

Chapter 123

(House Bill 172)

AN ACT concerning

Montgomery County – Archery Hunting Safety Zone – Position of Archery Hunter

MC 24–18

FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that an archery hunter in Montgomery County use a tree stand when hunting any wild bird or mammal within a certain distance of certain buildings; requiring that an archery hunter in Montgomery County be in a certain position when hunting any wild bird or mammal within a certain distance of certain buildings; and generally relating to the archery hunting safety zone in Montgomery County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Natural Resources
Section 10–410(g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

10–410.

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

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

(3) (i) For archery hunters in Calvert County, Carroll County, Frederick County, Harford County, Montgomery County, or St. Mary’s County, the safety zone described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 50 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

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

(4) During any open hunting season, a person, other than the owner or occupant, may not hunt or chase willfully any wild bird or mammal within the safety zone without the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

(5) In Harford County [or Montgomery County], an archery hunter shall use a tree stand when hunting any wild bird or mammal within 50 to 100 yards of a dwelling house, residence, church, public or nonpublic school, or other building or camp occupied by human beings.

(6) IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AN ARCHERY HUNTER SHALL BE IN AN ELEVATED POSITION THAT ALLOWS THE HUNTER TO SHOOT IN A DOWNWARD TRAJECTORY WHEN HUNTING ANY WILD BIRD OR MAMMAL WITHIN 50 TO 100 YARDS OF A DWELLING HOUSE, RESIDENCE, CHURCH, PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL, OR OTHER BUILDING OR CAMP OCCUPIED BY HUMAN BEINGS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2018.