



7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia, Maryland 21046

Bryan Moody
Bureau Chief of Parks
bmoody@howardcountymd.gov

Phone: 410-313-4640 Fax: 410-313-4646
www.howardcountymd.gov/rap Voice/Relay: 410-313-7275

Dear Resident,

In August 2023, you received a letter outlining the Department of Recreation and Parks' (DRP) schedule for its annual managed hunting efforts. This previous letter detailed DRP's intent to conduct an open archery program across six DRP sites to include Dorsey Hall, Gray Rock, and Worthington Fields open space areas as well as Blandair, David Force, and Benson Branch Parks. The originally proposed format for these hunts has been reevaluated with the open archery program being cancelled for this coming season and the foreseeable future at these locations. DRP will instead conduct staff-managed archery hunts at three of the originally proposed open archery locations to include Blandair, David Force, and Benson Branch Parks.

Regarding staff-managed archery hunts, please be aware that DRP has been conducting this program successfully and safely since 1998. This program has received special approval from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Qualified, experienced, carefully screened and safety-conscious hunters will be entering the sites on the dates listed below. Staff-managed archery hunts will take place only on the dates listed in this letter. All hunters are in elevated positions, so all shots are directed towards the ground. In addition, the Department will be posting "Notice of Deer Management - Hunting" signs in your neighborhood at strategic locations two weeks prior to the hunt date to remind residents of our presence. Signs will be removed after the conclusion of the hunts at that park.

The dates approved for the hunts include:

MANAGED ARCHERY HUNT (2023) SCHEDULE:

Park	Dates	Number of Hunts
Blandair Park	10/18/23, 11/3/23, 11/14/23, 11/28/23, 12/7/23	5
David Force Park	10/24/23, 11/8/23, 11/16/23, 11/29/23, 12/12/23	5
Benson Branch Park	10/16/23, 11/1/23, 11/13/23, 11/27/23, 12/5/23	5

MANAGED FIREARMS HUNT (2023) SCHEDULE:

Park	Dates	Number of Hunts
Alpha Ridge Park	10/2/23, 10/25/23, 11/6/23 12/4/23, 12/21/23	5
Gorman Stream Valley	10/4/23, 10/27/23, 11/17/23 12/8/23	4
MPEA	10/11/23, 10/31/23, 11/20/23, 12/13/23, 12/29/23	5
West Friendship Park	10/6/23, 10/23/23, 11/2/23, 12/1/23, 12/19/23	5
Schooley Mill Park	10/12/23, 10/20/23, 11/15/23, 12/15/23, 12/27/23	5

If you have any questions about the Department's Deer Management Program, please call at (410) 313-1675.