



Potomac River National Wildlife Refuge Complex Deer Hunting Opportunities



Potomac River National Wildlife Refuge Complex hosts three deer hunt programs annually aimed to manage the native deer population:

1. E. H. Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge, Lorton, Virginia
 - Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.
 - Hunts typically occur in November and December
 - Buckshot and slugs only
 - Hunters are required to apply to the hunt lottery, attend an orientation if selected, and qualify firearms at designated firing ranges.
 - Applications are posted on the E. H. Mason Neck NWR website by July 31:
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/mason_neck/visit/deerhunt.html
2. Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Woodbridge, Virginia
 - Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Hunts typically occur in December
 - Treestand only; buckshot and slugs only
 - Hunters are required to apply to the hunt lottery, attend an orientation if selected, and qualify firearms at designated firing ranges.
 - Applications are available on the Occoquan Bay NWR website by July 31:
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/occoquan_bay/visit/deerhunt.html
3. Novice Youth Deer Hunt and Workshop at Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Woodbridge, Virginia
 - Managed by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
 - Opportunity for youth, ages 12–18, with either no or very little deer hunting experience to learn about deer hunting and participate in a hunt with a non-hunting adult companion the first Saturday in December.
 - Youth hunters and companions participate in a two-hour classroom session to learn about: Deer Biology, Hunting Techniques, and Firearm and Treestand Safety
 - After a provided lunch, youth hunters will hunt deer via treestand with an adult companion. Each youth may take one deer of either sex.
 - Contact Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries for Youth Hunt Info:
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/managedhunts/> or 804-367-8747