

Each time a hunter buys a hunting license, the money he spends goes toward many facets of wildlife management. Since 1920, close to a million and a half aces of State Game Lands have been acquired with these funds. Each year nearly \$7,000,000 is spent to improve wildlife habitat. Habitat improvements enhance living conditions for non-game birds and mammals as well as those species which are hunted. Pennsylvania hunters willingly share these lands with the non-hunting public, and with few exceptions, State Game Lands are open for general use year round. Surveys indicate that hunting accounts for only thirty-five percent of game land usage. The remaining sixtyfive percent is used by the general public for nonhunting purposes.

"Working Together for Wildlife" is a Game Commission program providing everyone an opportunity to help support wildlife management in the areas for endangered and non-game animals. Monies derived from the "Working Together for Wildlife" Program are being used in Pennsylvania to re-introduce the osprey, river otter, bald eagle, peregrine falcon and provide habitat for other birds and mammals indigenous to the Commonwealth. Construction placement of blue bird houses on State Game Lands provides needed homes for this beautiful songbird. Islands in the Susquehanna River have been set aside as propagations areas for nongame shore birds. Numerous other projects are planned on State Game Lands and other public

SPORTSMEN'S RECREATION MAP



STATE GAME LANDS No. 234 MONTGOMERY COUNTY State Game Land (SGL) 234 is in Limerick Township, in suburban western Montgomery County within the Pennsylvania Game Commission's (PGC) Southeast Region (Wildlife Management Unit 5C). The Game Land is in 2 separate parcels consisting of a total of 486.12 acres. One parcel was the former Eastern Game Farm and the other was the former Pennhurst State School.

Topography varies from rolling hills to flat floodplain. The highest elevation of about 500 feet is found on the hilltop in the northeastern section of compartment 1. The lowest elevation of 150 feet is found along the Schuylkill River in compartment 2.

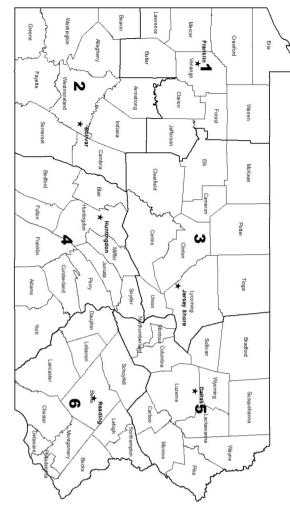
Compartment 1 has good access provided by Highland Road, Game Farm Road, and Pheasant Road. Four parking areas are provided along with numerous pull-offs. Several field lanes provide good foot access. These roads are gated and used for administrative access.

Pennhurst Road provides access to compartment 2. A parking area is located at the end of the road. A network of gravel roads provides good foot access. These roads are gated and used for administrative purposes.

Compartment 1 was purchased as numerous pieces throughout 1929. At the time it was not given an SGL identification number, but was known as the Eastern Game Farm. Although a small portion in the northern part of the property was open to hunting, most of the area was used as a pheasant rearing facility. Pheasants were raised until 1996, and most of the buildings were removed in 1997-1998. As a result, the entire property is now open to public hunting, and is part of SGL 234.

Compartment 2 became SGL 234 when it was purchased from the Department of Public Welfare in 1960. It was an active farm run as part of the Pennhurst State School. Attendees of the school raised vegetables as part of their curriculum. After purchase, the open ground was arranged in fields 100 feet wide separated by hedgerows 40 feet in width. The hedgerows were created by planting honeysuckle, coralberry, and multiflora rose. The forest stand that was once a railroad is about 20 years old.

This Game Land is in WMU 5C. Species hunted are mostly limited to white-tailed deer and gray squirrel in the wooded areas. Doves, Waterfowl, and stocked Pheasants are also hunted on both parcels. While the two parcels are relatively small in size, there close proximity to population centers make them popular hiking locations. Bird watching is another popular activity, especially around the wetlands. Fishing is popular at the Linfield tract and the service road on the Eastern Game Farm Tract is open to horses and bicycles.



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