



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Eastern Virginia Rivers National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Rappahannock River Valley NWR
336 Wilna Road
Warsaw, VA 22572
Phone: 804/333-1470 Fax: 804/333-3396

Dear Hunter:

We are pleased that you are participating in the 2022 hunt at the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). Enclosed is your hunt permit (if required) and a unit map. Directions to the units, and application information, can be found on our website: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/rappahannock-river-valley/visit-us/activities/hunting> Please review all permits to be sure they are correct. If you believe there is an error, please call the refuge office at (804) 333-1470.

In 2021, we finalized a new Hunt Plan (available on our website).

As per our new Hunt Plan, the following changes were implemented during the fall of 2021:

- Archery hunting on Wright, Franklin, and Mothershead units no longer require permits. Hunters are required to check in with RecAccess.
- Coyote, turkey, and small game hunting are now available on the Refuge
- Turkey and small game hunting require non-lead shot.
- All hunting activities on the Refuge will require non-lead shot by 2026 or earlier.

Changes for 2022 (Please see **Table 2** for hunting opportunities and dates).

- A limited spring gobbler hunt was offered at the Refuge for the first time in April (Franklin, Mothershead, Toby's Point, Wright, and Thomas (Thomas is archery only)).
- Waterfowl (mid and late season) will be offered in December and January 2022-2023.

You can visit the RecAccess site to register/check in for hunts at:

<https://rappahannock.recaccess.com/>

PARKING: Hunters must park in designated parking locations as indicated on Refuge hunt map. These designated parking areas include gravel roads on units that do not have designated parking areas and hunters must be parked in a manner to allow passage by other vehicles along roads and through gates. ATVs/UTVs and trailers are prohibited. While hunting on units that require a permit, hunters must carry a hunting permit and display a parking permit.

REFUGE MAPS: Refuge maps are available at our website:
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/rappahannock-river-valley/map>

STATE LAWS: If you need information concerning the state laws regarding deer hunts, please visit the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources web site at: <https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunting/> or call (804) 367-1000.

SCOUTING: Scouting is permitted from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM on the dates listed below.

Table 1
Coyote, Turkey, and Small game scouting dates.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Deer, Turkey, Coyote - Archery | September 24, 25 |
| Deer, Turkey, Coyote - Muzzleloader | October 29, 30 |
| Deer, Turkey, Coyote - Shotgun | November 6, 13 |
| Rabbit/Squirrel | Dec 18, 25, January 1 |
| Spring Gobbler (2023) | April 1, 2 |

Please notify the Refuge at least one business day in advance of requested scout day(s). You may make your reservation to scout by calling the office at (804) 333-1470 or via email at william_crouch@fws.gov. Please include your name, the unit(s) and date(s) you would like to scout, how many people will be in your party, a description of the vehicle that will be driven to the unit(s), and your best contact number.

Table 2
Hunting opportunities for each Refuge unit, by season and method

| Units | Hunting opportunities |
|---|---|
| Wilna, Hutchinson, Laurel Grove, Fones Cliffs, Tayloe, Toby's Point | Deer, Fall Turkey, Coyote: Archery –Archery I: Oct 1-14, Archery II: Oct 15-28 (no Sunday hunts) Muzzleloader –November 5, 11, 12, 18 Shotgun – opening day (single day) Nov 19, 2-day hunts, Nov 25/26, Dec 2/3, 9/10/, 14/15. Spring Gobbler (Laurel Grove only): Spring gobbler (shotgun): designated (3) half-days early season, April 8, 15, 22 |
| Mothershead, Franklin | Deer, Fall Turkey, Coyote (no Sunday hunts) Archery –Oct 1-Nov 18 Squirrel and rabbit: Nov 19 – Feb 28 Turkey: Spring gobbler (shotgun): ½ days early season April 8, 15, 22 |
| Wright | Deer, Fall Turkey, Coyote (no Sunday hunts) Archery –Oct 1-Nov 4, Muzzleloader –Nov 5- 18, Shotgun – Nov 18-Dec 14 Squirrel and rabbit: Dec 15 – Feb 28 Turkey: Spring gobbler (shotgun): ½ days early season April 8, 15, 22 |
| Port Royal, Thomas | Deer, Fall Turkey, Coyote: Archery –Archery I: Oct 1-14, Archery II: Oct 15-28 (no Sunday hunts) |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Cat Point Creek | Deer, Fall Turkey, Coyote: Archery –Archery I: Oct 1-14, Archery II: Oct 15-28 (no Sunday hunts) |
| | Waterfowl (Menokin Bay on Cat Point Creek) 2022/23: mid-season, Nov 17-19, 24-26: late season, Dec 22-24, 29-31, Jan 5-7, 12-14, 19-21, 26-28. |

HUNTER ETHICS: Please respect the land and other hunters by following these simple rules:

- We require stand hunting only. Stand hunting includes the use of portable hunting blinds, portable tree stands or stationary ground hunting. No deer drives, stalking, or roaming are allowed.
- No damage to trees. No nails, screws, bolts, or screw-in steps may be used. Stands and blinds must be removed daily.
- No cameras, nor other photographic or electronic recording devices are permitted.
- We prohibit the use of flagging to mark trails or for any other purpose.
- Be considerate of other hunters; do not intrude in their space and minimize vehicle use.
- Take all your trash with you, including food wrappers and spent shells.
- If you witness violations or experience problems, please report them immediately to the Refuge office at (804) 333-1470.

Refuge units will be open no earlier than one hour before legal shooting hours to one hour past legal sunset for permitted hunters or those who have used the online check-in system (depending on the unit) on designated hunt dates.

Sincerely,

Refuge Staff
Rappahannock River Valley NWR