

# HOUSE BILL 1005

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3r1221  
CF SB 96

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By: **Howard County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2023

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Howard County – Archery Hunting – Safety Zone and Position of Archery**  
3 **Hunter**

4 **Ho. Co. 15–23**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the size of the safety zone for certain archery hunters in  
6 Howard County within which archery hunting may not take place except under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring certain archery hunters in Howard County to be in  
8 an elevated position when hunting any wild bird or mammal within a certain  
9 distance of certain buildings; and generally relating to archery hunting in Howard  
10 County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Natural Resources  
13 Section 10–410(g)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Natural Resources**

19 10–410.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

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

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

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

18 **(III) IN HOWARD COUNTY, FOR ARCHERY HUNTERS WHO ARE**  
19 **HUNTING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF A DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT, OR WHO ARE**  
20 **ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN A HUNTING PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNTY,**  
21 **THE SAFETY ZONE DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION EXTENDS**  
22 **FOR 50 YARDS FROM A DWELLING HOUSE, RESIDENCE, CHURCH, OR ANY OTHER**  
23 **BUILDING OR CAMP OCCUPIED BY HUMANS.**

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

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

30 (6) **(I)** In Montgomery County or Washington County, an archery  
31 hunter shall be in an elevated position that allows the hunter to shoot in a downward  
32 trajectory when hunting any wild bird or mammal within 50 to 100 yards of a dwelling  
33 house, residence, church, public or nonpublic school, or other building or camp occupied by  
34 human beings.

35 **(II) IN HOWARD COUNTY, FOR ARCHERY HUNTERS WHO IS**  
36 **HUNTING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF A DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT, OR WHO IS**  
37 **ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN A HUNTING PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNTY,**  
38 **SHALL BE IN AN ELEVATED POSITION THAT ALLOWS THE HUNTER TO SHOOT IN A**

1 **DOWNWARD TRAJECTORY WHEN HUNTING ANY WILD BIRD OR MAMMAL WITHIN 50**  
2 **TO 150 YARDS OF A DWELLING HOUSE, RESIDENCE, CHURCH, PUBLIC OR NONPUBLIC**  
3 **SCHOOL, OR 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, 2023.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.