



# P E N N S Y L V A N I A GAME COMMISSION

**YOUR STATE  
WILDLIFE AGENCY**

*Managing and protecting wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.*

## NEW HUNTING SEASONS OFFER MORE OPPORTUNITY

Pennsylvania hunters and trappers can begin making plans for the new hunting seasons in the 2021-22 license year as the new seasons and bag limits have been set. From expanded Sunday hunting opportunities to concurrent deer seasons to additional bull elk licenses, the time to get in the field has never been better. Click here or visit [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov) for all seasons and bag limits information. Modifications for the 2021-22 seasons include the following:

- A statewide, 14-day concurrent antlered and antlerless firearms season, which was proposed to simplify regulations and provide increased opportunity, especially for younger hunters.
- Expanded Sunday hunting opportunities: There are three Sundays approved for hunting this fall, which encompass any legal species in season on those dates, with the exception of migratory birds. The dates are Sunday, Nov. 14, 21, and 28, 2021.
- Moving up the start of the extended bear season to begin on the firearms deer opener and include Sunday, Nov. 28 in the WMUs where the season is open.
- The closure of the fall turkey season in WMU 5A and reductions in season length for 14 other WMUs due to declining population trends. The recommendations are in accordance with Wild Turkey Management Plan guidelines to increase hen survival.
- One change affecting all fall-turkey hunters is the prohibition of the use of centerfire rimfire rifles and handguns in the fall-turkey season. Season lengths have been adjusted in many WMUs.
- The extended (post-Christmas) antlerless firearms season that traditionally has been held in certain counties in southeastern and southwestern Pennsylvania will be held in all of WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D, given that antlerless harvests are evenly distributed throughout these WMUs regardless of firearms restrictions.
- The antlerless designation was removed from the late elk season to provide the Game Commission the flexibility to issue antlered elk licenses for this season.
- The commissioners also set the number of antlerless deer licenses to be allocated, as well as the number of elk licenses to be allocated for the coming license year.

**2021-22 HUNTING SEASONS  
AND BAG LIMITS AVAILABLE  
AT [WWW.PGC.PA.GOV](http://WWW.PGC.PA.GOV)**

**JUNE 2021**

## HUNT *Fish* PA

**2021-22 HUNTING LICENSES  
AVAILABLE MONDAY, JUNE 14**

**HuntFishPA: NEW MOBILE-FRIENDLY, OUTDOOR  
RECREATIONAL LICENSING PLATFORM**

Pennsylvania's 2021-22 hunting licenses will go on sale Monday, June 14, at various vendor locations across the state, including the Game Commission's region offices and headquarters. Licenses can also be purchased online at [www.huntfish.pa.gov](http://www.huntfish.pa.gov), the state's new user-friendly licensing platform for hunters and trappers. Some of the system's new features include:

- Enhanced user experience with a clean, modern design.
- Streamlined content and screen flow to enable fast, easy-to-process transactions.
- Account and dashboard displays with specific information for each customer, including past license purchases and items eligible for purchase.
- "Quick Order" option displays past license purchases for a quick and easy sale.
- Automatic recommendations for related add-on items.
- Username and password setup for quick account access.
- Guest checkout feature to purchase vouchers and magazine subscriptions without an account or being logged into the system.
- Merchandise sales and harvest reporting.
- 24/7 phone customer service support.
- Agent locator to identify nearby walk-in retail locations.

For customers who prefer to purchase hunting and fishing licenses in person, the [HuntFishPA](http://www.huntfish.pa.gov) platform is available at 750 issuing agent locations, including bait shops, convenience stores, sporting goods retailers, county treasurers and Walmart. Retail customers can buy their licenses the same way as they have in the past and have licenses printed at the time of purchase. Customers will notice that their new hunting licenses purchased in a store will be printed on durable green paper, replacing the yellow license color that was used previously.

More information about the new licensing system, as well as instructional videos that guide users through their purchases are [available here](#) or by visiting [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov).



## 20 MORE BULL LICENSES ACROSS 3 SEASONS

### NEW LATE SEASON BULL HUNTS

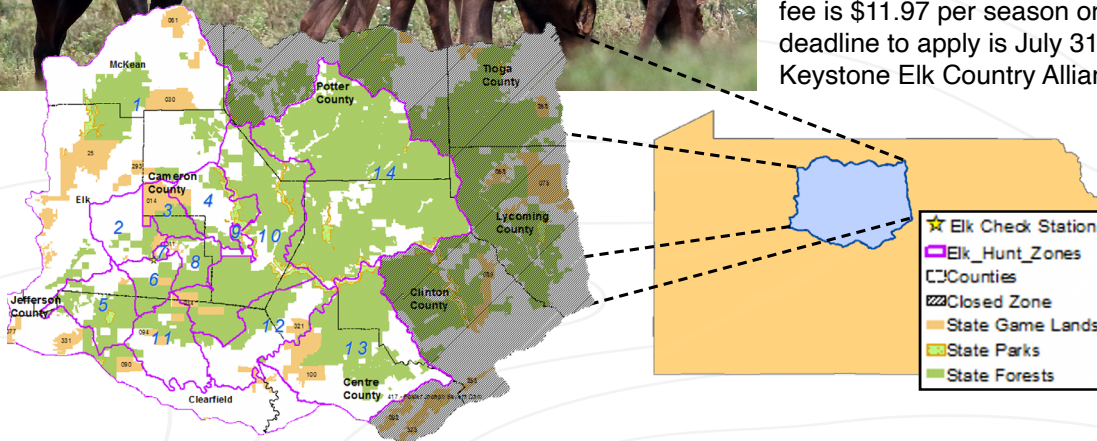
# HUNT ELK IN PENNSYLVANIA

## NEW LATE SEASON BULL HUNTS AND MORE LICENSES AVAILABLE

Pennsylvania is home to the largest wild elk herd in the northeastern United States. As many as 1,400 elk freely roam across 3,000 square miles in the northcentral region of the state, mostly within Elk, Cameron, Clinton and Clearfield counties. Hunters can apply for an elk license application when they purchase their 2021-22 hunting license, beginning June 14.

Pennsylvania has three elk hunting seasons: Archery, Sept. 11-25; Firearms, Nov. 1-6; and Late Season, Jan. 1-8. The application fee is \$11.97 per season or apply for all three for \$35.91. The deadline to apply is July 31 and the licenses will be drawn at the Keystone Elk Country Alliance's Elk Expo on Saturday, Aug. 21.

Visit [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov) for more information about elk hunting in Pennsylvania. Photo by Jake Dingel.



## 2021-22 MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASON SET

Pennsylvania's 2021-22 migratory game bird seasons have been set. Annual migratory game bird seasons are selected by states from frameworks established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Game Commission selections were made after reviewing last year's hunter harvests, population survey data and public input.

There is one significant change to Pennsylvania waterfowl seasons this year: The bag limit during the regular season in the Atlantic Population (AP) goose zone was reduced to one Canada goose a day. This change is necessary to reduce harvest rates to a level that will allow for growth of this migratory

Canada goose population. The population declined significantly and experienced a near total reproductive failure in 2018. The lowered bag limit should allow AP Canada goose populations to rebound.

[Click here](#) or visit [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov) to view Pennsylvania's complete 2021-22 Migratory Game Bird seasons and bag limits. Photo by Jacob Dingel.

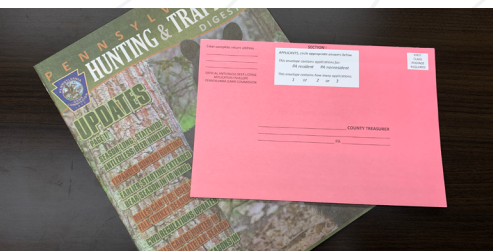


## MODERNIZING HOW PENNSYLVANIA HUNTERS BUY ANTLERLESS DEER LICENSES

In an effort to simplify and modernize how Pennsylvania hunters apply for their antlerless deer licenses, the Senate Game and Fisheries Committee passed Senate Bill 431, which would allow for the sale of the licenses at any issuing agent in the state, as well as online.

This bill would eliminate the current process, which includes mailing a pink antlerless deer application envelope to a county treasurer. The Pennsylvania Game Commission updated the Pennsylvania Automated Licensing System in early 2021 which provides hunters with more convenient and efficient ways to apply for and receive hunting licenses.

Hunters who support modernizing the antlerless deer license application process in Pennsylvania should contact their state Senator and/or state Representative and ask them to support Senate Bill 431. Visit [www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us) for contact and bill information. Photo by Jake Dingel.



**HUNTERS: CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE TO ELIMINATE THE PINK ENVELOPES.**

# SPRING IS TIME FOR NEWBORN WILDLIFE



With spring comes an abundance of newborn wildlife – from rabbit and fox kits, to fledgling songbirds, to deer fawns and elk calves. If you spot newborn or young wildlife, please do not disturb them. While some young animals might appear to be abandoned, many wildlife parents will leave their young alone and hidden to avoid attracting predators, only coming back to nurse them a few times a day.

Only two weeks after hatching, baby robins will start to fledge (or leave) the nest. However, it will take another two weeks before robin fledglings can build the muscles and skills to successfully fly. If you see a robin fledgling hopping around your yard, please let them be, he/she is practicing flying. Photo by Jacob Dingel.

## PIPING PLOVERS NEST IN ERIE COUNTY FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR



Piping plovers are Pennsylvania's rarest nesting shorebird and one of the most critically endangered species globally. In May, the Pennsylvania Game Commission excitedly announced that Great Lakes piping plovers are nesting at Presque Isle State Park, in Erie County, for the fifth consecutive year.

The Great Lakes population was listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act in 1986, when only an estimated 17 pairs remained. Prior to 2017, piping plovers were absent as

breeding birds from the Lake Erie shoreline – the only nesting location in Pennsylvania – for more than 60 years.

This success is thanks to many years of dedicated recovery actions by several wildlife agencies and hundreds of individuals throughout the Great Lakes that boosted the breeding population to the point where recolonization of new sites was possible. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Share the shoreline. Obey all closed area signs posted on Presque Isle State Park beaches, and other beaches as you travel. Give wildlife the space they need to feed, nest, and raise young.
- Pack it out. Leaving trash behind is a wildlife hazard and invites potential predators.
- Leash up. Dogs love the beach and we love dogs! But an unleashed dog can overwhelm beach birds. Make sure you know which beaches allow dogs and always keep Fido on a 6-foot leash. Photo by Tracy Graziano.

## SUPPORT RECOVERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE ACT | OUR NATURE. OUR NATION. OUR FUTURE.

Did you know that here in Pennsylvania, we have 664 species of greatest conservation need, which includes both game and non-game species? The species, and work currently being done to help them, are included in the [Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan](#) available at [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov).

Interested in supporting endangered and threatened species here at home and across the U.S.? Contact your U.S. Congressional Representative and ask them to support Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA), H.R. 2773, one of the most meaningful initiatives for fish and wildlife of all time. Click here to find your representative or visit [www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative](http://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative).

RAWA is bipartisan legislation that would increase state wildlife agency's dedicated funding to address growing declines of fish, wildlife and their natural habitats. The bill would fund the implementation of congressionally-mandated State Wildlife Action Plans. [Click here](#) or visit [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov) for more information about the bill.



## HELP PROTECT PENNSYLVANIA WILDLIFE

Wildlife crimes affect everyone. The Pennsylvania Game Commission's Operation Game Thief program serves to protect wild birds and wild mammals and encourages those who have information related to wildlife crimes to report details as soon as possible.

To report information, call the Operation Game Thief's toll-free hotline – 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year – at 1-888-PGC-8001 or fill out an online form at <http://bit.ly/PGCOGT>.

Calls to the Operation Game Thief hotline are always answered by a secure recording device. Although it is beneficial to provide contact information in case game wardens have follow-up questions, callers may remain confidential. Learn more about the program here: <http://bit.ly/PGCOGT>.



## TUNE IN TO CALL OF THE OUTDOORS

Call of the Outdoors is the Pennsylvania Game Commission's podcast, hosted by Marketing Bureau Director Matt Morrett. New episodes featuring guests from within the agency, as well as hunters, public figures and more, are published each month.

The episodes feature unique and relevant issues, explaining Pennsylvania hunting and wildlife-related subjects and provides listeners with better ways to explore, promote and understand our natural resources. Call of the Outdoors episodes are available on [www.callofthe-outdoorspgc.com](http://www.callofthe-outdoorspgc.com), Apple Podcasts, Google Play Store, iHeartRadio, Spotify and Stitcher.



## REMOTE LEARNING RESOURCES AVAILABLE: WILDLIFE ON WIFI

Wildlife on WiFi (WoW) is the Pennsylvania Game Commission's award-winning virtual wildlife education program and is available [by clicking here](#) or visiting [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov). The program's vision is to connect Pennsylvania residents to their state's wildlife agency from anywhere.

WoW provides wildlife enthusiasts – especially educators, students, parents and high-risk health communities – with home-based conservation and wildlife science education activities and lessons, virtual field trips and events, and social media games.



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Pennsylvania Game Commission

# PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION: YOUR STATE WILDLIFE AGENCY

### HEADQUARTERS

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### REGION OFFICES

**NORTHWEST REGION:** Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren counties  
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Phone: 814-432-3187

**SOUTHWEST REGION:** Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland counties  
4820 Route 711, Bolivar, PA 15923 | Phone: 724-238-9523

**NORTHCENTRAL REGION:** Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Lycoming, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Union counties  
1566 South Route 44 Highway, Post Office Box 5038, Jersey Shore, PA 17740-5038 | Phone: 570-398-4744

**SOUTHCENTRAL REGION:** Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, Snyder, York counties  
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**NORTHEAST REGION:** Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming counties  
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**SOUTHEAST REGION:** Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill counties  
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