



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
 Natural Resources Police
 Hunting Incident Report
 FY 2003



Age (shooter or responsible person)	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Under 10 years				
10-19 yrs.		1		
20-29 yrs.				2
30-39 yrs.		1		2
40-49 yrs.	1	1		4
50-59 yrs.				9
60 + yrs.		2		2
unknown		2		
Totals	1	7	0	19

Causes	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Careless Handling	1	1		3
Fall From Tree Stand				13
Ricochet				1
Game Flew Between Victim and Shooter		4		
Shooter stumbled and fell		1		
Victim mistaken for game		1		
Victim stepped on arrow				1
Firearm fell from insecure rest				1
Totals	1	7	0	19

Distance From Victim to Shooter	Two-Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
0-10 yds.	1	3
11-50 yds.		1
51 yds. & over		2
Unknown		1
Totals	1	7

Victim Wearing Hunter Orange	Two -Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Yes	1	3
No		4
Totals	1	7

Weather	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Clear		1		17
Partly Overcast		2		1
Drizzle		1		
Cloudy	1	3		1
Unknown				
Rain				
	1	7	0	19

Species Hunted	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Deer		1		17
Pheasant				1
Turkey		1		
Geese		1		1
Rabbits	1			
Ducks		2		
Chuckar		1		
Quail		1		
Totals	1	7	0	19

Hunting Device Used	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Rifle				
Muzzleloader		1		1
Shotgun	1	6		4
Bow				1
Tree Stand				13
Unknown				
Totals	1	7	0	19

NARRATIVES

A 43 year old Frederick County deer hunter fell 22 feet from his wooden tree stand when he fell asleep. He was not using a safety harness. Victim received 5 broken ribs, broken collar bone and a punctured lung. Non-fatal.

A 40 year old Dorchester County deer hunter struck a lost arrow while walking into the woods. Victim received extensive blood loss and was hospitalized briefly. Non-fatal

A 53 year old Washington County deer hunter fell to the ground while climbing out of his tree stand. Victim received a broken foot and ankle. Non-fatal

A 50 year old Dorchester County deer hunter fell 12 feet to the ground, breaking several ribs and his pelvis. Non-fatal.

A 36 year old Howard County deer hunter fell while climbing into his tree stand. Wood around the nails of the steps were rotten. Victim received strained ligament in his right shoulder. Non-fatal.

A 28 year old Garrett County deer hunter fell 18 feet when he went to sit in his climbing stand and it gave way. Victim received a fractured leg. Non-fatal.

A 42 year old Dorchester County deer hunter secured the cap on the nipple of his muzzleloader, closed the action and the firearm discharged removing one and one half toes. Non-fatal.

A 52 year old Kent County deer hunter fell 12-15 feet when the wooden floor of his tree stand gave way. Victim received fractured ribs and a shoulder injury. Non-fatal.

A 52 year old Charles County deer hunter fell 20 feet when he removed his climbing belt to reattach and the stand gave way. Victim received a broken leg. Non-fatal.

A 60 year old Howard County deer hunter was struck in the leg when his hunting partner shot a deer and the bullet went through the deer and into the leg of the victim about 40 yards away. Non-fatal.

A 44 year old Washington County deer hunter fell 15 feet and received bruises and minor cuts when he was descending from his tree stand and the platform gave way. He was not wearing a safety harness. Non-fatal.

A 61 year old Queen Anne County deer hunter received a broken arm and numerous lacerations when he started to climb into his tree stand, lost his balance and fell. Non-fatal.

A 53 year old Frederick County deer hunter lost his footing and fell 15 feet while descending from his tree stand. Victim received a broken jaw, twisted knee and lacerations. Non-fatal.

A 41 year old Frederick County rabbit hunter was fatally shot in the chest by his hunting partner 20 feet away when a pheasant was flushed and startled the shooter, causing him to accidentally discharge his shotgun. Fatal.

A 57 year old Talbot County grandfather accompanying his grandson on youth day, stepped off the back of the tree stand and fell about 12 feet. This occurred while the grandfather was helping the grandson into the tree stand. The victim received a broken collar bone. Non-fatal.

A 76 year old Queen Anne's County goose hunter stumbled and fell backward when a flock of geese flew over the pit. As he fell, the shotgun discharged striking one of his hunting partners about 7 feet away in his leg. Non-fatal.

A 49 year old Queen Anne's County deer hunter fell 16 feet while climbing out of his tree stand. Victim received torn ligaments in his foot. Non-fatal.

A 57 year old Kent County deer hunter lost his grip climbing his tree stand. He fell 8-10 feet breaking his leg. Non-fatal.

A 63 year old Calvert County deer hunter standing on the ground, raised his gun to shoot at a deer. The deer ran, so the hunter lowered the firearm. He failed to engage the safety. He raised the firearm slightly and it discharged damaging two toes. Non-fatal.

A 44 year old Queen Anne's County duck hunter was shot by his hunting partner when she was loading her shotgun. The shooter was not familiar with the firearm and had problems with it during the day. The firearm discharged with pellets going through the blind and striking the victim outside the blind in the leg. Non-fatal.

A 25 year old Dorchester County hunting guide was struck between the nose and upper lip when he decided to walk through and impoundment to "get up some ducks". The ducks flew, his 3 hunters shot. One pellet hit the victim. Identity of the shooter is unknown. Non-fatal.

A 45 year old Caroline County deer hunter was attempting to attach his safety harness to the tree when his firearm fell and discharged. Slug went through the victim's arm and continued through his right calf and lodged in his right thigh. Non-fatal.

A 59 year old Carroll County Goose hunter shot himself in the foot at point blank range when he accidentally pulled the trigger. Non-fatal.

A 25 year old Queen Anne's County Pheasant hunter shot into brush at game and several pellets ricocheted striking him in his thumb and leg. Non-fatal.

A 44 year old Baltimore County chuckar hunter was hit in the leg with 3 pellets when a chuckar flew between him and his hunting partner. Non-fatal

A 45 year old Queen Anne's County quail hunter was shot in both legs when a quail flew between the shooter and victim. The shooter hit the quail, however was not aware that the victim was beyond the target. Non-fatal

A 52 year old Frederick County turkey hunter was shot by an unknown subject when he was standing in a field, blowing up a turkey decoy held above his head. Victim was hit in the head and neck with several pellets. Non-fatal.