



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.

ELK HARVEST DATA

Interested in reviewing Pennsylvania's elk harvest data from previous years? Harvest totals, locations, weights, (and more), from previous seasons are available at www.pgc.pa.gov.

Congratulations to Ben Porkolab, of St. Mary's, who harvested this 6x6 bull in Elk Hunt Zone 1, on the first day of the 2020 general elk season. Ben's bull was estimated to weigh a little over 776 pounds at the elk check station.



JULY 2021



HUNT ELK IN PENNSYLVANIA

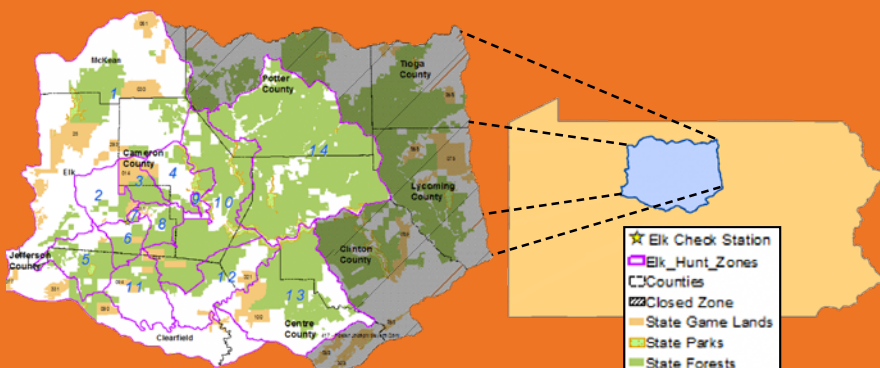
NEW LATE SEASON BULL HUNTS AND MORE LICENSES AVAILABLE

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.

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. A new late season bull hunt was added, as well as 20 additional bull licenses (across all three seasons). With 187 elk licenses, (56 bull, 131 cow), the opportunities to hunt elk in the Keystone State have never been better.

Hunters can apply for an elk license application when they purchase their 2021-22 hunting license. Apply online at www.huntfish.pa.gov or at a license vendor through July 31, 2021. The licenses will be drawn at the Keystone Elk Country Alliance's Elk Expo on Saturday, Aug. 21. Visit www.pgc.pa.gov for more information about elk hunting in Pennsylvania. Photo by Jake Dingel.

PENNSYLVANIA HAS 14 ELK HUNT ZONES



Those applying for elk licenses can select which zones they would like to hunt. Big bulls, as well as a huntable population of elk, can be found in each of the 14 zones. Hunters have successfully harvested elk in every hunt zone. A brief synopsis of the zones is available online at www.pgc.pa.gov and on page 55 of the 2021-22 Pennsylvania Hunting and Trapping Digest.

Elk hunters are encouraged to spend some time in Pennsylvania's elk country to become familiar with the area in advance of the hunting seasons. Carefully examine each zone to consider road access and the amount of available public and private land.



PURCHASE YOUR 2021-22 HUNTING LICENSE TODAY

Pennsylvania's 2021-22 hunting licenses are on sale now 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, the state's new user-friendly licensing platform for hunters and trappers.

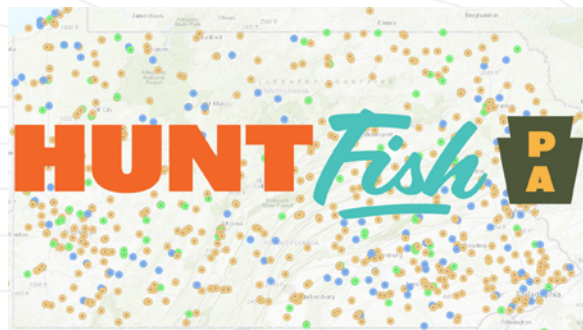
From expanded Sunday hunting opportunities to concurrent deer seasons to additional bull elk licenses, the time to get in the field has never been better. Visit www.pgc.pa.gov for all seasons and bag limits information.

Congratulations to Cory Gulvas, of Wellsboro, who harvested one of the state's largest typical bucks on public land with a traditional bow in Tioga County in fall 2020. Listen to his story on the Game Commission's podcast, [Call of the Outdoors](#).

IN-PERSON LICENSE VENDOR LOCATIONS AND 2021-22 HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.PGC.PA.GOV

For customers who prefer to purchase hunting and fishing licenses in person, the [HuntFishPA](#) 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.



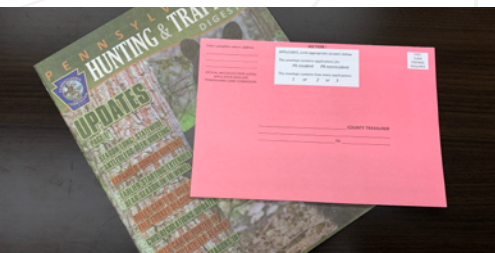
ANTLERLESS DEER APPLICATION SCHEDULE

Pennsylvania's 2021-22 Antlerless Deer Application Schedule is as follows:

- **July 12, 2021 – Residents**
- **July 19, 2021 – Nonresidents**
- **Aug. 2, 2021 – Unsold, 1st Round**
- **Aug. 16, 2021 – Unsold, 2nd Round**

Please note, hunters must purchase a 2021-22 general hunting license BEFORE applying for an antlerless license. All antlerless deer license applications must be mailed in the official pink envelopes to a county treasurer; applications are accepted by mail only until over-the-counter sales begin.

More details are available on www.pgc.pa.gov, as well as in the new 2021-22 Hunter-Trapper Digest. Thank you for being a Pennsylvania hunter!



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.

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



SEE A TURKEY? SUBMIT A REPORT

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.

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.

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."

CELEBRATING 101 YEARS OF STATE GAME LANDS

Pennsylvania's State Game Lands system celebrated its 101st anniversary on June 15. Our first game lands, State Game Lands 25, in Elk County, was acquired on June 15, 1920. The number 25 resulted from the game refuges numbering system that ran 1-24 at that time. Early game lands were set up under the game refuge concept.

Today, Pennsylvania's State Game Lands system has more than 1.5 MILLION acres of game lands, each of which are managed by the Game Commission, to provide wildlife with quality habitat and hunters with ample opportunities.

There are 308 separate game lands/wildlife management areas and game lands access is available in 65 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Active wildlife management strategies are in place on thousands of acres of game lands each year to create better habitat for all wildlife – both game and non-game species.

This great access was made possible by early visionaries and their forward-thinking decisions to dedicate public lands for wildlife, hunting and trapping.



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.

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.



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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REGION OFFICES

NORTHWEST REGION: Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren counties
1509 Pittsburgh Road, Franklin, PA 16323
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
8627 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon, PA 16652
Phone: 814-643-1831

NORTHEAST REGION: Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming counties
3917 Memorial Highway, Dallas, PA 18612-0220
Phone: 570-675-1143

SOUTHEAST REGION: Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill counties
253 Snyder Road, Reading, PA 19605 | Phone: 610-926-3136

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