ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
MARYLAND

STEUART PITTMAN, COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JESSICA LEYS, DIRECTOR
1 HARRY S. TRUMAN PARKWAY
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
410-222-7300

Anne Arundel
RECREATION AND PARKS
ENJOY • EXPLORE • RESTORE

Deer Management Program
Resource Conservation & Protection
1555 Severn Chapel Road
Crownsville, Maryland 21032

Friday, July 24, 2026

Dear Interested Firearms Hunter,

The Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks (AADRP), is pleased to announce that it will now be accepting applications for our 2026 Managed Hunt Program. Persons wishing to participate in our management efforts will find our application requirements outlined below.

Our selection of hunters will be based on each hunter having the credentials listed below, the completion of an application packet, and being interviewed by the Hunter Selection Committee. All applicants are also subject to records checks through the Maryland Natural Resources Police and State and Local Police.

At this time, we are still awaiting final approval of the exact hunting dates and culling restrictions. If no changes occur, they will be as published in the 2026 Managed Hunt Procedures, Rules & Regulations document. Hunters in our program are strongly urged to harvest as many antlerless deer as they can take safely and humanely. Our primary goal is to manage an overabundant deer population. **Participating hunters are required to provide their own climbing, ladder stand, or tree saddle and required safety equipment for their use.**

Please note that this hunt is being conducted as a natural resource management tool, not a recreational program, and we are dedicated to assuring the safety of the residents in the area and the participating hunters, as well as the humane treatment of the deer.

All hunter applicants must provide the following:

1. Participant Information Form (including a Questionnaire for new hunters)
2. Proof of Maryland Residency (Valid MD License or ID, or Military ID with Maryland residency proof).
3. A $25.00 annual non-refundable administrative processing fee payable to Anne Arundel County (previous season participants must pay this fee as well).
    a. This can be paid electronically or via check or money order.
4. Recreation & Parks Volunteer Background Check. Please refer to page 4 of the 2026 Managed Hunt Procedures, Rules & Regulations document for detailed information. This includes a separate $7.00 fee.

The application deadline for the 2026 firearms season is 4:00 PM on Friday, August 28, 2026. Any applications received after this date and time will be held for the next management season. All previous year Anne Arundel County managed hunt participants in good standing will be pre-approved, but must complete all relevant requirements on page 3 of the 2026 Managed Hunt Procedures, Rules & Regulations document.

Please visit the Deer Management Program webpage to download the 2026 Managed Hunt Procedures, Rules & Regulations document and application forms.

Completed applications can be: Emailed to: **deer-management@aacounty.org**
or
Mailed to: **Attn: Deer Management Program**
Resource Conservation & Protection
1555 Severn Chapel Rd
Crownsville, MD 21032

If not paying electronically, paper checks/money orders can be mailed or delivered to the address listed above.

Qualified applicants (new hunters) will be contacted and scheduled for an in-person interview on either Tuesday, September 8, 2026 or Wednesday, September 9, 2026. Individuals who successfully pass the interview process and other prerequisites will be accepted into the program. Hunters who do not pass our requirements will be contacted by email. Accepted applicants will then need to provide the following items before they will be allowed to participate in a hunt:

5. A $50.00 annual non-refundable registration fee payable to the Friends of Jug Bay. These funds are administered by FOJB to support the Deer Management Program, covering program operations, supplies, events, training, and fees (previous season participants must pay this fee as well).
    a. This can be paid electronically or via check or money order.
6. Valid 2026-2027 Maryland Hunting License.
7. Valid Hunter Safety Card.
8. 2026-2027 Maryland Shooter Qualification Card for the firearm type(s) to be used during the hunt.

Accepted applicants (new hunters) will be required to attend a mandatory in-person meeting on the evening of Friday, September 11, 2026. Returning hunters will have the option to attend the in-person meeting, or a virtual meeting on the evening of Thursday, September 10, 2026.

New hunters to our program must attend a scout day with a Park Ranger on the properties they intend to hunt. Scout days have been scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays in mid-September 2026. All hunters will complete and submit a Managed Deer Hunt Lottery Form (to be provided) to communicate their hunt date, location and stand preferences. **Lottery forms will be due on Friday, September 18, 2026**, and the results of the lottery will be distributed on Friday, September 25, 2026.

Previous season participants (returning hunters) in good standing are considered pre-approved, pending submission of the requirements listed above and are eligible to participate in our Open (no assigned stand) Managed Hunting and Archery Programs.

We thank you for your interest in this program and look forward to a safe and successful hunt.

Sincerely,

Jess Hardy
Park Superintendent
Resource Conservation & Protection
Anne Arundel County Recreation & Parks

Nick Shearman
Park Ranger
Resource Conservation & Protection
Anne Arundel County Recreation & Parks