

ALL applications will only be accepted by mail postmarked no later than September 24th. This is a new rule and includes the youth and archery hunts as well.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is one of over 560 national wildlife refuges in the United States. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of wildlife.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Applications will be mailed to hunters that have participated in deer hunts at Blackwater NWR in the past 3 years.
- July 5th - applications will be available at the Visitor Center from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.
- Completed hunt applications must be received through the mail. Include check or money order made out to the **Friends of Blackwater** in the appropriate amount.
- Area U and B1* will be closed to archery during the Youth Hunt on November 1, 2014.

Permit Application Fees

- Archery Application: \$20
- Quota Muzzleloader: \$10
- Non-Quota (Doe only) Muzzleloader: \$10
- Non-Quota Muzzleloader: \$10
- Quota Shotgun: \$10
- Dec. Non-Quota Shotgun: \$20
- Jan. Non-Quota Shotgun: \$20
- Youth Fees: \$5 for each hunt
- First Year Youth Hunter: Free for Youth Hunt Day

Note: Fees are reduced by ½ for Golden Age Passport/Senior Pass or Golden Access Passport/Access Pass holders. Pass numbers must be provided.

PERMIT LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

We require hunters to possess a valid Maryland hunting license and all required stamps, valid government-issued photo identification, and a valid hunting permit issued by the refuge. These items must be on their person at all times during refuge hunt and scout days.

For hunt information, call Hunt Coordinator Allen Johnston at 410-228-5018. During the quota hunts Allen may be contacted by cell phone at 443-205-5290.

Report illegal activity or related information to: USFWS Law Enforcement 443-477-1934.

REMEMBER!

Your hunt permit authorizes you to take specified game only. Harming or needlessly disturbing any other wildlife is a violation of refuge regulations and is cause for prosecution. The regulations listed in this brochure supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on national wildlife refuges set forth in Title 50: Part 32, Code of Federal Regulations. Individuals may have their permits revoked if found to be in violation of any Federal and State laws. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and the following special refuge regulations.

Deer harvested during the refuge hunts will NOT count toward the State's regional combined bag limit.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

We require all hunters, regardless of age, to submit a Big Game Hunt Application by mail to obtain a permit. All permits are non-transferable. Only participants possessing authorized permits will be allowed to enter the hunt areas.

Youth Hunt

Hunters 16 years of age or younger may participate in the youth hunt if the individual possesses a valid hunting license or is exempt from Maryland hunting license requirements. Youth must be accompanied in the field by an individual who is 21 years old or older and possesses a valid Maryland hunting license, or is exempt from hunting license requirements, and is not afield with a firearm, bow or other hunting device. **This year hunters will not check in prior to hunting.**

Hunters with disabilities

We require all hunters with disabilities to provide, with their application, a copy of a valid Maryland DNR issued hunt from vehicle permit. Individuals with a disability may have an assistant during the hunt on designated areas of the refuge. Persons assisting a hunter with a disability must be at least 18 years of age and obey all refuge, State, and Federal laws and regulations. Persons assisting hunters with disabilities must not be afield with a hunting firearm, bow, or other hunting device. The use of ATVs is only permitted in areas Q2 and B1. However all vehicles including ATVs must stay on established roads and or field edges, unless posted otherwise.

Access

Motorized vehicles are authorized for access only on designated roads and parking areas indicated on the hunt map. We prohibit the use of boats, floatation devices, ATVs, motorized off-road vehicles, and amphibious vehicles to access the refuge. Only hunters with disabilities are authorized by the refuge manager to use **ATVs** in area B1 and Q2. All other access is limited to walk-in or bicycles. Hunters may use bicycles to access hunt areas on designated hunt/scout days. We prohibit hunters taking bicycles off of designated roads and trails while on refuge lands. We require hunters to notify a refuge representative and receive permission from the refuge manager or designee prior to entering a closed area to retrieve game.

Scouting

Scouting will only be permitted by hunters with a permit from 7:00 am to sunset on September 5; October 12 & 26; November 23; December 14, 2014; and January 4 & 11, 2015. The Hunt Coordinator will be available to provide information at the Refuge Visitor Center during all scout days from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. All youth hunt permit holders must be accompanied by an adult/guardian age 21 or older.

Tree Stands

We only allow portable or temporary tree stands and blinds to be used while hunting. Tree stands may be pre-installed during the scouting days. We prohibit hunting from a permanently constructed tree stand or blind. We require hunters to mark in plain sight any tree stands or blinds left unattended on refuge property with your permit number and year. We also require hunters to remove all stands, blinds and marking devices, including flagging or tape, by sunset of the last day of designated "stand removal week" (Feb 1-8, 2015). We prohibit paint or any other permanent marker to mark trails. We prohibit screw-in steps, spikes, or other objects that may damage trees. The refuge will not be held responsible for damage, theft, or other hunter occupancy. Any stands left in a hunt area after February 8th will be confiscated and deemed abandoned property.

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Other Regulations

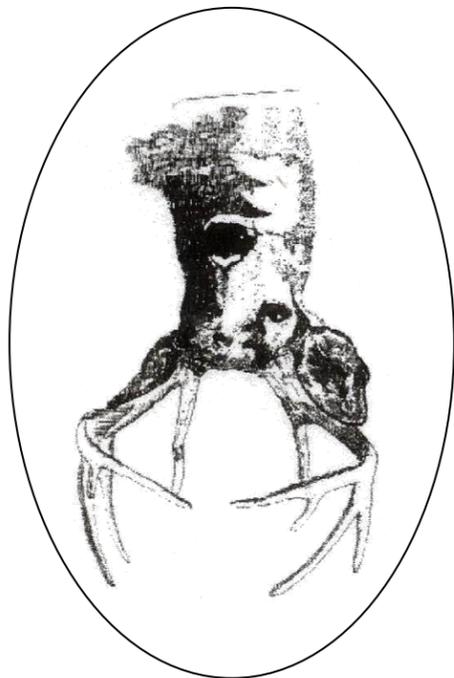
- Only participants possessing authorized hunt permits will be allowed to enter the hunt areas.
- Hunters are prohibited from being on the refuge (including parking lots) between 9:00 pm & 4:30 am.
- We prohibit the use of rimfire or centerfire rifles and all handguns including muzzleloading pistols for hunting.
- We prohibit leaving deer entrails or other waste within 50 feet of any trail, road, or Refuge structure.
- Camping and campfires are not permitted. All cooking devices must be self-contained and these are restricted only to designated parking areas.
- Hunt permit holders may not engage in guiding, outfitting, advertising, or audio or visual productions for commercial purposes.
- Baiting is not permitted.
- Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.
- Automatic, motion-activated, game, or trail cameras are prohibited on the refuge.
- Driving deer is permitted only on December 11-13.
- Area access and hunter participation can be revoked at the discretion of the Refuge Manager.
- Shooting or hunting within 150 yards of any occupied structure is prohibited.
- Shooting from, across or down any designated refuge road is prohibited. An open gate designates a refuge road.

Tagging and Checking Instructions

Hunters who harvest deer during the quota hunts and the youth deer hunt must present deer for examination at the refuge check station (see map) on the day of the kill between 9:00 am and 8:00 pm. Hunters who fail to check deer during the regular operating hours of the check station will notify the refuge hunt coordinator of their kill to include species, area harvested, sex and for male deer the number of points on each antler, by noon of the following day. The Hunt Coordinator will be available from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm at the Refuge Visitor Center during the non-quota muzzleloader and non-quota shotgun hunts. Deer taken at Blackwater NWR **will not** count against your Maryland state bag limit. In addition, **ALL** deer killed must be field-tagged, recorded, and checked in accordance with state regulations. The public land code for Blackwater NWR is **543**.

Season	Date	Bag Limit	Total Bag Limit Per Weapon
Archery	Sept. 6 – Oct. 15, 2014 Oct. 27 – Nov. 22, 2014 Jan. 12 – Jan. 31, 2015	Sika: 3 (only 1 antlered) White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 1 antlered	Sika: 3 (only 1 may be antlered) White-tailed: 10 antlerless and 1 antlered
Quota Muzzleloader	Area U and B1 closed to archery on November 1, 2014 Oct. 17 & 18, 2014	Sika: 3 White-tailed: 10 antlerless, 1 antlered	Sika: 3 (only 1 may be antlered)
Non-Quota Muzzleloader	Oct. 23-25, 2014	Sika: 3 antlerless White-tailed: antlerless only total of 10 during muzzleloader hunts	White-tailed: 11 (only one may be antlered)
Quota Shotgun	Dec. 1 & 5, 2014	Sika and white-tailed deer within total bag limit for the muzzleloader hunts	
Non-Quota Shotgun	Dec. 11-13, 2014	See "Total Bag Limit"	Sika: 3 (only 1 may be antlered)
Youth	Jan. 9 & 10, 2015 Nov. 1, 2014 Areas U, N and B1	Sika: 1 either sex White-tailed: 3 (only 1 antlered)	White-tailed: 11 (only 1 may be antlered)
Scout Dates	September 5 th , October 12 th & 26 th , November 23 rd , December 14 th , 2014 and January 4 th & 11 th , 2015	Sika: 1 either sex White-tailed: 3 (only 1 antlered)	Sika: 1 either sex White-tailed: 3 (only 1 antlered)

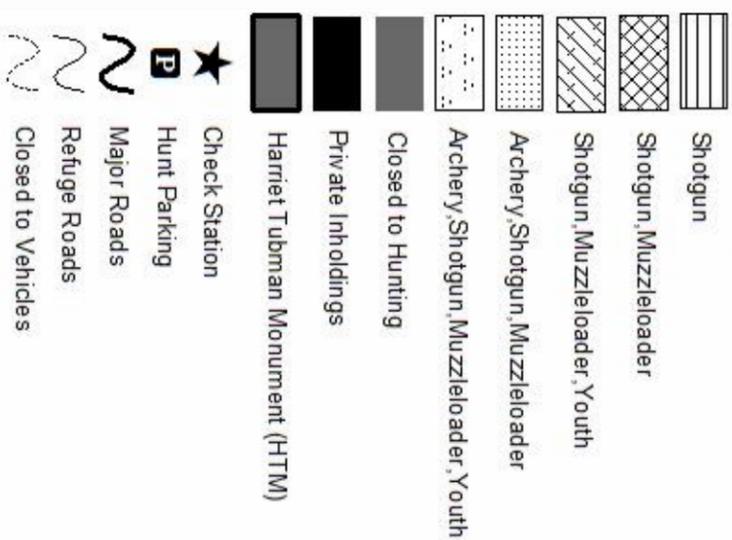
Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge
Cambridge, Maryland



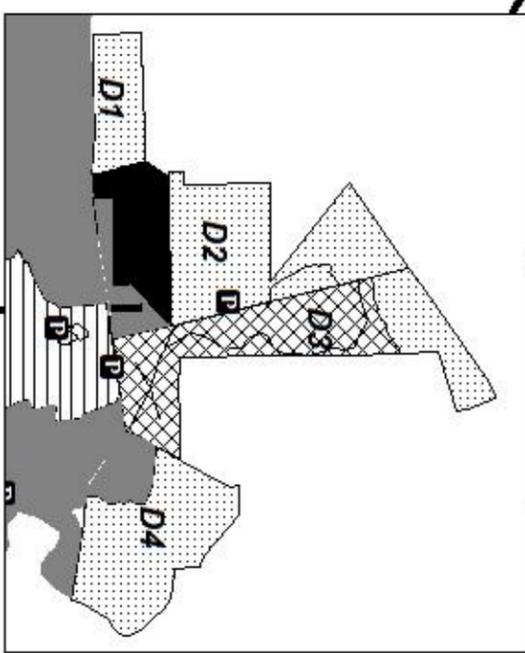
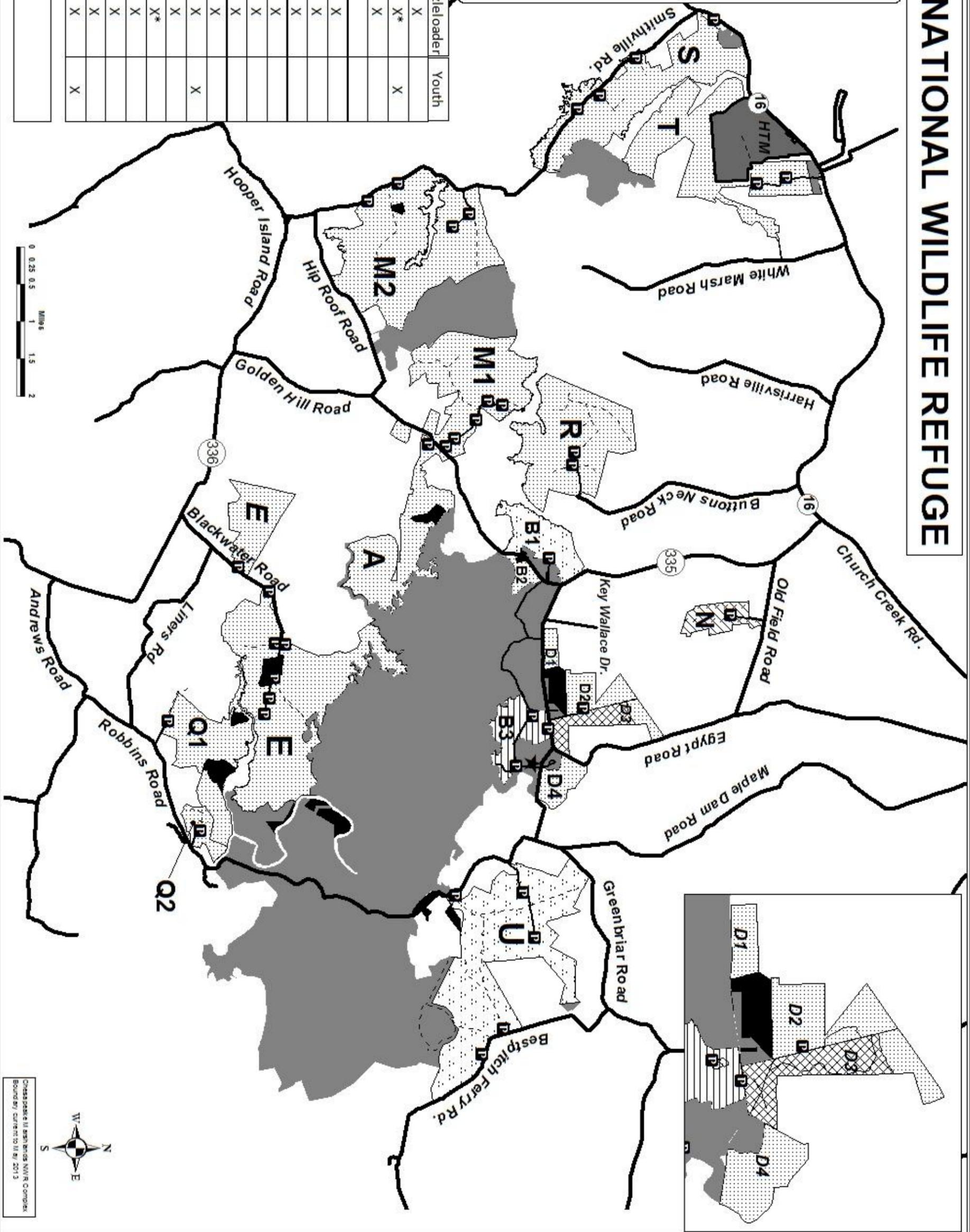
2014-2015
Hunting Regulations

BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Deer Hunt Units 2014 - 15 Season



Area	Acres	Archery	Shotgun	Muzzleloader	Youth
A	790	X	X	X	
B1*	369	X*	X*	X*	X
B2	81	X	X	X	
B3	318	X	X		
D1	70	X	X	X	
D2	290	X	X	X	
D3	191		X	X	
D4	180	X	X	X	
E	1838	X	X	X	
M1	1055	X	X	X	
M2	1789	X	X	X	
N	211		X	X	X
O1	502	X	X	X	
Q2*	303	X*	X*	X*	
R	1152	X	X	X	
S	1200	X	X	X	
T	1125	X	X	X	
U	1926	X	X	X	X



* B1 & Q2 - Certified disabled only