

## FY 2000 Maryland Hunting Accident Report

Age Groups (Shooter)	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Under 10 yrs.				
10-19 yrs.	1		1	3
20-29 yrs.		3	1	1
30-39 yrs.				
40-49 yrs.				3
50-59 yrs.				1
60+ yrs.			1	2
Unknown				
<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3	3	10

Causes	Two Party		Self- Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Mistaken for Game	1	1		
Fall from Tree Stand			1	6
Careless Firearm Handling		1	2	4
Victim out of Site		1		

<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3	3	10
<b>Distance from Shooter to Victim</b>	<b>Two Party</b>		<b>Self-Inflicted</b>	
	<b>Fatal</b>	<b>Non-Fatal</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	
<b>0 - 10 yds</b>		1		
<b>11 - 50 yds</b>	1			
<b>51 yds and over</b>		2		
<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3		

<b>Victim Wearing Bright Colors</b>	<b>Two Party</b>		<b>Self Inflicted</b>	
	<b>Fatal</b>	<b>Non-Fatal</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	
<b>Yes</b>		1		
<b>No</b>	1	2		
<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3		

<b>Weather</b>	<b>Two Party</b>		<b>Self- Inflicted</b>	
	<b>Fatal</b>	<b>Non-Fatal</b>	<b>Fatal</b>	<b>Non-Fatal</b>
<b>Clear</b>	1	3	2	8
<b>Drizzle</b>				1
<b>Overcast</b>			1	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3	3	10

Device Used	Two Party		Self- Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Rifle	1	2	1	2
Tree Stand			1	6
Muzzleloader			1	
Shotgun		1		2
<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3	3	10

Species Hunted	Two Party		Self- Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Deer		1	3	8
Groundhog		1		
Squirrel	1			1
Turkey		1		1
<b>TOTALS</b>	1	3	3	10

## Narratives

1. A 22 year old Washington County hunter hunting deer on a crop damage permit and groundhogs observed movement 72 yards away in some trees. Thinking it was a groundhog, he fired his .243 rifle. The projectile penetrated a small tree sending 40-50 pieces of shrapnel into the head, chest and arms of the 52 year old victim. Neither subjects were wearing orange and the shooter had not completed a hunter education course. Non-fatal.
2. A 60 year old Frederick County deer hunter fell from his tree stand fracturing his right ankle. While he was attempting to climb into the stand, the top rung of the ladder broke. Victim had not completed a hunter education course. Non-fatal.
3. A 27 year old Washington County deer hunter fell 20 feet from his tree stand resulting in a broken sternum, bruised lung and heart, cracked vertebra and spinal cord injuries. Victim was not wearing a safety belt. Non-fatal.
4. A 25 year old Allegany County squirrel hunter was shot by his 19 year old hunting partner. The shooter and victim were communicating on a walkie-talkie and the victim advised the shooter to take a shot. The shooter shot twice, striking the victim in the head and shoulder 114 feet away. Neither the victim or shooter were wearing fluorescent orange. Fatal.
5. A 21 year old Washington County muzzleloading deer hunter sustained an apparent self- inflicted accidental gunshot wound to the chest. Fatal.
6. A 23 year old Allegany County turkey hunter shot his 24 year old hunting partner with a 22-250 rifle when they were changing hunting locations. Several firearms were placed in the back of a pick up truck. The shooter picked up the firearm to determine if it was loaded, as he did not see the owner unload it as they were putting the firearms in the truck. As the shooter pushed the safety off to open the bolt, the firearm discharged. The bullet pierced the metal truck bed and cab, went through the seat and struck the victim (driver) in the back. The victim received multiple back fractures and possible paralysis. Inspection of the firearm revealed that the safety had been adjusted and was defective. Non-fatal.
7. A 68 year old Queen Anne County deer hunter fell approximately 30 feet from his tree stand sustaining a fractured leg and lower back fracture. No safety belt was used and the victim was charged with hunting out of season, using 00 Buckshot, and hunting while under the influence of alcohol. Non-fatal.
8. A 71 year old Washington County deer hunter fell 16 feet from his tree stand as he was exiting the stand. He placed his hand on a 3 inch branch which broke and caused him to lose his balance. The victim sustained multiple skull fractures. Fatal.

9. A 17 year old Garrett County deer hunter, while taking a break with his friends placed the muzzle of a 30-30 to his forehead, stated that the safety was on and then said: A watch me shoot myself. He then pulled the trigger, removing his head above his nose. Victim was hunting on youth day with no adult supervision. Fatal.

10. An 18 year old Washington County squirrel hunter while taking a break in his truck from hunting, decided to unload his firearm. While unloading the firearm, it discharged striking the victim with a .22 caliber bullet in the inner thigh and exiting the outer thigh. Non-fatal.

11. A 16 year old Dorchester county deer hunter, while swinging his rifle on a deer and removing the safety. The firearm discharged, resulting in a 30-06 bullet going through his right great toe. Non-fatal.

12. A 41 year old Queen Anne's County deer hunter, while exiting his tree stand and using branches as steps fell 15-20 feet when a branch broke. Victim sustained cracked ribs. Non-fatal.

13. A 25 year old Frederick County deer hunter was shot by one of his hunting partners when several deer broke cover as a result of other members of the hunting party driving the deer. The victim was out of site of the shooter and neither the victim or shooter knew the other's location. Victim received one gunshot wound through the shoulder. Non-fatal.

14. A 40 year old Talbot County deer hunter fell 15 feet to the ground, breaking both ankles when a screw in tree step broke as he was climbing the tree. Non-fatal.

15. A 43 year old Queen Anne's County deer hunter exited his tree stand and attempted to unload his shotgun by ejecting shells from the chamber. As a shell entered the chamber, the firearm discharged into the ground. As the victim attempted to regain control of the shotgun, it discharged again striking him in the right leg just below the knee and lodging in the top of his foot. Victim had been drinking alcohol prior to the incident. Non-fatal.

16. A 16 year old Dorchester County deer hunter was hunting on a permanent deer stand sitting on a 5 gallon bucket. The victim fell asleep and rolled off the bucket and stand landing on the ground. Fall resulted in several scrapes on the middle center of his back. Non-fatal.

17. A 59 year old Garrett County turkey hunter attempted to grab his gun as it started to fall from his lap. When he grabbed the gun, it discharged into the inside of his left thigh. Non-fatal.

