

GUIDELINES FOR DEER HUNTERS RETRIEVING DEER THAT RUN
INTO PARKLAND AFTER BEING SHOT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY
IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

If a hunter shoots a deer that travels from private property into parkland - land administered by either the M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks Department or the C. & O. Canal National Historic Park - the following course of action is required prior to retrieving the deer:

- Call the appropriate park police to explain the situation and provide a location of where the deer entered parkland:

M-NCPPC Montgomery County Park Police	301-949-3010
C&O Canal National Historic Park	301-714-2235

- In most cases, Park Police will dispatch an officer to the location to escort the hunter onto parkland to retrieve the deer.
- If the deer is not dead, the police officer and hunter will determine the best course of action to euthanize the deer.
- If an officer is not dispatched and permission is granted over the phone to enter parkland, the hunter will not be permitted to take a weapon onto parkland. Therefore, if the deer is not dead, a second call to Park Police will be required and an officer will be sent to the scene to determine the best course of action to euthanize the deer.

PLAN AHEAD IF YOU HUNT NEAR PARKLAND

When hunting in a location where a wounded deer is likely to run onto park property, for example where archery hunters are hunting in residential communities, it is advisable to contact Park Police in advance to make them aware of this situation and the potential need for their services as described above.

HUNTERS PLEASE NOTE: The recovery of a deer, even if you are not carrying your weapon, is still considered “hunting” and therefore, permission to enter any property is required. Hunters are also required to wear safety orange clothing as required by state law, according to the type of hunting being done. Field dressing should not be done on any property without expressed written permission of the landowner.

Direct questions to:

M-NCPPC Parks Department Bill Hamilton, Principal Natural Resources Specialist 301-962-1342 Bill.Hamilton@montgomeryparks.org	Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP Brad Clawson, Chief Ranger 301-714-2222 (o) 240-527-4526 (c) 301-739-5275 (fax) bradley_clawson@nps.gov
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