

Chapter 95

(House Bill 173)

AN ACT concerning

Natural Resources – Sunday Hunting

FOR the purpose of clarifying certain provisions of law governing Sunday hunting in the State; establishing the authority of the Department of Natural Resources to allow Sunday hunting under certain circumstances; ~~authorizing Sunday hunting on certain public land;~~ altering the application of authorized Sunday hunting to junior hunts and holders of a deer management permit; prohibiting the hunting of migratory game birds on Sunday; prohibiting hunting on certain public land on Sunday; repealing a certain termination provision governing authorized Sunday hunting in Montgomery County; providing for a delayed effective date for certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to Sunday hunting in the State.

BY repealing

Article – Natural Resources
Section 10–410(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Natural Resources
Section 10–410(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 459 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017
Section 2

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources
Section 10–410(a)(3) through (5)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
(As enacted by Section 1 of this Act)

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

Article – Natural Resources

10–410.

[(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 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 Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Harford, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, 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;

(v) In Calvert County, Caroline County, Carroll County, Charles County, Dorchester County, and Kent County, a person hunting turkey on private property on any Sunday during the spring turkey hunting season;

(vi) In Dorchester County, a person hunting turkey on public land that is designated for hunting by the Department on any Sunday during the spring turkey hunting season; and

(vii) A person hunting deer under a Deer Management Permit on any Sunday throughout the year, including all deer hunting seasons.

(3) Subject to the provisions of § 10–415 of this subtitle, in Calvert County, Caroline County, Charles County, Harford County, Queen Anne’s County, Somerset County, and Worcester 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) Subject to paragraphs (10) and (11) of this subsection, the Sunday deer hunting provisions under paragraph (4) of this subsection do not apply:

(i) In Baltimore, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, and Prince George’s counties; and

(ii) In Baltimore City.

(6) (i) This paragraph applies only in Carroll County.

(ii) Subject to §§ 10–411 and 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday on private property from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive.

(7) 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.

(8) (i) This paragraph applies only in Allegany County, Cecil County, Garrett County, and Washington County.

(ii) The Department may allow a person to hunt any game bird or game mammal, except migratory game birds, on a Sunday during the open season for that game bird or game mammal on:

1. Private property, subject to § 10–411 of this subtitle; and
2. Public land that is designated for Sunday hunting by the Department.

(9) (i) This paragraph applies only in Frederick County.

(ii) Subject to § 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive, on:

1. Private property, subject to § 10–411 of this subtitle; and
2. Public land that is designated for Sunday hunting by the Department.

(10) (i) This paragraph applies only in Kent County.

(ii) Subject to §§ 10–411 and 10–415 of this subtitle and subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday on private property throughout all deer hunting seasons.

(iii) 1. Except as provided in subsubparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, during firearms season, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday only from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

2. The time restrictions under this subparagraph do not apply:

A. To a participant in the junior deer hunt under § 10–405(a) of this subtitle; and

B. On private land only on one Sunday designated by the Department during the firearms season.

(11) (i) This paragraph applies only in Montgomery County.

(ii) Subject to § 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday throughout the deer hunting season on private property, subject to § 10–411 of this subtitle.

(iii) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2 of this subparagraph, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on a Sunday under this paragraph only from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

2. The time restrictions under this subparagraph do not apply:

A. To a participant in the junior deer hunt under § 10–405(a) of this subtitle;

B. On private land only on one Sunday designated by the Department during deer bow hunting season; and

C. On private land only on one Sunday designated by the Department during the firearms season.

(12) (i) This paragraph applies only in Dorchester County.

(ii) Subject to §§ 10–411 and 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on private property on the second and third Sunday of the deer firearms season.

(iii) Subject to §§ 10–411 and 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on private property on a Sunday during the bow hunting season from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January the following year, inclusive.

(iv) Subject to §§ 10–411 and 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on private property on a Sunday during the deer muzzle loader season.

(13) (i) This paragraph applies only in St. Mary’s County.

(ii) The Department may allow a person to hunt any game bird or game mammal, except migratory game birds, on a Sunday during the open season for that game bird or game mammal on:

1. Except in State parks, public land designated by the Department; or

2. Private property, subject to § 10–411 of this subtitle.

(14) (i) This paragraph applies only in Wicomico County.

(ii) Subject to § 10–415 of this subtitle, the Department may allow a person to hunt deer on private property on the second Sunday in deer firearms season from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.]

(A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE GAME BIRD AND GAME MAMMAL SEASONS IN:

- (I) ALLEGANY COUNTY;**
- (II) CECIL COUNTY;**
- (III) GARRETT COUNTY;**
- (IV) ST. MARY’S COUNTY; AND**
- (V) WASHINGTON COUNTY.**

(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER HUNTING SEASONS FROM THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER THROUGH THE SECOND SUNDAY IN JANUARY, INCLUSIVE, IN:

- (I) CARROLL COUNTY;**
- (II) DORCHESTER COUNTY; AND**
- (III) FREDERICK COUNTY.**

(3) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER HUNTING SEASONS FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL 10:30 A.M. IN:

- 1. KENT COUNTY; AND**
- 2. MONTGOMERY COUNTY.**

(II) THE TIME RESTRICTIONS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH DO NOT APPLY:

- 1. TO A PARTICIPANT IN A JUNIOR DEER HUNT AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;**
- 2. ON ONE SUNDAY DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE DEER FIREARMS SEASON;**

3. IN KENT COUNTY, ON EACH SUNDAY DURING THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON AND THE DEER MUZZLE LOADER SEASON; AND

4. IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ON ONE SUNDAY DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON.

(4) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER DURING THE DEER FIREARMS SEASON:

(I) ON EACH SUNDAY IN:

- 1. CALVERT COUNTY;**
- 2. CAROLINE COUNTY;**
- 3. CHARLES COUNTY;**
- 4. HARFORD COUNTY;**
- 5. QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY;**
- 6. SOMERSET COUNTY; AND**
- 7. WORCESTER COUNTY;**

(II) ON THE FIRST SUNDAY IN:

- 1. ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY; AND**
- 2. TALBOT COUNTY; AND**

(III) IN WICOMICO COUNTY, ON:

- 1. THE FIRST SUNDAY; AND**
- 2. THE SECOND SUNDAY FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL 10:30 A.M.**

(5) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER DURING THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON ON:

(I) THE LAST THREE SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER AND THE FIRST TWO SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER IN:

1. CALVERT COUNTY;
2. CAROLINE COUNTY;
3. CHARLES COUNTY;
4. HARFORD COUNTY;
5. QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY;
6. SOMERSET COUNTY;
7. TALBOT COUNTY;
8. WICOMICO COUNTY; AND
9. WORCESTER COUNTY; AND

(II) THE FIRST SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

(6) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT TURKEY ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE SPRING TURKEY HUNTING SEASON IN:

- (I) CALVERT COUNTY;
- (II) CAROLINE COUNTY;
- (III) CARROLL COUNTY;
- (IV) CHARLES COUNTY;
- (V) DORCHESTER COUNTY; AND
- (VI) KENT COUNTY.

(7) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON WITH A DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT TO SHOOT DEER ON ANY SUNDAY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT.

(8) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON USING A STATE CERTIFIED RAPTOR TO HUNT GAME BIRDS OR MAMMALS ON EACH SUNDAY DURING THE OPEN SEASON FOR THE GAME BIRDS OR MAMMALS.

(9) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW AN UNARMED PERSON PARTICIPATING IN AN ORGANIZED FOX CHASE TO CHASE FOXES ON SUNDAY.

(10) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON SHOOTING PEN-REARED GAME BIRDS OR TOWER-RELEASED FLIGHTED MALLARD DUCKS TO HUNT ON SUNDAY AT A REGULATED SHOOTING GROUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-906 OF THIS TITLE.

(11) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON WHO IS 16 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER TO HUNT ON SUNDAY IF PARTICIPATING IN A JUNIOR HUNT ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.

(12) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPHS (8) THROUGH (10) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (7) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT ON SUNDAY IN:

- (I) BALTIMORE CITY;**
- (II) BALTIMORE COUNTY;**
- (III) HOWARD COUNTY; OR**
- (IV) PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.**

(13) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS ON SUNDAY.

(14) A PERSON MAY NOT HUNT ON PUBLIC LAND WITHIN THE STATE PARK SYSTEM ON SUNDAY.

(15) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT ON PUBLIC LAND DESIGNATED FOR HUNTING BY THE DEPARTMENT ON SUNDAY EXCEPT IN:

- (I) ALLEGANY COUNTY;**
- (II) CECIL COUNTY;**
- (III) GARRETT COUNTY;**
- (IV) ST. MARY'S COUNTY;**
- (V) WASHINGTON COUNTY;**

(VI) DORCHESTER COUNTY, FOR TURKEY DURING THE SPRING TURKEY HUNTING SEASON; AND

(VII) FREDERICK COUNTY, FOR DEER FROM THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER THROUGH THE SECOND SUNDAY IN JANUARY OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR, INCLUSIVE.

Chapter 459 of the Acts of 2017

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017. [It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2022, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Natural Resources

10–410.

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

1.] Kent County[; and

2. Montgomery County].

(ii) The time restrictions [in] UNDER this paragraph do not apply:

1. To a participant in a junior deer hunt authorized under this subtitle;

2. On one Sunday designated by the Department during the deer firearms season; AND

3. [In Kent County, on] ON each Sunday during the deer bow hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season[; and

4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the Department during the deer bow hunting season].

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

(i) On each Sunday in:

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

(ii) On the first Sunday in:

1. Anne Arundel County; [and]
2. MONTGOMERY COUNTY; AND
3. Talbot County; and

(iii) In Wicomico County, on:

1. The first Sunday; and
2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until

10:30 a.m.

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

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

1. Calvert County;
2. Caroline County;
3. Charles County;
4. Harford County;

5. Queen Anne’s County;

6. Somerset County;

7. Talbot County;

8. Wicomico County; and

9. Worcester County; and

(ii) The first Sunday in November in:

1. Anne Arundel County; AND

2. MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

SECTION ~~2~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 2020.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.