

Free Public Hunting Permit Program 2023-2024

Maryland Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife and Heritage Service

Call the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Office for Southern or Western 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 21, 2023 - February 15, 2024 (Mon-Fri)
Myrtle Grove (Southern/Western Region):	8:00am-12:00pm, August 21, 2023 - February 15, 2024 (Mon-Fri) 8:00am-9:00am, February 16, 2024 - March 5, 2024 (Tuesdays and Fridays)
Spring Turkey (Both offices):	April 10, 2023 - May 22, 2023 (Mondays ONLY)
Reservation Rules and Limitations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <u>one business day</u> 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 18, 2023 Old Bohemia WMA Nov 18-19, 2023 Myrtle Grove WMA Nov 18, 2023 Chicamuxen WMA Nov 18, 2023	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). Only lottery winners may hunt pheasants on these dates during this special 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:

<p>Lottery applications will be available online by September 1, 2023 on the Central Region webpage.</p> <p>The opening day of deer firearms season (November 25, 2023) 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.</p> <p>Lottery Due Date: October 20, 2023 @ 11:30am Drawing Date: October 23, 2023 @ 12:00pm</p> <p>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.</p>
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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:

- Res = Reservations
- 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)
- 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
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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.

Instruction for using geo-PDF maps on mobile devices: 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.

County	Area	Acres	Reser- vation?	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code	
Anne Arundel	Crownsville CWMA		550	Yes	12	Deer Only, Monday after Thanksgiving through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	All Legal	428
	Sandy Point SP	Corcoran Tract	215	Yes and Sign-In	8	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	429
		Waterfowl Sites		See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.					
	NEW! Severn Run NEA		240	Yes	12	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	607
Baltimore	Gwynnbrook WMA		35	Yes	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 14, 2023 through Primitive Season	Thurs-Sat		
		Waterfowl Sites 1-11, 26, 27		See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.					
	North Point SP	Zone 1	39	Yes	2	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Fri	Archery Only	348
		Zone 2	55		2				
		Zone 3	77		3				
Zone 4		38	2						
Zone 5		84	4						
Waterfowl Sites 12-24, BR1-2		See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.							

County	Area		Acres	Reser- vation?	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code			
Baltimore	Soldiers Delight NEA	Zone 1	280	Yes	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: 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	M.E.S. Lot Lot at Rt 32	350	Sign-In	4	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season Can scout starting Sept 1	Mon-Sat	Archery Only			
		Area 2: Gorsuch Switch Rd	Gorsuch Switch Lt Henryton Lot			6						
						5						
						10						
		Area 3: Henryton Road				8						
		Area 4: River Road				20						
		Area 5: Marriotsville Rd				12						
		Area 6: Driver Road				22						
		Area 7: Hollofield South				10						
		Area 8: Hollofield North		8	Deer Only, Nov 11 through Primitive Season, No Scouting							
		Morgan Run Area 9: Old Washington Rd		100	Yes	3	Deer Only, Oct 18 through Primitive Season Can scout starting Oct 18	Wed-Sat*	A, M, S, SWC			
		Morgan Run Area 10: Ben Rose Ln		325		14						
		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	Sign-In	8	Deer Only, Nov 11 through Primitive Season, No Scouting	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	344		
		Area 12: Pickall		300		10						
		Area 13: Mears Property		120		8						
		Area 14: College Avenue		115		8						
		Area 15: Hilltop Road		140		10						
		Area 16: Woodstock	Woodstock Rd. Hernwood Rd.	570		12					Deer Only - Nov 25 through Primitive Season, Can scout starting Nov 25.	Mon-Sat
		12										
Area 18: Stoney Run		129	10	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season								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. 												

County	Area	Acres	Reser- vation?	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code	
Calvert	Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm CWMA	175	Res and Sign-in	6	All Deer Seasons and Spring Turkey Season	Mon-Sat, No Sat til Dec 1	All Legal	458	
	Flag Ponds Park CWMA	100	Yes	5	Deer Only - Mon before Late Muzzleloader Season through end of Archery Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	456	
	Calvert Cliffs SP	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.							
	Hall Creek NRMA								
	Kings Landing NRMA – Huntingtown Area								
Carroll	Avondale WMA	180	Yes*	5	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	630	
	Farver CWMA	45	Yes	3	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	633	
	Hahn CWMA	25	Yes	3		MWF	Archery Only	634	
	Hanover Watershed CWMA	337	Yes	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	Yes	5	Sept 1-Feb 15, All Seasons within dates. No duck hunting allowed at Sawmill or Spiegel.	Mon-Sat	AMS, No Rifles	633	
	Sawmill CWMA	600	Yes	12		MWF*	AMS, No Rifles	317	
	Speigel CWMA	250	Yes	8		MWF*	AMS, No Rifles	317	
	Woodbrook CWMA	522	Yes	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	None	Year Round, All Seasons	Sat and Sun Only	Deer archery only. Shotguns allowed for other species. No Rifles.	362
		Courthouse Point MHA	315	Yes*	None	Year Round, All Seasons *Reservations only required for waterfowl sites.	Sun-Sat		
		Elk Forest MHA	242	Yes*	None	A section of Welch Point MHA is designated as a No Firearms Zone (see map). This area is archery only.			
		Welch Point MHA	145	Yes*	None				
	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	395	Sign-In	8	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	A, M, S & SWC	360
		Rogues Harbor			12	Deer Only, Oct 7 - Jan 31		Archery Only	
Mauldin Mountain & Turkey Point		Closed For 2023-2024 Season							NA
Waterfowl Sites 28-34		See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.							

County	Area	Acres	Reser- vation?	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code					
Cecil	Bohemia River State Park		200	Yes & Sign-In	6	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	* See Notes	365				
	Additional Notes: NEW! Hunting is ARCHERY ONLY except for shotgun/SWC rifles will be allowed Dec 4-9 and Jan 5-6. Park will be closed to general use during firearms hunts. A gate code will be 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			Deer Only-Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season							
		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	Yes*	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 the Primitive Season .	All	All Legal	366			
			Mourning Dove			25		Reservations required in September. Non-toxic shot only for Doves.	MWS in Sept & Oct	All Legal	NA		
			Waterfowl			See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.							
			Turkey			See the Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information.							
	Earleville WMA		195	Yes*	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 the Primitive Season .	All	All Legal	363				
	Old Bohemia WMA		General Hunting	1000	Yes*	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 the Primitive Season .	All	All Legal	367			
			Mourning Dove			25		Reservations required in September. Non-toxic shot only for Doves.		MWS in Sept & Oct	NA		
			Special Pheasant Hunt		Lottery	Pheasant hunting will be prohibited in designated areas during the Special Pheasant Hunt (Page 1). Maps and signs will be posted at parking areas and online. All other hunting will be permitted as usual.							
			Waterfowl	See the Waterfowl Hunting Guide for detailed information.									
			Turkey	See the Spring Turkey Guide for detailed information.									

County	Area	Acres	Reser- vation?	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code		
Charles	Blossom Point CWMA	Closed to hunting, effective August 2023								
	Cedar Point WMA	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.								
	Chapman State Park	800	None	None	All Deer Seasons See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information	Mon-Sat	All Legal	397		
	Chicamuxen WMA	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.								
	Nanjemoy WMA									
	Nanjemoy Creek WMA									
	Riverside WMA									
	Tayloes Neck State Forest									
Zekiah Swamp NEA										
Garrett	Deep Creek Lake NRMA Waterfowl	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.								
	Broadford Lake Waterfowl									
Harford	Stoney Demonstration Forest	James Run Tract	318	Yes	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 NEW! 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	Yes*	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.								
	NEW! Sassafras NRMA	Permit only required for blind site on Lloyds Creek. Boat access only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.								
MO	Strider WMA 1	100	Yes*	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	Yes*	4						
	Seneca Creek SP - Schaeffer Farm Tract		850	Yes	25	Deer Only, NEW! Open Opening Day of Deer Firearms Season through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	A,M, Shotgun & SWC	625	

County	Area	Acres	Reser- vation?	Hunters per day	Dates and Seasons Open	Days of the Week	Hunting Devices Allowed	Check In Code	
PG	Aquasco Farm CWMA	150	Yes & Sign-in	12	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	All Legal	480	
	Gardner Road Park CWMA	120	Yes	4		Mon-Sat	All Legal	477	
	Marlboro Natural Area CWMA	637	Yes	12		Mon-Sat	Archery Only	710	
	Belt Woods NEA	458	Yes*	12	Deer Only, All Seasons. NEW! *Reservations are 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	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide. Boat access only.						
	Cheltenham WMA (Free archery range)	60	Yes	Deer - 4 Dove - 6	First split of Dove Season, Deer from Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. NEW – Deer limit 4 total hunters.	Mon-Sat	Deer Archery only All legal for dove	478	
	Milltown Landing NRMA	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.							
	National Park Service Blind Sites								
	Nottingham NRMA								
	Patuxent River Park (Billingsley CWMA)	400	Yes	6	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season. Open Mon-Fri 9am until half hour after sunset.	Mon-Fri	Archery Only	488	
	Queen Anne Bridge Road CWMA	182	Yes and sign-in	5	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season Scouting may occur 2 weeks prior to archery deer season and Sundays after that. Call Myrtle Grove for gate code.	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	475	
	Rosaryville State Park (Day Use charges apply)	460	Sign-in*	N/A	Deer Only, Friday after Labor Day through Primitive Season *Reservations required for Hunt From Vehicle access	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	485	
	NEW! Merkle NRMA	1300	Yes	20	Deer Only, October 2, 2023 through Primitive Season	Mon-Sat	Archery Only	474	
Spice Creek NRMA	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.								
Queen Anne' s	Browns Branch WMA	1100	Yes*	10 Land Hunters 3 Goose Fields	Year Round, All Seasons. *Reservations are ONLY required for 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	
Saint Mary' s	Elms CWMA	545	Sign-in	25	All Legal, no groundhog. Turkey Sat only (see Turkey Guide)	Mon-Sat	All Legal	466	
	Historic St. Mary's City CWMA	175	Yes	7	Deer Only, Dec 1 through Feb 3, Closed Christmas Day No hunting from or shooting across trails.	Tues-Sat	All Legal	468	
	Myrtle Point Park CWMA	192	Yes	6	Deer Only, Oct 15 through Primitive Season, *Oct open Mon-Fri, Nov-Jan open Mon-Sat. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide for waterfowl information.	Mon-Fri or Sat*	Archery Only	600	
	Newtowne Neck State Park	360	Yes	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	
	St. Clement's Island State Park	Boat access only. Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.							
	St. Inigoe's State Forest	600	Yes	20	All (No nighttime fox/coyote hunting). Raccoon permitted by reservation. No deer hunting east of Beachville Rd.	Sun-Sat	All Legal	463	
	St. Mary's Lake	Permit required for waterfowl hunting only. See Waterfowl Hunting Guide.							

FREE PUBLIC HUNTING PERMIT - PARKING PERMIT 2023-2024

Maryland Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife and Heritage Service

Call the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Office for reservations for Southern or Western 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, 2023 – July 31, 2024

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 July 1, 2023

Cut along dotted line