

# Use of Firearms at ARECs

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State  
University

Policy and Guidelines



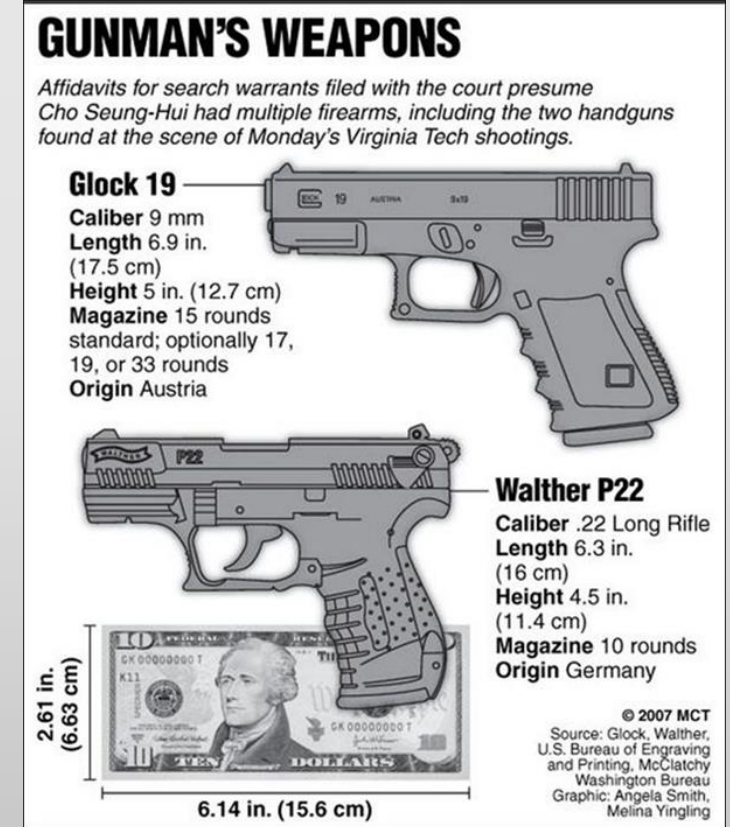
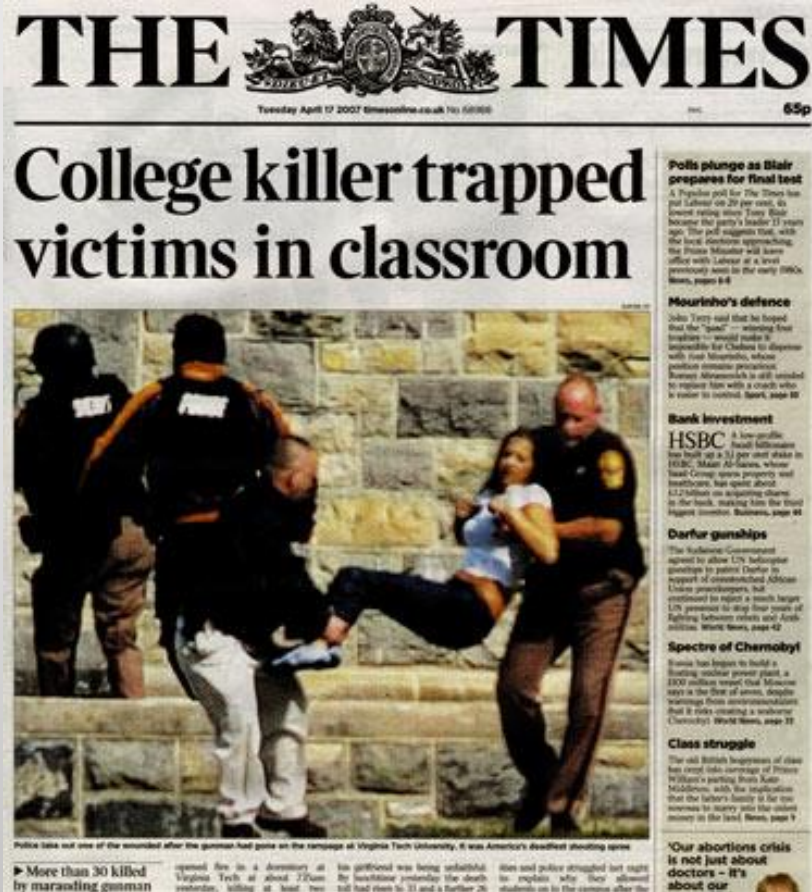
**VirginiaTech**

**Virginia Agricultural  
Experiment Station**

# Firearms at Virginia Tech...

What comes to mind?

Images of the 2007 campus shooting



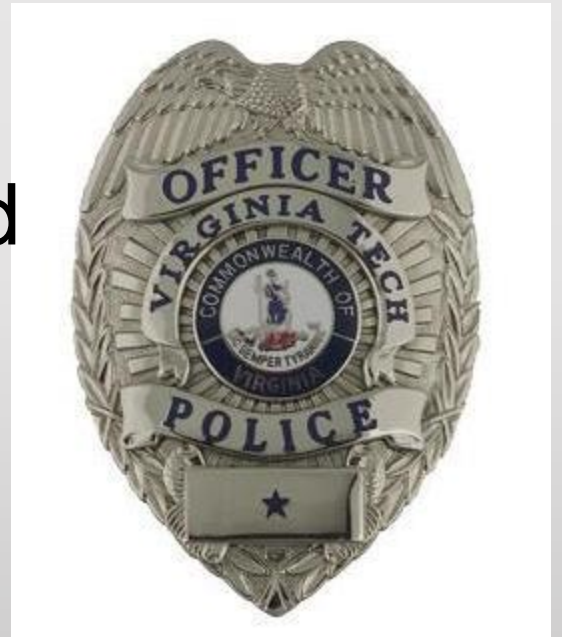
# Campus and Workplace Violence Protection (Policy 5616)

- Employees, students, volunteers and visitors are prohibited from carrying or storing a firearm or weapon even with a valid permit.
- Applies to all events on campus.
- If found, a weapon must be removed from university property. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action or arrest.



# Authorized Exceptions to Prohibition on Possession of Firearms or Weapons

- VT Police Department.
- Activity under the supervision of the VTPD.
- Employees may possess a weapon if required as part of the employee's job duties with Virginia Tech.
- Employees residing in university owned houses may keep personal firearms. (NOT employees living in residence halls).





# May a Student Carry a Weapon?



- Yes, if necessary for job duties, school work or recreational purposes.
- Classes or sports that require the use of weapons (archery, starter pistols) if approved in writing by the VTPD.



# Other Weapons on Campus

- Contractors and other on campus employees who use equipment, e.g. nail guns.
- Only used in performance of their job duties through a valid contractual or legal relationship with Virginia Tech.





# Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and its Agricultural Research and Extension Centers



# Can an AREC Employee Carry a Weapon?

- Employees are permitted to carry and use a firearm when part of their job.
- AREC Directors may add a job component specifying that lethal animal control is a part of their responsibility.
- Virginia Tech approves all position descriptions that require an employee to possess a firearm.





# Guidelines for Animal Control on College Property (Virginia Tech)

- Research and demonstration plots may suffer losses from voles, badgers, deer, geese, etc.
- Employees may use a firearm to control animals that threaten research.
- Active control, either by deterrence or by lethal force if allowed by law.



# Guidelines for Animal Control on College Property (Virginia Tech)

- All animal control activities must comply with applicable Virginia city, county, state and federal laws and university guidelines.
- The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries recommended practices for Nuisance and Problem wildlife can be found at:

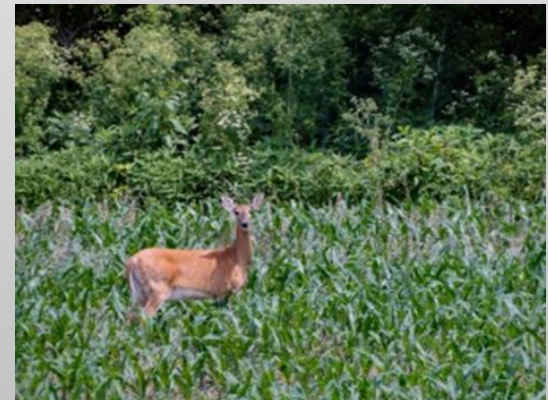
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/nuisance>





# Virginia Guidelines for Deer Management

1. Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP)
2. Damage Control Assistance Program (DCAP)
3. Kill Permits
4. Deer Population Reduction Program (DPOP)
5. Urban archery season





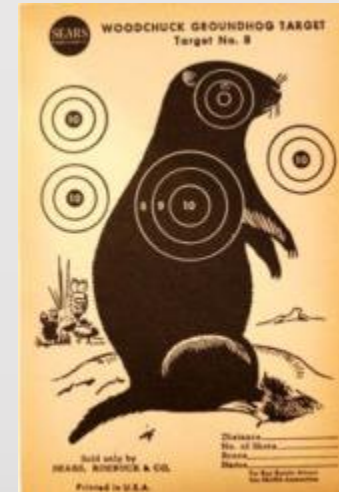
# Virginia Guidelines for Canada Geese

- Management areas: airports, agricultural areas, and where geese-human conflicts occur.
- Nest and Egg Depredation Order, for destruction of nests and eggs, must register with the USFWS.
- The Agricultural Depredation Order allows agricultural producers to use certain lethal methods where geese are damaging crops.



# Use of Firearms in Pest Animal Control

- Firearms used for animal control should be the personal property of the user.
- Firearms should be cased and out of sight in a locked vehicle when not being used.
- Personal firearms can only be on-site when used for approved animal control activities.
- Only lawful, standard hunting rifles and shotguns will be allowed.
- Firearms should NOT be routinely kept in vehicles or stored on university property.



# Employees Approved to Use Firearms Must...

- Be currently licensed to hunt
- Abide by federal and state hunting regulations
- Be safe and responsible hunters in the judgment of the unit leader
- Trained, skilled and competent
- Responsible
- Pre-approved by the AREC director



# Hunting on AREC Property

- Hunting is only permitted if it supports long-term pest management goals.
- Only during hunting season using sanctioned firearms or bows.
- Authorized employees (salaried and wage) who are licensed and have demonstrated hunter safety training and/or experience.
- Permission to hunt may be refused by the AREC Director or for any reason.
- Target practice will not be permitted at any time.
- Hunting by non-employees is not allowed at any time.
- Avoid the perception of illegal activity

