

WATERFOWL & MIGRATORY BIRDS

Unless otherwise noted, possession limit = 3x daily limit

Daily Limit

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|---|----------|
| Crow - Thrs., Fri., Sat., Sun. only; Aug. 24- Mar. 24, 2024 | No limit |
| Starling & English Sparrows Closed during regular firearms deer season | No limit |
| Doves Sept. 1 - Nov. 24 and Dec. 19 - Jan. 6, 2024 | 15 |
| Woodcock Oct. 14 - Nov. 24 and Dec. 11 - Dec. 20 | 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 may be submitted online at HuntFish.PA.gov or at any Game Commission region office or Harrisburg headquarters.

FURTKING with appropriate license

Hunting Daily/Season Limit

Coyotes unlimited
No closed season. During any big game season, coyotes may be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker license.

Foxes Sundays permitted. Oct. 21 - Feb. 17, 2024 unlimited

Raccoons Oct. 21 - Feb. 17, 2024 unlimited
No Sunday hunting except [Nov. 12](#), [Nov. 19](#) and [Nov. 26](#).

Opossums, Striped Skunks and Weasels unlimited
July 1-June 29, 2024, except during regular firearms deer season. No Sunday hunting except [Nov. 12](#) and [Nov. 19](#).

Bobcats No Sunday hunting. Jan. 6 - Jan. 31, 2024 1/1
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E

Porcupines Oct. 7 - Nov. 24, 3/10
[Nov. 12](#) and [Nov. 19](#) included, and Dec. 11 - Dec. 23
Dec. 26 - Jan. 27, 2024

Trapping

Minks & Muskrats Nov. 18 - Jan. 7, 2024 unlimited

Coyotes, Foxes, Opossums, Raccoons, Striped Skunks and Weasels Oct. 21 - Feb. 18, 2024 unlimited

Coyotes & Foxes (Cable Restraints) Dec. 26 - Feb. 18, 2024 unlimited

Beavers Dec. 16 - Mar. 31, 2024
WMUs 1A and 1B (Combined) 20/60
WMUs 2A, 2B, and 3C (Combined) 20/40
WMUs 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C, and 5D (Combined) 20/20
WMUs 2G, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, and 5B (Combined) 5/5

Bobcats with required permit Dec. 16- Jan. 7, 2024 1/1
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E

Fishers with required permit Dec. 16 - Dec. 31, 2024 1/1
WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E

River Otters with required permit Feb. 10 - Feb. 17, 2024 1/1
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2F, 3B, 3C, 3D and 4E

TURKEY

Fall Season - bearded or unbearded birds 1 bird limit
(Shotgun and archery only, statewide)

| | |
|--|---|
| WMU 2B | Oct. 28 - Nov. 17 and Nov. 22 - Nov. 24 |
| WMUs 1A, 1B, 4A, 4B, 4D and 4E | Oct. 28 - Nov. 4 |
| WMUs 2A, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D and 4C | Oct. 28- Nov. 11 |
| WMU 2C, 2D and 2E | Oct. 28 - Nov. 11 and Nov. 22 - Nov. 24 |
| WMU 5B | Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 |
| 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, hours vary, check Digest
Jr. and Mentored Hunters under 16 Apr. 27, 2024
Statewide May 4 - May 31, 2024

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

Unless otherwise noted, possession limit = 3x daily limit

Daily Limit

Squirrel-Jr. Hunters (Combined) Sept. 9 - Sept. 23 6
Squirrel (Combined species) Sept. 9 - Nov. 24, 6
[Nov. 12](#) & [Nov. 19](#) included, and Dec. 11 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 29, 2024

Ruffed Grouse Oct. 14 - Nov. 24, 2
[Nov. 12](#) & [Nov. 19](#) included, and Dec. 11 - Dec. 23

Rabbit - Jr. Hunters (Cottontail) Sept. 30 - Oct. 14 4

Rabbit (Cottontail) Oct. 14 - Nov. 24, 4
[Nov. 12](#) & [Nov. 19](#) included, and Dec. 11 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 29, 2024

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Pheasant - Jr. Hunters* | Oct. 7 - Oct. 14 | 2 |
| Pheasant* | Oct. 21 - Nov. 24, | 2 |
| <i>*with required permit</i> | Nov. 12 & Nov. 19 included, and Dec. 11 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Feb. 29, 2024 | |

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

Bobwhite Quail Sept. 1 - Nov. 24, unlimited
[Nov. 12](#) & [Nov. 19](#) included, and Dec. 11 - Dec. 23 and Dec. 26 - Mar. 30, 2024

Snowshoe or Varying Hare Dec. 26 - Jan. 1, 2024 1

Woodchuck July 1-June 29, except during regular firearms deer seasons. No hunting on Sundays, except [Nov. 12](#) and [Nov. 19](#). No limit.

DEER with required licenses/permits

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

Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) with required archery license
WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D

Statewide

Sept. 16 - Nov. 24,
[Nov. 12](#) & [Nov. 19](#) included, and Dec. 26 - Jan. 27, 2024
Sept. 30 - Sun. [Nov. 12](#) and Nov. 13 - Nov. 17
Dec. 26 - Jan. 15, 2024

Muzzleloader (Antlerless only) Oct. 14 - Oct. 21
Statewide with required muzzleloading license

Special Firearms (Antlerless only) Oct. 19 - Oct. 21
Statewide: participation restricted, check Digest for eligibility

Regular Firearms (Antlered & Antlerless)
Nov. 25 - Sun. [Nov. 26](#) and Nov. 27 - Dec. 9

Flintlock (Antlered & Antlerless) with required muzzleloading license
Statewide Dec. 26 - Jan. 15, 2024
WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D Dec. 26 - Jan. 27, 2024

Extended Regular Firearms (Antlerless only)
WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D Dec. 26 - Jan. 27, 2024

ANTLERLESS DEER APPLICATIONS

Round 1 - Personal limit of 1
Mon., June 26; 8:00 a.m.; Residents Only
Mon., July 10; 8:00 a.m.; All License Buyers

Round 2 - Personal limit up to 2
Mon., July 24; 8:00 a.m.; All License Buyers

Round 3 - Personal limit up to 3
Mon., August 14; 8:00 a.m.; All License Buyers
Deer Management Assistance Permits will also be available beginning at this date and time.

Round 4 - Personal limit up to 6
Mon., August 28; 8:00 a.m.; All License Buyers

BEAR bear license required

Only one bear may be taken during the license year.
Bear must be checked within 24 hours of harvest.

Archery

WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D Sept. 16 - Nov. 24,
[Nov. 12](#) & [Nov. 19](#) included

WMU 5B Sept. 30 - Nov. 17,
Sun., [Nov. 12](#) included

Statewide Oct. 14 - Nov. 4

Muzzleloader - Statewide Oct. 14 - Oct. 21

Special Firearms - Statewide Oct. 19 - Oct. 21
participation restricted, check Digest for eligibility

Regular Firearms - Statewide Nov. 18 - Nov. 21,
Sun., [Nov. 19](#) included

Extended Firearms
WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4C, 4E & 5A Nov. 25 - Sun. [Nov. 26](#) and Nov. 27 - Dec. 2

WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D Nov. 25 - Sun. [Nov. 26](#) and Nov. 27 - Dec. 9



PENNSYLVANIA HUNTING & TRAPPING 2023-2024

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

REPORT VIOLATIONS



Poachers are thieves, help us catch them!

Calls are answered by a secure recording device.

- 1-888-PGC-8001
- <http://bit.ly/PGCOGT>

REPORT YOUR HARVEST

Every time a hunter or trapper reports a harvest, wildlife management gets better.

Please have your Customer Identification Number (hunting license number) and field harvest tag handy.

DEER, TURKEY, FISHER, BOBCAT, OTTER AND SNOW GEESE

1. ONLINE: www.HuntFish.PA.gov
2. PHONE: Toll-free 1-800-838-4431.
3. MAIL: Available for turkey and deer only. Use tear-off report card in your Digest. No postage necessary if mailed in the U.S.

BEAR and ELK

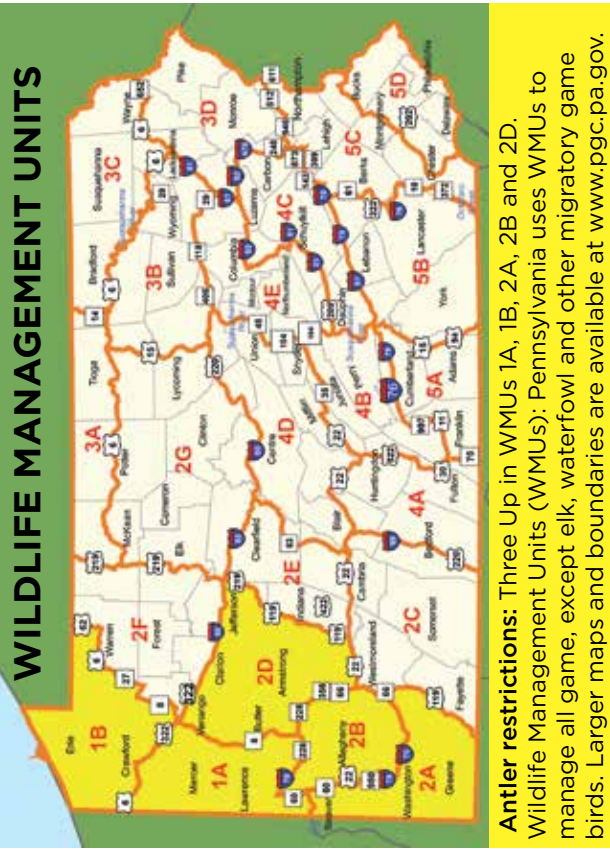
Use directions on license or permit.

1-833-PGC-HUNT 1-833-PGC-WILD
(1-833-742-4868) (1-833-742-9453)

VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.PGC.PA.GOV



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.

Placing on the landscape any high-risk cervid parts from deer killed outside of Pennsylvania or within a DMA or EA is prohibited. Any hunter who harvests a deer out-of-state or within a DMA or EA is able to take it directly to a cooperating processor or taxidermist anywhere in the state. A list of cooperating processors and taxidermists 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, or assist another while hunting from a vehicle; 2) shoot at wildlife that are on a public road or right-of-way open to public travel; 3) shoot across a road unless the line of fire is high enough to preclude any danger to road users; and 4) 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 play-ground 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: Possession of any firearm while archery hunting is prohibited unless the individual possesses a license to carry a concealed firearm. Archery hunters are permitted to carry a muzzleloading firearm only during overlaps of archery deer or bear season 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 includes the owner's first name, last name and legal home address or must bear the Equipment ID 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 game lands, it is unlawful to:

- Start a fire, except small open fires for cooking or warming purposes by those exercising the privileges of a valid hunting, furtaking or fishing license or when through-hiking the Appalachian Trail when the Fire Index Rating used by the Bureau of Forestry, DCNR, is NOT high, very high or extreme. Fires must be contained and tended at all times.
- 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.
- Consume, possess or transport an alcoholic beverage.
- Feed wildlife 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 statewide pheasant season.
- Be present on State Game Lands from Nov. 15 through Dec. 15 inclusive when not engaged in lawful hunting or trapping and fail to wear a minimum of 250 square inches of fluorescent orange material on the head, chest and back combined, or, in lieu thereof, a hat of the same colored material. Orange material must be visible 360 degrees. Persons using shooting ranges are exempted.

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 and Bear Seasons | Extended Antlerless Firearms Seasons

A minimum 250 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange material on the head, chest and back combined and it must be visible from 360 degrees. An orange hat and vest satisfies this requirement.

Blinds & Enclosed Tree Stands

When using a blind or enclosed tree stand during the firearms deer, bear or elk seasons, a minimum of 100 square inches of fluorescent orange material (orange alert band) must be displayed within 15 feet of the blind or stand and visible from 360 degrees. This is in addition to wearing orange while inside.



Wearing Orange

No fluorescent orange is required **during archery seasons** when hunting for deer, bear or elk, or when hunting waterfowl, doves, turkeys, furbearers* or crows. In firearms seasons for deer, bear or elk, orange is required, regardless of the sporting arm carried.

Hunters participating in the after-Christmas flintlock muzzleloader season also are not required to wear fluorescent orange.

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.

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 elk license required

One elk per license year - visit a check station within 24 hours

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) | Sept. 16 - Sept. 30 |
| Regular (Antlered and Antlerless) | Oct. 30 - Nov. 4 |
| Late (Antlered and Antlerless) | Dec. 30 - Jan. 6, 2024 |

SUNDAY HUNTING

Sunday hunting is **permitted for foxes, coyotes and crows** during open seasons. Additional Sunday hunting opportunities for 2023 are [Nov. 12](#), [Nov. 19](#) and [Nov. 26](#). 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. 12

Deer (archery), Bears (archery in WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D only), Squirrels, Pheasants, Rabbits, Grouse, Bobwhite Quail, Woodchucks, Crows, Raccoons, Foxes, Coyotes, Opossums, Striped Skunks, Weasels and Porcupines

2 Sunday, Nov. 19

Bears, Deer (archery in WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D only) Squirrels, Pheasants, Rabbits, Grouse, Bobwhite Quail, Woodchucks, Crows, Raccoons, Foxes, Coyotes, Opossums, Striped Skunks, Weasels and Porcupines

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

3 Sunday, Nov. 26

Deer, Bears (only in WMUs with Extended Season), Raccoons, Foxes and Coyotes

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.