



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.

AUGUST 2021

SUPPORT FOR SUNDAY HUNTING EXPANSION



The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners recently adopted a resolution to support the expansion of Sunday hunting as a means of boosting hunting opportunity, supporting local economies and providing additional funding for wildlife management.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission does not have the authority to expand Sunday hunting beyond the three currently approved dates – Nov. 14, 21, and 28, 2021. The authority to expand beyond those three dates lies entirely within the General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

The resolution states that the states that currently permit Sunday hunting have not experienced any discernable negative impact on the health or vibrancy of game populations by allowing Sunday hunting. Further, expanded hunting opportunities could effectively generate \$629 million in additional spending and create 5,300 new jobs, resulting in \$18 million in additional sales and income tax.

The board's resolution urges the General Assembly of Pennsylvania to repeal the prohibition on Sunday hunting to allow for expanded hunting opportunities. More information is available online at www.pgc.pa.gov.

SUNDAY HUNTING, 2021 SEASON DETAILS

In Pennsylvania, Sunday hunting has been permitted for a long time for foxes, coyotes and crows during open seasons. In an effort to expand hunting opportunities, in 2021, Sunday hunting is only open on the following dates for the following species:

- 1. SUNDAY, NOV. 14** – Deer (archery), Bear (archery in WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D only), Squirrel, Pheasant, Rabbit, Grouse, Bobwhite Quail, Woodchuck, Crow, Raccoon, Fox, Coyote, Opossum, Striped Skunk, Weasel and Porcupine.
- 2. SUNDAY, NOV. 21** – Bear, Deer (archery in WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D only), Squirrel, Pheasant, Rabbit, Grouse, Bobwhite Quail, Woodchuck, Crow, Raccoon, Fox, Coyote, Opossum, Striped Skunk, Weasel and Porcupine. Coyote hunters, during any big-game season, must follow big-game orange requirements.
- 3. SUNDAY, NOV. 28** – Deer, Bear, Raccoon, Fox and Coyote. 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 Deer Firearms season.

**Turkeys and migratory game birds may not be hunting on any of these three Sundays. Other game that's in season may be hunted on these three Sundays.*

One these three Sundays, hunters on private land are required to carry written permission from the landowner. The permission slip should be signed by the landowner, and should include the hunter's name, address and CID license number, and the landowner's name, address and phone number. Providing contact information for the landowner is the quickest and easiest way for a game warden to verify a landowner has granted permission to a hunter. A sample permission slip is available on [page 5 of the Pennsylvania Hunting and Trapping Digest](#).

SUNDAY HUNTING LANDOWNER PERMISSION SLIP					
<small>Hunters seeking Sunday hunting permission use this slip, complete it alongside the landowner and carry it with you.</small>					
Hunter Name			Landowner Name		
Street Address			Street Address		
City	State	ZIP code	City	State	ZIP code
CID number		2021-22	Landowner phone number		Signature

2021-22 HUNTING LICENSES AVAILABLE IN STORES AND ONLINE

The 2021-22 hunting license year began on July 1, 2021 and runs through June 30, 2022. Hunters who have not yet purchased his or her new hunting license still have plenty of time to do so before the new seasons begin!

Hunting licenses are available at more than 750 issuing agent locations, including sporting goods retailers, county treasurers, bait shops and more. Visit www.pgc.pa.gov for more information about 2021-22 hunting licenses. Thanks for being a Pennsylvania hunter!



NEW MENTORED HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES CREATED



At its meeting in July, the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners adopted new opportunities for mentored hunters, who will soon be able to pursue waterfowl and bears in addition to other select species.

Mentored hunters will be able to hunt rabbits, hares, ruffed grouse, mourning doves, bobwhite quail, pheasants, crows, squirrels, porcupines, woodchucks, coyotes, deer, waterfowl, bears and wild turkeys in the coming seasons.

BEAR: Mentored hunters ages 7 and older will be able to purchase their own bear licenses. Those under age 7 must receive a valid bear license through transfer from an adult mentor.

WATERFOWL: All mentored hunters pursuing waterfowl will need a Pennsylvania migratory bird license, in addition to their mentored hunting permit. Those mentored hunters ages 16 and older also will need a federal duck stamp.

Though adopted by the board, these new opportunities for mentored hunters will not become effective until they are published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, a process that typically takes about six to eight weeks. The measure adopted by the board also enables mentored hunters ages 7 and older to buy their own special spring turkey licenses and allows those licenses to be transferred from their original holders to a mentored hunter under age 7. Visit www.pgc.pa.gov for all details.

PRACTICE WITH YOUR GUN OR BOW FOR NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS MONTH

August is National Shooting Sports Month, a time to celebrate and enjoy the shooting sports with friends, family and newcomers they want to introduce to these lifetime activities. Did you know that there are more than 800 shooting ranges (public and private) in Pennsylvania?

For shooting enjoyment and to help make better hunters, the Pennsylvania Game Commission maintains public shooting ranges across the state. Those who shoot firearms at these ranges on state game lands must possess and carry either an annual \$31.97 range use permits or a current general hunting license or furtaker license. Each licensed hunter or range permit holder may have one guest.



Unless otherwise posted, ranges are open year-round, from 8 a.m. until sunset, Monday through Saturday, and noon to sunset on Sundays. A map of all ranges, including archery ranges, and additional details are available online at www.pgc.pa.gov.

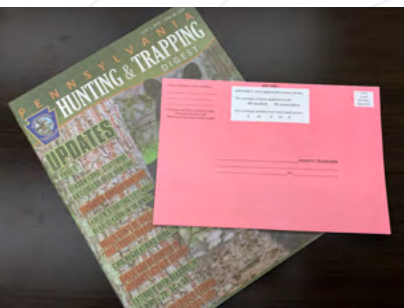
TIRED OF THE PINK ENVELOPES?

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 for contact and bill information.

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

RECOVERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE ACT OUR NATURE. OUR NATION. OUR FUTURE

664

The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners adopted a resolution at its meeting in July in support of adopting the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, which would allocate \$1.3 billion annually for wildlife conservation across the nation. The Game Commission does not receive revenue from the Pennsylvania General Fund and there is a recognized need to expand dedicated and sustainable funding for wildlife conservation in our state, as well as the rest of the nation.

Here in Pennsylvania, we have 664 species of greatest conservation need, which includes both game and non-game species of wild birds, mammals and aquatic life. The species, and work currently being done to help them, are included in the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan available at www.pgc.pa.gov.

If you are 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.

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 for more information about the bill.

TWO RAPTORS UP FOR STATUS CHANGES



The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners recently gave preliminary approval to place the northern goshawk on the state's endangered-species list, and removing the peregrine falcon from the state's threatened species list. The measure will be brought back to the September meeting for a final vote. The proposed changes reflect the strikingly different population trends for goshawks and peregrines.

The northern goshawk has experienced range contraction and a dramatic population decline in the past 20 years. Classifying it as an endangered species would further protect it by limiting or delaying certain activities within their breeding habitat during courtship and nesting seasons.

The peregrine falcon, which was upgraded from endangered- to threatened species status in 2019, has continued to see population increases. The recommendation for its upgrade is based on the Game Commission's 2013-2022 Peregrine Falcon Management Plan, which establishes objectives for the species' recovery that now have been achieved. More information about the status changes is available at www.pgc.pa.gov. Photo by Joe Kosack.

SEE A TURKEY? SUBMIT A REPORT

Each summer, Pennsylvanians help track wild turkey populations by reporting their turkey sightings to the Game Commission. The Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Sighting Survey opens July 1 and will run through August. The two-month window follows the current national standard used by all state wildlife agencies, providing comparable data across the wild turkey's entire range.

The public is encouraged to report any turkeys observed during July and August. Information submitted helps the agency analyze turkey reproduction. Participants are requested to record the number of wild turkeys they see, along with the general location, date, and contact information if agency biologists have any questions. Viewers can also access results from previous years.

Turkey sighting reports can be made through the Game Commission's mobile app or on the agency's website, www.pgc.pa.gov. On the website, click on "Turkey Sighting Survey" in the Quick Clicks section. The mobile app can be found by searching for "Pennsylvania Game Commission" in the Google Play Store or Apple's App Store and selecting "Turkey Sighting Survey." Photo by Jacob Dingel.



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, 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. 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

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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

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Phone: 814-643-1831

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