

ATTACHMENT #1

Dear Hunter:

Enclosed is the information you requested for the 2004 Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge Deer and Hog Hunt.

1. The season dates are October 2 and October 4 through 9.
2. The hunt is a shotgun hunt; however, archery hunting is also permitted.
3. **There will be a \$5.00 non-refundable application fee to participate in the computer lottery.** This fee is required for both single and paired applications. Please send \$5.00 per person with each application. It is necessary to offset the increasing administrative costs of conducting the lottery and hunt (salaries, signs, fuel, mailings, etc.) All hunters, both selected and on standby, will also continue to be charged the \$10.00 daily user fee -- payable on the hunt day at the check-in station. All non-ambulatory hunters and holders of a Golden Access or Golden Age Passport shall receive a 50% discount on the user fee(\$5.00); however, they must still pay the \$5.00 application fee to participate in the lottery.
4. All hunters must bring with them and wear **at least** 400 square inches of a solid-colored, **hunter blaze orange** (equivalent to a vest and baseball cap).
5. One special non-ambulatory hunter zone is available this year (Zone 5). Consult the attached "Lottery Information Sheet" for more details. Non-ambulatory applicants must indicate the type of hunting technique to be used, and special equipment required to accommodate their hunt.

Please review all of the attached additional information. If you have any questions, please contact the Refuge headquarters at (757) 721-2412. Thank you for your interest in hunting at Back Bay NWR.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jared Brandwein
Refuge Manager

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BACK BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
PLUM TREE ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
4005 Sandpiper Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

2004 Deer/Feral Hog Hunt Lottery Information Sheet

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE HUNT:

Submit only one completed application (attached).

Selections for hunt days and zones will be made randomly on a computer lottery basis. Rules for the lottery will be as follows:

- * All applications must be received no later than close of business on Thursday, September 2.
- * A \$5.00 per person, non-refundable fee must accompany each application, including paired applications. This (\$10.00) fee covers both applicants A and B on a paired application. Do not send cash through the mail. Only personal checks or money orders, made payable to: "Back Bay NWR," will be accepted. Checks returned for insufficient funds will result in your disqualification from the lottery. The application and non-refundable fee, cash or check, may be hand-delivered during regular office hours (Monday - Friday from 8:00am - 4:00pm).
- * A public lottery will be held at the Refuge headquarters on Thursday, September 9, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.
- * Hunters may select a maximum of four hunt date/zone combinations. Date/zone selections must include actual hunt dates and zone numbers preferred, and must appear as the following example: "10/10; Zone 6". The preference of "Any Date/Any Zone" on the application will result in its rejection.
- * Paired (limited to two hunters) hunting applications will be accepted. Hunting choice selection (date/zone) will still be as detailed above; however, if both lottery applicants cannot be accommodated in the same zone, on the same date, neither will be selected during the lottery. (Note: There is no known advantage or disadvantage in applying for the hunt with a paired application.)
- * Paired applicants may submit only one completed application form with BOTH portion A and B completed. **Applicants submitting more than one application will be automatically disqualified by the computer program.**
- * Successful applicants will be registered for one day in one zone only, and will be sent a selection notice within 10 business days of the lottery. Unsuccessful applicants will not be notified.
- * A total of 62 daily permits will be issued for each of the seven hunt days. Those hunters not selected may participate in the daily stand-by lottery to be held at 5:15 a.m. at the Back Bay Refuge Visitor Contact Station.
- * Zone 5 will be available for non-ambulatory hunters as defined by Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Non-ambulatory hunters are defined as "any person who presents a medical doctor's written statement that such person is permanently unable to walk". If you meet this criteria, please check YES on the bottom of the application form. An individual holding a Virginia State Disabled Hunter's License, and/or a Golden Access Passport, and/or a Golden Age Passport, and who is in need of special accommodations should contact the Refuge Manager or his designee

in advance, and notify them of the special hunting techniques to be utilized, and special equipment required.

- * The check-in station will open at 4:00AM. Reservations will be honored until 5:00AM. After 5:00AM, standby hunters already present will be allowed to fill vacant slots on a separate standby lottery basis. Selected hunters will be registered and issued a daily permit. Please note that the standby lottery will be held once each day at approximately 5:15AM and successfully selected hunters will be transported to the field at approximately 5:45AM. You must enter the Refuge by 5:00AM and receive a standby lottery ticket at the gate, to participate in the standby lottery.
- * All hunters are subject to the Refuge user fee of \$10.00/hunter/day, payable on the hunt day at the check-in station. Individuals possessing a Golden Access Passport or a Golden Age Passport, will receive a 50% fee reduction.
- * Scouting will be allowed in all Zones (1 through 8) by foot or bicycle only during the week prior to the Refuge Hunt (September 24 - October 1). You are required to sign-in and check-out at the Visitor Contact Station. Scouting times are as follows: September 24 & 25, 2004, 9:00AM - 6:00PM; September 26 - October 1, 2004, 9:00AM - 3:00PM. Scouts must wear hunter blaze-orange (baseball cap and vest).
- * Be alert to the presence of the poisonous Cottonmouth ("Water Moccasin") snake; please avoid (rather than kill) them. Killing snakes is prohibited.
- * Scouting of Zone 7 (Long Island) will only be permitted by portable, hand-launched boat (punt, canoe, row-boat, etc. without a boat trailer). Coast Guard regulations governing boat-loading capacities, proper use of personal flotation devices (life jackets), storm warnings, etc., are in effect for all watercraft users. Severe weather can result in cancellation of boat access to Long Island. For emergency purposes, cell phones are recommended. All scouts must be off Long Island by 4:00PM.
- * **PERMITS ARE NON-TRANSFERRABLE.**