



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. 286 SCHUYLKILL COUNTY State Game Lands (SGL) 286 covers 478 acres and is located in North Manhiem and South Manhiem Townships in southern Schuylkill County. All of SGL 286 resides in Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 4C with the borough of Schuylkill Haven bordering the property on the western end, while a portion of the property on the eastern end lies within the borough of Landingville.

The area consists of the steep north facing slope of the Schuylkill Mountain and the flat basin area adjacent to the Schuylkill River. A small portion of the Game Lands 286 (12 acres) is classified as open areas or strip mine areas due to the deposits of coal silt in what use to be a catch basin from a coal breaker. Elevations range from 460 feet along the Schuylkill River to 960 feet at the summit of the Schuylkill Mountain.

Access to the Game Lands can be obtained from S.R. 2010 (Adamsdale Road) which runs east from Schuylkill Haven to Adamsdale or S.R. 2009 (Berne Drive) which also runs from Schuylkill Haven south to Brommerstown. There is limited parking along these two roads, with the only established parking area being along S.R. 2010. Internal access can be obtained by using two main service roads. Access to the north of the Schuylkill River can be obtained by using the service road at the parking area along S.R. 2010. A second service road which begins along S.R. 2009 south of the Schuylkill River will provide access to the remaining property.

Eighty-seven percent (412 acres) of this Game Lands is forested. The major cover types include mixed oak, cove hardwoods and pine plantations. The original land was used to wash and sort coal. Remnants of the coal industry can still be found throughout the game lands. The flat bottom lands are mainly coal silt from the washing process.

Present populations of grouse, deer, and turkey are good, with the American woodcock utilizing portions of SGL 286 as breeding grounds. The Game Lands also provides many non-hunting recreational opportunities such as fishing, hiking, and bird watching. Due to its proximity to Schuylkill Haven, this Game Lands is frequented by many people.

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