

Frequently Asked Questions

What equipment can my youth hunter hunt with?

Hunting aboard MCBQ is limited to archery tackle, air rifles (.177-.25 caliber, inclusive) shot-guns, and muzzle-loading rifles .45 caliber or larger. Youth hunters are restricted to the same archery and firearms seasons as adult hunters, with the exception of youth/apprentice hunting days.

How many youth hunters can I take with me?

An authorized adult can escort no more than two youth hunters or non-hunting companions.

Can someone else take my youth hunter out?

Yes. A parent or legal guardian can designate another adult hunter in writing to accompany a minor. The statement will be kept on file at the GCS.

Can my youth hunter shoot an antlerless deer on an antlered deer-only day?

Yes, with restrictions. Youth hunters are allowed to harvest an antlerless deer (button buck, shed buck, or doe) outside of the designated youth hunting day and either-sex hunting days ONLY if they have not already reached their annual antlerless deer bag limit on base.

Can a youth hunter qualify to hunt the restricted archery areas East of I-95/Upshur?

Yes. Any hunter wishing to hunt east of I-95 or Upshur must attend the archery safety lecture and pass the archery skills test.

FAQ Continued

My youth hunter shot a deer/turkey/bear. Now what?

For youth of any age, harvested game should be checked in with the state over the phone or on the app before being moved from the place of kill. If the hunter is under 12 years old and does not possess any license, check in the animal as a licensed exempt hunter before you bring it back to the Game Check Station. If the hunter is 12 or older, or possesses any hunting license with the required deer/turkey or bear tags, notch the appropriate tag, then bring the harvested game back to the Game Check Station.



MCB Quantico, visit or call the Game Check Station:

Open Monday - Saturday during hunting seasons only. See annual bulletin for exact dates.

Hours: See the annual hunting bulletin or our website for season dates/GCS hours

Address: 27175 Telegraph Rd.
Stafford, VA 22556

Phone: (703) 784-5523/5329

Youth Hunters On MCB Quantico



MCBQ - NREA
Natural Resources Management Section
Game Check Station

Youth Hunting on MCB Quantico

MCBQ Hunting License

The MCBQ hunting license is FREE for hunters under 18 years of age. Hunters 12 and older must possess a valid Virginia hunting license and meet applicable hunter education requirements before they can be issued a MCBQ license. All MCBQ hunting licenses are valid for one year from date of purchase.



MCBQ Restrictions

Access to training areas on base for hunting activities is managed by the Quantico Game Check Station (GCS). All persons must check in and out daily, have a hunting license application on file at the GCS, and watch the MCBQ hunting safety video. Youth hunters under the age of 8 are exempt from watching the safety video.

On MCB Quantico, all hunters under 15 years old must be accompanied by an adult (21 or older) and be within arms reach of the escort. Hunters 16-17 years old must be within 100 yards of the escort; within sight and voice contact. Hunters holding an apprentice license without hunter's education must be within arm's reach and under immediate control of an accompanying adult.

Virginia Youth Hunting Licenses

In Virginia, hunters under the age of 16 are considered "youth hunters" and are subject to special license requirements:

Ages 11 and Under

No Virginia licenses, tags, permits, or hunter education required.

Ages 12 to 15

Hunters in this category must have: the following:

1. Virginia junior hunting license
2. Hunter education completion card

In addition, hunters may need one or more of the following:

- Junior bear or deer/turkey tags.
- Archery license *only* for early archery seasons (for bear, deer, and turkey).
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration to hunt migratory birds. No federal or state duck stamps required.

Apprentice License

Available to hunters of any age, it exempts the licensee from hunter education and is valid for two years. Additional tags and permits are required to hunt big game and migratory birds. The apprentice hunter must hunt with a licensed adult. Apprentice hunters 18 and older may hunt alone on MCBQ with proof of completed hunter education on their person.

Youth/Apprentice Hunting Days

Special hunting days are available throughout the year to provide early hunting opportunities to youth and apprentice hunters for big game and waterfowl.

To participate on these days, all youth (under 16) and apprentice hunters must be accompanied by an adult who has a valid Virginia hunting license (or is license exempt).

Game taken on these days will count toward the youth hunter's daily and annual bag limit. Firearms are allowed on all designated youth/apprentice hunting days. Adult hunters accompanying youth/apprentice hunters may not carry or discharge a firearm.

*see the base website for current year's dates.

