



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



## M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** Chairman and Members  
Park Authority Board

**VIA:** Jai Cole, Executive Director

**FROM:** Laura Grape, Division Director, Resource Management

**DATE:** May 17, 2024

### *Agenda*

**Resource Management Committee  
(Committee of the Whole)  
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 – 5:15 pm  
Boardroom, Herrity Building  
Chairman: Maggie Godbold  
Vice Chair: Abena Aidoo Hewton**

1. Deer Management Plan\* (with presentation) – Information

\*Enclosures



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563. TTY (703) 803-3354

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**INFORMATION** (with presentation)

Deer Management Plan

The Park Authority has been participating in the Fairfax County Deer Management Program since its inception in 1998. The program includes approximately 100 FCPA parks and three treatment methods (archery, managed shotgun hunts, and sharpshooting).

Each year the Park Authority Board receives information about the deer management activities planned for the coming fiscal year, as overseen and implemented by the Fairfax County Police Department.

Unless otherwise directed, staff will proceed with the Deer Management Program as planned.

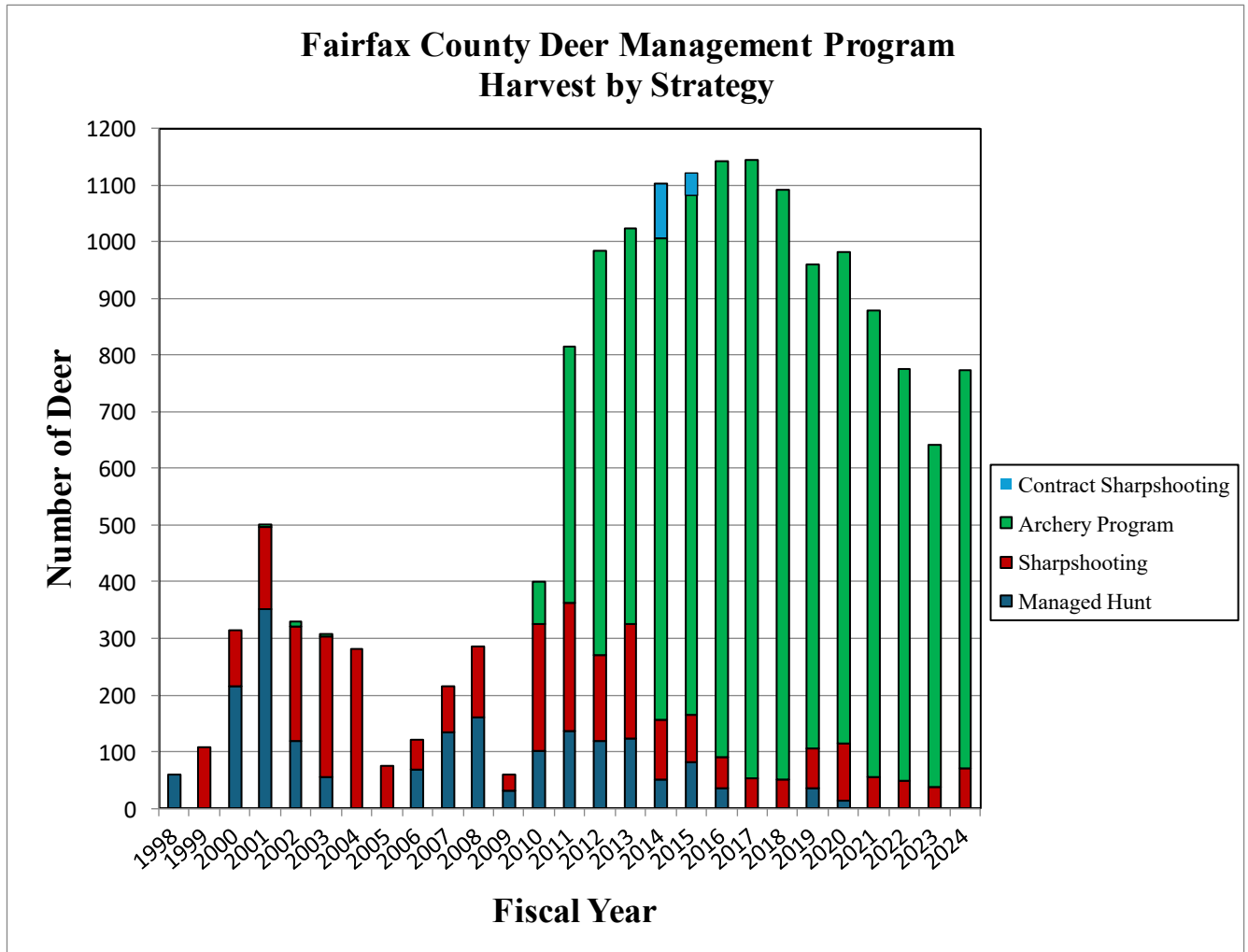
Summary for FY24 (2023-2024)

Attachment 1 summarizes deer harvest results by park and treatment method for the previous season of the Fairfax County Deer Management Program. Two treatment methods were implemented in FY24: archery hunting and police sharpshooting. No managed shotgun hunts were conducted. There are currently no non-lethal methods approved for deer population control in Virginia.

Deer herd reduction activities took place at 108 FCPA parks with 660 deer removed (773 in total including non-FCPA properties).

Archery continues to be the most cost-effective and successful method of herd management, representing 91% of the total program harvest last season. Last season, 518 volunteers participated in the archery program donating 34,178 hours of hunting and scouting hours, for an average of 66 hours per volunteer. These volunteers were organized into 18 hunt clusters and were individually screened (background check, licensure, hunter safety education) and qualified for accuracy to participate by the Fairfax County Police Department. Fairfax County insures these volunteers under its general liability policy.

Sharpshooting was conducted at 11 county parks: Bull Neck Stream Valley/Spring Hill District Park, Bren Mar Park/Turkeycock Run Stream Valley, Dranesville Tavern, Grove Point Park, Foxstone Park/Waverly Park, Frying Pan Farm Park, Huntley Meadows, and Lake Fairfax.



Planned Activities for FY25 (2024-2025)

Attachment 2 summarizes the parks proposed for the upcoming season of the Deer Management Program, organized by supervisory district.

Parks are recommended for the program based on one or more of the following factors:

1. Public safety concerns related to deer-vehicle collisions
2. Residential complaints of deer damage near the park
3. High estimated deer population in the park (> 20 deer/sq. mile)
4. Measurable impact to park vegetation (within browse plots)
5. High natural resource value of the park
6. At the request of the park manager

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All approved hunting and parking areas will be mapped in a Geographic Information System (GIS) by July and made available online to the public as a web map linked from the Police Department's Deer Management Program website (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/wildlife/deer-management-program>). This data is also made accessible to all county employees within the GIS data system.

**Archery dates: Saturday, September 7, 2024 - Saturday, February 15, 2025.**

There are no new parks proposed for the archery program.

**Sharpshooting dates:** Various dates (TBD) between November 2024 – March 2025.

Operations will not be conducted over the Thanksgiving holiday from November 27 – December 1, 2024 or during the winter holiday season from December 18, 2024 – January 1, 2025.

Staff propose to add the following FCPA parks for the sharpshooting program: Country Club View Park (Braddock District; previously included for archery) and Braddock Park (Springfield District.)

The upcoming sharpshooting schedule will also include Bull Neck Stream Valley, Foxstone Park, Frying Pan Farm Park, Lake Fairfax, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Spring Hill District Park, and Waverly Park which have been included in prior years. Lake Fairfax will receive a combination of management methods including a shortened archery season followed by sharpshooting in the late season. Operations will not be conducted over the Thanksgiving holiday from November 27, 2024 – December 1, 2024, or during the winter holiday season from December 18, 2024 – January 1, 2025. The final sharpshooting schedule will be dependent on FCPD staffing, including the Animal Protection Police who are proposed for reorganization, and number of available nights during the fall and winter.

**Shotgun hunts:** No managed shotgun hunts will be conducted in the Sully Woodlands area in FY 2025. Ellick Preserve, Halifax Point District Park, Mountain Road District Park, and Rock Hill District Park will remain in the archery program and only archery will be used at these parks for deer herd reduction in FY 2025. Richard W. Jones Park (Pleasant Valley Golf Course) will not be included in the program since managed hunts are not being conducted.

**Public Notification:** Notification letters have traditionally been mailed to property owners adjacent to approved park sites. This year, staff plan to send postcards in lieu of letters pending departmental approval. This change in format will save the department

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approximately \$11,000 in printing and postage costs. Postcards will be mailed in July 2024 and will include a QR Code to link directly to the Deer Management Program webpages. Postcards will be mailed to residences that fall within 200 feet of parks included for archery and within 500 feet of parks included for sharpshooting. Over 24,500 letters were mailed in FY 2024.

Public Information Webinar:

Links to a recorded webinar providing an overview of the Deer Management Program will be posted on the county's Deer Management Program website in August 2024. Public meetings for the FY 2025 Deer Management Program have not been scheduled at this time. If there are concerns about new park additions (or existing parks), staff will be available to speak with or meet with residents, HOAs, Civic Associations, etc. as needed to address concerns.

Data Collection Efforts

Data collection efforts in FY24 focus on the following components of the program:

- 1) Evaluating the browse impact of deer on native vegetation
- 2) Conducting deer density estimates with game camera surveys
- 3) Monitoring reportable deer-vehicle collision (DVC) trends
- 4) Collecting herd health data over the course of the season

*Browse Impact Surveys*

Park staff have established 557 permanent vegetation plots in 63 parks included in the Deer Management Program. Deer browse impacts to native woody vegetation are measured at each plot location. In FY 2024, 100 browse plots were surveyed by park ecologists. Plots will be resampled at 4-year intervals to evaluate deer browse impact trends over time. Fifteen parks with browse plots were analyzed for the Northern Region Natural Resource Management Plan in FY 2024. The majority of those parks (9 of 15 parks; 60%) showed decreasing trends in browse scores, representing improvements in native woody vegetation in parks where deer management is applied. Three parks (20%) showed static scores, and three parks (20%) had increasing trends in browse impacts.

*Camera Surveys*

Deer density surveys have been conducted annually in select parks using infrared-triggered cameras to estimate the number of deer visiting a bait station to examine deer

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population trends over time. Recent changes associated with the detection of Chronic Wasting Disease will affect monitoring efforts going forward. A year-round deer feeding ban has been in effect in Fairfax County since last year, but the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) had given special authorization to use bait for camera surveys conducted through the Deer Management Program. With CWD now confirmed in the county, the DWR will no longer authorize the use of bait for camera surveys. This restriction will require the use of alternative methods to estimate deer population metrics. Staff are examining other field methods that are comparable to camera surveys but have not determined a new method for use. Unmanned Aerial Systems (drones) have been used to conduct deer surveys in county parks in Montgomery County, MD and Arlington County, VA and have been discussed but funding has not been identified.

*Deer Vehicle Collisions*

Collisions involving deer in Fairfax County have resulted in injury and fatality of residents and extensive property damage. Reportable crashes in Fairfax County include police reports through the Traffic Records Electronic Data System (TREDS). These reportable crashes include accidents that result in injury or fatality, or property damage exceeding \$1500. According to data from TREDS, an average of 102 reportable deer-vehicle collisions (DVCs) occurred annually in Fairfax County since 2010, ranging from 75-120 DVCs a year during that time frame. Overall, there is a declining trend in reportable DVCs countywide, with 91 DVCs reported during the 2023 calendar year. It should be recognized that actual DVCs are underestimated because not all collisions are reported to the police or meet TREDS criteria, and not all deer die at the roadway, but comprehensive data on DVCs has been difficult to obtain and analyze since it involves multiple agencies (e.g., VDOT, insurance companies).

*Herd Health Data – Chronic Wasting Disease*

During the 2022-2023 deer hunting season, the DWR confirmed CWD in an adult male deer legally harvested on private land in Vienna, Fairfax County. As a result of this detection, Fairfax County has been added to CWD Disease Management Area 2 (DMA2) by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) beginning in the 2023-2024 deer hunting season, which also includes Arlington, Culpeper, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Page, Prince William, and Rappahannock Counties.

Attachment 3 summarizes the CWD surveillance efforts. In FY 2024, over 62% of the deer harvested from the Fairfax County Deer Management Program were tested for CWD, a 26.3% increase in testing compared to last season in which the CWD-positive deer was detected. Samples were collected from 482 deer (258 bucks, 224 does) harvested in 100 parks. Of the deer tested, 423 samples (87.8%) were from hunter-

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harvested deer through the county's archery program, 58 samples (12.0%) from county sharpshooting efforts, and 1 deer dispatched by the Animal Protection Police (<1 %). Collectively, county staff have sampled and tested 1,258 deer from 117 parks/properties through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program since FY 2020 in collaboration with the DWR and local hunters.

Staff have used "CWD Surveillance Drop Sites" in accordance with DWR guidelines to sample a greater number of deer harvested in the archery program. This includes temporary establishment of small freezer stations where hunters drop off samples from harvested deer for CWD testing. Freezer drop sites are secured from public access and operated from September through February. FCPD Wildlife staff monitor the locations and process the material for lab submission. Drop sites were established at Burke Lake, Lake Accotink, Lake Fairfax, Grist Mill Park, and the Flatlick (Area 5) Maintenance Shop in prior years. Staff will establish freezer drop sites at these locations again for hunters in the county program to have their deer tested for CWD.

#### *Deer Transport and Processing Challenges*

With the inclusion of Fairfax County in the CWD Disease Management Area, restrictions regarding transport of deer are now in effect. Whole deer carcasses and any parts containing brain and/or spinal cord tissues originating from Fairfax County may only be transported to locations within DMA1 and DMA2 which includes Fairfax, Prince William, Arlington, Loudoun, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Page, Madison, Orange, Frederick, Clarke, Warren, and Shenandoah counties. This restriction could impact hunters in the Deer Management Program who either live outside of these counties or use processors and taxidermists outside these DMAs. Staff will work to identify locations where hunters can break down harvested deer on a case-by-case basis if we are contacted by hunters experiencing challenges from this restriction.

The lack of deer processors in Fairfax County is becoming a critical issue that has potential to impact recruitment and retention of hunters in the Deer Management Program. Currently, there are no deer processors that are operational within Fairfax County. Individuals have tried to open for-profit processing businesses and non-profit charities to process deer and donate to local food banks but have not been able to identify suitable locations due to county code and zoning restrictions. As such, hunters must take the harvested deer to processors outside the county or butcher their own deer. Additionally, program staff must take deer harvested from sharpshooting operations to outside processors to donate to Hunters for the Hungry and other food banks, since there are no operations within Fairfax County.

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There are only a limited number of processors in neighboring counties where deer can be transported under CWD regulations. These processors are typically inundated with heavy demand and often reach capacity in mid-November when they are no longer able to accept more deer, or close before the deer season ends. Some processors have considered shutting down their business. This situation could result in less program participation and lower deer harvest if hunters have nowhere convenient to take their deer and local processors are at capacity or shut down, coupled with the transport restrictions due to CWD.

During FY 2024, the Wildlife Management Specialist contacted the county's Zoning Administration Division and requested an interpretation to determine how deer processing (either commercial or non-profit) affiliated with the Deer Management Program could be permitted, or where it could take place. In the past, this type of operation had been considered a heavy industrial, production or processing use, but following changes to the zoning ordinance in 2023, it would now be most similar to small scale production. Additionally, it could also potentially be considered a public use if it was a function of the Deer Management Program but would require a formal determination based on a business proposal. It would also likely require a 2232 application to establish a new public use on County owned property.

### *Venison Donations*

Food insecurity has increased in many areas resulting from unemployment or other economic constraints. Additionally, there is growing interest in the consumption of local, sustainable wild game for health reasons and a movement towards "field to fork" initiatives. The Deer Management Program helps to address these needs by providing locally sourced venison that is donated for food to individuals in need through local processors and charitable organizations. Over the past eight years, 2,292 deer harvested in the county's Deer Management Program have been donated to provide food for people in need. This includes 969 deer donated to Hunters for the Hungry and 1,323 deer donated directly to individuals and families. Based on a conservative estimate of 30 lbs. of venison per deer, this equates to 68,769 lbs. (275,076 meal servings) of donated venison. Staff will continue to track the contribution of donations in the upcoming season.

### *Hunters for the Hungry*

Hunters for the Hungry requires CWD testing for any deer harvested in a CWD Disease Management Area prior to donation. As indicated above, the county's Deer Management Program will be offering testing for deer harvested on parkland, and the DWR will be offering testing for hunter-harvested deer on private land. Processors in



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neighboring counties will also be assisting hunters with testing in coordination with Hunters for the Hungry. All deer harvested through county sharpshooting operations are tested for CWD prior to donation (except for fawns that are not routinely tested according to DWR protocols).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Police Department dedicates time of one Wildlife Management Specialist (Katherine Edwards, Ph.D.) and one Animal Protection Police Supervisor (Sergeant Earit Powell), with two full-time Assistant Wildlife Biologist positions and two seasonal assistants supporting field tasks during the deer season. Additional overtime is authorized as needed for Police Department personnel to provide sharpshooting services and security during night-time sharpshooting operations and daytime managed hunts when conducted. The Park Authority dedicates 1/3 time of one Ecologist III to support the Deer Management Program.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1 - FY 2024 Deer Harvest Totals for Fairfax County Parks  
Attachment 2 - FY 2025 Proposed Deer Management Sites by Supervisory District  
Attachment 3 - FY 2024 Chronic Wasting Disease Report

STAFF:

Jai Cole, Executive Director  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Laura Grape, Director, Resource Management Division  
Josh Colman, Director, Park Services Division  
Kim Eckert, Director, Park Operations Division  
John Burke, Manager, Natural Resources Branch  
Dave Lawlor, Ecologist, Resource Management Division  
Daidria Grayson, Director, Marketing and Communications Division  
Ben Boxer, Public Information Officer

## Fairfax County Deer Management Program FY 2024 Deer Harvest Totals

<b>Archery</b>	
<b>Cluster Name</b>	<b>Number of Deer Harvested</b>
<b>1 – Accotink Stream Valley Cluster</b>	<b>36</b>
Accotink Stream Valley Park	21
Brookfield Park	0
Carrleigh Parkway	2
Eakin Community Park	7
Eakin Park (Mantua Section)	4
Hunter Village Park	0
Sally Ormsby Park	2
<b>2 – Bull Run Marina Cluster</b>	<b>7</b>
Bull Run Marina <sup>a</sup>	4
Hemlock Overlook <sup>a</sup>	3
<b>3- Bull Run Regional Park</b>	<b>24</b>
Bull Run Regional Park <sup>a</sup>	24
<b>4 – Clifton Cluster</b>	<b>22</b>
Bull Run Regional Park South <sup>a</sup>	9
Confederate Fortifications	4
Johnny Moore Stream Valley	9
<b>5 – Colvin Run Cluster</b>	<b>39</b>
Colvin Run Mill Park	6
Colvin Run Stream Valley	8
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Colvin)	12
Lake Fairfax Park	10
Wolftrap Stream Valley	3
<b>6 – Cub Run Cluster</b>	<b>67</b>
Cub Run Stream Valley	20
Ellanor C. Lawrence Park	24
Flatlick Stream Valley	5
Rocky Run Stream Valley	18
<b>7 – Elklick Cluster</b>	<b>48</b>
Elklick Preserve	15
Cub Run Stream Valley North	9
Halifax Point District Park	1
Hickory Forest Park	0
Horsepen Run Stream Valley	6
Merrybrook Run Stream Valley	3
Mountain Road Park	1
Poplar Ford Park	5
Rock Hill District Park	5
Sully Historic Site	3

<b>Archery</b>	
<b>Cluster Name</b>	<b>Number of Deer Harvested</b>
<b>8- Fairfax Station Cluster</b>	<b>21</b>
Fairfax Villa	1
Patriot Park	3
Piney Branch Stream Valley	9
Popes Head Park	5
Rocky Run Stream Valley (Portion)	1
Willow Pond	2
<b>9 – Fountainhead Cluster</b>	<b>16</b>
Fountainhead Regional Park <sup>a</sup>	11
Sandy Run Regional Park <sup>a</sup>	5
<b>10 – Great Falls Cluster</b>	<b>62</b>
Hickory Run School Site <sup>b</sup>	1
Langley Oaks Park	11
Lexington Estates Park	9
Pimmit Run Stream Valley	20
Riverbend Park	14
Scotts Run Nature Preserve	4
Windemere Park	3
<b>11 – Huntley Meadows</b>	<b>83</b>
Amberleigh Park	0
Deerlick Park	6
Dogue Creek Stream Valley (combined with Huntley)	0
Fairchild Property <sup>b</sup>	4
Gristmill Park	2
Groveton Heights Park	2
Holmes Run Stream Valley	18
Huntley Meadows	10
Island Creek Park	3
John Byers Park	1
Kirk Park	1
Franconia Park	1
Lillian Carey Park	17
Little Hunting Creek	0
Loisdale Park	0
Mason District Park	7
Mount Vernon District Park	0
Paul Springs Stream Valley	1
Pole Road Park	2
Ridgeview Park	7
Roundtree Park	0
Woodlawn Park	1

**Archery**

<b>Cluster Name</b>	<b>Number of Deer Harvested</b>
<b>12 – Lake Accotink Cluster</b>	<b>44</b>
Americana Park (combined with Wakefield)	0
Lake Accotink	21
Long Branch Stream Valley	9
Wakefield Park	14
<b>13 – Laurel Hill Cluster</b>	<b>59</b>
BOS Property Mt. Vernon <sup>b</sup>	9
Laurel Hill Park & Golf Course	17
Mason Neck West	4
Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area <sup>c</sup>	8
Newington Heights	0
Noman Cole Plant <sup>b</sup>	4
Occoquan Regional Park <sup>a</sup>	13
Old Colchester Park & Preserve	0
Pohick Bay Regional Park <sup>a</sup>	4
<b>14 – Pohick Stream Valley Cluster</b>	<b>19</b>
Burke Station Park	4
Cherry Run Park	0
Country Club View Park	1
Crooked Creek Park	0
Greentree Village Park	0
Huntsman Lake	0
Kings Park West	1
Middle Run Stream Valley Park	2
Pohick Stream Valley	11
Shannon Station Park	0
West Springfield Village Park	0
<b>15 – Reston Cluster</b>	<b>34</b>
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Reston)	7
Foxvale Park	1
Fred Crabtree Park	8
Garnchayne	4
Little Difficult Run Stream Valley	7
Oakmont Park (formerly Oak Marr Park)	4
Tattersall Park	0
Waples Mill Meadow	3
<b>16 – South Run Cluster</b>	<b>12</b>
Brimstone Park	0
Burke Lake	4
Lake Mercer Park	0
Poburn Woods Park	0
Sandy Run Stream Valley	0
South Run District Park	6
South Run Stream Valley	2

<b>Archery</b>	
<b>Cluster Name</b>	<b>Number of Deer Harvested</b>
<b>17 – Sugarland Run Cluster</b>	<b>47</b>
Folly Lick Stream Valley	7
Shaker Woods Park	3
Sugarland Run Stream Valley	23
TNC Fraser Preserve <sup>d</sup>	7
Upper Potomac <sup>a</sup>	7
<b>18 - Vienna Cluster</b>	<b>63</b>
Clarks Crossing Park	22
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Vienna)	16
Lahey Lost Valley Park	1
Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley	18
Raglan Road Park	4
Tamarack Park	2
<b>Archery Total for All Properties</b>	<b>703</b>
FCPA Total	590
<sup>a</sup> NOVA Parks Total	80
<sup>b</sup> BOS/Other County Total	18
<sup>c</sup> Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Total	8
<sup>d</sup> The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Total	7

<b>Police Sharpshooting Operations</b>	
<b>Park</b>	<b>Number of Deer Harvested</b>
Bren Mar Park/Turkeycock Run Stream Valley	1
Bull Neck Stream Valley	14
Dranesville Tavern	7
Foxstone Park	1
Frying Pan Farm Park	13
Grove Point Park	1
Huntley Meadows Park	5
Lake Fairfax	18
Spring Hill District Park	10
<b>Sharpshooting Total for All Properties</b>	<b>70</b>

<b>Program Deer Harvest Totals</b>	
<b>FCPA Grand Total - All Methods</b>	<b>660</b>
<b>NOVA Parks Grand Total – All Methods</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>TNC Grand Total – All Methods</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>BOS/Other County Property Grand Total – All Methods</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>BLM Grand Total – All Methods</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Program Grand Total - All Methods</b>	<b>773</b>

# **FAIRFAX COUNTY DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

## **FY 2025 PROPOSED DEER MANAGEMENT SITES BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICT**



Braddock District										
FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites										
Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
CHANGE OF METHOD <sup>1</sup> Country Club View Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery/ Sharpshooting	39	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	1
Accotink Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	405	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21
Americana Park <sup>2</sup>	FCPA	Burke	Archery	4	FY 2012	--	--	--	--	--
Carrleigh Parkway Park <sup>3</sup>	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	10	FY 2014	--	5	0	1	2
Crooked Creek Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	12	FY 2016	3	6	3	1	0
Fairfax Villa	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	60	FY 2023	--	--	--	1	1
Kings Park West Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	19	FY 2016	3	6	1	0	1
Lake Accotink Park	FCPA	Burke	Archery	407	FY 2012	22	7	14	10	21
Long Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	90	FY 2016	3	8	4	1	9
Piney Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	140	FY 2014	10	13	7	3	9
Pohick Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	580	FY 2012	22	12	16	16	11
Wakefield Park	FCPA	Burke	Archery	161	FY 2012	5	3	12	9	14

<sup>1</sup>Country Club View Park – Propose change in management method from archery to sharpshooting for FY 2025 program season.

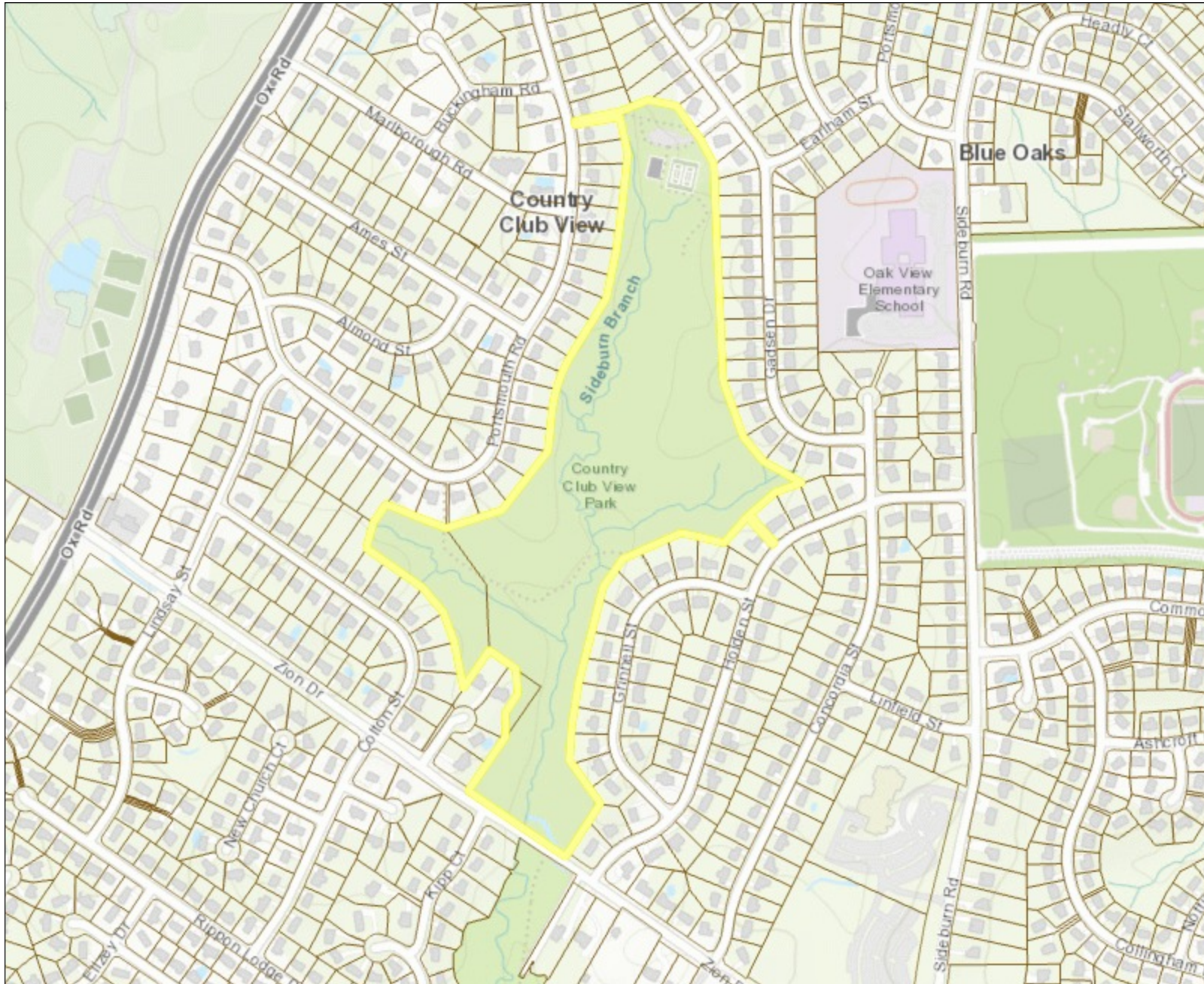
<sup>2</sup>Harvests for Americana Park are combined with Wakefield Park.

<sup>3</sup>Harvests for Carrleigh Parkway are combined with Lake Accotink for FY 2020.

No new park additions proposed for the Braddock District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.



# Country Club View Park



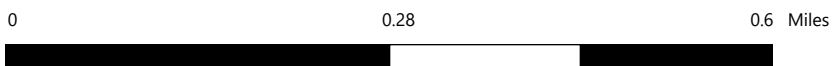
**Legend**

- Parcels

**Notes:**

Propose change in management method from archery to sharpshooting.

Map produced: 4/25/2024



This map is intended for reference purposes only. Fairfax County does not provide any guarantee of the accuracy or completeness regarding the map information.



## Dranesville District

### FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites

Property Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
<b>REMOVAL<sup>1</sup></b> Dranesville Tavern Park	FCPA	Herndon	Sharpshooting	14	FY 2022	--	--	3	--	7
<b>REMOVAL<sup>1</sup></b> Grand Hamptons Park	FCPA	Herndon	Sharpshooting	5	FY 2022	--	--	0	--	--
Bull Neck Stream Valley	FCPA	McLean	Sharpshooting	16	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	14
Spring Hill District Park	FCPA	McLean	Sharpshooting	46	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	10
Folly Lick Stream Valley	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	32	FY 2016	5	11	7	8	7
Fraser Preserve	The Nature Conservancy	Great Falls	Archery	233	FY 2017	12	14	16	7	7
Hickory Run School Site	BOS	Great Falls	Archery	11	FY 2016	1	11	7	1	1
Langley Oaks Park	FCPA	McLean	Archery	102	FY 2016	7	7	15	7	11
Lexington Estates Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	15	FY 2016	2	12	3	2	9
Merrybrook Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	11	FY 2017	0	2	2	2	3
Pimmit Run Stream Valley	FCPA	McLean	Archery	43	FY 2017	10	13	16	13	20
Riverbend Park	FCPA	McLean	Archery	394	FY 2012	10	19	14	9	14
Scotts Run Nature Preserve	FCPA	McLean	Archery	379	FY 2013	3	3	5	7	4
Shaker Woods Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	14	FY 2015	0	5	4	2	3
Sugarland Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	200	FY 2012	23	12	16	16	23
Windemere Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	24	FY 2017	6	3	3	5	3
Upper Potomac/Seneca Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Great Falls	Archery	646	FY 2016	21	19	16	13	7

<sup>1</sup>Dranesville Tavern and Grand Hamptons Park will be removed from the sharpshooting program for FY 2025 but may be included again in future years.

Franconia District										
FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites										
Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
<b>REMOVAL<sup>1</sup></b> Grove Point Park	FCPA	Springfield	Sharpshooting	62	FY 2022	--	--	3	8	1
Accotink Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	405	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21
Amberleigh Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	18	FY 2015	0	0	0	0	0
Brookfield Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	19	FY 2014	3	2	0	0	0
Byron Avenue Park (Access only)	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	-	FY 2012	--	--	--	--	--
Dogue Creek Stream Valley <sup>1</sup>	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	21	FY 2016	--	--	0	0	0
Groveton Heights	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	16	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	2
Hunter Village Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	20	FY 2014	1	0	0	0	0
Huntley Meadows <sup>2</sup>	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery/ Sharpshooting	778	FY 2011	70	42	51	21	15
Island Creek Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	96	FY 2015	4	3	3	2	3
Franconia Park (formerly Lee District Park)	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	77	FY 2015	7	4	7	1	1
Loisdale Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	37	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	0
Monticello Woods Park	FCPA	Springfield	Sharpshooting	13	FY 2022	--	--	0	--	--
Ridgeview Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	24	FY 2023	--	--	--	3	7

<sup>1</sup> Grove Point Park will be removed from the sharpshooting program for FY 2025 but may be included again in future years.

<sup>2</sup>Huntley Meadows Park: FY 2024 harvest was 15 deer (10 deer harvested from archery; 5 deer harvested from sharpshooting). Dogue Creek Stream Valley harvests are included in the Huntley Meadows total. Only archery will be conducted for FY 2025.

No new park additions proposed for the Franconia District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

**Hunter Mill District**  
**FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites**

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
Clarks Crossing Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	124	FY 2012	19	22	32	15	22
Colvin Run Mill Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	58	FY 2010	19	8	4	6	6
Colvin Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	44	FY 2010	6	5	5	4	8
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Colvin)	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	285	FY 2011	18	9	7	16	12
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Vienna)	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	237	FY 2011	18	13	14	13	16
Foxstone Park	FCPA	Vienna	Sharpshooting	14	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	1
Fred Crabtree Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	208	FY 2014	11	21	13	13	8
Frying Pan Farm Park	FCPA	Herndon	Sharpshooting	136	FY 2015	--	10	11	6	13
Horsepen Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	64	FY 2017	9	5	1	11	6
Lahey Lost Valley Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	23	FY 2012	4	2	2	4	1
Lake Fairfax <sup>1</sup>	FCPA	Reston	Archery/ Sharpshooting	244	FY 2007	12	16	10	7	28
Little Difficult Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Reston	Archery	63	FY 2018	2	10	4	4	7
Meadowlark Botanical Gardens	NOVA Parks	Vienna	Sharpshooting	95	FY 2023	--	--	--	6	--
Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	33	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	18
Raglan Road	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	8	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	4
Tamarack Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	21	FY 2012	0	0	2	0	2
Waverly Park	FCPA	Vienna	Sharpshooting	17	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	0
Wolf Trap Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	48	FY 2016	7	2	1	0	3

<sup>1</sup>Lake Fairfax: FY 2024 harvest was 28 deer (10 deer harvested from archery; 18 deer harvested from sharpshooting).

No new park additions proposed for the Hunter Mill District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

**Mason District**  
**FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites**

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
<b>REMOVAL<sup>1</sup></b> Bren Mar Park/Turkeycock Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Alexandria	Sharpshooting	70	FY 2016	9	5	3	12	1
Accotink Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	251	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21
Deerlick Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	19	FY 2017	1	0	2	7	6
Holmes Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	80	FY 2014/2018	21	7	16	12	18
Lillian Carey Park	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	54	FY 2014	14	10	8	12	17
Mason District Park	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	80	FY 2014	2	4	1	5	7
Roundtree Park	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	61	FY 2014	7	6	4	0	0

<sup>1</sup>Bren Mar Park/Turkeycock Run Stream Valley will be removed from the sharpshooting program for FY 2025 but may be included again in future years.  
 No new park additions proposed for the Mason District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

**Mount Vernon District**  
**FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites**

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
BOS-Mt. Vernon	BOS	Lorton	Archery	231	FY 2017	10	6	4	3	9
Colonel John Byers Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	25	FY 2018	4	4	3	2	1
Fairchild Property	BOS	Alexandria	Archery	8	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	4
Grist Mill Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	48	FY 2023	--	--	--	5	2
Huntley Meadows <sup>1</sup>	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery/ Sharpshooting	778	FY 2011	70	42	51	21	15
Laurel Hill & Golf Course	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	1149	FY 2010	32	21	13	21	17
Kirk Park (portion)	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	7	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	1
Little Hunting Creek	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	10	FY 2018	0	0	1	0	0
Mason Neck West	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	44	FY 2016	7	2	2	4	4
Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area	BLM	Lorton	Archery	805	FY 2021	--	37	20	17	8
Mount Vernon District Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	88	FY 2018	4	2	1	0	0
Newington Heights	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	54	FY 2013	2	0	0	0	0
Noman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Plant	DPWES	Lorton	Archery	103	FY 2017	3	6	6	6	4
Occoquan Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Lorton	Archery	200	FY 2020	26	4	15	6	13

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
Old Colchester Park & Preserve	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	144	FY 2013	6	2	2	7	0
Paul Springs Stream Valley (portion)	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	20	FY 2023	--	--	--	1	1
Pohick Bay Regional	NOVA Parks	Lorton	Archery	339	FY 2014	6	2	4	4	4
Pohick Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	559	FY 2012	22	12	16	16	11
Pole Road Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	50	FY 2023	--	--	--	1	2
South Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	271	FY 2011	6	3	1	2	2
Woodlawn	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	9	FY 2016	2	0	0	1	1

<sup>1</sup>Huntley Meadows Park: FY 2024 harvest was 15 deer (10 deer harvested from archery; 5 deer harvested from sharpshooting). Dogue Creek Stream Valley harvests are included in the Huntley Meadows total. Only archery will be conducted for FY 2025.

No new park additions proposed for the Mount Vernon District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

<b>Providence District</b>										
<b>FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites</b>										
<b>Park Name</b>	<b>Property Owner</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposed Methods</b>	<b>Hunt Acreage</b>	<b>Year Added</b>	<b>Harvest FY 2020</b>	<b>Harvest FY 2021</b>	<b>Harvest FY 2022</b>	<b>Harvest FY 2023</b>	<b>Harvest FY 2024</b>
Accotink Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	251	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Reston)	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	258	FY 2011	9	14	11	16	7
Eakin Community Park	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	33	FY 2012	11	11	5	6	7
Eakin Park (Mantua Section)	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	72	FY 2012	4	9	1	5	4
Holmes Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Falls Church	Archery	68	FY 2018	21	7	16	12	18
Oakmont Park (formerly Oak Marr)	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	58	FY 2020	3	5	5	9	4
Sally Ormsby Park	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	40	FY 2012	1	1	0	4	2
Tattersall Park	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	35	FY 2020	4	2	0	0	2

No new park additions proposed for the Providence District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

**Springfield District**  
**FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites**

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
<b>ADDITION<sup>1</sup></b> Braddock Park	FCPA	Clifton	Sharpshooting	61	FY 2025	--	--	--	--	--
Accotink Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	405	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21
Brimstone Park	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	5	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	0
Bull Run Marina	NOVA Parks	Clifton	Archery	258	FY 2014	11	6	4	6	4
Bull Run Regional (South)	NOVA Parks	Clifton	Archery	447	FY 2017	10	7	8	4	9
Burke Lake Park & Golf Course	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	323	FY 2012	7	13	4	11	4
Burke Station Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	15	FY 2014	9	1	0	0	4
Chapel Road Park	FCPA	Clifton	Sharpshooting	25	FY 2016	15	3	5	--	--
Cherry Run Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	4	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	0
Confederate Fortifications Historic Site	FCPA	Clifton	Archery	150	FY 2011	16	10	8	6	4
Fountainhead Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Fairfax Station	Archery	2075	FY 2014	19	18	13	4	11
Greentree Village Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	19	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	0
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Clifton	Archery	392	FY 2016	6	9	1	1	3
Huntsman Lake	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	26	FY 2017	7	2	0	0	0
Johnny Moore Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Clifton	Archery	342	FY 2012	27	9	8	10	9
Lake Mercer Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	195	FY 2012	4	0	3	1	0
Middle Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	169	FY 2017	1	1	4	2	2



Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
Patriot Park	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	122	FY 2014	5	4	4	2	3
Piney Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	39	FY 2018	10	13	7	3	9
Poburn Woods Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	11	FY 2017	2	1	3	1	0
Pohick Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	580	FY 2012	22	12	16	16	11
Popes Head Park	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	38	FY 2014	5	9	7	4	5
Rocky Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	111	FY 2016	11	15	22	8	19
Sandy Run Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Fairfax Station	Archery	330	FY 2014	15	12	9	4	5
Sandy Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	39	FY 2017	2	0	1	0	0
Shannon Station Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	13	FY 2014	1	2	0	0	0
South Run District Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	115	FY 2011	2	5	5	5	6
South Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	319	FY 2011	6	3	1	2	2
Waples Mill Meadow	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	18	FY 2015	7	2	5	8	3
West Springfield Village Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	10	FY 2014	2	0	0	0	0
Willow Pond	BOS/FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	66	FY 2017	1	0	2	0	2

<sup>1</sup>Braddock Park: Propose addition of Braddock Park to the sharpshooting program for the FY 2025 deer season.



# Braddock Park



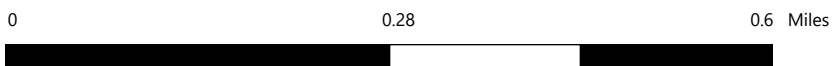
**Legend**

- Parcels

**Notes:**

Proposed addition to sharpshooting program.

Map produced: 4/25/2024



This map is intended for reference purposes only. Fairfax County does not provide any guarantee of the accuracy or completeness regarding the map information.

## Sully District

### FY 2025 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
Bull Run Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Centreville	Archery	839	FY 2014	56	44	16	26	24
Bull Run Regional (South)	NOVA Parks	Centreville	Archery	447	FY 2017	10	7	8	4	9
Cub Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	626	FY 2011	24	21	15	18	20
Cub Run Stream Valley (North)	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	138	FY 2022	--	--	15	13	9
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Reston)	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	258	FY 2011	9	14	11	16	7
Elklick Preserve <sup>1</sup>	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	1388	FY 2006; FY 2011	28 (archery) + managed hunt	21	14	8	15
Ellanor C Lawrence Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	459	FY 2011	27	40	40	21	24
Foxvale Park	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	25	FY 2016	5	1	1	2	1
Flatlick Stream Valley	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	60	FY 2016	8	12	13	4	5
Fred Crabtree Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	208	FY 2014	11	21	13	13	8
Garnchayne	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	21	FY 2015	4	8	3	4	4
Halifax Point District Park <sup>2</sup>	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	271	FY 2011	--	6	3	3	1
Hickory Forest Park	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	95	FY 2013	1	7	4	1	0
Horsepen Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	64	FY 2017	9	5	1	11	6
Little Difficult Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	72	FY 2014	2	10	4	4	7
Mountain Road District Park <sup>1</sup>	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	201	FY 2011	5 (archery) + managed hunt	7	7	1	1

Park Name	Property Owner	Location	Proposed Methods	Hunt Acreage	Year Added	Harvest FY 2020	Harvest FY 2021	Harvest FY 2022	Harvest FY 2023	Harvest FY 2024
Poplar Ford Park	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	372	FY 2011	9	4	9	6	5
Rock Hill District Park <sup>1</sup>	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	169	FY 2006	2 (archery) + managed hunt	3	2	4	5
Rocky Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	79	FY 2016	10	15	22	8	18
Sully Historic Site	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	84	FY 2011	6	2	6	2	3
Willow Pond Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	55	FY 2017	1	0	2	0	2

<sup>1</sup>Elklick, Rock Hill District Park, Mountain Road District Park – Managed hunt harvest totals included combined harvests from Elklick Preserve, Rock Hill District Park, Mountain Road District Park and Richard W. Jones/Pleasant Valley Golf Course. The FY 2020 managed hunts yielded 13 deer harvests.

<sup>2</sup>Halifax Point District Park was formerly a part of Elklick Preserve. Harvests for FY 2020 are included in the Elklick totals.

No new park additions proposed for the Sully District in FY 2025. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

## **Fairfax County Deer Management Program**

### **FY 2024 Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance Update**

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is an incurable disease, found in deer, elk, and moose in North America. It is a slow-acting, progressive neurologic disease that ultimately results in death of the animal. The disease-causing agent, known as a prion, is spread through the urine, feces, and saliva of infected animals and through water or soil contaminated with prions. Clinical signs of CWD include staggering, abnormal posture, lowered head, drooling, confusion, and marked weight loss. Infected animals may not exhibit any symptoms of CWD for 16 months to two years after exposure.

CWD has been confirmed in at least 34 states, four Canadian provinces, northern Europe, and South Korea. CWD was first diagnosed in Virginia in 2009 and has been subsequently detected in Fairfax, Fauquier, Floyd, Frederick, Carroll, Clarke, Culpeper, Loudoun, Madison, Montgomery, Pulaski, Rappahannock, Shenandoah, Tazewell, and Warren counties. At the conclusion of the 2022-2023 (FY 2023) deer hunting season, 181 white-tailed deer had tested positive for CWD in Virginia. Statewide surveillance results from this past deer season (FY 2024) are still pending by the DWR.

During the 2022-2023 deer hunting season, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) confirmed CWD in an adult male deer legally harvested on private land in Vienna, Fairfax County. This was the first CWD-positive detection within deer in Fairfax County. The deer was brought to a taxidermist in late October of 2022 and DWR obtained the sample shortly thereafter as part of the Department's proactive statewide CWD surveillance efforts. At the time of harvest, no outward signs of disease were noted, and the deer appeared to be in good condition.

The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources has oversight of CWD surveillance and management within the Commonwealth and has established three CWD Disease Management Areas (DMA), which encompassed 19 counties in Virginia during the 2023-2024 deer hunting season. DMA1 included the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Shenandoah, and Warren. DMA2 included the counties of Arlington, Culpeper, Fauquier, Fairfax, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Page, Prince William, and Rappahannock Counties, and DMA3 encompassed Floyd, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, and Carroll Counties.

Following the inclusion of Fairfax County within the DMA and confirmation of the CWD-positive deer, regulatory actions were put into effect by the DWR which include the following:

#### **Prohibition on white-tailed deer fawn rehabilitation**

Rehabilitation of deer fawns is prohibited within Fairfax County and deer fawns originating from Fairfax County may not be rehabilitated in any other locality.

#### **Restricted carcass transport**

Whole deer carcasses and any parts containing brain and/or spinal cord tissues originating from Fairfax County may only be transported to locations within DMA1 and DMA2 which includes Fairfax, Prince William, Arlington, Loudoun, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Page, Madison, Orange, Frederick, Clarke, Warren, and Shenandoah counties.

#### **Year-round deer feeding ban**

The feeding of deer in Fairfax County is prohibited year-round in accordance with state wildlife regulation ([4VAC15-40-285](#)). Feed and bait piles, including mineral licks, artificially congregate deer, thereby facilitating both direct disease transmission between sick and healthy deer and indirect

transmission through exposure to a contaminated environment. The feeding ban restricts the placement or distribution of any food, salt, mineral or similar substances for any purpose if the placement of these materials results in the attraction of and/or feeding of deer and applies to both public lands and private properties.

Over the past five years, county wildlife and park staff have taken a proactive approach to conduct surveillance for Chronic Wasting Disease due to the impacts of CWD on deer populations in the Commonwealth and the likelihood it would spread to Fairfax County. Staff were trained by DWR personnel and follow their agency guidelines for the sampling of deer and testing for CWD, which includes the removal of medial retropharyngeal lymph node samples from harvested deer. Only yearling and adult deer are tested; fawns are not routinely submitted for testing per DWR guidance.

Samples from harvested deer were collected through police sharpshooting efforts and the use of "CWD Surveillance Drop Sites" for the archery program between September 2023 and March 2024. Hunters in the county's archery program were required to submit all yearling and adult deer harvested between October and December and encouraged to voluntarily submit deer for testing throughout the rest of the season. Archery program drop sites consisted of small freezer stations that were temporarily established, with property owner permission, on county parkland, hunt club, and processor properties, where hunters could drop off samples from deer harvested in the Fairfax County Deer Management Program for CWD testing. Freezer stations were secured from public access and located at Burke Lake, Lake Accotink, Lake Fairfax, Grist Mill Park, the Flatlick Maintenance Shop (Area 5 Shop), Bull Run Regional Park, Izaak Walton League, and Mark's Butcher Shop. Staff monitored these locations during the program season and processed samples for lab submission. Deer harvested during sharpshooting operations between November and March were also tested before donation to individuals, food banks, and charitable organizations including Hunters for the Hungry. Samples were submitted for testing to the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory in Madison, WI.

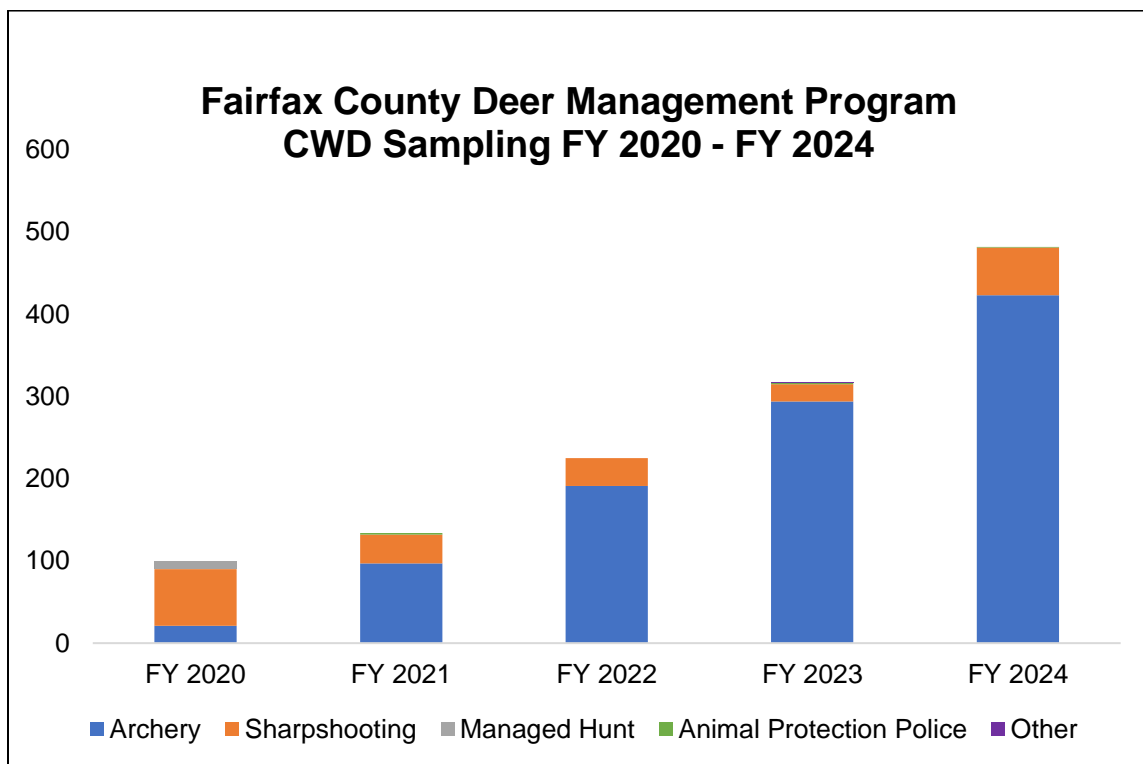
Over 62% of the deer harvested from the Fairfax County Deer Management Program during the FY 2024 deer season were tested for CWD, a 26.3% increase in testing compared to last season in which the CWD-positive deer was detected. Lymph node samples were collected from 482 deer (224 does, 258 bucks) harvested in 100 parks/properties in Fairfax County. Of the deer tested, 423 samples (87.8%) were from hunter-harvested deer through the county's archery program, 58 samples (12.0%) from county sharpshooting efforts, and 1 deer dispatched by the Animal Protection Police (<1 %). The mean age of sampled does was 2.7 years (range = 1.5 to 8.5 years), and the mean age of sampled bucks was 2.6 years (range = 1.5 to 6.5 years). The increased sampling this season was made possible due to a generous donation from Safari Club International, National Capital Chapter, to support enhanced CWD surveillance efforts. Collectively, county staff have tested 1,258 deer from 117 parks/properties through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program since FY 2020 in collaboration with the DWR and local hunters (Table1; Graph 1).

All test results from deer harvested through the county program have come back as CWD prions "not detected." Test results were reported to the State Wildlife Veterinarian and Wildlife Health Coordinator with the DWR. Results are based on current transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) research, noting the possibility of protease resistant prion protein present at levels below detection sensitivity of the test, or present in other tissues not submitted for testing. Tests for deer harvested on private land during the 2023-2024 hunting season are still pending by the DWR.

Table 1. Number of deer sampled and tested for Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program (FY 2020 – FY 2024).

Fiscal Year	Archery	Sharpshooting	Managed Hunt	APP Dispatched	Other	Totals
2020	21	69	9	0	0	99
2021	97	35	0	2	0	134
2022	191	34	0	0	0	225
2023	294	21	0	2	1	318
2024	423	58	0	1	0	482
<b>All Years</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,258</b>

Graph 1. Number of deer sampled and tested for Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program (FY 2020 – FY 2024).



# FAIRFAX COUNTY DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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Park Authority Board Meeting

May 22, 2024

Katherine Edwards, Ph.D., Certified Wildlife Biologist®  
Wildlife Management Specialist  
Fairfax County Police Department

David M. Lawlor, Ecologist III  
Inventory and Planning Program Manager  
Fairfax County Park Authority





# Fairfax County Deer Management Program

- Approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 1998
- Implemented by the Fairfax County Police Department in collaboration with the Fairfax County Park Authority, NOVA Parks, and other stakeholders
- Safety Concerns
- Health Concerns (public health and herd health)
- Ecological Damage

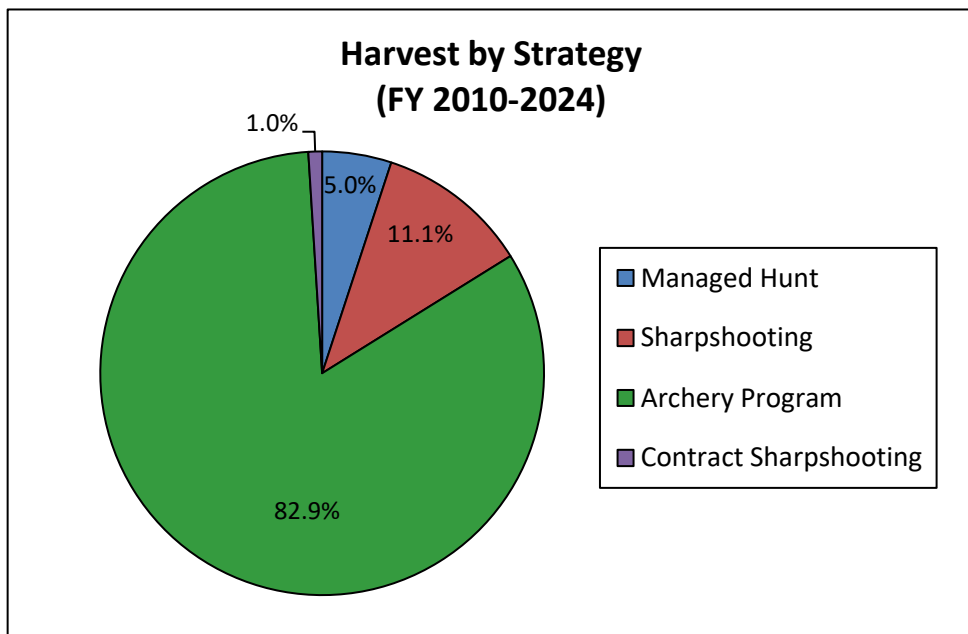


# Fairfax County Deer Management Program FY 2024 Summary Statistics

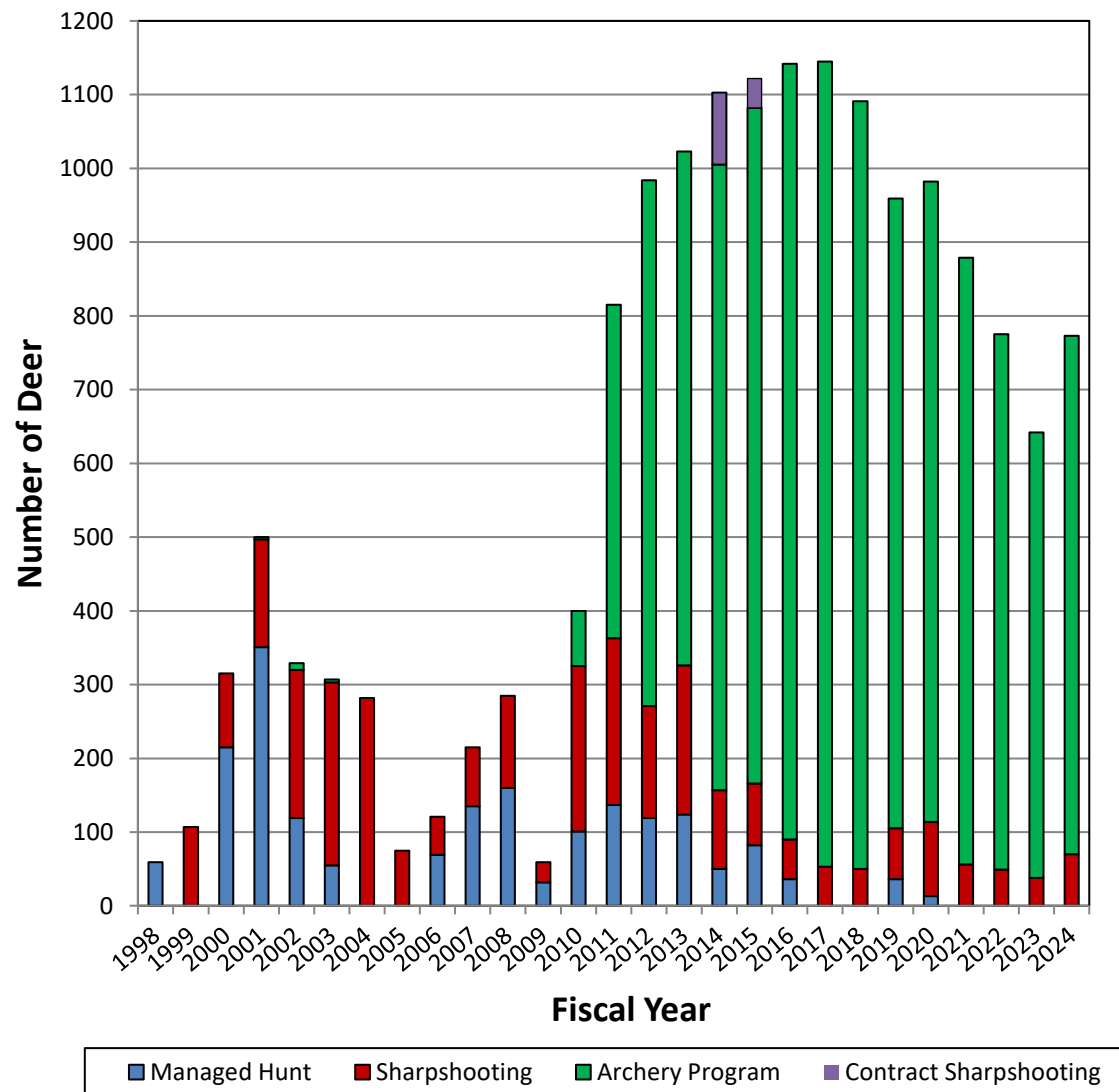
- Deer herd reduction activities took place at 108 FCPA parks
- 660 deer harvested from FCPA parks
  - 590 deer harvested by archery
  - 70 deer harvested by sharpshooting
- 518 volunteer archers donating 34,178 hours of hunting and scouting hours
- 773 deer harvested in total including non-FCPA properties
- Archery continues to be the most cost-effective and successful method of herd management, representing 91% of the total program harvest last season.



# Fairfax County Deer Management Program Harvest Totals



**Fairfax County Deer Management Program Harvest by Strategy**



# Fairfax County Deer Management Program Monitoring

## Browse Impact Surveys

- Measure deer browse impacts to native woody vegetation.
- 557 permanent vegetation plots in 63 parks.
- In FY 2024, 100 browse plots were surveyed by park ecologists.
- Plots will be resampled at 4-year intervals.



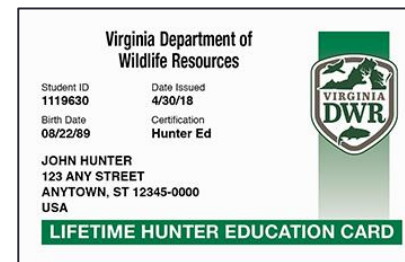
## Camera Surveys

- Due to the year-round deer feeding ban associated with CWD, use of bait for camera surveys is no longer permitted.
- Staff are exploring alternative methods to estimate deer population metrics but do not have a method determined at this time.
- Unmanned Aerial Systems (drones) have been used to conduct deer surveys in county parks in Montgomery County, MD and Arlington County, VA and have been discussed but funding has not been identified.

# Fairfax County Deer Management Program FY 2025 Program Changes

**Archery:** September 7, 2024 – February 15, 2025

There are no new parks proposed for the archery program.



**Managed Hunts:** Managed shotgun hunts will not be conducted during FY 2025.

**Sharpshooting:** November 2024 – March 2025

Staff propose the following additions: Country Club View Park (Braddock District; previously included for archery) and Braddock Park (Springfield District).

# Fairfax County Deer Management Program Public Notification

- **New format for park neighbor notification.** Pending FCPD approval, staff plan to send postcards in lieu of letters. Postcards will be mailed in July 2024 and will include a QR Code to link directly to the Deer Management Program webpages.
- Deer management narrated webinar will be posted on website in August
- HOA, Community, and Civic Association Meetings
- Press releases, county blogs (FCPD and OPA) and videos (Channel 16, YouTube)
- Fairfax County Deer Management website
- Deer Management Program signs

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/wildlife/deer-management-program>



## CWD Surveillance and Herd Health

- First CWD-positive deer confirmed in Fairfax County harvested on private land during FY 2023 hunting season.
- Fairfax County added to CWD Disease Management Area 2, which includes Arlington, Culpeper, Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Page, Prince William, and Rappahannock Counties.
  - Restrictions on deer carcass transport
  - Fawn rehabilitation prohibited
  - Year-round feeding ban
  - Increased surveillance on public and private land



*Photo: Deer with Chronic Wasting Disease. Missouri Department of Conservation.*

## CWD Surveillance and Herd Health

- CWD Surveillance Freezer Stations: Burke Lake, Lake Accotink, Lake Fairfax, Grist Mill Park, and the Flatlick Maintenance Shop (Area 5 Shop)
- In FY 2024, over 62% of the deer harvested from the Fairfax County Deer Management Program were tested for CWD. Samples were collected from 482 deer (258 bucks, 224 does) harvested in 100 parks (including non-FCPA properties).
- Of the deer tested, 423 samples (87.8%) were from hunter-harvested deer through the county's archery program, 58 samples (12.0%) from county sharpshooting efforts, and 1 deer dispatched by the Animal Protection Police (<1 %).
- Samples tested by the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory
- All test results from deer harvested on county parkland have come back as CWD "Prions Not Detected."



# CWD Surveillance and Herd Health

Since FY 2020, 1,258 deer tested for CWD through Fairfax County Deer Management Program from 117 parks/properties

- 1,026 deer from archery (81.6%)
- 217 deer from sharpshooting (17.2%)
- 9 deer from managed hunts (<1%)
- 5 deer dispatched by Animal Protection Police (<1%)
- 1 deer found dead (<1%)

