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By: **Harford County Delegation and Baltimore County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2006

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources - Hunting Wild Waterfowl - Harford and Baltimore**  
3 **Counties**

4 FOR the purpose of altering certain distances that a person must be from shore when  
5 hunting wild waterfowl by certain methods in the waters of Harford and  
6 Baltimore counties; and generally relating to hunting wild waterfowl in the  
7 waters of Harford and Baltimore counties.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Natural Resources  
10 Section 10-604 through 10-606  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Natural Resources**

16 10-604.

17 (a) A person may hunt wild waterfowl while standing in water on the natural  
18 bottom only in the waters of the Susquehanna Flats, the nontidal waters of the  
19 Potomac River, and in other waters of the State in areas and on days the Department  
20 prescribes by regulation.

21 (b) A person may hunt wild waterfowl while standing in water on the natural  
22 bottom at a licensed offshore stationary blind or blind site.

23 (c) A person hunting wild waterfowl while standing in water on the natural  
24 bottom shall remain at least 250 yards from all offshore stationary blinds or blind  
25 sites or another person hunting wild waterfowl offshore.

26 (d) (1) A person hunting wild waterfowl while standing in water on the  
27 natural bottom shall be at least 800 yards from shore including shore emerging at  
28 mean low water except in the waters of the Potomac River, in the waters of the

1 Susquehanna Flats, IN THE WATERS OF HARFORD AND BALTIMORE COUNTIES, or  
2 while hunting at a licensed stationary blind or blind site.

3 (2) A person hunting wild waterfowl while standing in water on the  
4 natural bottom shall be at least 400 yards from shore, including shore emerging at  
5 mean low water, in the following areas:

6 (i) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats; [and]

7 (ii) The tidal waters of the Potomac River that the Department by  
8 regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection (a) of this section; AND

9 (III) THE WATERS OF HARFORD AND BALTIMORE COUNTIES THAT  
10 THE DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION PRESCRIBES FOR HUNTING UNDER SUBSECTION  
11 (A) OF THIS SECTION.

12 (e) A person may not hunt wild waterfowl while standing in State waters on  
13 the natural bottom when the natural bottom is privately owned, unless the hunter  
14 has the written permission of the landowner.

15 (f) Except at a licensed stationary blind or blind site, a nonresident may not  
16 hunt wild waterfowl while standing in water on the natural bottom unless  
17 accompanied by a Maryland resident.

18 10-605.

19 (a) A person may hunt wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or being  
20 sculled, only in:

21 (1) The nontidal waters of the Potomac River, Conococheague Creek, and  
22 the Monocacy River;

23 (2) The Susquehanna Flats, Elk River, and that portion of the Sassafras  
24 River in Cecil County located west of 75 degrees 58 minutes 45 seconds;

25 (3) Chincoteague Bay, Sinepuxent Bay, Isle of Wight, Assawoman Bay,  
26 and their respective tributaries in Worcester County; or

27 (4) Zones prescribed by the Department by regulation.

28 (b) While hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or being sculled,  
29 a person shall remain at least 250 yards from all offshore stationary blinds or blind  
30 sites or another person hunting wild waterfowl offshore.

31 (c) (1) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or being  
32 sculled shall be at least 800 yards from shore including shore emerging at mean low  
33 water except in the waters of the Potomac River, in the waters of the Susquehanna  
34 Flats, IN THE WATERS OF HARFORD AND BALTIMORE COUNTIES, in Conococheague  
35 Creek, and in the Monocacy River.

1 (2) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or being  
2 sculled shall be at least 400 yards from shore, including shore emerging at mean low  
3 water, in the following areas:

4 (i) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats; [and]

5 (ii) The tidal waters of the Potomac River that the Department by  
6 regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection (a)(4) of this section; AND

7 (III) THE WATERS OF HARFORD AND BALTIMORE COUNTIES THAT  
8 THE DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION PRESCRIBES FOR HUNTING UNDER SUBSECTION  
9 (A)(4) OF THIS SECTION.

10 (d) A nonresident may not hunt wild waterfowl from a boat that is drifting or  
11 being sculled unless accompanied by a Maryland resident.

12 10-606.

13 (a) A person may hunt wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored only in:

14 (1) The nontidal waters of the Potomac River;

15 (2) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats, Elk River, and that portion of  
16 the Sassafra River in Cecil County located west of 75 degrees 58 minutes 45 seconds;

17 (3) The waters of Chincoteague Bay, Sinepuxent Bay, Isle of Wight,  
18 Assawoman Bay, and their respective tributaries in Worcester County; or

19 (4) Zones prescribed by the Department by regulation.

20 (b) A person may hunt wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored at a  
21 licensed offshore stationary blind or blind site.

22 (c) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored shall remain  
23 250 yards from all offshore stationary blinds or blind sites or another person hunting  
24 wild waterfowl offshore.

25 (d) (1) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored shall  
26 be at least 800 yards from shore including shore emerging at mean low water except  
27 in the waters of the Potomac River, in the waters of the Susquehanna Flats, IN THE  
28 WATERS OF HARFORD AND BALTIMORE COUNTIES, or unless anchored at a licensed  
29 offshore stationary blind or blind site.

30 (2) A person hunting wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored shall  
31 be at least 400 yards from shore, including shore emerging at mean low water, in the  
32 following areas:

33 (i) The waters of the Susquehanna Flats; [and]

34 (ii) The tidal waters of the Potomac River that the Department by  
35 regulation prescribes for hunting under subsection (a)(4) of this section; AND

1 (III) THE WATERS OF HARFORD AND BALTIMORE COUNTIES THAT  
2 THE DEPARTMENT BY REGULATION PRESCRIBES FOR HUNTING UNDER SUBSECTION  
3 (A)(4) OF THIS SECTION.

4 (e) Except at a licensed stationary blind or blind site, a nonresident may not  
5 hunt wild waterfowl from a boat that is anchored unless accompanied by a Maryland  
6 resident.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2006.