



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Machicomoco State Park
3601 Timberneck Farm Road
Hayes, VA 23072
Phone: 804-642-2419
Email: machicomoco@dcrr.virginia.gov

Dear Hunter,

Thank you for choosing to participate in the Machicomoco State Park Deer Hunt. Enclosed in this packet you'll find the following information:

- A non-transferrable reservation confirmation email
- Terms and Conditions
- A required items list
- Hunt map

Please carefully review all the documents in this packet. Each hunter will need to sign the Terms and Conditions sheet to confirm they have read, understood, and will abide by the stated conditions. Hunters under the age of 18 must also have a parent/guardian's signature.

We encourage you to visit the park during normal park hours (8:00 a.m. to dusk for the Main Unit) to familiarize yourself with the general topography and stand location. Stands will be available to scouting beginning Monday October 19, 2026. During your pre-hunt scouting trip, you must park in designated parking spaces and not along the roadsides. Parking for the Rosewell Unit may be muddy; caution should be used. Normal parking fees apply.

The park will open for hunter check-in at 4:00 a.m. All hunters must check-in at the Contact Station by 4:45 a.m. Late arrivals will forfeit their reservation to stand-by hunters. A stand-by drawing will be conducted at 4:45 a.m. each day to fill vacant spots. A second drawing will be held at 1:00 p.m. each day to fill any zones that have been vacated by hunters. A mandatory pre-hunt safety briefing will take place at the Contact Station at 4:50 a.m. Hunters must checkout at the Contact Station by 6:30 p.m. Hunters will be able to drive to their respective designated parking areas for each stand around 5:15 a.m.

If you have any questions prior to the hunt, please contact the park office at (804) 642-2419.

Sincerely,
Adam Newland
Park Manager

Machicomoco State Park Managed Deer Hunt Permit

2026 Terms and Conditions

The following information, terms, and conditions apply to the managed deer hunts in Virginia State Parks. Any violation will result in revocation of permit and elimination of your participation in any hunting programs sponsored by the Division of State Parks and possible criminal charges.

1. The special deer hunt will be held on 18 & 19 November and 8 & 9 December.
2. Gates will be open between 4:00 and 4:45 am. Check-in is by 4:45 am at the maintenance shop, see map. All hunters that have made reservations and have not checked in by 4:45 a.m. will forfeit their reservation and join the stand-by hunters. A stand-by drawing will be conducted daily at 4:45 a.m. to fill vacant positions.
3. All participants must check-out prior to leaving the hunt and must check out no later than 6:30 pm each day.
4. Participants must be at least 16 years of age, or if 12-15, accompanied by a responsible adult who has a hunter education certificate. The adult will not be allowed to hunt.
5. All hunters will attend a mandatory pre-hunt briefing the morning of each hunt at 4:50 a.m. Hunters who do not attend the briefing will not be allowed to hunt.
6. Hunters are encouraged to scout their hunting area prior to the hunt starting 19 October during normal park hours only. Stands will be marked during this period, no additional marks will be allowed. Parking for the Rosewell Unit may be muddy; caution should be used. Normal parking fees apply.
7. All required Virginia hunting licenses apply and will be checked prior to hunting.
8. Hunters will be required to have taken and passed a hunter safety course. Proof of hunter safety certification must be presented on the day of the hunt. No hunter will be allowed to hunt without proof of having completed a hunter safety course.
9. Every hunter or person accompanying a hunter shall wear either blaze orange or blaze pink hat and upper body clothing visible from 360 degrees.
10. Muzzleloading firearms, lawful archery tackle (compound bow only), and shotguns (slugs only) are the only permissible weapons during the November and December hunt. Rifles are not allowed. Crossbows are not allowed. Stands 5 & 7 are archery only. Except for Stand 5 (blind required), hunters **MUST** hunt from an elevated tree stand at least 10 feet off the ground, but no more than 20 feet off the ground. Hunters may choose to utilize a tripod type stand instead of a tree climber if the tripod also places the hunter between 10-20 feet above ground level. Hunters must provide their own stand. Hunters may adjust stands as desired as long as they remain within a 200ft perimeter of their stand marker.
11. There will be no shooting from or across roads, across water, or across park boundaries.
12. In accordance with state hunting laws, hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
13. Each hunter will reserve or be assigned a stand. The stands will be clearly marked. Hunters may set up their stand within 200 feet of the marked stand tree. Hunters must remain within 200 feet of their marked stand at all times while hunting. Weapons must be unloaded at all times when outside of the hunter's assigned hunting area.
 - Stands 1-12 are at the Main Unit. Stands 13-16 are at the Rosewell Unit.
 - Hunters will be required to drive their personal vehicles on park roadways or public roadways (Rosewell Unit) to reach their designated stand parking. The designated parking area is as close to the stands as can be done safely. Some travel on foot will be required to get to the marked stand.
 - One stand location is available for people with mobility-impairment disabilities. Please contact the park office at 804-642-2419 to reserve this stand.
14. Only deer may be harvested in accordance with the Code of Virginia. No other game species may be killed during this hunt.
15. Deer of either sex is permissible. There is a limit of **FOUR** deer per person/per day; **THREE** of which must be antlerless. Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) tags will be available online for antlerless deer. It is strongly suggested that each hunter does not pass up any Does they have in their sights.

16. Deer will be field dressed no less than 100 feet from hiking trails, structures, and roads. All deer must be checked by park staff at the deer check station. Information will be collected on each deer, including removal of a jawbone. All deer must be checked by the hunter using DWR's online or phone check process.
 - Stand 5 (ground blind) hunters will field dress their deer at the check station.
17. Hunters may track and recover their deer while they are within their assigned area. Hunters must request assistance from the hunt manager to track and recover any deer that has traveled outside the immediate area of their stand's zone.
18. Hunters will be allowed to use portable tree stands at approved locations. Safety harnesses are required. We highly encourage hunters to follow manufacturers' guidelines regarding the use of safety harnesses. Screw peg steps will not be allowed. Minimal trimming of trees for shooting lanes or to secure stands is allowed.
 - Hunters may utilize a portable tripod stand in lieu of a tree stand providing the tripod stand elevates the hunter between 10-20 feet from ground level. Tripod stands must still be inside the 200ft radius of the marked stand tree. Tripod stands should be setup per manufacturer's guidelines.
19. For stand 5 which requires a ground blind, blaze orange or blaze pink is required to be visible on the blind from 360 degrees, in addition to the blaze orange or blaze pink worn by the hunter.
20. Baiting is prohibited. Artificial deer lure is permissible.
21. Hunting with dogs is prohibited.
22. No drugs or alcoholic beverages.
23. Direct any questions concerning the hunt to:
Adam Newland, Park Manager, Machicomoco State Park, 276-967-1406
Erik Molleen, District 1 Resource Specialist, (757) 412-2311
24. The Division of State Parks reserves the right to close the managed hunt or to close any zone in the event that the number of deer taken exceeds that which is needed for herd control.
25. All Federal and Virginia Hunting Laws and Regulations, as well as Virginia State Parks Regulations, are applicable during this hunt. Hunters who violate any of the above regulations will be subject to removal from the park and/or if the hunter is in violation of the Code of Virginia the hunter may be subjected to a Virginia Uniform Summons.

"I have read and understand the above terms and conditions for participating in this controlled deer hunt. I understand that a violation of any of these terms and conditions is a violation of Virginia Administrative Code 4VAC5-30-40 and may result in the revocation of my hunting permit for this hunt, and the elimination of my participation in any hunting program sponsored by Virginia State Parks for the remainder of this season and subsequent years. Any fees paid to date for such programs will be forfeited."

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (If under 18)

Printed Name

Date

Required Items Checklist

Please bring the following items with you on the day of the hunt:

- ☐ Reservation confirmation letter.
- ☐ Terms and conditions sheet.
- ☐ A valid hunter safety certificate or legible photocopy.
- ☐ A valid Virginia hunting license and Big Game license.
- ☐ A blaze orange or blaze pink hat and upper body clothing visible from 360 degrees.
- ☐ If using a portable tree stand, a safety harness per manufacturer's guidelines.
- ☐ Hunters at Stand 5 (ground blind only) must utilize a ground blind with blaze orange or blaze pink that is visible on the blind from 360 degrees

Field Maps Instructions



To fully utilize the benefits of the digital copy of the map, hunters should download the free app named **'Field Maps'**. This app is available for both Android and iOS. This app will allow you to use the hunt map in a similar manner to Google Maps or other mapping software. You will be able to geo-locate yourself on the hunt map, as well as drop point markers. This will allow you to better locate your stand as well as mark any areas of interest you may want to revisit if you are attending a zone hunt. One of the benefits of this app is you do not need phone service. The map is saved onto your phone and all you need to navigate is a GPS signal.

- 1. Visit your app store (Google Play or Apple's App Store) and search for 'Field Maps'.**
- 2. Download and install the app.**
- 3. Press "Skip sign in".**
- 4. In the search bar, search for the park in which you are hunting. For example, typing in "Lake Anna State Park" in the Field Maps search bar, will bring up the Lake Anna State Park map (the park map) AND the Lake Anna State Park Hunt map. You can then download the map for free within Field Maps.**
 - You may also press the link on our hunt website (<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/hunting>), which will directly link you to the download of that park within Field Maps.
- 5. When you're in the park, open the Field Maps app, and choose the appropriate map. Your location will show up as a small blue dot within the map.**

NOTE: You may need to turn on "allow downloads with cellular data" in your phone's settings if you are not connected to wifi when downloading a map.

MACHICOMOCO STATE PARK HUNTING

