



2025-2026 Managed Waterfowl Hunt at Dameron Marsh and Hughlett Point Natural Area Preserves Lottery Information and Application

This is an opportunity to hunt **WATERFOWL** at Dameron Marsh and Hughlett Point Natural Area Preserves in Northumberland County, Virginia. Half-day hunting will be available each MONDAY during the last segments of the general duck season.

2025-2026 Hunt Dates: November 24; December 22, 29; January 5, 12, 19, 26

To hunt waterfowl at Dameron Marsh and Hughlett Point, hunters must apply and be chosen by lottery. Application deadline is 5:00 PM, Friday, September 26, 2025 and a \$5.00 non-refundable application fee is required. A random drawing will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2025.

- Successful applicants will have the option of purchasing up to a total of three (3) permits at \$15.00 each for their hunt day, allowing each hunter to form a party consisting of themselves and up to two (2) other hunters. The applicant (Chief-of-Party) will be responsible for payment to DCR and the distribution of permits to each party member. Permits are non-transferrable.
- **AS WITH ALL DCR HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES, PROOF OF COMPLETION OF A HUNTER SAFETY COURSE IS REQUIRED FOR EACH HUNTER, NO EXCEPTIONS. HUNTER SAFETY CERTIFICATES MUST BE IN POSSESSION AND PRESENTED ALONG WITH LICENSES IF CHECKED DURING THE HUNT.** Hunters not in possession of a Hunter Safety Certificate, even if completed in the past, should contact the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources for nearby classes.
- Maximum of four hunting parties per hunt day. No stand-by hunting is available.
- One blind per hunt party is land accessible ("walk-in"). Access to other blinds is by water.
- It is strongly recommended that permit holders scout the area in advance to find boat ramps, blind locations, and to become familiar with navigating the water of the exposed and potentially hazardous Chesapeake Bay hunting locations. **YOU MUST BE FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA TO LOCATE BLIND SITES IN THE DARK BEFORE SHOOTING TIME.**
- DCR will try to repair blinds damaged by storms, but weather and logistical issues may cause delays. Hunters are permitted to repair their assigned blinds during non-hunting days.
- Specific navigation hazards include but are not limited to large waves, shoals, wooden pilings, pound nets, stationary blinds and other structures. Water depth and boating conditions can vary drastically with wind direction, wind speed, tidal changes, fog, ice and other factors.
- Hunting is permitted **ONLY** from: one assigned shore blind site; or licensed floating blinds located at a distance no greater than 50 yards from the assigned shore blind site.
- Only one floating blind per hunt day may occupy a blind site and may not be left unattended.
- Hunting hours are ½ hour before sunrise to 1:00 PM. All hunters are required to stop hunting at 1:00 PM, have all decoys retrieved, and be away from the blind site by 2:00 PM.
- The use of dogs for retrieving waterfowl is strongly recommended.
- Only U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service approved non-toxic shot is allowed for this hunt. Each hunter is limited to 25 rounds of ammunition in possession per hunt day.
- All State and Federal migratory bird regulation and laws apply during hunt. **HUNTERS MUST POSSESS: a Virginia State Hunting License, both STATE and FEDERAL migratory waterfowl stamps, a hunter safety course certificate, and a current HIP registration number.** A HIP number may be obtained by calling 1-804-367-1000 or registering on-line at www.dwr.virginia.gov
- Applicants must be at least 16 years of age.

Application Process

1. Complete the application below in full (incomplete or duplicate applications will be discarded).
2. Mail application and \$5 application fee (payable by check to the Natural Area Preservation Fund (NAPF) to the address below:

Attention: Dameron Marsh Waterfowl Hunt
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

3. Applications will be accepted until the close of business (5:00 PM) on September 26, 2025.
4. Successful applicants will be notified within two weeks of the drawing and will be provided with additional information regarding rules, payment for permits, and site maps.

DAMERON MARSH and HUGHLETT POINT NATURAL AREA PRESERVES 2025-2026 WATERFOWL HUNT APPLICATION

**** INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE DISCARDED ****

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Telephone No. () _____

Date of Birth _____

2025-2026 Hunting License # _____

Expiration Date _____

Email Address _____

Hunt Dates (Mondays): November 24; December 22, 29; January 5, 12, 19, 26

If desired, indicate your preferred hunt date: _____

Do you wish to be considered for dates other than your indicated date of preference? **YES** **NO**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation reserves the right to manage hunter access and hunter use of all Department lands as deemed appropriate.

DCR REQUIRES HUNTER SAFETY CERTIFICATION TO PARTICIPATE ON ALL HUNTS ON STATE PARKS AND STATE NATURAL AREA PRESERVES

Received: _____ Entered: _____