

Chapter 120

(House Bill 355)

AN ACT concerning

Natural Resources – Hunting – Junior Deer Hunt

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish by regulation and by a certain date each year a junior deer hunt to occur on certain days during ~~the bow~~ a deer hunting season; prohibiting the regulations from authorizing the junior deer hunt to occur on certain Sundays in certain counties; authorizing certain persons who are under a certain age to participate in the junior deer hunt under certain circumstances; authorizing a person who participates in the junior deer hunt to use a firearm to hunt deer during the hunt; establishing a certain exception to the prohibition against Sunday deer hunting; and generally relating to the regulation of hunting.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 10–405(a) and 10–410(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2007 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Natural Resources

10–405.

(a) (1) Pursuant to § 10–205 of this title, the Department shall establish by regulation and publish by July 1 each year the open season to hunt forest and upland game birds and mammals.

(2) Except as provided under § 10–410 of this subtitle, the Department may not authorize hunting on a Sunday.

(3) (I) 1. SUBJECT TO SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH BY REGULATION BY JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR A JUNIOR DEER HUNT TO OCCUR ON A SATURDAY AND SUNDAY ON THE SAME WEEKEND DURING ~~THE BOW~~ A DEER HUNTING SEASON.

2. THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH MAY NOT AUTHORIZE THE JUNIOR DEER HUNT TO OCCUR ON A

SUNDAY IN A COUNTY IN WHICH ~~BOW~~ DEER HUNTING IS NOT AUTHORIZED FOR THAT SUNDAY.

(II) A PERSON MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNIOR DEER HUNT IF THE PERSON:

- 1. IS 16 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER;**
- 2. POSSESSES A VALID HUNTING LICENSE OR IS EXEMPT FROM HUNTING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS; AND**
- 3. IS ACCOMPANIED BY A PERSON WHO:**
 - A. IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE;**
 - B. POSSESSES A VALID HUNTING LICENSE OR IS EXEMPT FROM HUNTING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS; AND**
 - C. IS NOT IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM, A BOW, OR ANY OTHER HUNTING DEVICE.**

(III) A PERSON WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE JUNIOR DEER HUNT MAY USE A FIREARM TO HUNT DEER ON THE DAYS OF THE HUNT.

10-410.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), [and] (4), **AND (6)** of this subsection, a person may not hunt any game bird or mammal on Sundays.

(2) The following persons may hunt the specified game birds and mammals on Sundays:

- (i) A person using State certified raptors to hunt game birds or mammals during open season;
- (ii) An unarmed person participating in an organized fox chase to chase foxes;
- (iii) Provided that the provisions of § 10-906(b)(3) of this title are met, a person:
 1. Using a regulated shooting ground under § 10-906 of this title to hunt the following pen-reared game birds:
 - A. Pheasants;

- B. Bobwhite quail;
- C. Chukar partridge;
- D. Hungarian partridge;
- E. Tower released flighted mallard ducks; and
- F. Turkey on a regulated shooting ground that was permitted to release turkey before September 1, 1992; and

2. Having the written permission of the owner of the land or other person designated by the owner of the land, if the land is owned or leased by a person other than the person hunting on Sundays;

(iv) Subject to the provisions of § 10–411 of this subtitle, in Allegany, Calvert, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Garrett, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester counties, a person hunting deer on private property with a bow and arrow or crossbow during open season on the last three Sundays in October and the second Sunday in November; and

(v) Except on Easter Sunday, in Allegany County and Garrett County, a person hunting turkey on the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May.

(3) Subject to the provisions of § 10–415 of this subtitle, in Calvert County, Charles County, and St. Mary's County, a person may hunt deer on private property on:

(i) The first Sunday of the bow hunting season in November;

and

(ii) Each Sunday in the deer firearms season.

(4) Provided that the provisions of § 10–415 of this subtitle are met and subject to paragraph (5) of this subsection, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on private property on the first Sunday of:

(i) The bow hunting season in November; and

(ii) The deer firearms season.

(5) The Sunday deer hunting provisions under paragraph (4) of this subsection do not apply:

and (i) In Baltimore, Carroll, Howard, and Prince George's counties;

(ii) In Baltimore City.

(6) A PERSON WHO IS 16 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER MAY HUNT DEER WITH A FIREARM ON A SUNDAY THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE JUNIOR DEER HUNT ESTABLISHED UNDER § 10-405(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor, April 12, 2011.