

HOUSE BILL 874

M2

2lr1672
CF SB 233

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Natural Resources – Sunday Deer Hunting and**
3 **Archery Hunting Safety Zones**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to
5 hunt deer on certain Sundays of the deer hunting seasons in Prince George's County;
6 adding Prince George's County to the list of counties in which the safety zone for
7 archery hunters extends a certain distance from certain structures; and generally
8 relating to hunting in Prince George's County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Natural Resources
11 Section 10–410(a) and (g)(3)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article – Natural Resources
16 Section 10–410(g)(1) and (2)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Natural Resources**

22 10–410.

23 (a) (1) The Department may allow a person to hunt on each Sunday of the
24 game bird and game mammal seasons in:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) Allegany County;
- 2 (ii) Cecil County;
- 3 (iii) Garrett County;
- 4 (iv) St. Mary's County; and
- 5 (v) Washington County.

6 (2) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the
7 deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in
8 January, inclusive, in:

- 9 (i) Carroll County;
- 10 (ii) Dorchester County; [and]
- 11 (iii) Frederick County; AND

12 **(IV) PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.**

13 (3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department
14 may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from 30
15 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m. in:

- 16 1. Kent County; and
- 17 2. Montgomery County.
- 18 (ii) The time restrictions under this paragraph do not apply:
 - 19 1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under
20 this subtitle;
 - 21 2. On one Sunday designated by the Department during the
22 deer firearms season;
 - 23 3. In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow
24 hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season; and
 - 25 4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the
26 Department during the deer bow hunting season.

27 (4) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer
28 firearms season:

1 (i) On each Sunday in:

- 2 1. Calvert County;
- 3 2. Caroline County;
- 4 3. Charles County;
- 5 4. Harford County;
- 6 5. Queen Anne's County;
- 7 6. Somerset County; and
- 8 7. Worcester County;

9 (ii) On the first Sunday in:

- 10 1. Anne Arundel County; and
- 11 2. Talbot County; and

12 (iii) In Wicomico County, on:

- 13 1. The first Sunday; and
- 14 2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until
- 15 10:30 a.m.

16 (5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer during the deer bow
17 hunting season on:

18 (i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in
19 November in:

- 20 1. Calvert County;
- 21 2. Caroline County;
- 22 3. Charles County;
- 23 4. Harford County;
- 24 5. Queen Anne's County;
- 25 6. Somerset County;

1 7. Talbot County;

2 8. Wicomico County; and

3 9. Worcester County; and

4 (ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.

5 (6) The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of
6 the spring turkey hunting season in:

7 (i) Calvert County;

8 (ii) Caroline County;

9 (iii) Carroll County;

10 (iv) Charles County;

11 (v) Dorchester County; and

12 (vi) Kent County.

13 (7) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the Department
14 may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any Sunday
15 throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.

16 (8) The Department may allow a person using a State certified raptor to
17 hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the game birds
18 or mammals.

19 (9) The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in an
20 organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

21 (10) The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game birds
22 or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting ground
23 in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

24 (11) The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or younger to
25 hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department in
26 accordance with this subtitle.

27 (12) Except as provided in paragraphs (8) through (10) of this subsection and
28 subject to paragraph (7) of this subsection, a person may not hunt on Sunday in:

29 (i) Baltimore City;

1 (ii) Baltimore County; OR

2 (iii) Howard County]; or

3 (iv) Prince George's County].

4 (13) A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

5 (14) A person may not hunt on public land within the State park system on
6 Sunday.

7 (15) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public land
8 designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

9 (i) Allegany County;

10 (ii) Cecil County;

11 (iii) Garrett County;

12 (iv) St. Mary's County;

13 (v) Washington County;

14 (vi) Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey hunting
15 season; and

16 (vii) Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in October
17 through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive.

18 (g) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a
19 person, other than the owner or occupant, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal may
20 not shoot or discharge any firearm or other deadly weapon within 150 yards, known as the
21 "safety zone", of a dwelling house, residence, church, or other building or camp occupied by
22 human beings, or shoot at any wild bird or mammal while it is within this area, without
23 the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

24 (2) A person, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal, may not shoot or
25 discharge any firearm within 300 yards of a public or nonpublic school during school hours
26 or at a time when a school-approved activity is taking place.

27 (3) (i) For archery hunters in Allegany County, Calvert County, Carroll
28 County, Cecil County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Montgomery
29 County, **PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**, St. Mary's County, or Washington County, the
30 safety zone described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 50 yards from a
31 dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

1 (ii) For archery hunters in Anne Arundel County, the safety zone
2 described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 100 yards from a dwelling house,
3 residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
5 1, 2022.