



*Wes Moore, Governor*  
*Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor*  
*Josh Kurtz, Secretary*  
*David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary*

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### **Department of Natural Resources Venison Donation Grant Program**

The Department of Natural Resources is currently accepting applications for the Venison Donation Grant Program. Grant funding is available to organizations to defray the costs of butchering and processing deer that are donated to programs who assist Marylanders in need. The maximum grant amount available is \$25,000. Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis and may be split among applicants.

To be eligible for the grant, the grantee must be:

- (1) A county government, or;
- (2) A municipal corporation, or;
- (3) An organization that is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Grant awards may only be used for butchering and processing deer that:

- (1) Are hunted in compliance with State hunting laws and regulations;
- (2) Are donated to a program administered by the applicant that provides nutritional support or food for low income individuals or the homeless; and
- (3) Have a dressed weight of at least 50 pounds.

Grant awards may only be used for costs of butchering and processing deer. Administrative costs associated with the program are not eligible for reimbursement. The maximum amount a program can pay for butchering and processing is \$60 per deer when grant monies are used as the funding source. Grantees will be responsible for identifying and contracting with processors and coordinating distribution of venison. Quarterly reports are required and, at a minimum, must include the following:

- (1) DNR hunting confirmation number for each deer;
- (2) Names of participating processors/butchers and the total number of deer processed at each location;
- (3) Amount paid for each deer processed;
- (4) Number of deer and pounds of venison made available to eligible organizations; and
- (5) List of recipient organizations and amount of venison received by each.

If you are interested in applying for a venison donation grant, and you meet the requirements above, please complete an application and submit it to Brian Eyler, Associate Director, MD DNR, Wildlife and Heritage Service, at: [brian.eyler@maryland.gov](mailto:brian.eyler@maryland.gov)

For questions or more information please call Brian Eyler at 301-842-0332.

Applications must be received electronically by 11:59 pm on Sunday June 16, 2024 for consideration.



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### Venison Donation Grant Program Application

*All fields must be completed to be considered.*

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Point of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

EIN: \_\_\_\_\_

Funding Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years your Venison Donation Program has been Active: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Program Staff Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Deer Processed and Donated during each of the last 3 Years:

Year/Number of Deer: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Number of Deer to be Processed this Year: \_\_\_\_\_

County(s) where your Venison Donation Program will be Active (indicate 'Statewide' if statewide program):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cooperating Butchers/Processors (attach list if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cooperating Receivers of Venison (Food Banks, Churches, and Similar Entities – attach list if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please note: If you are claiming grant eligibility as a 501(c)(3) organization, please attach documentation in the form of: (a) a reference to the applicant organization's listing in the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) most recent list of tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code; (b) a copy of a currently valid IRS tax exemption certificate; (c) a statement from a State taxing body, State Attorney General, or other appropriate State Official certifying that the applicant organization has a nonprofit status and that none of the net earnings accrue to any private shareholders or individuals; (d) a copy of the organization's certificate of incorporation or similar document that clearly establishes nonprofit status; or (e) any of the above proof for a State or national parent organization and a statement signed by the parent organization that the applicant organization is a local nonprofit affiliate.