



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.



ATTENTION PENNSYLVANIA HUNTERS

**2023-24 HUNTING LICENSES
AVAILABLE MONDAY, JUNE 26**

Get excited, Pennsylvania hunters! Hunting licenses for the 2023-24 seasons go on sale Monday, June 26, 2023, at 8 a.m.

Purchase your license in person at a License Issuing Agent or online at www.huntfish.pa.gov.

The 2023-24 Hunting License year runs from July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024.

THANK YOU for being a Pennsylvania hunter! Your license purchase directly benefits wildlife conservation in our state.



ATTENTION: DEER HUNTERS

PENNSYLVANIA HAS A
NEW ANTLERLESS
DEER LICENSE
PURCHASING PROCESS

BIG changes were recently made to Pennsylvania's antlerless deer license purchasing process. Hunting licenses for the 2023-24 seasons will go on sale on Monday, June 26, 2023, at 8 a.m. NEW for this year, hunters may purchase their antlerless deer licenses online at www.huntfish.pa.gov or in-store at any issuing agent locations. There are four rounds to purchase an antlerless deer license.

FIRST ROUND – BEGINS MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023, AT 8 A.M.

Resident hunters may purchase their first 2023-24 antlerless license at that time. Nonresidents may purchase their first antlerless license on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 8 a.m.

SECOND ROUND – BEGINS MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023, AT 8 A.M.

Resident and nonresident hunters may purchase their second antlerless deer license or up to two licenses in this round.

THIRD ROUND – BEGINS MONDAY, AUG. 14, 2023, AT 8 A.M.

Resident and nonresident hunters may purchase their third antlerless deer license or up to three licenses. Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) permits will also be available, beginning at 8 a.m., on this date.

FOURTH ROUND – BEGINS MONDAY, AUG. 28, 2023, AT 8 A.M.

Resident and nonresident hunters may purchase additional licenses, until reaching their annual personal limit of six antlerless deer licenses. Hunters can report antlerless deer harvests and continue to purchase licenses until sold out.

The prices of the antlerless deer licenses remain the same at \$6.97 for a resident antlerless license and \$26.97 for a nonresident antlerless license. Hunters are encouraged to visit www.pgc.pa.gov and search "Antlerless Licenses" for all details. Pink envelopes will no longer be used in the antlerless license purchasing process.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

CONTACT THE PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION BY CALLING 1-833-PGC-HUNT OR EMAILING PGCLICDIV@PA.GOV.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PENNSYLVANIA HUNTER.

2023-24 HUNTING/ TRAPPING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SET

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2023-24 HUNTING SEASONS & BAG LIMITS SET



VISIT WWW.PGC.PA.GOV
FOR MORE DETAILS.



The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners approved the hunting and trapping seasons and bag limits for the upcoming 2023-24 license year. Visit www.pgc.pa.gov for all seasons and bag limits information.

Modifications for the 2023-24 seasons include the following:

- For black bear, Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) 1B, 2C, 4A, 4B and 4D were removed from the extended firearms black bear season because of declining nuisance complaints in these units.
- For elk, the archery season will be a week later than in 2022-23 to provide additional time between the license drawing and the beginning of the season.

- For furbearers, WMUs 3B and 4E have been opened to river otter trapping because habitat and population data indicate these units can support sustainable otter harvest.
- For small game, there has been a significant expansion of opportunity for put-and-take hunting of captive-reared bobwhite quail in most of Pennsylvania, achieved through an earlier season opening date, later season closing date and removal of the daily bag limit. Also, adjustments to crow season dates and addition of Thursdays as hunting days were approved to shift hunting opportunity from the peak breeding season to the fall and winter months.
- For falconry, an expansion of falconry opportunities to include the period of overlap with the regular firearms deer season and the authorization of falconers to take certain furbearers were approved.

APPLY NOW

EXPANDED APPLICATION
PERIOD FOR 2023-24

**PENNSYLVANIA ELK
HUNTING LICENSE**

**FEB. 1ST - JULY 16TH
2023**

APPLY ONLINE AT HUNTFISH.PA.GOV
OR AT ANY LICENSE ISSUING AGENT.



WWW.PGC.PA.GOV

HUNT ELK IN PENNSYLVANIA

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. 16-30; Firearms, Oct. 30-Nov. 4; and Late Season, Dec. 30-Jan. 6. The application fee is \$11.97 per season or \$35.91 for all three.

Hunters can apply for an elk license application online at www.huntfish.pa.gov or at a license vendor through July 16, 2023. Licenses will be drawn at the Keystone Elk Country Alliance's Elk Expo on Saturday, July 29. Visit www.pgc.pa.gov for more information about elk hunting in Pennsylvania.

UPDATE TO PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGE PERMITS

For your shooting enjoyment and to make you a better hunter, the Pennsylvania Game Commission maintains public shooting ranges throughout the state. Those who shoot firearms at these shooting ranges must possess and carry with them either an annual \$31.97 range use permit or a current Pennsylvania general hunting or furtaker license.

The Shooting Range Permit was recently updated and is now valid for 365 days from the date of purchase. A permit purchased after April 10, 2023, will have access to PGC shooting ranges for an entire year after the date of purchase.

Learn more and find a shooting range at www.pgc.pa.gov.



RECOGNIZING 128 YEARS OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

June marks the Pennsylvania Game Commission's 128th anniversary and 103 years of the State Game Lands system.

Our first game lands, State Game Lands 25 in Elk County, was acquired on June 15, 1920. Today, Pennsylvania's State Game Lands system has more than 1.5 MILLION acres of game lands, each managed by the Game Commission, to provide wildlife with quality habitat and hunters with ample opportunities.

The Keystone State is home to 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.

BE "BEARWISE" THIS SUMMER

Keep yourself safe and our black bears wild with these BearWise basics:

- **Stay alert and stay together.** Be aware of your surroundings and head into the outdoors with other people whenever possible. Keep kids close and make noise along the way.
- **Leave no trash or food scraps.** Double-bag your snacks and always pack out any trash and scraps.
- **Keep dogs leashed.** Don't let dogs chase or bark at a bear, which could make it aggressive.
- **Camp safely.** Set up camp away from natural food sources and thick cover. Store all food, trash and toiletries in bear-resistant containers or suspended 10 feet from any part of a tree.
- **Know what to do if you see a bear.** If you spot a bear before it sees you, quietly walk away. If a bear sees you, back away slowly — never run. If a bear approaches you, stand your ground, wave your arms and yell until it leaves. If it keeps coming, use bear spray. If it makes contact with you, fight back — don't play dead.
- **Carry bear spray and know how to use it.** Learn how to safely deploy this effective tool for deterring bold bears. Never spray it on your tent or belongings.



REPORT WILD TURKEY SIGHTINGS THIS SUMMER

Help wildlife biologists track and analyze spring turkey production by reporting summer sightings. The Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Sighting Survey is set to open July 1, 2023, and run through Sept. 5.

Participants are requested to record the number of wild turkeys they see along with the general location, date and their contact information. Learn more, access results from previous years or submit a report at www.pgc.pa.gov.



CONTACTING THE
GAME COMMISSION
JUST GOT EASIER

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

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

BOTH NUMBERS CONNECT CALLERS
IN PENNSYLVANIA WITH THE
CENTRALIZED DISPATCH CENTER.

HUNTERS REPORTING BIG-GAME
HARVESTS BY PHONE SHOULD CALL
1-800-838-4431.

WWW.PGC.PA.GOV



Callers anywhere in the state can now dial 1-833-PGC-HUNT or 1-833-PGC-WILD to contact the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Centralized Dispatch Center and be directed appropriately. We look forward to hearing from you!



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.

Report information to 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>. Callers may remain confidential. Learn more about the program online at <http://bit.ly/PG-COGT>.



LISTEN TO CALL OF THE OUTDOORS

Call of the Outdoors is the Pennsylvania Game Commission's podcast and new episodes featuring guests from within the agency, as well as hunters, public figures and more, are published each month. Call of the Outdoors episodes are available on www.calloftheoutdoorspgc.com, Apple Podcasts, Google Play Store, iHeartRadio, Spotify and Stitcher. Enjoy and thanks for listening!



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Want to receive automatic updates related to Pennsylvania wildlife, hunting, trapping and habitat projects? Subscribe today to receive regular email updates directly in your inbox. Simply visit www.pgc.pa.gov and look for the "Sign up for emails" button at the top of our homepage to get on the list.

FOLLOW US ONLINE



PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION: YOUR STATE WILDLIFE AGENCY

HEADQUARTERS

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Phone: 717-787-4250

REGION OFFICES

NORTHWEST REGION - 1509 Pittsburgh Road, Franklin, PA 16323
Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer,
Venango, Warren counties

SOUTHWEST REGION - 4820 Route 711, Bolivar, PA 15923
Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana,
Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland counties

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

SOUTHCENTRAL REGION - 8627 William Penn Highway,
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon,
Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, Snyder, York counties

NORTHEAST REGION - 3917 Memorial Highway, Dallas, PA
18612-0220
Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Mon-
tour, Northumberland, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming
counties

SOUTHEAST REGION - 253 Snyder Road, Reading, PA 19605
Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon,
Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill counties

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.PGC.PA.GOV