

# Loch Raven Deer Management Plan FAQ

## Why was bow hunting chosen to manage the deer population at Loch Raven Reservoir?

The large population of white-tailed deer at Loch Raven Reservoir has caused widespread damage to the forest understory. The Forest Conservation Plan which was prepared for the City of Baltimore in 2003 by the Maryland DNR Forest Service found that over-browsing (grazing) by deer has eliminated virtually all young tree saplings and is the greatest threat to the forest's ability to re-generate. It has been proven that the best way to preserve water quality is to maintain a healthy and vigorous forested buffer and reducing the deer population is the best way to ensure the long-term health of the forest.

## Is this the first time bow hunting has been used to manage deer populations on Baltimore City Reservoirs?

No. Bow hunting for deer has been allowed at Liberty and Prettyboy reservoirs for over 35 years.

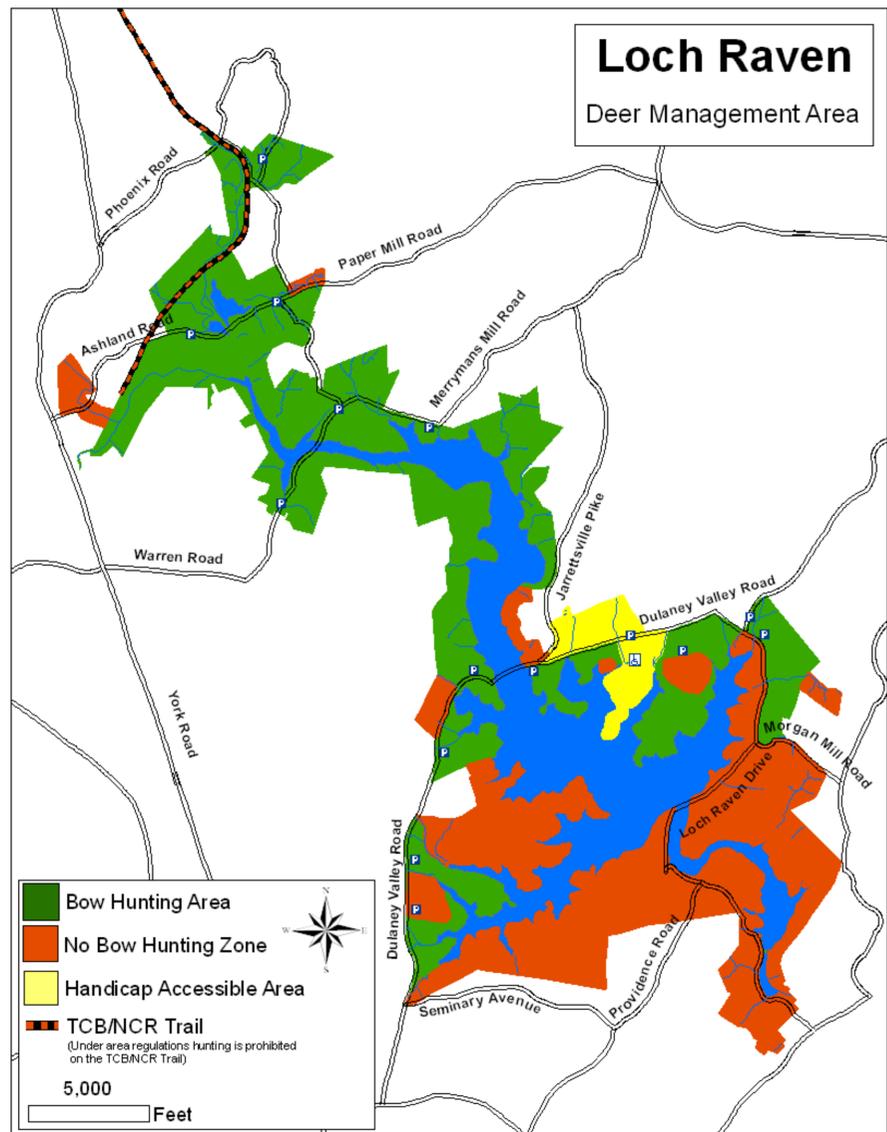
## When will bow hunting begin and when will it end?

For the bow hunting season, hunting is allowed from sunrise to sunset beginning on September 15<sup>th</sup> and will last through January 31<sup>st</sup>. Bow hunting for deer at Loch Raven Reservoir will continue seasonally thereafter. There is no hunting on Sunday.

## Which areas of the Reservoir will be open to bow hunting?

A map of the Loch Raven Deer Management Area is available on the Baltimore City Government website

Bow hunting within 50 feet of the high water shoreline is prohibited. Bow hunting is also prohibited within 150 yards of any inhabited dwelling.



## Do I need a special permit to hunt at Loch Raven and how do I get one?

Yes. In addition to State licenses, stamps and permits, each hunter must also possess a "Loch Raven Reservoir Deer Bow Hunting Permit" issued at no cost by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for bow hunting on the Loch Raven Watershed. This permit is available in the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping. No bow hunting is permitted in areas not designated for bow hunting in the Loch Raven Watershed.

## May I bow hunt for other animals at Loch Raven Reservoir?

No. Bow hunting is for white-tailed deer only.

## How are harvest limits developed?

Harvest limits for white-tailed deer are established by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Bow hunters in the Region B Suburban Deer Archery Zone (which includes Loch Raven Reservoir) may take an unlimited number of antlerless deer and two antlered deer per season. Please consult the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping, for additional information regarding seasons and bag limits.

## What are the deer tagging and checking requirements?

The check-in and tagging procedures are outlined in the Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping. The Public Land Code for Loch Raven Reservoir is 342.

## What is a Deer Cooperator?

Deer Cooperators are businesses or individuals that provide deer control assistance. They are licensed by the Maryland DNR to use non-lethal and lethal deer management techniques to help resolve deer problems. Certain portions of the Loch Raven Reservoir Watershed have been selected for deer management using Licensed Maryland Deer Cooperators and are not open to public hunting.

## Where can I get information about the Forest Conservation Plan?

The Comprehensive Forest Conservation Plan for Long-Term Watershed Protection is available in PDF format on the Baltimore City website:

[http://cityservices.baltimorecity.gov/dpw/waterwastewater03/watershed\\_fcp/cfcp2004.pdf](http://cityservices.baltimorecity.gov/dpw/waterwastewater03/watershed_fcp/cfcp2004.pdf)