

Fairfax County Wildlife Management Program



Fairfax County Wildlife Management Specialist
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Wildlife Management

- The responsibility to:
 - Protect native wildlife
 - Conserve remaining natural habitats
 - Address public health & safety issues
 - Mitigate wildlife conflicts with the most comprehensive, humane & effective methods *available*
 - Adhere to all local, state, and federal wildlife laws and regulations



Wildlife Management

➤ Population Control

- Fairfax County Deer Management Program
- Fairfax County Geese Management Program

➤ Conflict Mitigation & Damage Prevention

- Tolerance, Humane Exclusion
and Repellency



Fairfax County Deer Management Program

White-tailed Deer

Deer Overabundance

- Safety Concerns
 - Health Concerns
 - Ecological Damage
-
- Recommended density: 15-20 deer/ square mile (640 acres)
 - Current density estimates: reducing and maintaining around 30-40 deer/ square mile (select county parks)
 - Some areas show 100 – 340 deer/ square mile



Fairfax County Deer Management

FY 2016 Harvest Summary

Archery Program Locations	
Accotink Stream Valley Cluster	38
Alexandria Cluster	20
Annandale Cluster	45
Bull Run Marina Cluster	67
Bull Run Regional Park Cluster	35
Clifton Cluster	35
Colvin Run Cluster	69
Cub Run Cluster	91
Elklick Cluster	39
Fairfax County Water Authority ^d	6
Fairfax Station Cluster	28
Fountainhead Cluster	50
Great Falls Cluster	47
Huntley Meadows Cluster	58
Lake Accotink Cluster	34
Laurel Hill Cluster	67
Pohick Bay Regional Park Cluster	4
Pohick Stream Valley Cluster	74
Poplar Ford Cluster	18
Reston Cluster	48
South Run Cluster	35
Sugarland Run Cluster	84
Vienna Cluster	60

^d Requested assistance for deer management

Sharpshooting Operation Locations	Doe	BB ^a	Buck	Total
Annandale Community Park	7	2	7	16
Chapel Road Park	7	2	3	12
Frying Pan Farm Park	9	2	9	20
Green Spring Gardens	2	2	2	6
Grist Mill Park ^b	0	0	0	0
Sex Ratio & Yearly Total	25	8	21	54

^aButton buck

^bAll operations at Grist Mill Park were cancelled due to inclement weather.

Managed Hunt Locations	Doe	BB ^a	Buck	Total
Sully Woodlands #1 ^c	0	0	0	0
Sully Woodlands #2	6	1	10	17
Sully Woodlands #3	7	5	2	14
Sully Woodlands #4	3	0	2	5
Sex Ratio & Yearly Total	16	6	14	36

^cHunt cancelled due to inclement weather.

Overall Sex Ratio of Harvests	Doe	BB ^a	Buck	Total
Archery	708 (67.3%)	130 (12.4%)	214 (20.3%)	1052
Managed Hunt	16 (44.4%)	6 (16.7%)	14 (38.9%)	36
Sharpshooting	25 (46.3%)	8 (14.8%)	21 (38.9%)	54
FY16 Program Harvest Total	749 (65.5%)	144 (12.6%)	249 (21.8%)	1142

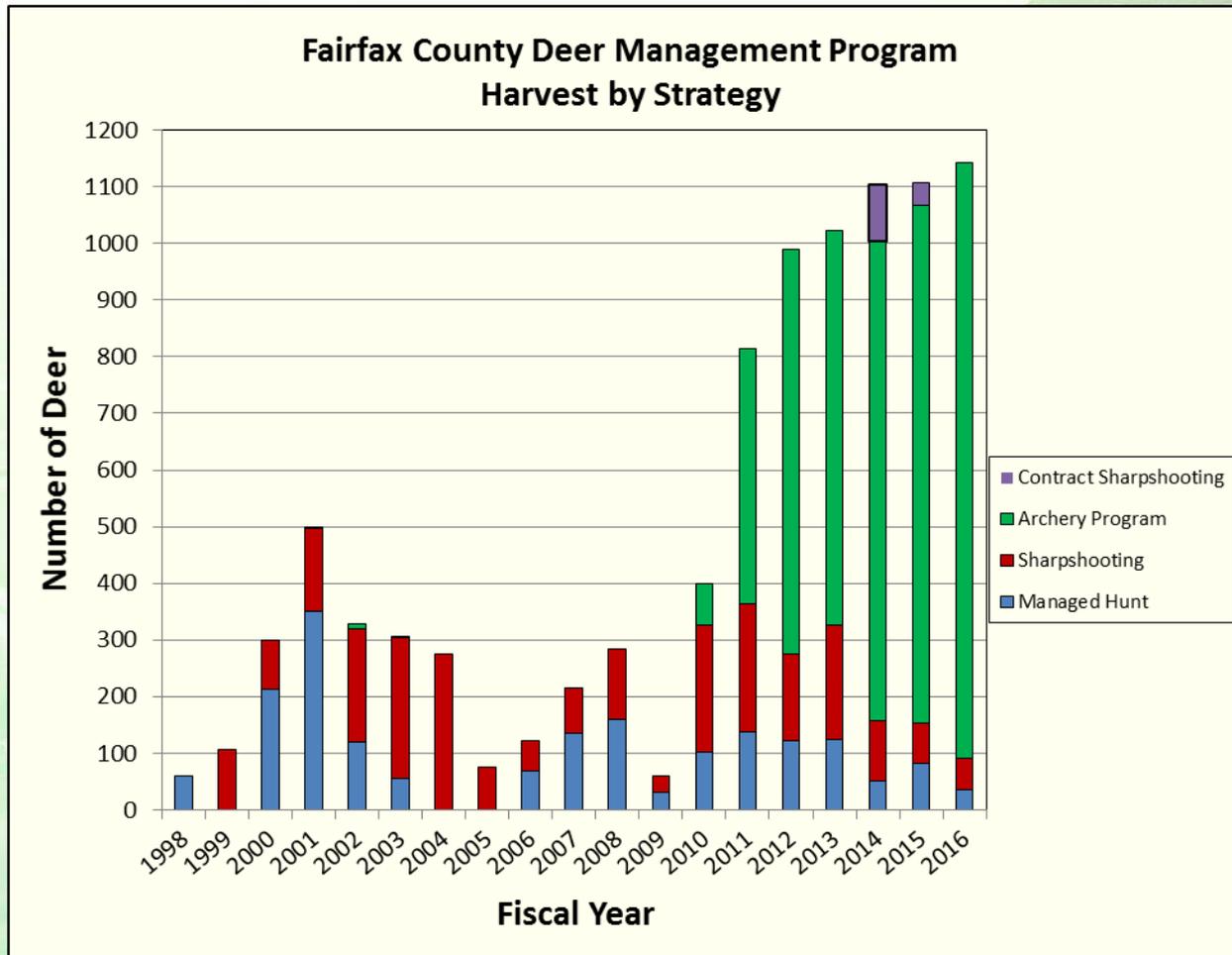


Fairfax County Deer Management

Harvest Totals (Fiscal Years 1998 – 2016)

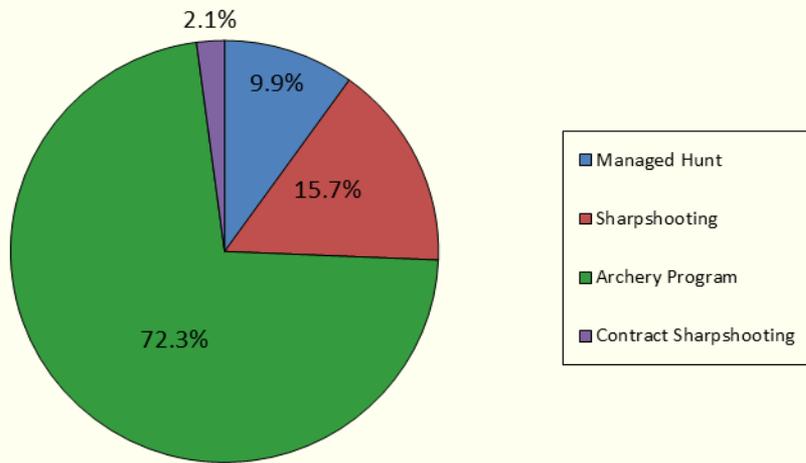
Fiscal Year	Managed Hunt	County Sharpshooting	Contract Sharpshooting	Archery	Total Harvest
1998	60	0	0	0	60
1999	0	107	0	0	107
2000	213	87	0	0	300
2001	351	146	0	3	500
2002	119	201	0	9	329
2003	55	248	0	4	307
2004	0	276	0	0	276
2005	0	75	0	0	75
2006	69	52	0	0	121
2007	135	80	0	0	215
2008	160	125	0	0	285
2009	32	27	0	0	59
2010	101	224	0	75	400
2011	137	226	0	452	815
2012	122	153	0	715	990
2013	124	200	0	697	1021
2014	50	107	98	848	1103
2015	82	84	40	916	1122
2016	36	54	0	1052	1142
Total	1846	2472	138	4771	9227

Fairfax County Deer Management



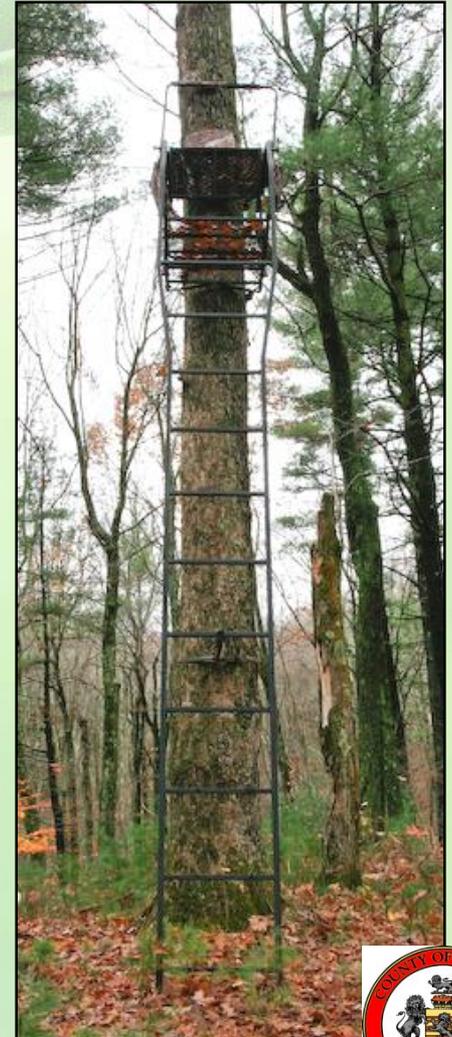
Fairfax County Deer Management

Harvest by Strategy
(FY 2010-2016)



FY 2016 Harvest by Strategy

Harvest Method	Deer Harvested	Percent Contribution to Total Harvest
Archery	1052	92.12%
Managed Hunt	36	3.15%
Sharpshooting	54	4.73%



Fairfax County Deer Management

FY 2017 Program Changes

Archery: Nineteen new properties will be added for archery. Additional acreage will be added to the existing hunt areas at Bull Run Regional Park, Difficult Run Stream Valley, Huntley Meadows Park, South Run Stream Valley and Rocky Run Stream Valley. Huntley Meadows will have a shortened archery season followed by sharpshooting. Elklick Preserve and Rock Hill District Park will be converted to archery.

Brimstone Park	Mount Vernon BOS property
Cherry Run Park	Norman Cole Water Pollution Plant
Deerlick Park	Pimmit Run Stream Valley Park
Greentree Village park	Poburn Woods Park
Horsepen Run Stream Valley	Rock Hill District Park
Huntsman Lake	Sandy Run Stream Valley Park
Kent Gardens	TNC Fraser Preserve
Lincoln Lewis-Vannoy Park	Willow Pond and BOS property
Merrybrook Run Stream Valley (tentative)	Windemere Park
Middle Run Stream Valley Park	

Managed Hunts: Managed hunts will not be scheduled during the upcoming season due to several years of low harvests. All of Elklick Preserve and Rock Hill District Park will be converted to archery for FY17.

Sharpshooting Operations: Bren Mar Park/Turkeycock Run Stream Valley will be converted from archery to sharpshooting, based on constructive feedback from park neighbors and adjacent HOAs. Huntley Meadows will have late season sharpshooting following a shortened archery season.



Fairfax County Deer Management

Data Collection and Analysis

1. Browse Impact Surveys

2015: Data collected at 15 parks within the program (169 unique plots).

2016: NRMP Branch is planning to collect data at 15 additional parks.

The deer browse impact dataset is planned to be added to the county SDE data system during FY17.

2. Deer Density Camera Surveys

2015: 10 camera survey estimates of deer density conducted in August, encompassing 13 parks.

2016: In August 2016, camera surveys are planned at over 25 parks.

3. Deer-Vehicle Collision Data

Police records: 448 collisions (Jan 2010 - April 2016)

VDOT: 17,400 animal removal work orders (July 2009 – Feb 2016)

Public Notification

- Notification letters will be mailed to property owners adjacent to approved park sites and shared with HOAs
- Public information meetings will be held on the following dates:
 - Fairfax County Government Center: August 2, 2016 – 7 P.M. to 8 P.M.
 - Mount Vernon District Police Station: August 16, 2016 – 7 P.M. to 8 P.M.
- HOA/Civic Association Meetings
- Fairfax County website
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/wildlife/deer-management/>



Geese Management Program

In 2016, 112 nests containing 611 eggs were oiled on properties and parks, including the following locations:

- Burke Lake
- Fair Oaks District Station
- Herrity Building
- Hunter Mill District Station
- Huntley Meadows Park
- Jefferson Golf Course
- Lake Fairfax
- Pinecrest Golf Course
- PSTOC
- Royal Lake
- Stormwater Management Pond
- Twin Lakes Golf Course
- VDOT



Beaver

Tolerance, Exclusion, Harassment, Population Control.

- Removal of woody vegetation from the pond embankment
- Exclusion fencing/cages to prevent clogging irrigation intakes, culverts, or riser structures on ponds
- Wrapping of trees with hardware cloth/rigid wire
- Removal of the primary dam several times



Coyote

- Awareness Campaign
 - Never feed a coyote
 - Pick up pet food outdoors
 - Secure garbage containers
 - Remove water sources
 - Bring in small pets at night
 - Leash walk dogs
 - Trim shrubbery to ground level to reduce concealment
 - Cover compost piles, pick-up trash, fallen fruit, and other foods that may have been inadvertently left on your property/grounds
 - Use hazing techniques to frighten coyotes from property



Questions?



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