



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Allan Fisher, Deputy Secretary

Bill Number: House Bill 51

Short Title: Talbot County – Deer and Turkey Hunting - Sundays

Department's Position: Letter of Information

Explanation of Department's Position

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR or the Department) provides this letter of information on HB 51, which would increase hunting recreation in Talbot County. Increased hunting opportunities assist with wildlife management and will result in additional revenue for those industries and groups that support hunting and recreation.

Hunting remains the most cost-effective method for controlling the deer population throughout Maryland. The Department advises that Sunday hunting has contributed positively to managing the state's white-tailed deer population in the 20 counties where it is now permitted. Sunday hunting can be especially important if the weather causes unfavorable hunting conditions on the Saturday of the same weekend. Likewise, many hunters only have time to hunt on weekends, so allowing Sunday hunting essentially doubles their opportunity to pursue deer. DNR estimates an additional 35 turkeys and 60 deer would be harvested on Sundays in Talbot County as a result of this bill.

For any additional information, please feel free to contact our Legislative and Constituent Services Director, Bunky Luffman.