



JOE LACEFIELD PHOTO

Veterans Steven Buckley (left) and Chris Malone joined Kentucky Utilities Tyrone Plant Manager Barry Currens (right) for a photo after the hunt.

mobility-impaired hunters and strategically placed them on the property. Volunteers from the company, equally excited about the event, accompanied each hunter.

Many volunteers put in long hours of field dressing and skinning

deer. Eighteen deer were processed for Hunters for the Hungry. The rest were processed and packed in coolers for the lucky hunters.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife recently honored the employees of the Tyrone Plant with a wildlife steward award, in recognition of the company's support of the wounded warriors hunt and wildlife habitat improvements on the property.

These wounded warriors have given so much for us; they fought for our country and our freedom. They lost friends and sustained permanent injuries. The peace of mind that comes from a good hunting experience is priceless; this was the memory of a lifetime for everyone involved. ■

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Wounded Warriors Afield

APPROXIMATELY 15 YEARS ago, Kentucky Utilities initiated a policy against having weapons on their properties. This had the effect of ending hunting opportunities on land owned by the utility across the state.

The Tyrone Generating Station experienced a deer population boom as a result.

This 298-acre property, located on the Woodford County side of the Kentucky River between Versailles and Lawrenceburg, developed into a refuge. Deer headed there because they would not be disturbed when hunting occurred on surrounding properties.

Barry Currens, the plant manager at Tyrone, many times discussed the need to reduce deer numbers with biologists from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. However, nothing seemed feasible with the existing policies.

I recently had seen a wounded warrior elk hunt and was so moved by the experience I thought a similar hunt for deer would be a great application for this property. The wounded warrior program is a way for veterans to enjoy the outdoors through hunting.

Kentucky Utilities officials approved of the idea of supporting America's veterans through a special hunt. The owners of Life Adventure Center, a neighboring 600-acre property, also had wounded warrior hunt plans, according to program manager Byron Marlowe.

A partnership was born. Two more landowners offered their properties to place some hunters as well. Eleven wounded veterans participated in the 2012 hunt.

Marlowe secured donations and funding to provide the hunters with an all-inclusive hunt package. Kentucky Utilities constructed wooden blinds suitable for