



# Pennsylvania Game Commission

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

## GENERAL HUNTING LICENSES GO ON SALE JUNE 22

Pennsylvania's 2026-27 general hunting licenses go on sale Monday, June 22, 2026. At the same time, antlerless license sales open for residents.

Residents are guaranteed an antlerless license for any WMU if purchased prior to July 13, when the first round of sales opens to nonresidents and remaining licenses will be available on a first come, first served basis.

One antlerless license can be purchased per round in the first three rounds.

**For questions about licenses, call 1-833-PGC-HUNT or email [pgclidiv@pa.gov](mailto:pgclidiv@pa.gov).**

### ROUND 1

**JUNE 22**

**RESIDENTS ONLY:**

ALL WMUs GO ON SALE,  
GUARANTEED THROUGH JULY 12

**JULY 13**

**NONRESIDENTS:**

UNSOLD LICENSES AVAILABLE ON  
A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS

### ROUND 2

**JULY 27**

**RESIDENTS & NONRESIDENTS:**

UNSOLD LICENSES AVAILABLE ON  
A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS

### ROUND 3

**AUGUST 10**

**RESIDENTS & NONRESIDENTS:**

UNSOLD LICENSES AVAILABLE ON  
A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS  
DMAP PERMITS GO ON SALE

### ROUND 4

**AUGUST 24**

**RESIDENTS & NONRESIDENTS:**

UNSOLD LICENSES AVAILABLE ON  
A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS



## SUNDAY HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES EXPANDED

Following last year's historic legislation that fully repealed the ban on Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania, hunters will enjoy more opportunities for 2026-27.

All Sundays that fall within season start and end dates, excluding migratory game bird seasons, will be open to hunting. Additionally, many seasons that previously ended on Saturdays will end on Sundays, providing more days in the field throughout the year.

Hunters accessing private land on Sundays are encouraged to carry written permission from the landowner.



## SEE WHAT'S NEW FOR 2026-27 SEASONS

The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners gave final approval to the 2026-27 hunting and trapping seasons and bag limits at its April meeting.

In addition to expanded Sunday hunting opportunities, updates for the 2026-27 seasons include:

- » The spring gobbler bag limit is reduced to one to offset possible additional harvest due to the inclusion of Sundays.
- » The date structures for deer extended firearms, flintlock, and late archery seasons have been adjusted to be less complex.
- » The black bear archery season for WMUs 3C and 3D will be longer in response to bear-human conflicts in these areas.
- » Squirrel, ruffed grouse, rabbit, pheasant, bobwhite quail, and woodchuck seasons will all remain open during the firearms deer season.
- » WMU 5A will be open to bobcat hunting and trapping, and WMUs 2G, 3A, and 4C will be open to river otter trapping.

## JUNIOR GAME WARDEN CAMPS

This summer, youth ages 12-15 can get a behind-the-scenes look at what it's like to be a game warden at several locations throughout Pennsylvania.

Campers will join wardens in light physical fitness, confidence-building exercises, and hands-on learning. They'll also have the opportunity to learn about wildlife forensics, wildlife-capture techniques, woodland tracking, outdoor survival, and more.

Camp and online registration dates for these free events vary by region.



## DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO APPLY

Remember to apply for an elk license when you purchase your general hunting license!

**Pennsylvania's elk application period will be open through July 12, 2026.**

Before you apply online at [huntfish.pa.gov](http://huntfish.pa.gov) or at a license issuing agent, review details on the new elk hunt zones, simplified application structure, updated seasons, and other changes.

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



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Tune in LIVE to the Board of Game Commissioners meeting on Friday, July 10 and Saturday, July 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.



## STAY BEARWISE THIS SUMMER

Summertime has black bears on the move — whether it's male yearlings on the lookout for a new home range, cubs picking up survival skills from their mom, or simply hungry bears searching for food in preparation of winter.

To avoid a surprise run-in with a bear at home, secure trash cans, clean grills, and remove bird feeders while bears are active.

If you're heading out on a hike, go with a group, stay alert, and make plenty of noise so bears can avoid you.

**Visit [bearwise.org](https://bearwise.org) for more tips on avoiding bear encounters.**

## PLAY A ROLE IN WILD TURKEY CONSERVATION

If you see wild turkeys this summer, participate in the Game Commission's annual wild turkey sighting survey.

Running from July 1 through Aug. 31, this survey helps the agency estimate successful turkey reproduction, monitor population trends, and set hunting seasons.

Participants will be asked the number of turkeys seen, location, date, and contact information in case biologists have follow-up questions. Location data is kept confidential.

**SCAN TO REPORT  
YOUR SIGHTINGS**





**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 Highways, 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

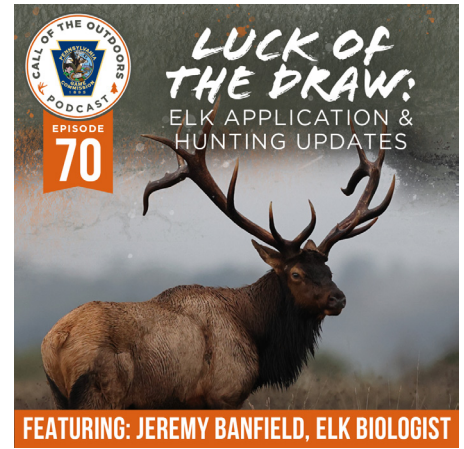


## POACHERS ARE THIEVES. HELP US CATCH THEM.

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](http://bit.ly/PGCOGT)



## 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](http://calloftheoutdoorspgc.com).**

## 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](http://PA.GOV/PGC)**