James City County

Public Access Lands for Sportsmen “PALS” Rules

PALS is a program that opens additional lands for public use through cooperative agreements. This area is the first PALS project in eastern Virginia. Please treat it with respect to help us ensure its success. If you encounter any problems please call 804-829-6580. Please also report any wildlife crime to 800-237-5712 or email to wildcrime@dwr.virginia.gov

The James City County PALS is Open to archery/crossbow deer hunting only. No other activities are allowed.

License/PASS Requirements- In addition to all applicable licenses e.g. Hunting License (Resident, Nonresident, Youth, Apprentice or Junior), Archery or Crossbow License, Big Game License (Tags) a PALS Access Pass is required to hunt this PALS property. PALS permits are only sold through license agents or on the DWR web site and smartphone APP. For more specific license information please see a license agent, the DWR Hunting and Trapping Guide found at an agent, or http://www.dwr.virginia.gov/

Access- Is SELF-REGULATED by limiting parking to the one gravel parking lot area which is intended to restrict the number of daily participants to no more than 5 vehicles. These spots are first come first serve. Please park with respect to others. Overnight parking is not permitted. Vehicles parked on highway right of way (ROW) Cell Tower ROW, Landfill Entrance ROW or outside the designated parking lot will be towed at owner’s expense. Area Gates Open September 1, 2022 -March 27, 2023 ONLY. THIS IS A PUBLIC LAND therefore THE GATE WILL BE LEFT OPEN HOWEVER THIS AREA IS CLOSED TO HUNTING ON SUNDAY.

Tree Stands- Are permitted, but not required, Safety Harness are recommended. Climbing or Ladder Tree Stand Only, No screw in steps or permanent stands, Leave at own risk

BLAZE ORANGE Requirements- Is recommended all the times when hunting but only required on the September Youth/ Apprentice Day (September 24), and during General Deer Firearm Season (November 19 2022- January 7, 2023)

James City County PALS Archery/Crossbow Deer Hunting Season Dates and Limits:

September 1, 2022- Scouting Only

September 2 through September 30, 2022 (Antlerless Only), 2 deer per day

September 24 Youth Apprentice Day, (Either Sex), 2 Deer per day

October 1, 2022 through January 7, 2023 (Either Sex), 2 deer per day, 3 antlered per season

January 8, 2023 through March 26, 2023 (Antlerless Only), 2 deer per day