



Wildlife Management Overview 2025

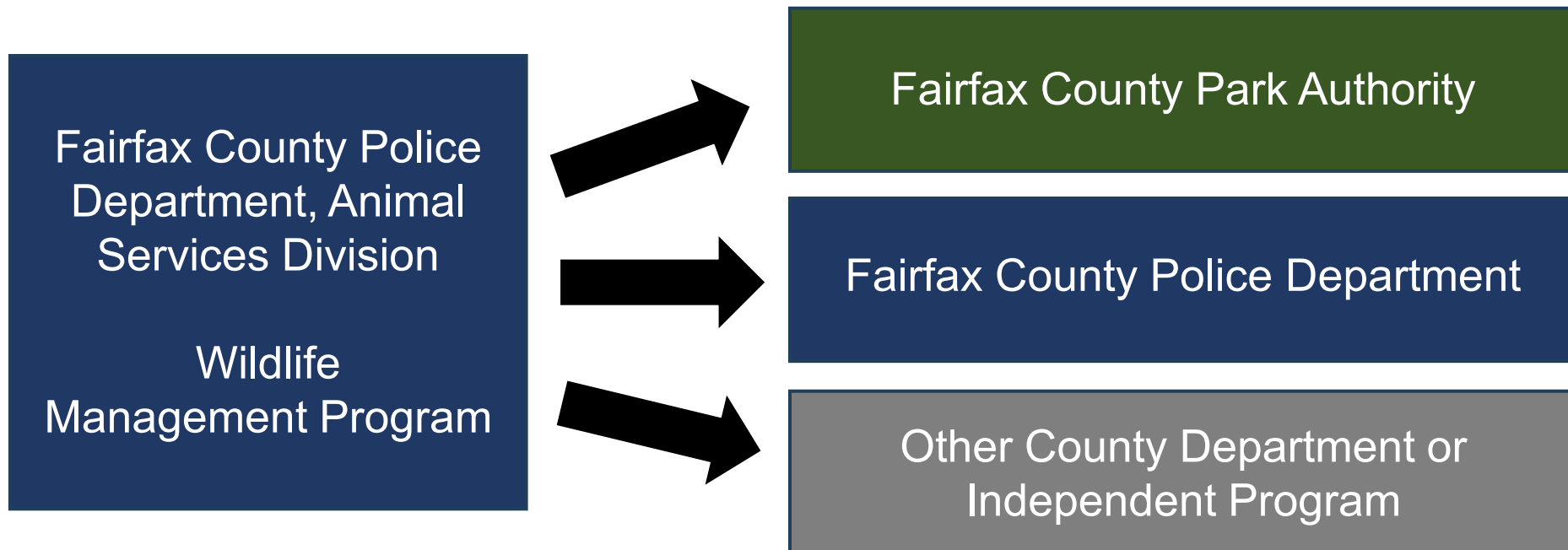
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Wildlife Management Program Organizational Placement

With the consolidation of animal services under the Department of Animal Sheltering, the Police Department is actively working to identify the ideal placement for the Wildlife Management Program, ensuring its continued success and long-term effectiveness.



Deer Management Program

- **Deer Population Reduction**

Utilizes *state-approved* deer population control tools:

1. Archery hunts
2. Managed firearms hunts
3. Sharpshooting operations

- **Program Monitoring**

1. Reportable deer-vehicle collision (DVC) trends
2. Browse impact of deer on native vegetation
3. Deer population density trends
4. Disease surveillance and collection of herd health data

- **Community Services**

1. Venison donations to individuals, food banks, and Hunters for the Hungry
2. Consultation about deer damage mitigation and population control on private land



Wildlife Management

Canada Geese Management Program

- Humane egg-oiling to reduce flock growth of resident Canada geese on public and private lands
- Advises county facilities, landowners, and businesses about landscape modification, goose deterrents, and repellency measures



Beaver Management

- Consultation with property owners regarding beaver ecology and options to mitigate beaver damage
- Site assessment of beaver impacts and mitigation measures on county properties



Human-Wildlife Conflict

- Provides Fairfax County agencies, community members and businesses with humane, effective solutions to mitigate conflicts with wildlife on public and private lands
- Primary contact and subject matter expert for bear and coyote conflict response and community outreach in Fairfax County and liaison with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources and Animal Protection Police



Wildlife Health

- Consults with state and local wildlife health, public health, and environmental health officials and the Animal Protection Police to identify and prioritize key health issues related to wildlife to guide policy, disease intervention practices, and field response.
- Oversees and implements Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program.
- Coordinates with the Health Department's Disease Carrying Insects Program for tick surveillance from deer harvested through the county program.



Wildlife Inventory & Monitoring

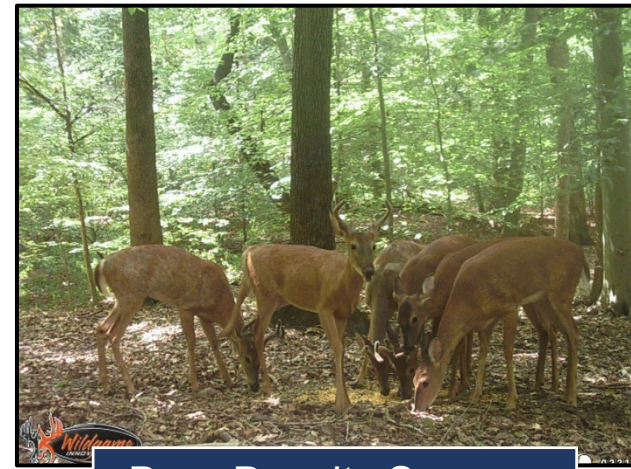
- ✓ Scientific data collection & analysis to inform wildlife conservation and management practices
- ✓ Conducts inventory and monitoring surveys for wildlife with the Fairfax County Park Authority
- ✓ Collaborates with academic institutions, county departments, and state/federal wildlife agencies to conduct research and monitoring of wildlife



Bat Mist Netting Surveys



Bird Banding



Deer Density Surveys

Law Enforcement, Wildlife Policy and Regulatory Compliance

- Ensures that Fairfax County programs and policies comply with local, state, and federal laws and regulations governing wildlife.
- Coordinates with the Animal Protection Police and Virginia Conservation Police on wildlife violation cases.
- Creation or amendments to county code and policies regarding wildlife.
- Liaison for Code Compliance and Zoning Administration regarding keeping of exotic or wild animals in Fairfax County.
- Liaison for the Department of Animal Sheltering regarding disposition of exotic or wild animals brought to the animal shelters by community members or Animal Protection Police.



Wildlife Management Program Collaboration

Wildlife Retained in Police Department

Challenges:

- Rotational Chain of Command
- Lack of SME in Chain of Command
- Limited advancement opportunities for staff
- Additional Staffing/funding not prioritized

Wildlife Moved Under Park Authority

Benefits:

- Wildlife Staff partnered w/ Park Ecologists and other SME
- Synergistic partnership with similar mission(s)
- Increased promotional/growth opportunity for staff
- Consistent SME Leadership



Recommendations