



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**Great Dismal Swamp
National Wildlife Refuge
3100 Desert Rd
Suffolk, Virginia 23434**

757-986-3705

Register: www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com

[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/
great_dismal_swamp/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_dismal_swamp/)
facebook @ greatdismalswamp

**Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 am- 4:00 pm
Office closed weekends
and Federal holidays**



2018 Refuge Hunt Program Information

Registration Begins July 1, 2018

**Register at:
www.GoOutdoorsVirginia.com**

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Hunt Program Information for 2018

Deer Hunt

Public deer hunting by shotgun and bow, in designated areas for the dates listed below. Hunters must download, read and obey refuge regulations and hunt maps. You can not bring a guest. Hunting conditions could be considered "rigorous." First time hunters are encouraged to attend scouting day. During the hunt, some areas may close early or be closed completely due to weather, road conditions, emergency operations or state regulations. There is a refuge license fee of \$15.00.

Scouting Day: September 29, 2018

Hunt dates: October 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 and November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 2018 (Hunters hunt twelve days)

Application due: There is no application cut-off date.

Register: www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com

Bear Hunt

Shotgun hunting (slugs only) for black bears (no bows), in designated areas of the Virginia portion of the refuge for the dates listed below. THE FIRST 100 HUNTERS TO PAY THE REFUGE BEAR HUNT License fee will receive a refuge bear hunt license. You can not bring a guest. A maximum harvest limit of 20 bears is imposed on this hunt, and therefore the number of hunt days could be reduced as this quota is approached, although this has never happened. Hunters must download, read and obey refuge regulations and hunt maps. Hunting conditions could be considered "rigorous." First time hunters are encouraged to attend scouting day. During the hunt, some areas may close early or be closed completely due to weather, road conditions, emergency operations or state regulations. There is a refuge license fee of \$25.00.

Scouting date: November 1, 2018

Hunt dates: November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 2018 (Hunters may hunt six days)

Application due: There is no application cut-off date. First 100 hunters to pay fee receive a permit.

Register: www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com

Handicap Hunt Permit

Hunters that have a state issued handicap hunters license may request a refuge Handicap Hunt permit. The hunter must also have a refuge hunt permit. There is no additional fee for the Handicap Hunt permit.

The permit will allow the handicap hunter to reserve an area to hunt in the designated handicap hunt zone in the Jericho Ditch entrance.

Contact the refuge headquarters during business hours for more information or to request the Handicap Hunt Permit.

Applications accepted beginning: September 17, 2018

Register: Refuge office, 3100 Desert Road, Suffolk

Hunt-dog Retrieval Permit

Qualified persons may purchase a Hunt-dog Retrieval Permit which allows access to retrieval radio-collared hunt dogs that have roamed onto refuge property. The permit fee is \$25.00. Contact the refuge headquarters during business hours for more information or a permit application.

Applications accepted beginning: September 17, 2018

Register: Refuge office, 3100 Desert Road, Suffolk

Note: Hunting with dogs is not allowed on refuge property.

General Information and Application Instructions for Refuge Hunt License

To participate in the refuge Deer or Bear Hunt in addition to your state hunting license, you must purchase a special license for the Great Dismal Swamp NWR. When applying for the refuge Deer Hunt, all paid applicants receive a refuge deer hunt license. When applying for the refuge Bear Hunt, the first 100 paid applicants will receive a refuge bear hunt license.

Hunters MUST Apply ONLINE at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' web site:

www.gooutdoorsvirginia.com

Dismal Swamp hunts are listed under the purchase of "special licenses."

You must have a paper copy of your permit, your appropriate state hunting licenses, and a photo identification with you when on the refuge.

Electronic copies (copies on your cell phone) are not acceptable.

JULY 16, 2018

IMPORTANT

1. ONLY Online registration.
2. First 100 paid Bear Hunt applications will receive the Bear Hunt permit.
3. READ AND KNOW REFUGE REGULATIONS AND MAP!
4. No guest with permittees.
5. Best information source on trail closings is at facebook.com/GreatDismalSwamp