2019 - 2020 Archery Managed Deer Hunting Program Regulations

The Department of Parks reserves the right to change these regulations, as necessary and appropriate, at any time. Hunting authorization for participants and/or groups may be revoked, at the discretion of Park Staff, at any time.

**Regulations**

- Hunting of white-tailed deer, only
- Modern archery equipment, only (compound bows and crossbows)
- Hunting in accordance with Maryland State and Montgomery County laws and regulations for Archery Hunting and weapons discharge

**State/County Regulations**

- Hunting permitted to occur ½ hour before sunrise – ½ hour after sunset
- Hunters shall not hunt while under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug
- Hunters shall not hunt on or enter private land without written permission of the landowner (No Solicitation of permission)
- Hunters shall not hunt on Sundays (scouting is allowed)
- Hunters shall not shoot on, from or across any public road
- Hunters shall not hunt or shoot at deer within 50 yards of an occupied building or camp without permission of the owner or occupant (must hunt from elevated stand if hunting between 50-100 yards). – See Program-specific regulations
- Hunters shall not hunt without a form of positive identification, such as a driver’s license, other photo identification or a secondary form of positive identification
- For hunting deer, the vertical bow shall have a full draw and pull of not less than 30 pounds
- A crossbow used for deer hunting shall have a draw of not less than 75 pounds
- All crossbows should have a working safety
- It is unlawful to have a loaded crossbow in, on or leaning against a vehicle. A loaded crossbow is one that is cocked AND has an arrow or bolt in the firing position
- Arrows used for deer hunting must have a sharpened broadhead with metal points and a minimum width of 7/8 of an inch
- The use of poisoned or explosive tipped arrows is not permitted
- Hunters must follow all requirements and procedures for tagging and checking deer

- Hunting permitted to occur during designated timeframes only, September - January
  - Hunters must wear florescent orange or pink in accordance with state regulations during any State muzzleloader or firearms season (including Youth Days)
- Participants to call and check-in with Park Police Dispatch (301-949-3010) upon arrival, and check-out upon departure (Full name, Group name, Park Name)
Parking to occur in designated areas, only. However, if residents offer additional parking access, hunters may use the additional access. Demonstration of permission must be provided to Wildlife Ecology Unit. Solicitation of residents not permitted.

Hunting permitted to occur in designated areas only, as per issued maps

No use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV’s) permitted

Per-day maximum number of hunters pre-determined for each park location. Provided to Group Leaders.

Group leader or designee is responsible for scheduling and ensuring compliance among group members

Visible display of Archery Managed Deer Hunting Program identification at all times while on the ground

Arrows/bolts must be quivered at all times while on the ground

Hunting participant equipment (most importantly, arrows and bolts) must be visibly marked with program-assigned, unique identification information (Using Indelible marker and/or labels)

Hunting to occur from portable, commercially manufactured treestands, only (minimum platform height of 10 feet from the ground)

Hunting participants must wear full-body safety harness, attached to tree or life line at all times, while climbing, hunting and descending

Treestands left in trees, in the park, overnight must be marked with program ID and rendered inaccessible to the public. Hang on style or climbing stands permitted ONLY.

Use of face paint is prohibited (use of facemasks allowed while in treestand, only)

Filming of hunting activities is prohibited (use of trail cameras for scouting is permitted, at participant’s own risk)

Hunting participants may not shoot onto from or across marked trails designed for human use

Maximum shooting range is 30 yards

Stationary, broadside and/or quartering away, vital area shots, only (No shots intentionally directed to head, neck or rump areas)

Recovery of harvested deer (and pursuit of any injured deer) on/from any adjacent private property requires consultation/assistance of Park Police (301) 949-3010

Follow-up shots on the ground are not to be taken without prior consent or assistance of Park Police (or Wildlife Staff if available)

Tracking dogs may be used only when absolutely necessary and must remain on a leash

Evisceration of deer to occur away from roads, trails, and high visibility areas (Viscera to be covered with sticks and/or leaf litter)

Deer carcasses must be fully covered during removal, loading and transport process (No ATV use permitted. Carts or sleds recommended)

De-cocking of crossbows must be done in a safe, discreet manner, away from, and out of sight of, roads, trails and the public

Absolutely no littering of any kind. This includes scent lure containers or any other hunting aid.
➢ Bag Limits: Unlimited antlerless deer. At least 2 antlerless deer must be harvested prior to the harvest of each antlered deer for a maximum of 4 antlered deer (e.g. 2 antlerless, 1 antlered, 2 antlerless, 1 antlered, 2 antlerless, 1 antlered, 2 antlerless, 1 antlered. OR an equivalent ratio of antlerless to antlered with at least 2 antlerless harvested prior to the first antlered deer harvest)

➢ Mandatory reporting of harvest, observational data, citizen interactions and any incidents within 24 hours of hunting activity (Online “Archery Field Notes & Harvest Log” must be utilized)

➢ In the case of a life-threatening emergency, call 911 and Park Police Dispatch 301) 949-3010. For other urgent matters, call Park Police Dispatch (301) 949-3010

➢ Avoid negative interaction with members of the public. Any case of harassment must be reported immediately to Park Police and recorded in the “Archery Field Notes & Harvest Log” online form