

From: John Maher
Date: March 20, 2012 1:09:14 PM EDT
To: Bob Lyons
Subject: Deer Management Archery Team Announcement

Dan Bednarski (Primary Liaison) and John Maher (Secondary Liaison) are now organizing the Whitetail Management Team (WMT) to participate in the 2012-2013 Fairfax County Deer Management Archery Program. Members who did not hunt last year have been dropped, a common practice among the participating teams. WMT Membership focuses on retaining eligible initial members from its original season (2011-2012) and recruiting new members from the Prince William County chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America (PWCWLA). Outside members must be nominated by a member. The initial objective is a group of about 22-25 committed bowhunters.

Based upon this past year's experience, discussions with other group liaisons, and volunteer work with the Fairfax County Deer Management Program, WMT is establishing some guidelines to improve our individual and group success:

- 1) Members must commit to the program, that is, plan to hunt the entire season (October through February).
- 2) Members may not belong to any other Fairfax County Deer Management Archery Program group. This will be checked when the application is turned in to Fairfax County before the lottery selecting groups. Any members found in another group will be deleted.
- 3) In addition to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries requirement to complete an approved Hunter Education Course, prospective members should also complete the International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP) course. This excellent one-day course includes a section on Urban Deer Hunting.
- 4) You must use GoogleDocs on the Internet to register/ join the group, log your weekly hunting activity, and record deer harvested. Weekly Hunt Log Reports must be submitted not later than 7:00 pm on Sunday. Access to the GoogleDocs reports is controlled, so members who cannot enter their own data must coordinate with another member to enter the data for them. Time-sensitive incident reports shall be submitted directly to the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist with a copy to both Liaisons. Incident reports that are not time-sensitive shall be submitted to the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist via both liaisons.
- 5) Members are strongly encouraged to attend one or more Fairfax County Public Briefings, especially for the Parks we apply for. This is an opportunity to meet some of the residents living near the park, understand their concerns, and project a positive image of bow hunting. In these meetings, bowhunters also provide knowledgeable responses to community questions.

One reason for forming up early is to involve members in the park selection process. WMT will select parks from the three Fairfax County Magisterial Districts bordering Prince William County (Sully, Springfield, and Mount Vernon). Members need to view those parks before the foliage is out to see what they will look like after the leaves fall. Members who participate in evaluating the parks will participate in discussions of which three parks WMT will apply for. Participation includes touring them to identify food, water, and cover as well as park access and then mapping trails and other park features.

If there are too many for one group, a second group may be formed.

All qualifications and paperwork will be completed for submission by mid-July, approximately two weeks prior to the deadline. A closing date approximately two weeks prior to the deadline will be announced when the 2012-2013 schedule is announced.

Interested persons should review the description of the 2011-2012 Program, including "Archery Proficiency Test" and "Strict Rules To Participate".

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife/archery/archery-program.htm>

Anyone interested in joining Whitetail Management Team should send an e-mail to:

Dan Bednarski dxbski@comcast.net and John Maher jmaher56@verizon.net