



Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF)

Outdoor Report

Managing and Conserving Our Wildlife and Natural Resources

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Diverse Groups Partner for Successful "Gourmet Gone WILD" in Stafford.

The DGIF Outdoor Education Program conducted the Gourmet Gone WILD event on Oct 21st which was hosted at the Potomac Point Winery in Stafford County. Some of our partners in making this event successful were the Potomac Point Winery, Stafford Parks and Recreation, Virginia Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Stafford Tourism, the Patawomack Indians, as well as schools that participated in the VDGIF Explore Bowhunting Program. This opportunity offered a unique event featuring outdoor skills opportunities related to



SWMNV members from left to right: Sebastian Hill, Bob Flanagan, Scott Gaillard and Bob Livingston.

hunting with archery stations and fishing, deer management and wildlife habitat, as well as a "sampling" of Virginia's foods. A youth hunt was conducted at the winery and surrounding private property in response to deer issues experienced by the winery. Various additional partners assisted such as the Chesapeake Ray and Virginia Oysters Growers, who provided sampling of stir-fried ray and oysters. The Riverside Community Church provided venison chili, which was a hit with the homemade cornbread. Smoked venison and rock fish was also sampled. The winery provided grape stomping and face painting for the youth. Winery tours were also available. The Patawomack Indians had a display of many artifacts, tools, bows and had a hand carved canoe.

Members of the Suburban Whitetail Management of Northern Virginia (SWMNV) assist in donating deer for the VDGIF educational programs and events. VDGIF offers programs and events which help teach novice hunters and participants how to process and cook their harvest as well as sessions that feature a "sampling" of wild game from Virginia. For more information on events offered please visit www.HuntFishVA.com. For more information on the whitetail deer issues in Northern Virginia and SWMNV, please visit www.deerdamage.org