



**Pennsylvania
Game Commission**
YOUR STATE WILDLIFE AGENCY

HEADQUARTERS

2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-787-4250

REGION OFFICES

NORTHWEST REGION

1509 Pittsburgh Road, Franklin, PA 16323

SERVING: Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren counties

SOUTHWEST REGION

4820 Route 711, Bolivar, PA 15923

SERVING: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland counties

NORTHCENTRAL REGION

1566 South Route 44 Highway, P.O. BOX 5038, Jersey Shore, PA 17740

SERVING: Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Lycoming, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Union counties

SOUTHCENTRAL REGION

8627 William Penn Highway, Huntingdon, PA 16652

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

NORTHEAST REGION

3917 Memorial Highway, Dallas, PA 18612

SERVING: Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming counties

SOUTHEAST REGION

253 Snyder Road, Reading, PA 19605

SERVING: Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill counties

FOLLOW US ONLINE



**POACHERS ARE THIEVES.
HELP US CATCH THEM.**

The Game Commission's Operation Game Thief (OGT) program protects wildlife by encouraging the public to report any information related to illegal activity as quickly as possible.

Report information to the Operation Game Thief's toll-free hotline — 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year — at 1-888-PGC-8001 or fill out an online form. Callers may remain confidential.

**Learn more at
bit.ly/PGCOGT**

JOIN THE HERD

Scan to subscribe to the Game Commission's email newsletter for hunting season reminders, licensing updates, and the latest agency news.



**CALL US AT
1-833-PGC-WILD**

VISIT US ONLINE AT PA.GOV/PGC



FEATURING: BRYAN WHITMORE & BRENT MCNEAL

**LISTEN TO CALL OF
THE OUTDOORS**

Call of the Outdoors, the Pennsylvania Game Commission's podcast, provides an inside look at statewide habitat projects, the science behind wildlife management, and what drives agency decisions.

Listeners can also learn tips for coexisting with wildlife, expert hunting tactics, and answers to the most common conservation questions.

Tune in to new episodes each month on Apple Podcasts, iHeart, Spotify, YouTube, or calloftheoutdoorspgc.com.



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



TAKE AIM AT SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Spring gobbler season runs statewide from May 2-30, 2026. A special youth hunt takes place on April 25, 2026, for licensed junior hunters and permitted mentored youth.

Turkey hunters can harvest up to two bearded birds, one per day (second spring gobbler may be only taken with a valid special wild turkey license). Hunting hours vary.

Visit pa.gov/pgc or reference the 2025-26 Pennsylvania Hunting & Trapping Digest for all turkey hunting rules and regulations.

GOOD LUCK. HAVE FUN. HUNT SAFELY.

**Be sure to report your harvest within 10 days:
ONLINE at pa.gov/pgc, by PHONE at 1-800-838-4431
OR BY MAILING IN A HARVEST CARD.**



LET WILDLIFE BE WILD

Springtime brings newborn wildlife like rabbit kits, nestling songbirds, and deer fawns.

Many wildlife parents leave their young alone and hidden to avoid attracting predators and will return only a few times a day to nurse.

If you spot young wildlife, don't disturb them.

You can also do your part by letting wildlife find their own food and always viewing them from a safe distance.



**Scan for
more ways
to help
wildlife**



APPLY TO HUNT PA ELK

Pennsylvania's elk application period will be open from May 1 through July 12, 2026. Apply online at huntfish.pa.gov or at a license issuing agent.

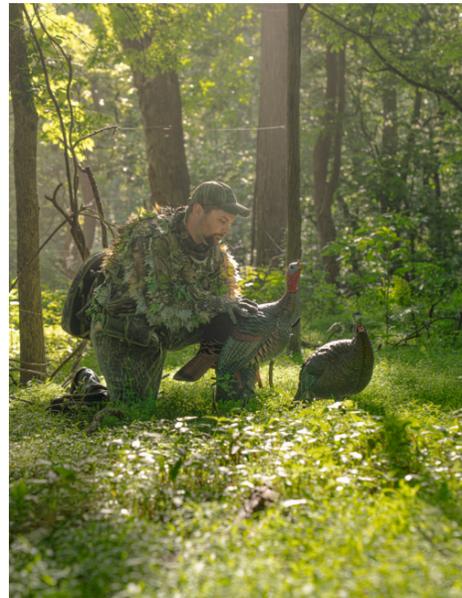
New elk hunt zones, a simplified application structure, and seasons — including a proposed early October firearms season — will be voted on at the Board of Game Commissioners meeting in April.

Elk tags will be awarded at the Keystone Elk Country Alliance Elk Expo in Benezette on July 25, 2026.

PRELIMINARY 2026-27 HUNTING & TRAPPING SEASONS

The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners gave preliminary approval to the 2026-27 hunting and trapping seasons and bag limits during its January meeting at the agency's headquarters in Harrisburg.

The public can offer comments on board actions before the April meeting, when 2026-27 seasons and bag limits will be finalized. Visit pa.gov/pgc to review the preliminary seasons and bag limits and share your comments with the board.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Tune in LIVE to the Board of Game Commissioners meeting on Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11 at Game Commission Headquarters in Harrisburg, on YouTube. Follow along as the Board of Game Commissioners works to ensure all wild birds and mammals and their habitats are managed for current and future generations.



NEW GAME WARDENS JOIN RANKS

The Pennsylvania Game Commission proudly welcomed 24 new state game wardens to its force when the Ross Leffler School of Conservation graduated its 37th class on January 31, 2026.

These new wardens went through 44 weeks of rigorous training, including game law enforcement principles and methods, public relations, wildlife forensics, conducting wildlife surveys, and hunter education instruction.

They're now working in their assigned districts to help the Game Commission fulfill its mission to manage and protect wildlife and their habitats while promoting hunting and trapping for current and future generations.

PRESCRIBED FIRE FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT

The Game Commission conducts prescribed burns at the right place, at the right time, and at the right intensity to restore wildlife habitats. These fires remove invasive plants and dead plant matter to promote healthy new growth.

They benefit wildlife in the long term and have little negative impact on wildlife in the short term. In fact, many wildlife species are attracted to burned areas immediately after the fire to forage on the flush of insect activity and fresh vegetation.

Throughout the spring, highly trained crews will be conducting prescribed fires across select state game lands. Visit pa.gov/pgc to learn more about prescribed fire, view the map of upcoming burns, and sign up for local prescribed fire notifications.



BECOME A HUNTER-TRAPPER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

Share your passion for the outdoors while helping the next generation learn how to hunt safely and responsibly. The Game Commission is looking for experienced hunters and trappers to teach both basic and advanced Hunter-Trapper Education programs.

In addition to the fulfillment of continuing Pennsylvania's hunting heritage, instructors receive a discounted general hunting license, a complimentary subscription to Pennsylvania Game News, and discounts on gear.

Visit pa.gov/pgc to learn more about becoming an instructor.



SHOOTING RANGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Game Commission's Shooting Range Improvement Program provides funding to increase opportunity, access, and safety at sportsmen's clubs throughout the state.

For 2026, \$500,000 in grant funding is available, and the Game Commission will award a maximum of \$50,000 per project.

Eligible projects include development and renovation of facilities, construction of backstops and safety berms, lead remediation, and more.



The application period is open through May 8, 2026. Grant recipients will be notified on July 1, 2026.

Scan to learn more and apply

