



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: July 19, 2024

Agenda

**Resource Management Committee
(Committee of the Whole)
Wednesday, July 24, 2024 – 6:45 pm
Boardroom, Herrity Building
Chairman: Maggie Godbold
Vice Chair: Abena Aidoo Hewton**

1. Deer Management Plan - Addition – Information



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

INFORMATION

Deer Management Plan - Addition

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 and update to the FY2025 list of parks - addition of Woodglen Lake

Sharpshooting is planned to be conducted at the following parks during the FY2025 season: Bull Neck Stream Valley/Spring Hill District Park, Foxstone Park/Waverly Park, Frying Pan Farm Park, and Lake Fairfax. These parks have been included for sharpshooting in prior years.

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

Based on the information provided to the Park Board in May 2024, staff also added the following FCPA parks for the sharpshooting program for FY2025: Country Club View Park (Braddock District; previously included for archery) and Braddock Park (Springfield District.)

At this time, Program sponsors received a request for the addition of **Woodglen Lake Park** to the Deer Management Program based on deer damage to forest regeneration in the park. This proposal to add Woodglen Lake Park to the sharpshooting program and would be conducted in combination with sharpshooting at County Club View Park, to allow greater coverage of the stream valley corridor.

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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:

None.

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