Department of Recreation & Parks Announces Deer Management Operations for February & March 2020

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – The Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks has announced its winter schedule for managing deer populations through sharpshooting. This program is held to help maintain a stable, balanced, white-tailed deer population on county park lands where deer browsing has been shown to reduce biodiversity.

The sharpshooting program is different from the managed hunts, which were announced in August. Specially trained and qualified personnel using highly accurate, noise-suppressed rifles, will remove deer under a special permit issued by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. All the meat from this operation is donated to charitable organizations in the area, including the Community Action Council of Howard County’s Food Bank. Venison is a lean source of protein and has fewer calories and a higher nutrient value than other types of meat. High in iron, B12, B6 and other vitamins, venison is also relatively low in cholesterol compared to other meats.

All properties will be closed to the public during the hours of operation, 3:00 p.m. to midnight. The sites and schedule for this winter (2020) are as follows:

- **Alpha Ridge Landfill**
  - March 11, 25

- **Belmont Manor**
  - February 5, 19

- **Dorsey Hall Open Space**
  - February 11, 27; March 12, 24

- **River’s Edge Open Space**
  - March 3, 17

- **Robinson Nature Center**
  - February 4, 18

- **Timbers at Troy Golf Course**
  - February 6, 20

- **Worthington Park**
  - March 4, 18

- **Rockburn Park**
  - February 12, 26

- **Savage Park**
  - March 5, 19