



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: Torsha Bhattacharya, Division Director, Stewardship & Planning

DATE: June 6, 2025

Agenda

**Resource Management Committee
(Committee of the Whole)
Wednesday, June 11, 2025 – 6:00 pm
Virtual: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Chairman: Johna Toomey
Vice Chair: Dr. Abena Aidoo Hewton**

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

*Enclosures



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

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

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.

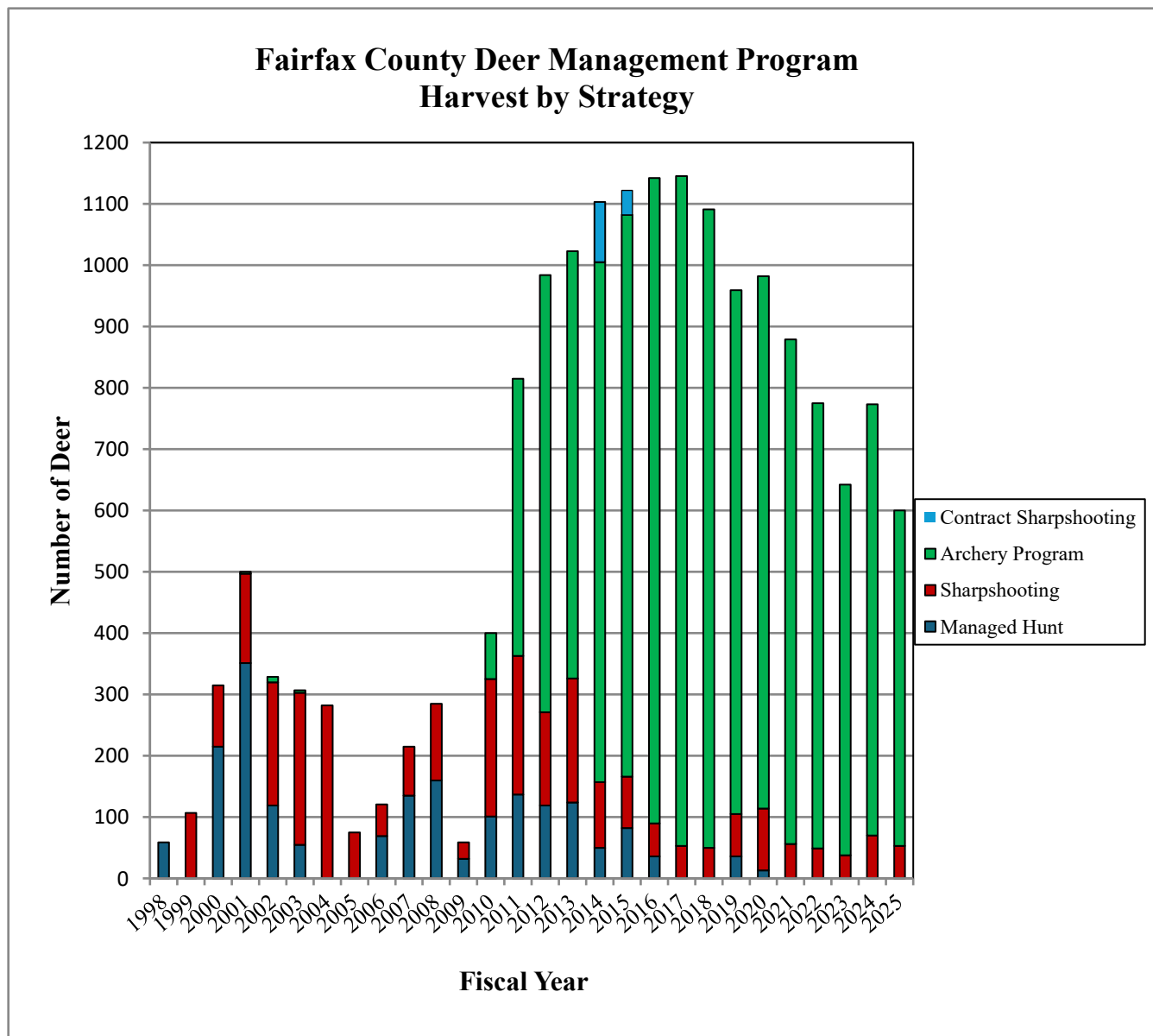
Summary for FY25 (2024-2025)

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 FY25: 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 107 FCPA parks with 517 deer removed (600 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, 504 volunteers participated in the archery program donating 31,406 hours of hunting and scouting hours, for an average of 62 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 nine county parks: Braddock Park, Bull Neck Stream Valley, Country Club View Park, Foxstone Park, Frying Pan Farm Park, Lake Fairfax, Springhill District Park, Waverly Park, and Woodglen Lake.



Planned Activities for FY26 (2025-2026)

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

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

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

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 6, 2025 - Saturday, February 14, 2026.

Staff propose to add the following FCPA park to the archery program:
Hunter Mill District: Kemper Park (FCPA, 26 acres)

Sharpshooting dates: Various dates (TBD) between November 2025 – March 2026.

Staff propose to add the following FCPA park to the sharpshooting program:
Hunter Mill District: Eudora Park (FCPA, 14 acres)

The upcoming sharpshooting schedule will also include Annandale Park, Bull Neck Stream Valley, Country Club View Park, Foxstone Park, Frying Pan Farm Park, Lake Fairfax, Spring Hill District Park, and Woodglen Lake 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, 2025 – December 1, 2025, or during the winter holiday season from December 19, 2025 – January 2, 2026. The final sharpshooting schedule will depend on FCPD staffing 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 2026. 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 2026. 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. Last year, staff changed the format for park neighbor notifications from a letter format to postcards to reduce costs for printing and postage.

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

Staff plan to send postcards again this year. Postcards will be mailed in July 2025 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 24,300 postcards were mailed in FY 2025.

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 2025. Public meetings for the FY 2026 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 FY25 focused on the following components of the program:

- 1) Evaluating the browse impact of deer on native vegetation
- 2) Conducting deer density estimates using infrared drone 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. Plots are sampled at 4-year intervals to evaluate deer browse impact trends to native woody vegetation over time. In 2024, 173 browse plots were surveyed in nineteen parks by park ecologists. Browse scores in twelve of the nineteen parks show declining trends, five parks show increasing trends, and two park trends are static.

Deer Density Surveys

Deer density surveys had previously been conducted in select parks annually using infrared-triggered cameras to estimate the number of deer visiting a bait station to examine deer population trends over time. With the detection of Chronic Wasting Disease in Fairfax County, the use of bait for conducting camera surveys is no longer permitted by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, requiring staff to explore alternative methods to estimate deer population metrics. During FY 2025, the FCPA

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

funded and contracted with Steward Green to conduct aerial drone surveys (sUAS infrared) to measure deer density in select county parks. Surveys were conducted in 18 county parks (approximately 7,200 acres) from March 26-31, 2025, using high resolution FLIR drone technology. An additional 6 parks were scheduled to be surveyed but did not receive FAA authorization due to restricted airspace. These parks will tentatively be flown in winter 2026 (January/February) if FAA authorization is obtained. A final report including imagery and detailed analysis of deer population metrics will be provided by the vendor.

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 101 reportable deer-vehicle collisions (DVCs) have occurred annually in Fairfax County since 2010, ranging between 75-120 DVCs a year during that time frame. Overall, there is a declining trend in reportable DVCs countywide, with 94 DVCs reported during the 2024 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.

During the FY 2025 program season, >73% of the yearling and adult deer harvested within the Fairfax County Deer Management Program were tested for CWD. This represented 61% of the total harvest (including fawns), and a 3.7% reduction in testing

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

submissions from the prior year. Lymph node samples were collected from 368 deer (161 does, 207 bucks) harvested in 92 parks/properties in Fairfax County. Of the deer tested, 322 samples (87.5%) were from hunter-harvested deer through the county's archery program, 44 samples (12.0%) from county sharpshooting efforts, and 2 deer dispatched by the Animal Protection Police or other sources (<1 %). Collectively, county staff have tested 1,626 deer from 119 parks/properties through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program since FY 2020 in collaboration with the DWR and local hunters. All test results from deer harvested through the county program have come back as CWD "Prions Not Detected."

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 Restrictions

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.

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 nine years, 2,447 deer harvested in the county's Deer Management Program have been donated to provide food for people in need. This includes 1,033 deer donated to Hunters for the Hungry

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

and 1,414 deer donated directly to individuals and families. Based on a conservative estimate of 30 lbs. of venison per deer, this equates to 73,419 lbs. (293,676 meal servings) of donated venison. Staff will continue to track the contribution of venison donations through the county program 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 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 2025 Deer Harvest Totals for Fairfax County Parks

Attachment 2 - FY 2026 Proposed Deer Management Sites by Supervisory District

Attachment 3 - FY 2025 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

Board Agenda Item
June 11, 2025

John Burke, Manager, Natural Resources Branch
Dave Lawlor, Ecologist, Resource Management Division
Daidria Grayson, Director, Marketing and Communications Division

FAIRFAX COUNTY DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

FY 2025 HARVEST SUMMARY



FY 2025 Deer Management Program Harvest Summary

Archery Program Locations	Archery Harvest				
	Doe	Button Buck	Antlered Buck	Antlerless Buck	Total
Accotink Stream Valley Cluster	17	1	9	0	27
Bull Run Marina Cluster	2	0	3	0	5
Bull Run Regional Park Cluster	13	0	9	0	22
Clifton Cluster	6	0	5	0	11
Colvin Run Cluster	16	2	13	0	31
Cub Run Cluster	28	3	27	0	58
Elklick Cluster	29	7	18	1	55
Fairfax Station Cluster	14	1	3	0	18
Fountainhead Cluster	5	0	2	0	7
Great Falls Cluster	20	5	15	1	41
Huntley Meadows Cluster	46	1	26	0	73
Lake Accotink Cluster	13	4	6	1	24
Laurel Hill Cluster	33	7	16	1	57
Pohick Stream Valley Cluster	9	1	8	0	18
Reston Cluster	10	2	10	1	23
South Run Cluster	5	2	5	0	12
Sugarland Cluster	14	6	12	0	32
Vienna Cluster	14	0	19	0	33
Archery Sex Ratio & Yearly Total	294	42	206	5	547

Sharpshooting Operation Locations	Sharpshooting Harvest				
	Doe	Button Buck	Antlered Buck	Antlerless Buck	Total
Braddock Park	0	0	0	0	0
Bull Neck Stream Valley	0	0	1	0	1
Country Club View Park	2	0	4	0	6
Foxstone Park	4	1	3	0	8
Frying Pan Farm Park	7	2	4	2	15
Lake Fairfax	2	1	2	6	11
Meadowlark Botanical Gardens	3	1	0	0	4
Spring Hill District Park	3	0	2	0	5
Waverly Park	0	0	0	0	0
Woodglen Lake	1	0	2	0	3
Sharpshooting Sex Ratio & Yearly Total	22	5	18	8	53

Harvest Method	Harvest	Percent Total Harvest
Archery	547	91.17%
Sharpshooting	53	8.83%
<i>FY25 Total Program Harvest</i>	600	100.00%

Sex Ratio Percentage by Method	Doe	Button Buck	Antlered Buck	Antlerless Buck
Archery	53.75%	7.68%	37.66%	0.91%
Sharpshooting	41.51%	9.43%	33.96%	15.09%
<i>Sex Ratio Percentage (Total Harvests)</i>	52.67%	7.83%	37.33%	2.17%

Antlerless vs. Antlered Deer Totals	Harvest		Total Harvest	Antlerless Percentage
	Antlerless	Antlered		
Archery	341	206	547	62.34%
Sharpshooting	35	18	53	66.04%
<i>Antlerless vs. Antlered (Total)</i>	376	224	600	62.67%

<i>FY 2025 Deer Management Program Non-Recovery Total</i>	8.26%
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Fairfax County Deer Management Program FY 2025 Deer Harvest Totals

Archery	
Cluster Name	Number of Deer Harvested
1 – Accotink Stream Valley Cluster	27
Accotink Stream Valley Park	15
Brookfield Park	0
Carrleigh Parkway	0
Eakin Community Park	4
Eakin Park (Mantua Section)	6
Hunter Village Park	0
Sally Ormsby Park	2
2 – Bull Run Marina Cluster	5
Bull Run Marina ^a	4
Hemlock Overlook ^a	1
3- Bull Run Regional Park	22
Bull Run Regional Park ^a	22
4 – Clifton Cluster	11
Bull Run Regional Park South ^a	4
Confederate Fortifications	1
Johnny Moore Stream Valley	6
5 – Colvin Run Cluster	31
Colvin Run Mill Park	5
Colvin Run Stream Valley	9
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Colvin)	8
Lake Fairfax Park	5
Wolftrap Stream Valley	4
6 – Cub Run Cluster	58
Cub Run Stream Valley	19
Ellanor C. Lawrence Park	17
Flatlick Stream Valley	6
Rocky Run Stream Valley	16
7 – Ellick Cluster	55
Ellick Preserve	15
Cub Run Stream Valley North	10
Halifax Point District Park	5
Hickory Forest Park	3
Horsepen Run Stream Valley	5
Merrybrook Run Stream Valley	5
Mountain Road Park	2
Poplar Ford Park	7
Rock Hill District Park	1
Sully Historic Site	2

Archery	
Cluster Name	Number of Deer Harvested
8- Fairfax Station Cluster	18
Fairfax Villa	1
Patriot Park	2
Piney Branch Stream Valley	10
Popes Head Park	4
Rocky Run Stream Valley (Portion)	0
Willow Pond	1
9 – Fountainhead Cluster	7
Fountainhead Regional Park ^a	6
Sandy Run Regional Park ^a	1
10 – Great Falls Cluster	41
Hickory Run School Site ^b	3
Langley Oaks Park	3
Lexington Estates Park	4
Pimmit Run Stream Valley	17
Riverbend Park	6
Scotts Run Nature Preserve	4
Windemere Park	4
11 – Huntley Meadows	73
Amberleigh Park	0
Deerlick Park	2
Dogue Creek Stream Valley (combined with Huntley)	0
Fairchild Property ^b	3
Franconia Park	1
Gristmill Park	2
Groveton Heights Park	0
Holmes Run Stream Valley	16
Huntley Meadows	19
Island Creek Park	1
John Byers Park	0
Kirk Park	0
Lillian Carey Park	9
Little Hunting Creek	0
Loisdale Park	0
Mason District Park	7
Mount Vernon District Park	0
Paul Springs Stream Valley	1
Pole Road Park	0
Ridgeview Park	7
Roundtree Park	4
Woodlawn Park	1

Archery

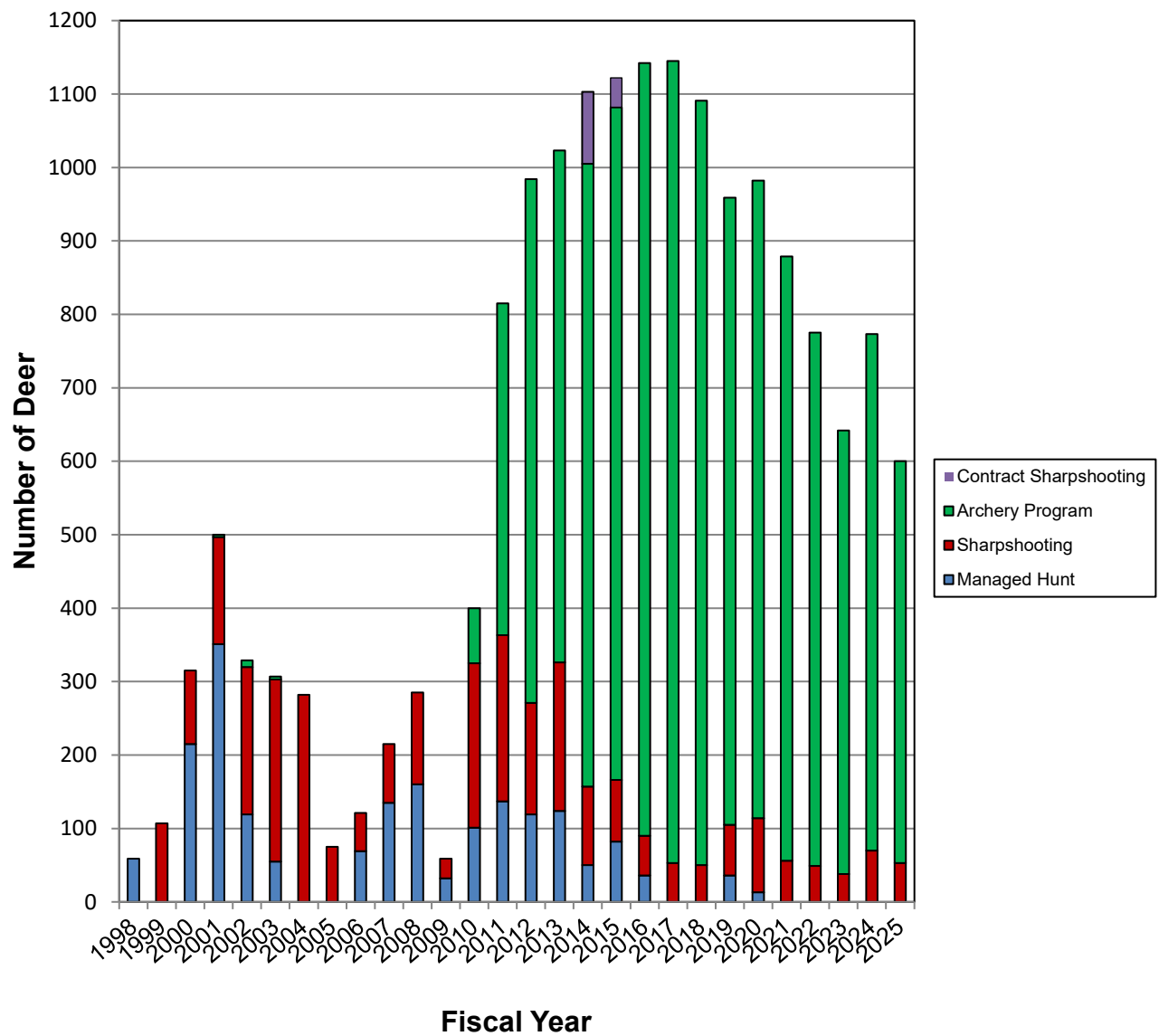
Cluster Name	Number of Deer Harvested
12 – Lake Accotink Cluster	24
Americana Park (combined with Wakefield)	0
Lake Accotink	13
Long Branch Stream Valley	7
Wakefield Park	4
13 – Laurel Hill Cluster	57
BOS Property Mt. Vernon ^b	5
Laurel Hill Park & Golf Course	30
Mason Neck West	2
Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area ^c	8
Newington Heights	0
Noman Cole Plant ^b	6
Occoquan Regional Park ^a	1
Old Colchester Park & Preserve	1
Pohick Bay Regional Park ^a	4
14 – Pohick Stream Valley Cluster	18
Burke Station Park	1
Cherry Run Park	0
Crooked Creek Park	2
Greentree Village Park	0
Huntsman Lake	0
Kings Park West	1
Middle Run Stream Valley Park	3
Pohick Stream Valley	11
Shannon Station Park	0
West Springfield Village Park	0
15 – Reston Cluster	23
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Reston)	5
Foxvale Park	3
Fred Crabtree Park	6
Garnchayne	0
Little Difficult Run Stream Valley	5
Oakmont Park	2
Tattersall Park	1
Waples Mill Meadow	1
16 – South Run Cluster	12
Brimstone Park	0
Burke Lake	4
Lake Mercer Park	1
Poburn Woods Park	0
Sandy Run Stream Valley	0
South Run District Park	4
South Run Stream Valley	3

Archery	
Cluster Name	Number of Deer Harvested
17 – Sugarland Run Cluster	32
Folly Lick Stream Valley	3
Shaker Woods Park	0
Sugarland Run Stream Valley	18
TNC Fraser Preserve ^d	3
Upper Potomac ^a	8
18 - Vienna Cluster	33
Clarks Crossing Park	10
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Vienna)	15
Lahey Lost Valley Park	2
Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley	4
Raglan Road Park	1
Tamarack Park	1
Archery Total for All Properties	1
FCPA Total	468
^a NOVA Parks Total	51
^b BOS/Other County Total	17
^c Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Total	8
^d The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Total	3

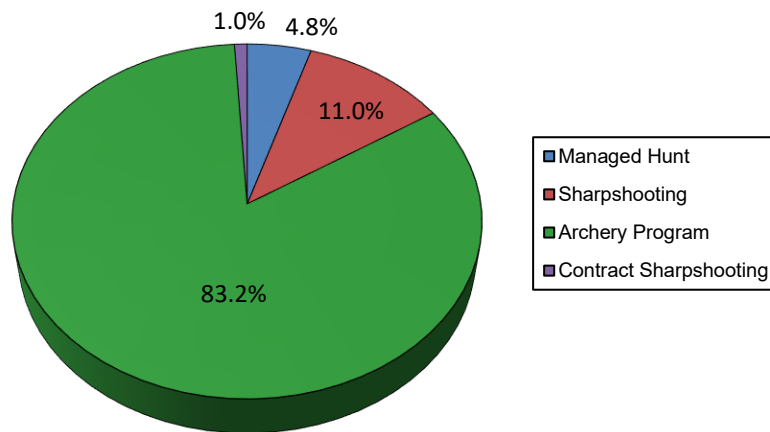
Police Sharpshooting Operations	
Park	Number of Deer Harvested
Braddock Park	0
Bull Neck Stream Valley	1
Country Club View Park	6
Foxstone Park	8
Frying Pan Farm Park	15
Lake Fairfax	11
Meadowlark Botanical Gardens	4
Spring Hill District Park	5
Waverly Park	0
Woodglen Lake	3
Sharpshooting Total for All Properties	53

Program Deer Harvest Totals	
FCPA Grand Total - All Methods	517
NOVA Parks Grand Total – All Methods	55
TNC Grand Total – All Methods	3
BOS/Other County Property Grand Total – All Methods	17
BLM Grand Total – All Methods	8
Program Grand Total - All Methods	600

Fairfax County Deer Management Program Harvest by Strategy



Harvest by Strategy (FY 2010-2025)



FAIRFAX COUNTY DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

FY 2026 PROPOSED DEER MANAGEMENT SITES BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICT



Braddock District FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
Accotink Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	405	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21	15
Americana Park ¹	FCPA	Burke	Archery	4	FY 2012	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carrleigh Parkway Park ²	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	10	FY 2014	--	5	0	1	2	0
Country Club View Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery/ Sharpshooting	39	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	1 (archery)	6 (SS)
Crooked Creek Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	12	FY 2016	3	6	3	1	0	2
Fairfax Villa	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	60	FY 2023	--	--	--	1	1	1
Kings Park West Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	19	FY 2016	3	6	1	0	1	1
Lake Accotink Park	FCPA	Burke	Archery	407	FY 2012	22	7	14	10	21	13
Long Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	90	FY 2016	3	8	4	1	9	7
Piney Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	140	FY 2014	10	13	7	3	9	10
Pohick Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	580	FY 2012	22	12	16	16	11	11
Wakefield Park	FCPA	Burke	Archery	161	FY 2012	5	3	12	9	14	4
Woodglen Lake	FCPA	Fairfax	Sharpshooting	50	FY 2025	--	--	--	--	--	3

¹Harvests for Americana Park are combined with Wakefield Park.

²Harvests for Carrleigh Parkway are combined with Lake Accotink for FY 2020.

No new park additions proposed for the Braddock District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Dranesville District FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
Bull Neck Stream Valley	FCPA	McLean	Sharpshooting	16	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	14	1
Spring Hill District Park	FCPA	McLean	Sharpshooting	46	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	10	5
Folly Lick Stream Valley	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	32	FY 2016	5	11	7	8	7	3
Fraser Preserve	The Nature Conservancy	Great Falls	Archery	233	FY 2017	12	14	16	7	7	3
Hickory Run School Site	BOS	Great Falls	Archery	11	FY 2016	1	11	7	1	1	3
Langley Oaks Park	FCPA	McLean	Archery	102	FY 2016	7	7	15	7	11	3
Lexington Estates Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	15	FY 2016	2	12	3	2	9	4
Merrybrook Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	11	FY 2017	0	2	2	2	3	5
Pimmit Run Stream Valley	FCPA	McLean	Archery	43	FY 2017	10	13	16	13	20	17
Riverbend Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	394	FY 2012	10	19	14	9	14	6
Scotts Run Nature Preserve	FCPA	McLean	Archery	379	FY 2013	3	3	5	7	4	4
Shaker Woods Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	14	FY 2015	0	5	4	2	3	0
Sugarland Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	200	FY 2012	23	12	16	16	23	18
Windermere Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	24	FY 2017	6	3	3	5	3	4
Upper Potomac/Seneca Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Great Falls	Archery	646	FY 2016	21	19	16	13	7	8

No new park additions proposed for the Dranesville District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Franconia District FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
Accotink Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	405	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21	15
Amberleigh Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	18	FY 2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brookfield Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	19	FY 2014	3	2	0	0	0	0
Byron Avenue Park (Access only)	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	-	FY 2012	--	--	--	--	--	--
Dogue Creek Stream Valley ¹	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	21	FY 2016	--	--	0	0	0	0
Groveton Heights	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	16	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	2	0
Hunter Village Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	20	FY 2014	1	0	0	0	0	0
Huntley Meadows	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery/ Sharpshooting	778	FY 2011	70	42	51	21	15	19
Island Creek Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	96	FY 2015	4	3	3	2	3	1
Franconia Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	77	FY 2015	7	4	7	1	1	1
Loisdale Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	37	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	0	0
Ridgeview Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	24	FY 2023	--	--	--	3	7	7

¹Dogue Creek Stream Valley harvests are included in the Huntley Meadows total.

No new park additions proposed for the Franconia District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Hunter Mill District

FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
ADDITION¹ Eudora Park	FCPA	Vienna	Sharpshooting	13	FY 2026	--	--	--	--	--	--
ADDITION² Kemper Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	26	FY 2026	--	--	--	--	--	--
ADDITION³ Hunter Mill BOS Property	BOS	Herndon	Archery	48	FY 2026	--	--	--	--	--	--
ADDITION⁴ Mulch Yard	Town of Vienna	Vienna	Sharpshooting	8	FY 2026	--	--	--	--	--	--
ADDITION⁴ Northside Park	Town of Vienna	Vienna	Sharpshooting	26	FY 2026	--	--	--	--	--	--
Clarks Crossing Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	124	FY 2012	19	22	32	15	22	10
Colvin Run Mill Park	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	58	FY 2010	19	8	4	6	6	5
Colvin Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	44	FY 2010	6	5	5	4	8	9
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Colvin)	FCPA	Great Falls	Archery	285	FY 2011	18	9	7	16	12	8
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Vienna)	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	237	FY 2011	18	13	14	13	16	15
Foxstone Park	FCPA	Vienna	Sharpshooting	14	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	1	8
Fred Crabtree Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	208	FY 2014	11	21	13	13	8	6
Frying Pan Farm Park	FCPA	Herndon	Sharpshooting	136	FY 2015	--	10	11	6	13	15
Horsepen Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	64	FY 2017	9	5	1	11	6	5
Lahey Lost Valley Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	23	FY 2012	4	2	2	4	1	2
Lake Fairfax ⁵	FCPA	Reston	Archery/ Sharpshooting	244	FY 2007	12	16	10	7	28	16
Little Difficult Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Reston	Archery	63	FY 2018	2	10	4	4	7	5
Meadowlark Botanical Gardens	NOVA Parks	Vienna	Sharpshooting	95	FY 2023	--	--	--	6	--	4
Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	33	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	18	4

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	Harvest FY 2025
Raglan Road	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	8	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	4	1
Tamarack Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	21	FY 2012	0	0	2	0	2	1
Waverly Park	FCPA	Vienna	Sharpshooting	17	FY 2024	--	--	--	--	0	0
Wolf Trap Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	48	FY 2016	7	2	1	0	3	4

¹ Eudora Park – Propose addition to the sharpshooting program (conducted in combination with Town of Vienna parks).

² Kemper Park – Propose addition to the archery program (west of trail section).

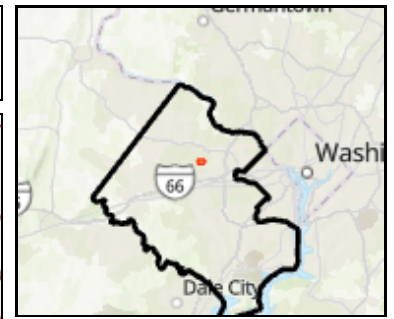
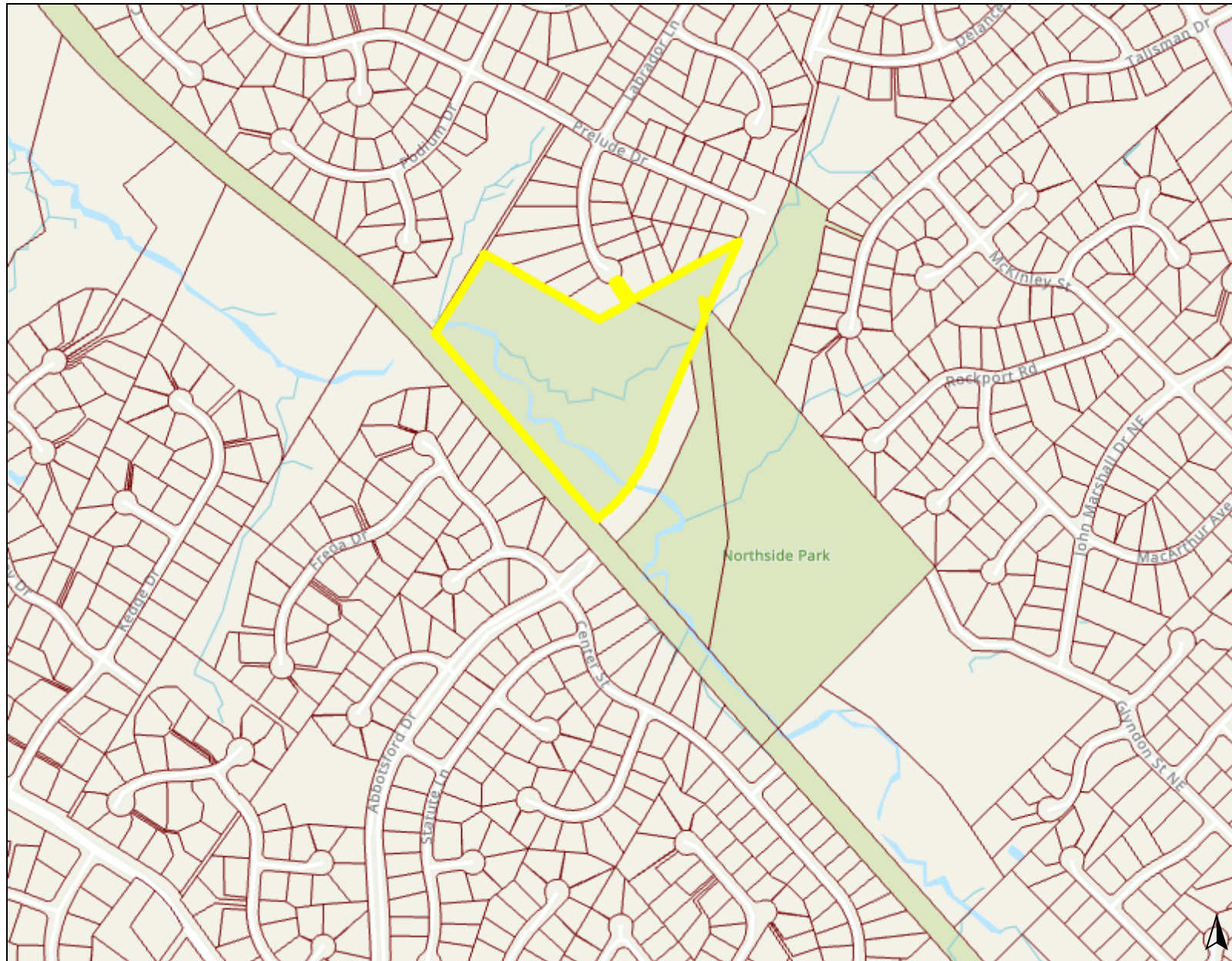
³ Hunter Mill BOS Property – Propose addition to the archery program (parcels between West Ox Rd/Fairfax County Parkways/Tewksbury Dr)

⁴ Mulch Yard and Northside Park – Propose addition to the sharpshooting program through agreement with Town of Vienna.

⁵ Lake Fairfax: FY 2025 harvest was 16 deer (5 deer harvested from archery; 11 deer harvested from sharpshooting).



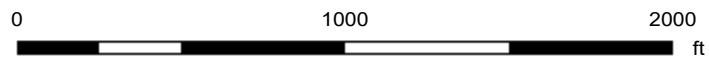
Eudora Park



Legend

Land Description

Parcels



Map printed on: 4/22/2025

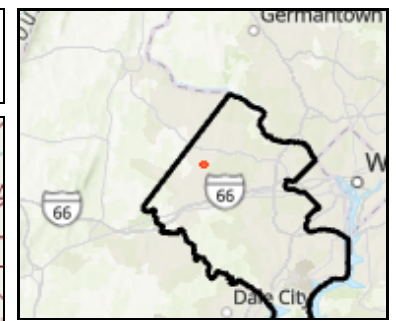
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Notes

Proposed: Sharpshooting (combination with Northside Park in Town of Vienna)



Hunter Mill BOS Property



Legend

Land Description

Parcels



0 1000 2000
ft

Map printed on: 4/24/2025

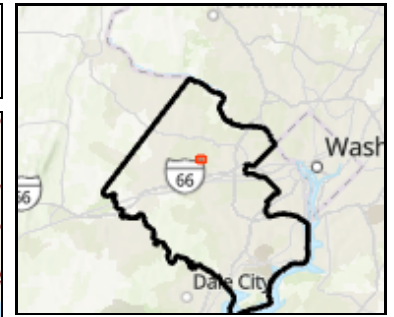
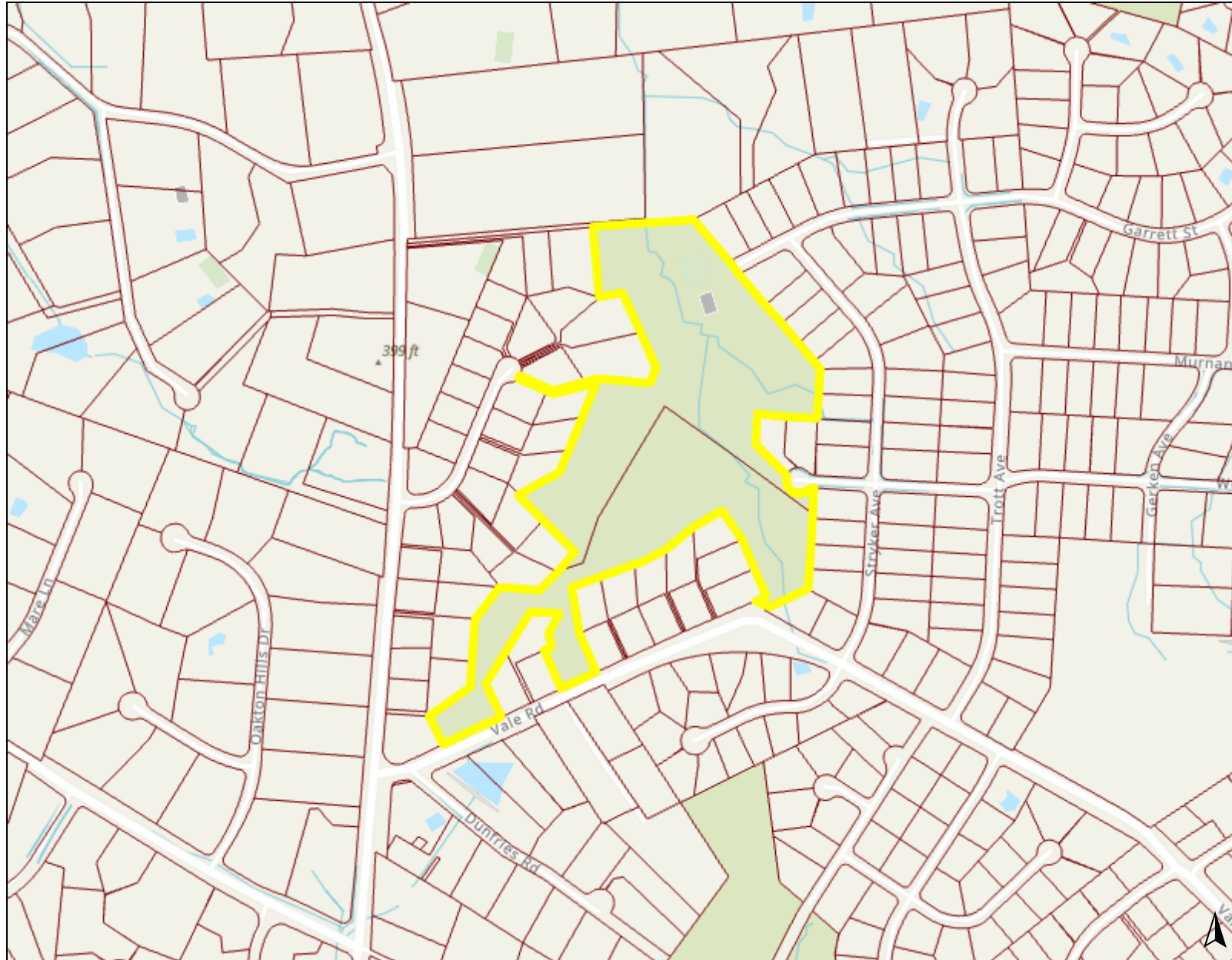
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Notes

Proposed: Archery



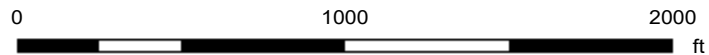
Kemper Park



Legend

Land Description

Parcels



Map printed on: 4/22/2025

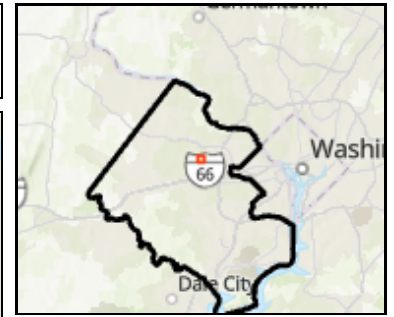
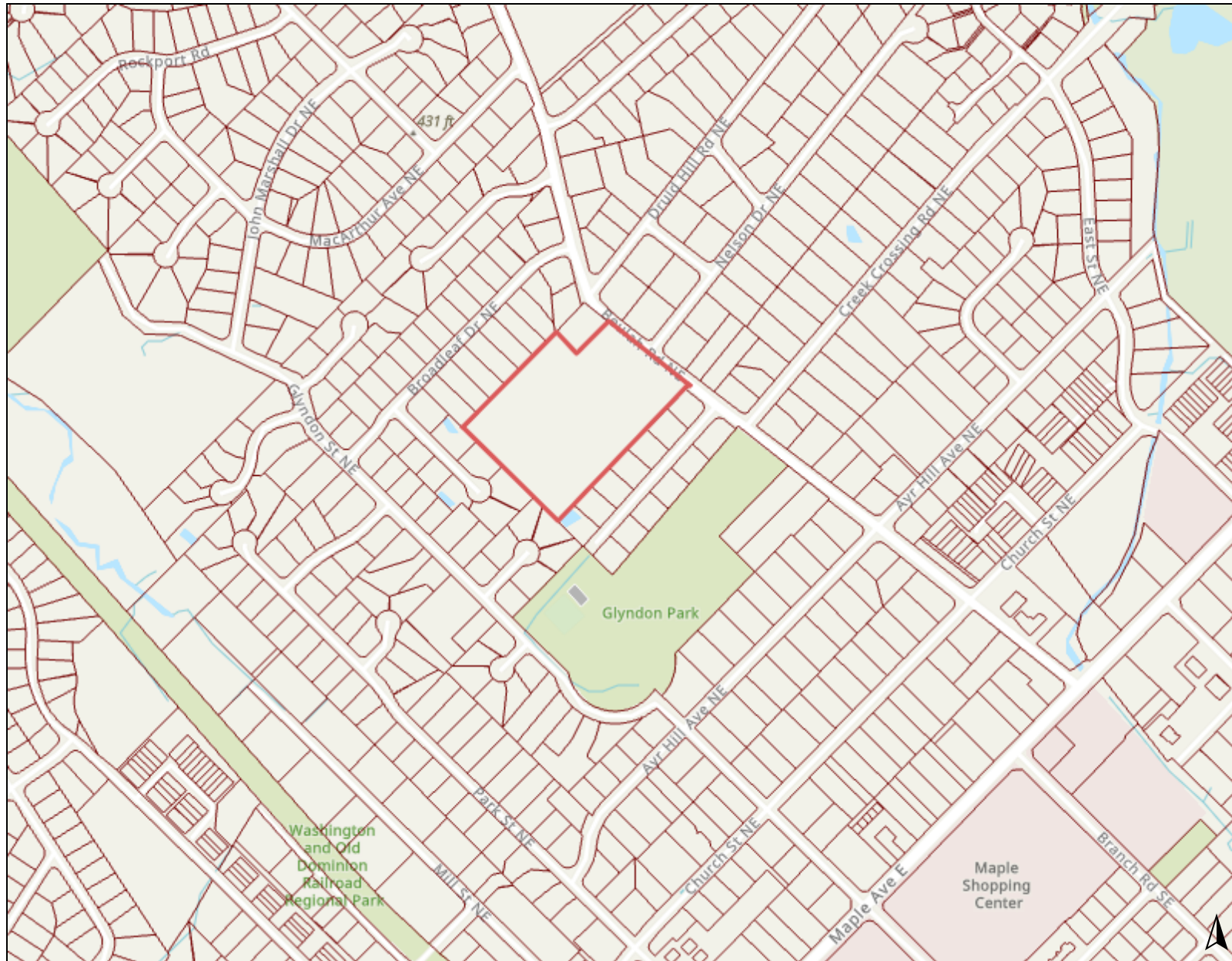
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Notes

Proposed: Archery (west of trails)



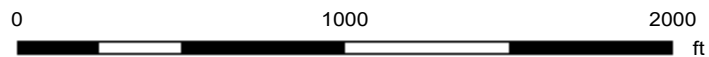
TOV Mulch Yard



Legend

Land Description

Parcels



Map printed on: 10/27/2024

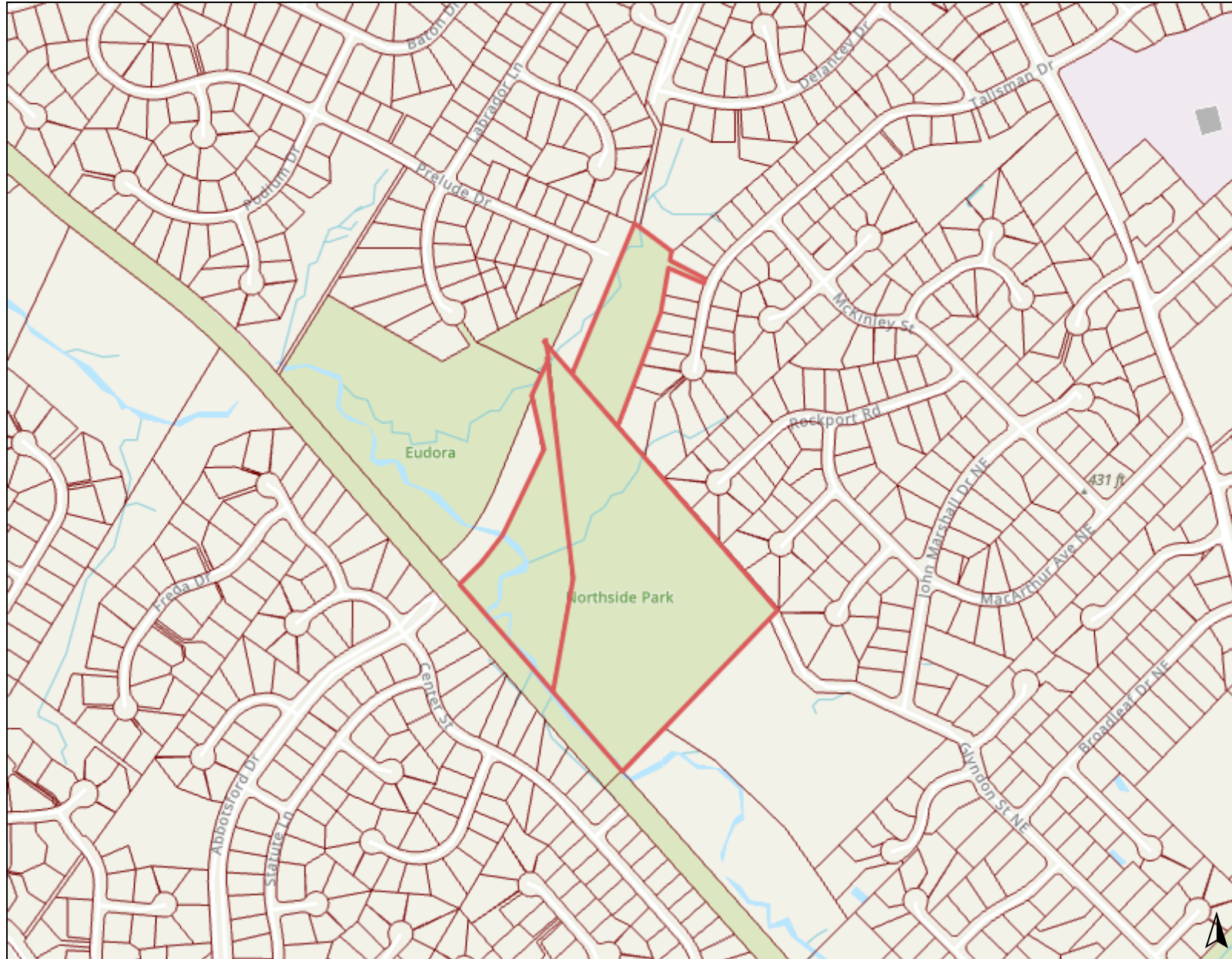
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Notes

442 Beulah Rd: 8 acres



TOV Northside Park



Legend

Land Description

Parcels



0 1000 2000 ft

Map printed on: 10/28/2024

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Notes

26.6 acres

Mason District FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
Accotink Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	251	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21	15
Annandale Community Park	FCPA	Annandale	Sharpshooting	52	FY 2016	8	12	6	--	--	--
Deerlick Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	19	FY 2017	1	0	2	7	6	2
Holmes Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	80	FY 2014/2018	21	7	16	12	18	16
Lillian Carey Park	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	54	FY 2014	14	10	8	12	17	9
Mason District Park	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	80	FY 2014	2	4	1	5	7	7
Roundtree Park	FCPA	Annandale/ Falls Church	Archery	61	FY 2014	7	6	4	0	0	4

No new park additions proposed for the Mason District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Mount Vernon District

FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
BOS-Mt. Vernon	BOS	Lorton	Archery	231	FY 2017	10	6	4	3	9	5
Colonel John Byers Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	25	FY 2018	4	4	3	2	1	0
Fairchild Property	BOS	Alexandria	Archery	8	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	4	3
Grist Mill Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	48	FY 2023	--	--	--	5	2	2
Huntley Meadows	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery/ Sharpshooting	778	FY 2011	70	42	51	21	15	19
Laurel Hill & Golf Course	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	1149	FY 2010	32	21	13	21	17	30
Kirk Park (portion)	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	7	FY 2023	--	--	--	0	1	0
Little Hunting Creek	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	10	FY 2018	0	0	1	0	0	0
Mason Neck West	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	44	FY 2016	7	2	2	4	4	2
Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area	BLM	Lorton	Archery	805	FY 2021	--	37	20	17	8	8
Mount Vernon District Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	88	FY 2018	4	2	1	0	0	0
Newington Heights	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	54	FY 2013	2	0	0	0	0	0
Noman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Plant	DPWES	Lorton	Archery	103	FY 2017	3	6	6	6	4	6
Occoquan Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Lorton	Archery	200	FY 2020	26	4	15	6	13	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	Harvest FY 2025
Old Colchester Park & Preserve	FCPA	Lorton	Archery	144	FY 2013	6	2	2	7	0	1
Paul Springs Stream Valley (portion)	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	20	FY 2023	--	--	--	1	1	1
Pohick Bay Regional	NOVA Parks	Lorton	Archery	339	FY 2014	6	2	4	4	4	4
Pohick Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	559	FY 2012	22	12	16	16	11	11
Pole Road Park	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	50	FY 2023	--	--	--	1	2	0
South Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	271	FY 2011	6	3	1	2	2	3
Woodlawn	FCPA	Alexandria	Archery	9	FY 2016	2	0	0	1	1	1

No new park additions proposed for the Mount Vernon District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Providence District

FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
Accotink Stream Valley	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	251	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21	15
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Reston)	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	258	FY 2011	9	14	11	16	7	5
Eakin Community Park	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	33	FY 2012	11	11	5	6	7	4
Eakin Park (Mantua Section)	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	72	FY 2012	4	9	1	5	4	6
Holmes Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Falls Church	Archery	68	FY 2018	21	7	16	12	18	16
Oakmont Park (formerly Oak Marr)	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	58	FY 2020	3	5	5	9	4	2
Sally Ormsby Park	FCPA	Annandale	Archery	40	FY 2012	1	1	0	4	2	2
Tattersall Park	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	35	FY 2020	4	2	0	0	2	1

No new park additions proposed for the Providence District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Springfield District											
FY 2026 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	Harvest FY 2025
REMOVAL ¹ Braddock Park	FCPA	Clifton	Sharpshooting	61	FY 2025	--	--	--	--	--	0
Accotink Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	405	FY 2012	16	33	22	9	21	15
Brimstone Park	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	5	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bull Run Marina	NOVA Parks	Clifton	Archery	258	FY 2014	11	6	4	6	4	4
Bull Run Regional (South)	NOVA Parks	Clifton	Archery	447	FY 2017	10	7	8	4	9	4
Burke Lake Park & Golf Course	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	323	FY 2012	7	13	4	11	4	4
Burke Station Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	15	FY 2014	9	1	0	0	4	1
Cherry Run Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	4	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confederate Fortifications Historic Site	FCPA	Clifton	Archery	150	FY 2011	16	10	8	6	4	1
Fountainhead Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Fairfax Station	Archery	2075	FY 2014	19	18	13	4	11	6
Greentree Village Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	19	FY 2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Clifton	Archery	392	FY 2016	6	9	1	1	3	1
Huntsman Lake	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	26	FY 2017	7	2	0	0	0	0
Johnny Moore Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Clifton	Archery	342	FY 2012	27	9	8	10	9	6
Lake Mercer Park	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	195	FY 2012	4	0	3	1	0	1
Middle Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	169	FY 2017	1	1	4	2	2	3

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	Harvest FY 2025
Patriot Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	122	FY 2014	5	4	4	2	3	2
Piney Branch Stream Valley	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	39	FY 2018	10	13	7	3	9	10
Poburn Woods Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	11	FY 2017	2	1	3	1	0	0
Pohick Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	580	FY 2012	22	12	16	16	11	11
Popes Head Park	FCPA	Fairfax	Archery	38	FY 2014	5	9	7	4	5	4
Rocky Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	111	FY 2016	11	15	22	8	19	16
Sandy Run Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Fairfax Station	Archery	330	FY 2014	15	12	9	4	5	1
Sandy Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Fairfax Station	Archery	39	FY 2017	2	0	1	0	0	0
Shannon Station Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	13	FY 2014	1	2	0	0	0	0
South Run District Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	115	FY 2011	2	5	5	5	6	4
South Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	319	FY 2011	6	3	1	2	2	3
Waples Mill Meadow	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	18	FY 2015	7	2	5	8	3	1
West Springfield Village Park	FCPA	Springfield	Archery	10	FY 2014	2	0	0	0	0	0
Willow Pond	BOS/FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	66	FY 2017	1	0	2	0	2	1

¹Braddock Park: Remove Braddock Park from the FY 2026 sharpshooting program due to limited deer activity and no harvests in the FY 2025 deer season.

No new park additions proposed for the Springfield District in FY 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

<div>Sully District</div> <div>FY 2026 Deer Management Program Proposed Park Sites</div>											
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	Harvest FY 2025
Bull Run Regional Park	NOVA Parks	Centreville	Archery	839	FY 2014	56	44	16	26	24	22
Bull Run Regional (South)	NOVA Parks	Centreville	Archery	447	FY 2017	10	7	8	4	9	4
Cub Run Stream Valley	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	626	FY 2011	24	21	15	18	20	19
Cub Run Stream Valley (North)	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	138	FY 2022	--	--	15	13	9	10
Difficult Run Stream Valley (Reston)	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	258	FY 2011	9	14	11	16	7	5
Elklick Preserve ¹	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	1388	FY 2006; FY 2011	28 (archery) + managed hunt	21	14	8	15	15
Ellanor C Lawrence Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	459	FY 2011	27	40	40	21	24	17
Foxvale Park	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	25	FY 2016	5	1	1	2	1	3
Flatlick Stream Valley	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	60	FY 2016	8	12	13	4	5	6
Fred Crabtree Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	208	FY 2014	11	21	13	13	8	6
Garnchayne	FCPA	Oakton	Archery	21	FY 2015	4	8	3	4	4	0
Halifax Point District Park ²	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	271	FY 2011	--	6	3	3	1	5
Hickory Forest Park	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	95	FY 2013	1	7	4	1	0	3
Horsepen Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Vienna	Archery	64	FY 2017	9	5	1	11	6	5
Little Difficult Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Herndon	Archery	72	FY 2014	2	10	4	4	7	5
Mountain Road District Park ¹	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	201	FY 2011	5 (archery) + managed hunt	7	7	1	1	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	Harvest FY 2025
Poplar Ford Park	FCPA	Centreville	Archery	372	FY 2011	9	4	9	6	5	7
Rock Hill District Park ¹	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	169	FY 2006	2 (archery) + managed hunt	3	2	4	5	1
Rocky Run Stream Valley Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	79	FY 2016	10	15	22	8	18	16
Sully Historic Site	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	84	FY 2011	6	2	6	2	3	2
Willow Pond Park	FCPA	Chantilly	Archery	55	FY 2017	1	0	2	0	2	1

¹Elklick, 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.

²Halifax 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 2026. All parks have already been included in the Deer Management Program in prior years.

Fairfax County Deer Management Program

FY 2025 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 36 states, five 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 2023-2024 (FY 2024) deer hunting season, 252 white-tailed deer had tested positive for CWD in Virginia. Statewide surveillance results from this past deer season (FY 2025) 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 four CWD Disease Management Areas (DMA), which encompassed 25 counties in Virginia during the 2024-2025 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. DMA3 encompassed Carroll, Floyd, Franklin, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, Roanoke and Wythe Counties, and DMA4 included Bland, Smyth, and Tazewell 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 six 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. Deer are tested for CWD after death via extraction of the medial retropharyngeal lymph nodes (from the neck) and submission to a laboratory for either immunohistochemistry (IHC) or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). Samples are submitted for testing to the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory in Madison, WI. Only yearling and adult deer are tested through the county program; 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 2024 and March 2025. Hunters in the county's archery program were required to submit all yearling and adult deer harvested between October and December and were 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, and the Izaak Walton League. 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.

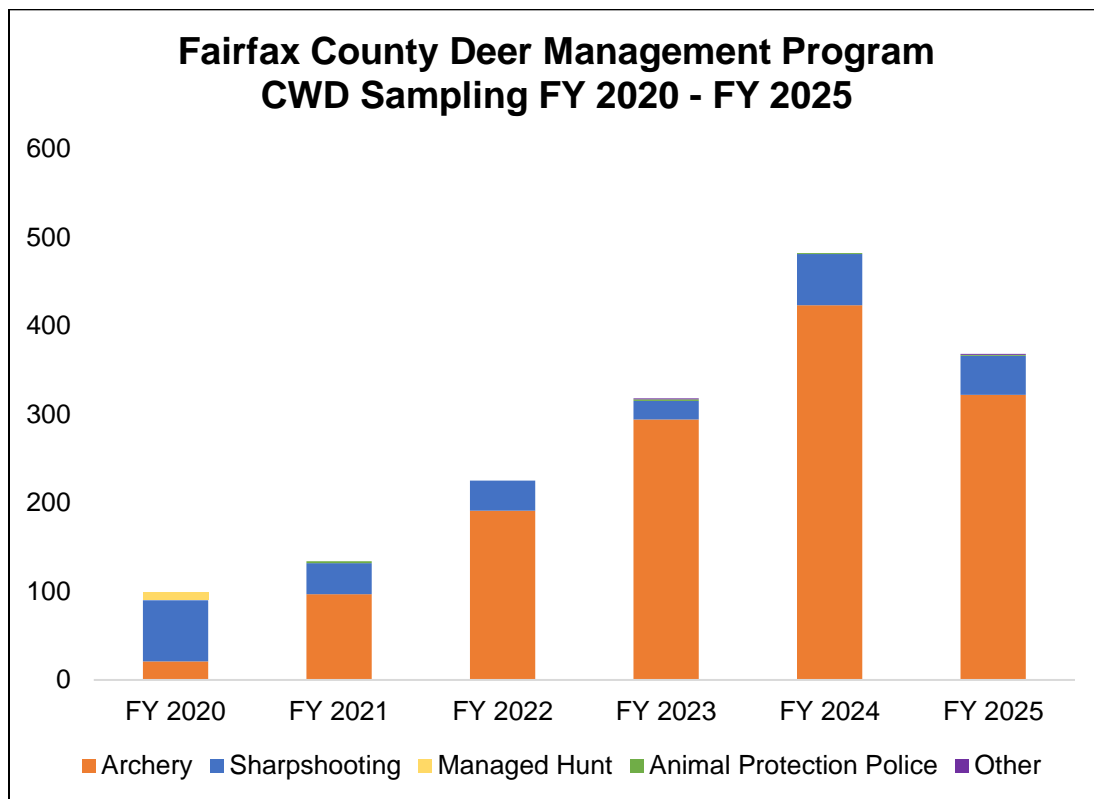
Over 73% of the yearling and adult deer harvested within the FY 2025 Fairfax County Deer Management Program were tested for CWD. This represented 61% of the total harvest (including fawns), and a 3.7% reduction in testing submissions from the prior year. Lymph node samples were collected from 368 deer (161 does, 207 bucks) harvested in 92 parks/properties in Fairfax County. Of the deer tested, 322 samples (87.5%) were from hunter-harvested deer through the county's archery program, 44 samples (12.0%) from county sharpshooting efforts, and 2 deer dispatched by the Animal Protection Police or other sources (<1%). The mean age of sampled does was 2.7 years (range = 1.5 to 6.5 years), and the mean age of sampled bucks was 2.7 years (range = 1.5 to 6.5 years). Sampling costs were offset by a generous donation from Safari Club International, National Capital Chapter, to support enhanced CWD surveillance efforts. Collectively, county staff have tested 1,626 deer from 119 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 2024-2025 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 2025).

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
2025	322	44	0	1	1	368
All Years	1348	261	9	6	2	1626

Graph 1. Number of deer sampled and tested for Chronic Wasting Disease Surveillance through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program (FY 2020 – FY 2025).



FAIRFAX COUNTY DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



Park Authority Board Meeting

June 11, 2025

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



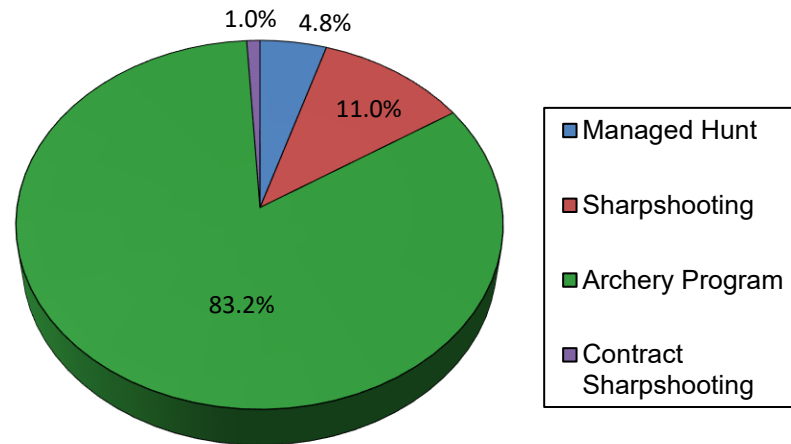
Fairfax County Deer Management Program FY 2025 Summary Statistics

- Deer herd reduction activities took place at 107 FCPA parks
- 517 deer harvested from FCPA parks
 - 468 deer harvested by archery
 - 49 deer harvested by sharpshooting
- 504 volunteer archers donating 31,406 hours of hunting and scouting hours
- 600 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.

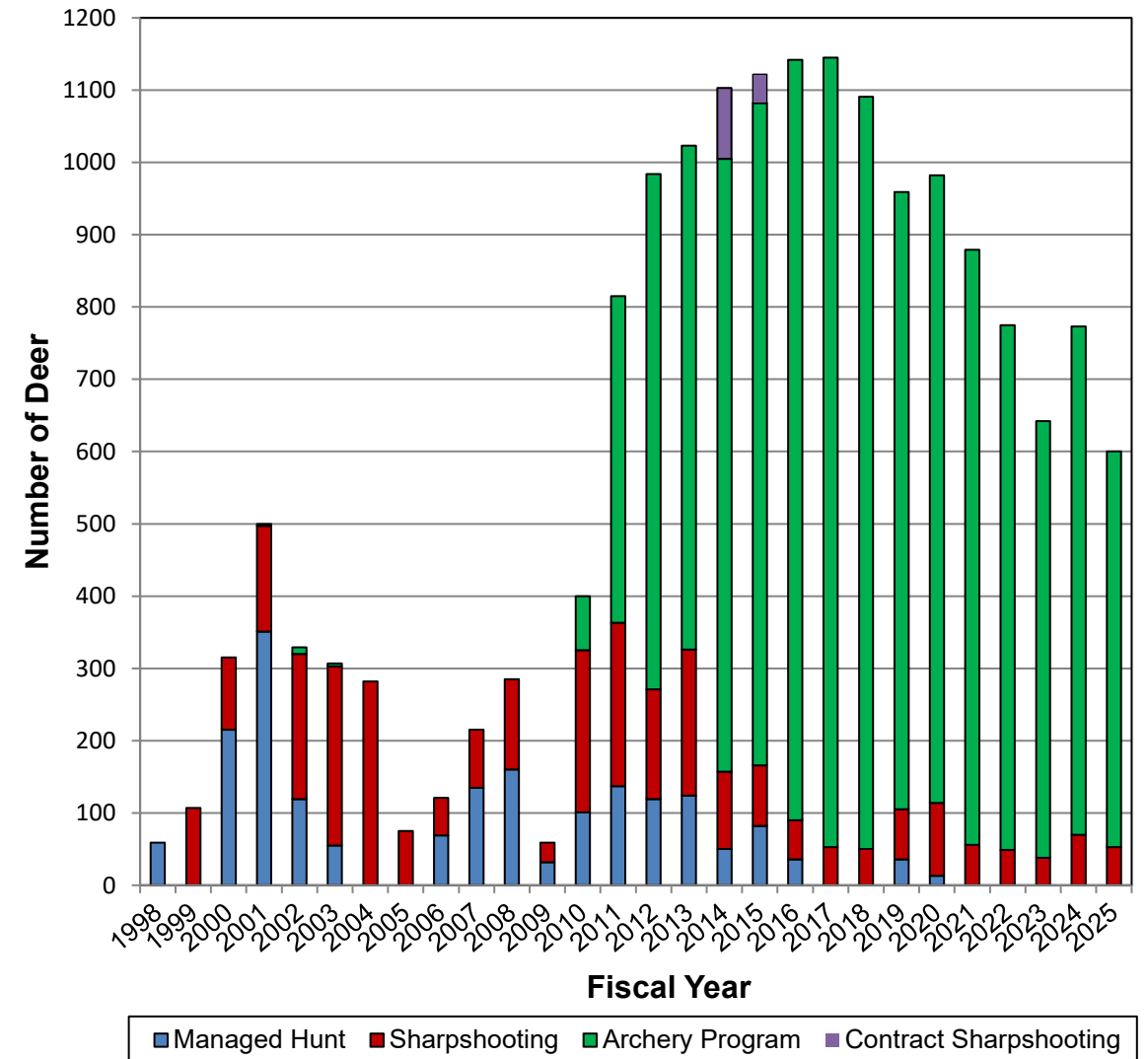


Fairfax County Deer Management Program Harvest Totals

Harvest by Strategy (FY 2010-2025)



Fairfax County Deer Management Program
Harvest by Strategy



Fairfax County Deer Management Program Monitoring

- Deer density surveys were previously conducted in select parks using infrared-triggered cameras to estimate deer visiting a bait station. With the detection of Chronic Wasting Disease in Fairfax County, the use of bait for camera surveys is no longer permitted by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, requiring staff to explore alternative methods.
- This spring, FCPA funded and contracted with Steward Green to conduct an aerial drone survey (sUAS infrared) to measure deer density in select county parks.
- Surveys were conducted in 18 county parks (approx. 7,200 acres) from March 26-31, 2025. An additional 6 parks were scheduled but did not receive FAA authorization due to restricted airspace. These parks will tentatively be flown in winter 2026 if FAA authorization is obtained. Final report is pending.



Fairfax County Deer Management Program Monitoring

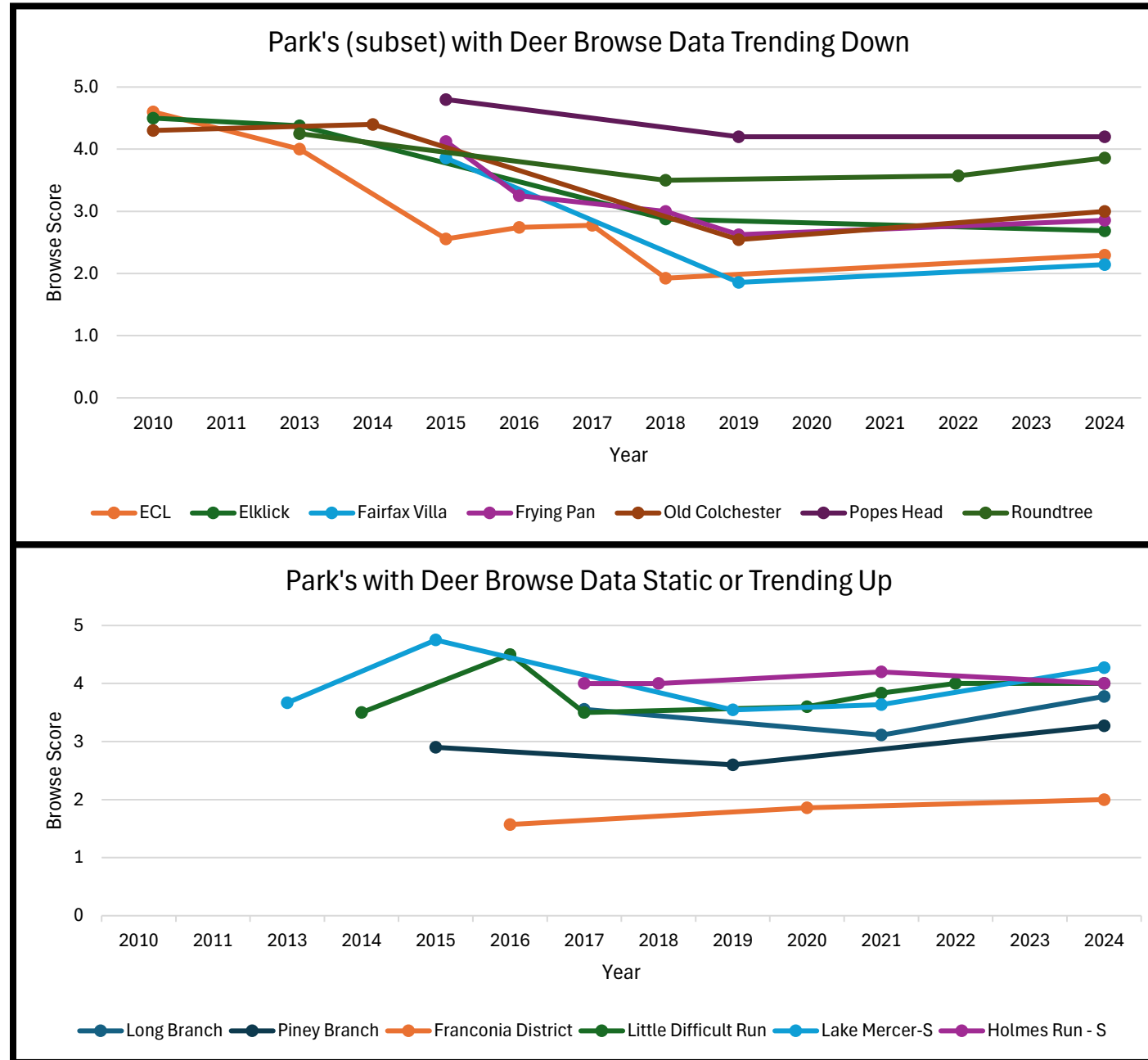
Browse Impact Surveys

GENERAL:

- Browse scores measure deer browse impacts to native woody vegetation.
- There are 557 permanent vegetation plots located in 63 parks.
- Plots resampled every 4-years.
- Scores range from 1 – 5;
 - 1 = No browse damage observed
 - 5 = Severely browsed

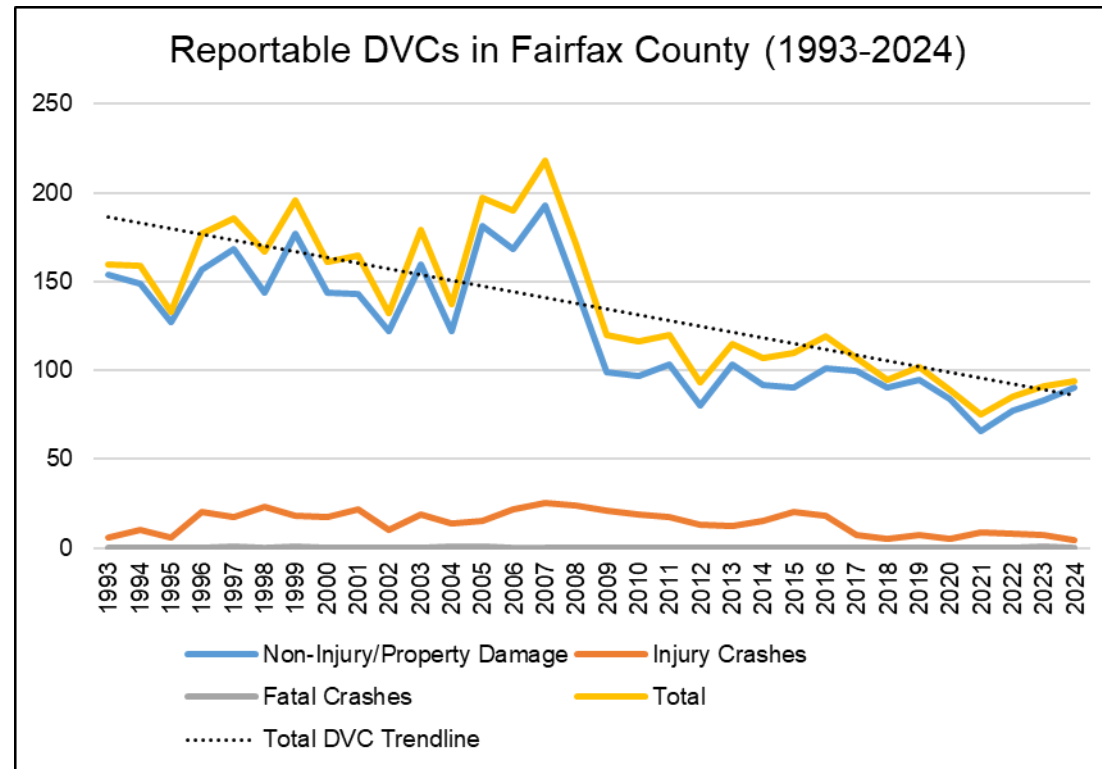
RESULTS:

- 173 Browse plots were surveyed in 18 parks included in the Deer Management Program during FY25
- FY 25 results:
 - 12 parks with downward trendlines (7 in chart)
 - 4 parks with upward trendlines (gentle slopes)
 - 2 parks static trendlines “Park – S”



Fairfax County Deer Management Program Monitoring

Fairfax County Reportable Deer-Vehicle Collisions (TREDs data)



Fairfax County Deer Management Program FY 2026 Program Changes

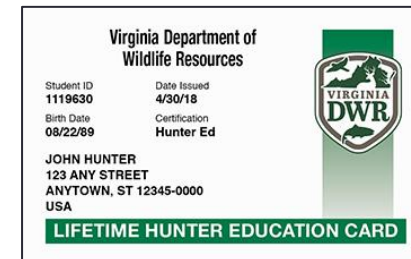
Archery: September 6, 2025 – February 14, 2026

- Proposed addition of Kemper Park (Hunter Mill District)

Managed Hunts: Managed shotgun hunts will not be conducted during FY 2026.

Sharpshooting: November 2025 – March 2026

- Proposed addition of Eudora Park (Hunter Mill District)



Fairfax County Deer Management Program Notification

- Park Neighbor Postcards
 - Postcards will be mailed in July 2025 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

- In FY 2025, over 73% of the yearling and adult deer harvested within the Fairfax County Deer Management Program were tested for CWD. This represented 61% of the total harvest (including fawns), and a 3.7% reduction in testing submission from the prior year.
- Last season, lymph node samples were collected from 368 deer (161 does, 207 bucks) harvested in 92 parks/properties in Fairfax County (including non-FCPA properties).
- Of the deer tested, 322 samples (87.5%) were hunter-harvested deer from the county's archery program, 44 samples (12.0%) from county sharpshooting, and 2 deer dispatched by the Animal Protection Police or other sources (<1 %).
- All tests from deer harvested on county parkland have been CWD "Prions Not Detected."

CWD Surveillance and Herd Health

Since FY 2020, 1,626 deer have been tested for CWD through the Fairfax County Deer Management Program from 119 parks/properties in collaboration with the DWR and local hunters:

- 1,348 deer from archery (83%)
- 261 deer from sharpshooting (16%)
- 9 deer from managed hunts (<1%)
- 6 deer dispatched by Animal Protection Police (<1%)
- 2 deer from other sources (<1%)

