

Waterfowl & Migratory Game Birds

Unless otherwise noted, possession limit = 3x daily limit

		Daily Limit
Crow - Fri., Sat., Sun. only	July 1 - April 9, 2023	No limit
Starling & English Sparrows	Closed during regular firearms deer season	No limit
Doves	Sept. 1 - Nov. 25 and Dec. 21 - Jan. 7, 2022	15
Woodcock	Oct. 15 - Nov. 25 and Dec. 12 - Dec. 21	3

Seasons for Ducks, Mergansers, Coots, Canada Geese, Light Geese, Brant and webless birds can be found on the Game Commission's website and in the Hunting & Trapping Digest.

Migratory Game Bird Hunting Hours Table can be found on the Game Commission's website and in the Hunting & Trapping Digest.

Applications for Goose Blinds and Other Special Hunts will be available on the Game Commission's website.

Review the complete Digest online: <http://bit.ly/PGCDigest>

Furtaking with appropriate license

Hunting Coyote	Daily/Season Limit
No closed season. During any big game season, coyotes may be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker license.	unlimited

Foxes *Sunday hunting permitted.* Oct. 22 - Feb. 18, 2023 unlimited

Raccoons Oct. 22 - Feb. 18, 2023 unlimited
No Sunday hunting except Nov. 13, Nov. 20 and Nov. 27.

Opossums, Striped Skunks and Weasels unlimited
July 1-June 29, 2023, except during the firearms deer season.
No Sunday hunting with the exceptions of Nov. 13 and Nov. 20.

Bobcat *No Sunday hunting.* Jan. 7 - Feb. 1, 2023 1/1
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E

Porcupine Oct. 8 - Jan. 28, 2023 3/10
No Sunday hunting with the exceptions of Nov. 13 and Nov. 20.

Trapping

Mink & Muskrat Nov. 19 - Jan. 8, 2023 unlimited

Coyote, Foxes, Opossums, Raccoons, Striped Skunks, and Weasels Oct. 22 - Feb. 19, 2023 unlimited

Coyote & Fox (Cable Restraints) Dec. 26 - Feb. 19, 2023 unlimited

Beaver Dec. 17 - Mar. 30, 2023
WMUs 1A and 1B (Combined) 20/60
WMUs 2A, 2B, and 3C (Combined) 20/40
WMUs 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3C, 5C, and 5D (Combined) 20/20
WMUs 2G, 2H, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, and 5B (Combined) 5/5

Bobcat with required permit Dec. 17 - Jan. 8, 2023 1/1
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E

Fisher with required permit Dec. 17 - Jan. 1, 2023 1/1
WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E

River Otter with required permit Feb. 11 - Feb. 18, 2023 1/1
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2F, 3C, and 3D

Turkey with general license

Fall Season - bearded or unbearded birds may be taken - 1 bird limit

WMU 2B (*Shotgun and bow and arrow only*) Oct. 29 - Nov. 18 and Nov. 23 - Nov. 25

WMUs 1A, 1B, 4A, 4B, 4D and 4E Oct. 29 - Nov. 5

WMUs 2A, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D and 4C Oct. 29 - Nov. 12

WMU 2C, 2D and 2E Oct. 29 - Nov. 12 and Nov. 23 - Nov. 25

WMU 5B (*Shotgun and bow and arrow only*) Nov. 1 - Nov. 3

WMUs 5A, 5C and 5D Closed to fall turkey hunting

Two bird Spring Season limit (1 daily) with second spring gobbler license

Spring Season - bearded birds only, hunting hours vary, check Digest
Jr. and Mentored Hunters under 16 Apr. 22, 2023
Statewide Apr. 29 - May 30, 2023

Review the complete Digest: <http://bit.ly/PGCDigest>

This guide is not the Game & Wildlife Code or its attendant regulations and should not be considered final on legal interpretation.

Small Game with general license

Unless otherwise noted, possession limit for small game = 3x daily limit

	Daily Limit
Squirrel - Jr. Hunters	Sept. 10 - Sept. 24 6
Squirrel (Combined species)	Sept. 10 - Nov. 25, including Sundays <u>Nov. 13</u> and <u>Nov. 20</u> and Dec. 12 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 27, 2023 6

Ruffed Grouse Oct. 15 - Nov. 25, including Sundays Nov. 13 and Nov. 20 and Dec. 12 - Dec. 23 2

Rabbit - Jr. Hunters (Cottontail) Oct. 1 - Oct. 15 4
Rabbit (Cottontail) Oct. 15 - Nov. 25, including Sundays Nov. 13 and Nov. 20 and Dec. 12 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 27, 2023 4

Pheasant - Jr. Hunters[#] Oct. 8 - Oct. 15 2
Pheasant[#] Oct. 22 - Nov. 25, including Sundays Nov. 13 and Nov. 20 and Dec. 12 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 27, 2023 2
[#]with required permit

There is no open season for taking pheasants in any Wild Pheasant Recovery Area without an executive order.

Bobwhite Quail Oct. 22 - Nov. 25, including Sundays Nov. 13 and Nov. 20 and Dec. 12 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 27, 2023 8

Snowshoe or Varying Hare Dec. 26 - Dec. 31 1

Woodchuck - July 1-June 29, except during regular firearms deer seasons. No hunting on Sundays, except Nov. 13 and Nov. 20. No limit.

Deer with required licenses/permits

One antlered deer per hunting license year.
One antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) with required archery license
WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D Sept. 17 - Nov. 25, including Sundays Nov. 13 and Nov. 20
Dec. 26 - Jan. 28, 2023

Statewide Oct. 1 - Sun. Nov. 13 and Nov. 14 - Nov. 18
Dec. 26 - Jan. 16, 2023

Muzzleloader (Antlerless only) Oct. 15 - Oct. 22
Statewide with required muzzleloading license

Special Firearms (Antlerless only) Oct. 20 - Oct. 22
Statewide: participation is restricted, check Digest for eligibility

Regular Firearms (Antlered & Antlerless) Nov. 26 - Sun. Nov. 27 and Nov. 28 - Dec. 10

Flintlock (Antlered and Antlerless) with required muzzleloading license
Statewide Dec. 26 - Jan. 16, 2023
WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D Dec. 26 - Jan. 28, 2023

Extended Regular Firearms (Antlerless only)
WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D Dec. 26 - Jan. 28, 2023

Antlerless Deer Application Schedule

July 11	Residents
July 18	Nonresidents
Aug. 1	Unsold, 1st round
Aug. 15	Unsold, 2nd round
Sept. 12	Over-the-counter in WMUs where licenses remain. Sold through county treasurer offices. Licenses may be obtained in person or by mail.

Bear bear license required

Only one bear may be taken during the license year.
Must be checked within 24 hours.

Archery
WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D Sept. 17 - Nov. 25, including Sundays Nov. 13 and Nov. 20
Oct. 1 - Nov. 18, including Sunday Nov. 13
Oct. 15 - Nov. 5

Statewide Oct. 15 - Nov. 5

Muzzleloader - Statewide Oct. 15 - Oct. 22

Special Firearms - Statewide Oct. 20 - Oct. 22
participation is restricted, check Digest

Regular Firearms - Statewide Nov. 19 - Nov. 22, including Sunday Nov. 20

Extended Firearms
WMUs 1B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A Nov. 26 - Sun. Nov. 27 and Nov. 28 - Dec. 3
WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D Nov. 26 - Sun. Nov. 27 and Nov. 28 - Dec. 10



Contact Us:

Pennsylvania Game Commission
Headquarters
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg PA 17110-9797



Centralized Dispatch Center

1-833-PGC-HUNT (1-833-742-4868)
1-833-PGC-WILD (1-833-742-9453)
Press 1 - Wildlife emergency/roadkill
Press 2 - Licensing and special permits
All other calls hold for a dispatcher

www.pgc.pa.gov

Review the complete Digest: <http://bit.ly/PGCDigest>
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Report Violations

Call: 1-888-PGC-8001
Calls to Operation Game Thief are always answered by a secure recording device.

Report online: <http://bit.ly/PGCOGT>

Be a conservation hero!

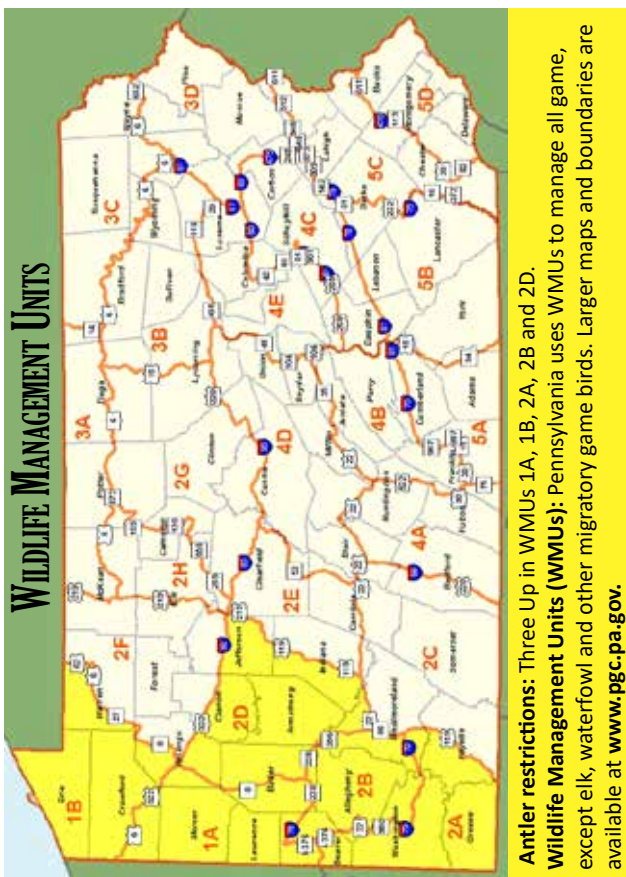
- Describe WHAT YOU SAW and the SPECIES involved
- DATE and TIME of occurrence
- LOCATION: county, township, address, crossroads
- PEOPLE: height, weight, hair/eye color, age, tattoos or other distinguishing features, clothing, sporting arm
- VEHICLE: color, make, model, dents, decals or stickers; license number and state; road/route; direction of travel
- You can remain anonymous. Your name and phone number are required to claim any monetary reward.

Report Your Harvest

Please have your Customer Identification Number (hunting license number), date of birth, and field harvest tag/permit handy.

Report Deer, Turkey, Fisher, Bobcat and Snow Goose harvests
1. Report ONLINE: use the Report a Harvest button at www.pgc.pa.gov.
2. Report by PHONE: Call toll-free to 1-800-838-4431.
3. Report by MAIL: Available for turkey and deer only. Use tear-off report card in your Digest. No postage necessary if mailed in the U.S.

Report bear, elk and otter per directions on the license or permit.



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS

Antler restrictions: Three Up in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B and 2D. **Wildlife Management Units (WMUs):** Pennsylvania uses WMUs to manage all game, except elk, waterfowl and other migratory game birds. Larger maps and boundaries are available at www.pgc.pa.gov.

Chronic Wasting Disease

If you plan to hunt in a Disease Management Area (DMA) or the CWD Established Area (EA) this season, there are specific rules to follow.

Pennsylvania has six active DMAs and one EA. All are geographic regions where CWD has been found in deer. Special rules apply in each, including bans on feeding deer, the use and possession of cervid urine-based attractants, and export of high-risk parts, all designed to limit the human-assisted spread of CWD. Maps showing boundaries are available on the Game Commission's website at www.arcg.is/1G4TLr.

It's illegal to import high-risk deer parts from outside Pennsylvania or to move high-risk parts outside of DMA and EA boundaries. If you harvest a deer within a DMA or EA you can take it to any processor within those boundaries. Deer taken within a DMA but outside the EA can be taken to a Game Commission-approved processor just outside the DMA boundaries. Cooperating processors can be found at www.arcg.is/1G4TLr.

The Game Commission encourages hunters within DMAs to get their harvest tested, and has provided head collection containers throughout DMAs and the EA. Head bin locations are listed at www.arcg.is/1G4TLr.

Hunters can drop their deer's head, double-bagged, in a bin with the harvest tag filled out and firmly attached to the deer's ear to have it tested for CWD for free. Hunters can review test results by calling the CWD hotline (1-833-INFOCWD) or by using the Game Commission's CWD Test Results page at www.arcg.is/1G4TLr.

General Regulations

Baiting: It is unlawful to hunt in or around any area where artificial or natural bait has been used within the past 30 days. Regulated baiting of deer is allowed in the Southeast Special Regulations Area outside of any Disease Management Area (DMA). See Digest for details.

Mistake Kill: Any person who kills any wildlife while hunting or trapping by accident or mistake shall immediately field-dress any edible game and deliver the carcass to a state game warden in the county where it was killed.

Road Hunting: It is unlawful to 1) hunt from a vehicle; 2) aid or assist another while hunting from a vehicle; 3) shoot at wildlife on a public road or right-of-way open to public travel; 4) shoot across a road unless the line of fire is high enough to preclude any danger to road users; and 5) alight from a vehicle and shoot at any wildlife until the shooter is at least 25 yards from the traveled portion of the roadway.

Safety Zones: It is unlawful to hunt, shoot at, trap, take, chase or disturb wildlife within 150 yards of any occupied residence, camp, industrial or commercial building, farmhouse or farm building, or school or playground without the permission of the occupants. The safety zone for archery hunters statewide, including those using crossbows, is 50 yards.

Spotlighting Wildlife: It is unlawful to spotlight wildlife after 11 p.m., during regular firearms or late extended Special Regulations Area firearms deer seasons, or while in possession of a device capable of killing wildlife.

Tagging Big Game: Hunters harvesting big game must follow instructions printed on the harvest tags supplied with licenses. Big game must be tagged immediately after harvest and before carcass is moved. The tag must be attached to the ear of a deer or bear, or the body of an elk and remain attached until the animal is processed for consumption or prepared for mounting. Turkey tags must be attached to the bird's leg.

Dual Carry: Carrying firearms generally is prohibited while bowhunting. However, archery deer hunters may carry muzzleloaders to hunt deer during times when the archery and muzzleloader deer seasons overlap. Archery deer hunters can carry muzzleloaders when an archery deer season overlaps with a muzzleloader bear season and when archery bear season in overlaps with a muzzleloader deer or bear season.

State Game Lands

On state game lands, it is **lawful** to hunt, trap, and fish, as well as pick berries or mushrooms.

Hunting blinds or stands may be used provided they do not cause damage to trees, and are not placed out earlier than two weeks prior to deer season, and must be removed no later than 2 weeks after the close of deer season. Portable hunting blinds or stands must be marked with a durable identification tag that legibly sets forth in the owner's first name, last name and legal home address or must bear a number issued by the Commission for this purpose.

State game Lands are set aside for hunting and trapping and the preservation and maintenance of wildlife habitat. While on a game lands, it is **unlawful** to:

- Start a fire, except that small open fires for cooking or warming purposes are only permitted for those hunting, furtaking or fishing, and through hikers within the corridor of the Appalachian Trail.
- Ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal, except on roads normally open to public travel, or designated routes as posted, or while lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.
- Possess an alcoholic beverage.
- Feed wildlife or lay or place any food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals.
- Use state game lands for any personal, organizational or commercial purpose other than the intended use.
- Engage in dog training activities on small game from the Monday prior to the start of the youth pheasant season until the opening of the regular pheasant season.
- Be present on state game lands from November 15 through December 15 inclusive when not engaged in lawful hunting or trapping and fail to wear a minimum of 250 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange-colored material on the head, chest and back combined or, in lieu thereof, a hat of the same colored material. The material shall be worn so it is visible in a 360° arc. Persons using shooting ranges are exempted from this requirement.

Fluorescent Orange

When fluorescent orange is required, the requirement for that season must be worn while moving from one hour prior to the start of legal hunting hours and for one hour past the closing of legal hunting hours.

* *Fluorescent orange is required when hunting coyotes during any big game season, if orange is required during that season, including from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.*

Woodchuck Hunting
A hat made of solid fluorescent orange, visible 360 degrees. Worn at all times.



All Small Game Seasons | Deer, Bear or Elk Firearms Seasons | October Muzzleloader Antlerless Deer Seasons



A minimum 250 square inches, on head, chest and back combined, visible 360 degrees. Worn at all times. Those hunting with archery equipment during these firearms seasons must comply with the fluorescent orange requirements.

Blinds & Enclosed Tree Stands



A minimum of 100 square inches of fluorescent orange material (orange alert band) must be displayed within 15 feet of a blind or enclosed tree stand and visible 360 degrees during the firearms deer, bear and elk seasons. This is in addition to wearing orange while in the blind. **See turkey section of the Digest for specifics on blind use while turkey hunting.**

Wearing Orange

No fluorescent orange is required while archery hunting for deer, bear or elk, or when hunting waterfowl, doves, turkeys, crows or furbearers*

Hunters participating in the after-Christmas flintlock muzzleloader season also are not required to wear fluorescent orange (See Special Regulations Areas section of Digest for additional information.)

Even when fluorescent orange isn't required, the Game Commission highly recommends its use. For example, a fluorescent orange hat is recommended for turkey hunters while moving.

CAMOUFLAGE FLUORESCENT ORANGE

Camouflage fluorescent orange may satisfy orange regulations when 250 square inches of safety material is required if the orange content is at least 250 square inches. When a hat containing 100 square inches of orange is specified, the cap must be solid fluorescent orange.

Sunday Hunting

Sunday hunting is **permitted for foxes, coyotes and crows** during open seasons. Additional Sunday hunting opportunities for 2022 are [Nov. 13](#), [Nov. 20](#) and [Nov. 27](#). On these three Sundays, **hunters on private land** must carry written permission from the landowner. Permission should include the landowner's signature, address and phone number as well as the hunter's name, address and CID license number. **Turkeys and migratory game birds** may not be hunted on any Sunday. Aside from these exceptions, Sunday hunting is **unlawful** in Pennsylvania.

1 Sunday, Nov. 13

Hunting is permitted for deer (archery), bear (archery in WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D only), squirrel, pheasant, rabbit, grouse, bobwhite quail, woodchuck, crow, raccoon, fox, coyote, opossum, striped skunk, weasel and porcupine.

2 Sunday, Nov. 20

Hunting is permitted for bear, deer (archery in WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D only), squirrel, pheasant, rabbit, grouse, bobwhite quail, woodchuck, crow, raccoon, fox, coyote, opossum, striped skunk, weasel and porcupine.

Coyote hunters during any big-game season must follow big-game orange requirements.

3 Sunday, Nov. 27

Hunting is permitted for deer, bear, raccoon, fox and coyote.

Raccoons and foxes may be hunted only after legal hunting hours for deer. Coyote hunters during any big-game season must follow big-game orange requirements. Crows may not be hunted during the Regular Firearms Deer season.

Legal Hunting Hours

Legal hunting hours for all small and big game are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Please consult the Digest for tables of lawful hunting hours, including migratory game birds, and the accompanying Pennsylvania Meridian Map.

Elk <small>elk license required</small>	
One elk per license year - visit a check station within 24 hours	
Archery (Antlered and Antlerless)	Sept. 10 - Sept. 24
Regular (Antlered and Antlerless)	Oct. 31 - Nov. 5
Late (Antlered and Antlerless)	Dec. 31 - Jan. 7, 2023