



# PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

## NORTHEAST REGION

3917 MEMORIAL HIGHWAY DALLAS, PA 18612 | 1-833-742-4866 (PGC HUNT) 1-833-742-9453 (PGC WILD)

### Summer Internship Program - 2026

Wildlife Management – Wildlife Habitat Management -Forestry -Information & Education

#### Internship Overview

Are you excited to begin a career in conservation but lack field training and experience? Do you want your first steps to contribute to the management and protection of wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping? If so, your goals align with the mission of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and our summer internship program is designed for you! Pennsylvania's wildlife agency seeks hard-working, highly motivated students eager to develop their conservation knowledge and skills while experiencing all the agency has to offer. The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) Northeast Region will be offering numerous paid internships for the summer 2026 field season.

#### **Available Opportunities and Learning Objectives:**

Internship opportunities are available within four disciplines – Forestry, Wildlife Habitat Management, Wildlife Management and Information & Education. Descriptions of each are provided below. We encourage you to apply to one or more opportunities depending on your interests. If awarded an internship, you will focus primarily on the designated subject area; however, exposure to and collaboration across disciplines will occur frequently and is considered an important part of the experience.

#### **Wildlife Habitat Management Internship (2 positions available)**

*Work Location (Northeast Regional Office)*

Providing hunters, trappers, and wildlife enthusiasts access to premier wildlife habitats is key to our mission. Interns will be working in all 6 land management groups responsible for state game lands covering more than 385,000 acres of habitat. Interns will gain hands-on experience in habitat management as they work side-by-side with habitat management crew members. They will learn how to safely operate farm implements and power/hand tools, and assist with the maintenance and construction of gates, parking lots, boundary lines, bridges, and other infrastructure-related projects. They will gain experience in enhancing herbaceous, shrubland, forested and wetland habitats, and be introduced to our comprehensive planning process which provides the foundation for all work completed within the state game lands system. Under supervision, interns can expect to learn about proper herbicide applications (hand and mechanical) to treat invasive species, as well as the use of prescribed fire to enhance habitats.

### **Wildlife Management Internship (2 positions)**

Work Location (*Northeast Regional Office*)

This internship will offer real-world experience in the field of wildlife management. Interns will be paired with agency biologists and assist with wildlife management duties. Duties will include black bear capture and tagging, acoustic sampling (bats & N. flying squirrels), radio telemetry, bat counts and roost structure installations, waterfowl, mourning dove and owl banding, trap maintenance, habitat plan development, and various other wildlife and habitat surveys. Agency biologists will relate how field data gathered impacts management decisions and population goals. Collaboration across professional disciplines will be encouraged to enhance outcomes and related objectives. Interns will also gain experience in equipment operation (GPS, UTV, kayak, motorboat, 4X4 and hand and power tools). Projects will occur throughout the Northeast Region.

### **Forestry Internship (2 positions)**

Work Location (*Northeast Regional Office*)

Interns will work alongside Foresters and Forest Technicians to prepare projects related to managing and enhancing forested habitats on State Game Lands within the Northeast Region of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. These forest habitat improvement projects include timber sales, non-commercial cuttings, herbicide applications, prescribed fire, and road construction/improvement. Interns will have regular opportunities to gain proficiency in SILVAH data collection, timber marking and tallying, land navigation, and other Forestry activities while using common Forestry tools. Interns will also have the ability to be involved in basic wildland firefighting training required to assist with prescribed fire operations. Opportunities will exist for the interns to cross-collaborate with PGC Wildlife Management and Wildlife Habitat Management interns on projects such as black bear capture and survey and goose banding.

### **Information and Education Internship (1 position)**

Work Location (*Northeast Regional Office*)

The PA Game Commission is passionate about being the voice for PA wildlife. Therefore, the objective of this internship is to provide experience in the development and delivery of content that promotes the mission and values of the PA Game Commission. The intern will be immersed in operations to foster a comprehensive understanding of the agency's programs, goals, and accomplishments. Through the guidance of the regional Information and Education Supervisor, the intern will create, package, and inventory promotional displays and items; assist and develop R3 programs and shooting events; assist with Junior Game Warden Camp and other wildlife education outreach events throughout the region; assist with Project WILD teacher workshops; inventory and update agency publications and educational resources. Interns may also participate in a variety of wildlife research and habitat projects.

PGC internships will expose students to a variety of PGC work, including wildlife management, wildlife habitat management, information & education and forestry.

**Salary and Starting Date:** Scientific & Technical Intern  
\$17.38/hour for 40 hours/week  
Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (subject to change)  
Maximum of 749 hours/calendar year  
Anticipated starting date: May 1, 2026\*  
Anticipated ending date: August 18, 2026\*

\*Subject to change based on student availability before/after these dates\*

### **Job Requirements and Qualifications:**

Work will be outdoors and involve traversing uneven terrain in all-weather conditions. The selected applicant must have a valid driver's license. Preferred candidates will have college level course work or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, or natural resource management. Forestry applicants must have successfully completed a college-level field dendrology course.

- **Must be enrolled as a full-time student – carrying 12 credits.**
- **Student must be enrolled in a post-secondary program in a technical, scientific, or engineering field of study. School credit will be determined by the college/university.**
- **Fall Semester Enrollment information must be provided on corresponding college/university letterhead: This information must include the student's name/ID number, University/College they are attending, the degree and courses they are enrolled in and credits for Fall 2026 enrollment.**
- **A graduating High School student who is 18 and enrolled in the fall semester is eligible to apply.**
- **An unofficial transcript or letter of enrollment from the registrar's office for incoming freshman is acceptable. It must be clear on the transcript that the student has taken classes, is enrolled in future classes, and/or has identified a potential graduation date.**

### **Qualifications:**

- Hard working and motivated
- Positive attitude and eager to learn
- Professional communication skills
- Open to collaboration/working with others
- Supportive of PGC's mission to manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.
- Valid driver's license

- Preferred candidates will have college-level coursework or experience in the fields of wildlife, forestry, natural resource management, environmental education, communications, and/or marketing.

### **Additional Information:**

You will participate in training the first week of your internship. This training will expose you to our culture and provide an overall picture of our agency/region. This introduction will provide a knowledge base to draw upon for the remainder of the internship and beyond.

### **Rewards:**

Our goal is to mentor and recruit the next generation of conservation professionals. As an intern, you will explore career and agency opportunities, gaining an inside look into your future. You will develop specialized skill sets through hands-on application while being mentored by professionals within your field of study. You will receive a midterm and final evaluation, providing a forum for constructive feedback and questions. You will collaborate with other conservationists and participate in agency meetings, forming relationships you can build on in the future. Finally, interns who successfully complete the program may be considered for future employment opportunities with our agency.

### **To Apply:**

Persons who wish to apply for the position must be a student who will return to college in the fall of the same year of employment. **\*\*All interested persons must mail a current resume and proof of college enrollment which must include students' name/ID number, University/College they are attending, the degree and courses they are enrolled in and number credits to the address listed below. \*\***Microsoft Teams Interviews will be conducted to select the employee. No phone interviews will be conducted. All resumes must be received **on or before February 15, 2026**. Email address: PGC\_NE\_Summer\_Internship@pa.gov

**Send Cover Letter, Resume & Proof of College Enrollment to:**

**PGC\_NE\_Summer\_Internship@pa.gov**

### **Questions:**

Questions for Wildlife Management Internships should be directed to Kevin Wenner at [kewenner@pa.gov](mailto:kewenner@pa.gov)

Questions for Wildlife Habitat Management Internships should be directed to Justin Klugh at [jklugh@pa.gov](mailto:jklugh@pa.gov)

Questions for Forestry Internships should be directed to Matt Engel at [mengel@pa.gov](mailto:mengel@pa.gov)

Questions for Information & Education Internships should be directed to Aaron Morrow at [aarmorrow@pa.gov](mailto:aarmorrow@pa.gov)