Anne Bridge Road CWMA	182		5			Archery Only	475
		Billingsley CWMA (Patuxent River Park)		400	6	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. Hunter access allowed 1.5 hours before sunrise until 1.5 hours after sunset. Scouting may occur 2 weeks prior to archery deer season and Sundays after that with reservation. Gate code given when making a reservation.	Mon-Fri	Archery Only	488
	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

Co	Area		Acres	Reservation or Sign-In	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code
PG	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*	10	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	Both*	5		Mon-Sat	All Legal	483
	Spice Creek NRMA		230	Both*	25		Mon-Sat	All Legal	481
	National Park Service Blind Sites		NA	Reservation	NA	Waterfowl sites only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for information.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	NA
	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	General Hunting	1100	Reservation*	10	All Seasons Year Round. *Reservations are ONLY required to hunt deer during the 3-day early Muzzleloader season, the opening day of Firearms Season through the second Saturday, and the late Firearms Season. See Turkey Guide for info on turkey season.	Mon-Sat	All Legal	392
		Mourning Dove			25	Reservations required opening day through the first Saturday	MWS in Sept		
		Waterfowl	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.						
		Turkey	See the Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information.						
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 is allowed until Nov 1 st (archery only during Early Muzzleloader Season). 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	467
		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 2025-2026

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, 2025 – July 31, 2026

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 MD
Outdoors 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 July 1, 2025

Cut along dotted line