



## 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 US Fish and Wildlife Service and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.
  - Hunt typically occur in December
  - Buckshot or 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](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/mason_neck/visit/deerhunt.html)
2. Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Woodbridge, Virginia
  - Managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Hunt typically occurs in December and January
  - Treestand only; buckshot 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](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 December hunt with a non-hunting adult companion
  - 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