

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE – DESIGNATION OF
PROHIBITED FEEDING AREAS ORDER #1

EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is an infectious and progressive neurological disease that is found in, and always proves fatal to, members of the family Cervidae (deer, elk or moose, and other susceptible species, collectively called cervids); and

WHEREAS, There are no known treatments for CWD infection, no vaccines to protect against CWD infection, and no approved tests that can detect the presence of CWD in live cervids; and

WHEREAS, CWD has been designated a “dangerous transmissible disease” of animals by order of the Secretary of Agriculture under the provisions of the Domestic Animal Law (3 Pa.C.S. §§ 2301 *et seq.*) at 3 Pa.C.S. § 2321(d); and

WHEREAS, CWD is known to be transmissible from infected to uninfected cervids by contact with or ingestion of CWD-infected or contaminated cervid parts or other materials; and

WHEREAS, Artificial feeding sites created and maintained by human action are known to unnaturally congregate cervids and encourage continuous cervid habituation in a focused finite area; and

WHEREAS, Peer-to-peer cervid contacts occur at a higher rate at artificial feedings sites compared to food plots and other natural feeding areas; and

WHEREAS, The creation and maintenance of artificial feeding sites increase parasite and disease transmission amongst visiting cervids; and

WHEREAS, Research has confirmed that CWD prions are present at artificial feeding sites and in soil surrounding these sites; and

WHEREAS, Artificial feeding sites are easily susceptible to quick CWD prion accumulation and concentration, even when CWD prevalence in cervid populations is low; and

WHEREAS, CWD is of particular concern to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because of its detrimental impact to Pennsylvania's wild and captive cervid populations; and

WHEREAS, CWD has been detected in both Pennsylvania's wild and captive cervid populations; and

WHEREAS, The Game and Wildlife Code (Code)(34 Pa.C.S. §§ 101 *et seq.*) and regulations promulgated thereunder (58 Pa. Code §§ 131.1 *et seq.*) collectively provide broad authority to the Pennsylvania Game Commission (Commission) to regulate activities relating to the protection, preservation, and management of game and wildlife, including cervids; and

WHEREAS, On March 28, 2017 (effective May 16, 2017), the Commission added 58 Pa. Code § 137.35 (relating to Chronic Wasting Disease Restrictions) to give more permanent status and structure to the CWD requirements and restrictions previously established and maintained over the prior decade by and through executive orders; and

WHEREAS, 58 Pa. Code § 137.35(d) provides the Executive Director of the Commission with the specific authority to designate and publish Disease Management Areas (DMAs) and prohibited wild cervid feeding areas within this Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, The Commission has determined that designation of prohibited wild cervid feeding areas within this Commonwealth is necessary to implement the Commission's CWD program.

NOW THEREFORE, I, STEPHEN P. SMITH, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Code and regulations promulgated thereunder, do hereby order and direct the following:

1. Prohibited feeding areas within this Commonwealth are designated as set forth in the list below. These listed areas are more graphically illustrated on the map titled “Prohibited Feeding Areas” attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein. Should any conflict exist between the listed areas and map, the written list shall prevail.

- a. Adams County. All townships and municipalities.
- b. Bedford County. All townships and municipalities.
- c. Blair County. All townships and municipalities.
- d. Cambria County. Only designated townships and municipalities.
 - i. Adams Township.
 - ii. Dale Borough.
 - iii. Ferndale Borough.
 - iv. Giestown Borough.
 - v. Johnstown City.
 - vi. Lorain Borough.
 - vii. Richland Township.
 - viii. Scalp Level Borough.
 - ix. Southmont Borough.
 - x. Stonycreek Township.
 - xi. Upper Yoder Township.
 - xii. Westmont Borough.

- e. Clearfield County. Only designated townships and municipalities.
 - i. Bell Township.
 - ii. Brady Township.
 - iii. Burnside Borough.
 - iv. Burnside Township.
 - v. Mahaffey Borough.
 - vi. Troutville Borough.
- f. Cumberland County. All townships and municipalities.
- g. Dauphin County. All townships and municipalities.
- h. Franklin County. All townships and municipalities.
- i. Fulton County. All townships and municipalities.
- j. Huntingdon County. All townships and municipalities.
- k. Indiana County. Only designated townships and municipalities.
 - i. Banks Township.
 - ii. Canoe Township.
 - iii. Glen Campbell Borough.
 - iv. Grant Township.
 - v. Montgomery Township.
 - vi. North Mahoning Township.
- l. Jefferson County. Only designated townships and municipalities.
 - i. Bell Township.
 - ii. Big Run Borough.
 - iii. Gaskill Township.

- iv. Henderson Township.
- v. McCalmont Township.
- vi. Punxsutawney Borough.
- vii. Young Township.
- m. Juniata County. All townships and municipalities.
- n. Mifflin County. All townships and municipalities.
- o. Perry County. All townships and municipalities.
- p. Snyder County. All townships and municipalities.
- q. Somerset County. Only designated townships and municipalities.
 - i. Conemaugh Township.
 - ii. Ogle Township.
 - iii. Paint Borough.
 - iv. Paint Township.
 - v. Windber Borough.
- r. York County. All townships and municipalities.

2. This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by subsequent order.

Given under my hand and seal of the Pennsylvania Game Commission on this 7th day of August, 2026.

Attest:

Elizabeth May

Stephen P. Smith

Stephen P. Smith
Executive Director



Prohibited Feeding Areas

