



**Dominion
Energy®**

Lake Gaston Waterfowl Impoundment Quota Hunts

Frequently Asked Questions



About the Program

Q: How many quota hunts are offered on this property?

A: Two separate quota hunts are offered on Dominion Energy's Lake Gaston Waterfowl Impoundment: the General Season Hunt and the Youth and Veterans Day Hunt. Each is applied for separately through Go Outdoors Virginia (GoOutdoorsVirginia.com).

Q: Why did this property move to a quota system?

A: The property was previously open access. A quota system manages hunter density and reduces user conflicts on the property.

General Season Hunt

Q: When can I hunt under the General Season Hunt?

A: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays during Segment 2 (Nov 19–28, 2026) and Segment 3 (Dec 19, 2026–Jan 30, 2027). Saturday, October 10, 2026 is open access with no lottery.

Q: How many hunt dates can I apply for?

A: Up to 12 of the 24 lottery-managed hunt days per application period. The limit exists because, without one, applicants could select every available date regardless of actual availability, which inflates the applicant pool for every date and lowers everyone's odds of selection.

Q: How will I know which dates to apply for?

A: This depends on your schedule and preferences. After the first season, DWR will publish selection probability by date — total applicants versus available slots for each hunt day — so applicants can use that information in future years.

Youth and Veterans Day Hunt

Q: When are the Youth and Veterans Day hunts?

A: Friday, October 24, 2026, and Saturday, February 6, 2027.

Q: Who is eligible to apply?

A: A registered youth or veteran hunter must be included in your hunting party for these dates, either as the applicant or as one of your up to two guests.

Applying

Q: How do I apply?

A: Apply through Go Outdoors Virginia (GoOutdoorsVirginia.com) during the designated application period for the hunt you want.

Q: What do I need to apply?

A: A valid Virginia hunting license, Virginia waterfowl license, Federal Duck Stamp (hunters age 16 and older), and HIP authorization. All of these can be obtained at Go Outdoors Virginia (GoOutdoorsVirginia.com).

The Draw

Q: How are hunters selected?

A: For each hunt date, six applicants are randomly selected from the eligible pool. Each of the six is then randomly assigned to one of the six zones.

Q: How will I know if I've been selected?

A: Go Outdoors Virginia (GoOutdoorsVirginia.com) automatically sends a notification to every applicant after each draw. Selectees receive the hunt date, zone assignment, a property map showing hunt zones and parking, access instructions, and program rules. Non-selectees receive confirmation of their unsuccessful status for each date applied for.

Hunt Day

Q: How many people can be in my party?

A: You may bring up to two guests, for a maximum of three hunters in your zone. Guests cannot apply independently and must hunt within your assigned zone.

Q: What are the hunt day hours?

A: The facility opens at 4:30 a.m. for setup. Hunting ends at 12:00 p.m. sharp; decoys must be retrieved and hunters must be off the premises by 1:00 p.m.

Q: Can I camp on the property?

A: No. Camping is prohibited.

Access and Property Rules

Q: Where do I park?

A: A designated vehicle parking area is provided. Its location is included on the property map sent with your selectee notification.

Q: Can I walk around the property?

A: Foot traffic is permitted on the public land near the parking area but not on the remaining land around the impoundment; users in those areas must remain in their boats.

Q: How do I access the flooded areas?

A: All flooded areas are open to the public by boat. Boats and paddlecraft must be carried to the water.

Q: Can I scout the property before my hunt?

A: Scouting is preferred before and between segments.