



PA Game Commission – Pheasant Propagation Program

2023 Game Farm Worker Positions

Are you looking for a position where you work with game birds and are frequently outdoors? Would you like to contribute to the continuation of Pennsylvania's hunting tradition? If so, a Game Farm Worker position with the Pennsylvania Game Commission may be perfect for you!



We operate the largest pheasant propagation program of any state wildlife agency in the nation, annually releasing approximately 230,000 ring-necked pheasants to provide hunting opportunities across the commonwealth. We are seeking hard-working, highly motivated individuals to help raise and ship these birds for Pennsylvania's approximately 75,000 pheasant hunters.

Work Locations and Available Positions

The Game Commission produces pheasants at 2 game farms:

Loyalsock Game Farm near Montoursville (Lycoming County) ships pheasants to stocking locations in eastern Pennsylvania.

Southwest Game Farm near New Bethlehem (Armstrong County) ships pheasants to stocking locations in western Pennsylvania.



We are recruiting seasonal Game Farm Workers to supplement permanent staff on each farm during the busy production and shipping seasons. Seasonal hires will be placed in either 1,400 hour or 749 hour positions. Pay rate and job duties are the same for all positions, but see below for differences in start dates and eligibility for retirement benefits.

Job Duties

You will work alongside experienced Wildlife Maintenance Propagators to complete a wide variety of duties essential to game farm operations. Typical assignments during the employment period include:

- Preparing brooder houses by cleaning and disinfecting the buildings and equipment and placing shavings and chick paper on the brooder house floor.

- Observing the behavior of the birds during all phases of their development to determine that all environmental factors are properly maintained.



- Sexing and beak-trimming the chicks before moving the birds from the brooder field to holding pens.
- Maintaining feeders and water lines in fields.
- Removing dead pheasants from brooder houses and holding fields.

- Assist in performing electrical, carpentry, plumbing, and other construction, maintenance, and repair work on buildings and equipment.



- Catching pheasants and placing them into shipping crates for release.



Compensation and Schedule

\$15.00/hour for 40 hours/week.

1,400 hour positions are included in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania retirement system, however these positions are not benefit eligible and do not accrue leave.

Regular Schedule: Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For the Southwest Game Farm some afternoon (1:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.) and weekend shifts are included. At both farms, work hours are subject to change based on assignments.

Anticipated starting date: Approximately April 17, 2023 for the 1,400 hour positions and approximately May 15, 2023 for the 749 hour positions (some flexibility possible – inquire during interview)

Anticipated ending date: December 22, 2023 (some flexibility possible – inquire during interview)

The skill sets and relationships developed by Game Farm Workers increase their competitiveness for many career paths, including advancement opportunities within the Game Commission. Many individuals now in permanent positions on our game farms and habitat management crews began their careers as Game Farm Workers.

Qualifications

- Hard working and motivated
- Positive attitude and eager to learn
- Sufficient physical strength and stamina to lift heavy objects, traverse rough terrain in all weather conditions, and stand, stoop, kneel, bend, and stretch for prolonged periods of time.
- Ability to read, interpret, understand, and apply information.
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing and to maintain effective working relationships.
- Valid driver's license
- Supportive of PGC's mission to manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.
- Preferred candidates will have experience in raising game birds or poultry; general farming practices; or general construction and maintenance. However, we will train candidates without this experience if they meet the other qualifications.

To Apply

To apply, send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for 2 professional references to the e-mail listed below for your game farm of interest. **All application materials must be received by March 24, 2023.** Interviews will be conducted in late March and early April. Questions can also be directed to the emails below.

Loyalsock Game Farm – Contact Brad Stine at brstine@pa.gov

Southwest Game Farm – Contact Mike Booher at mibooh@pa.gov