

# SENATE BILL 824

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3lr2505  
CF HB 466

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By: **Senator Carozza**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 2023

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Worcester County – Natural Resources – Hunting**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person in  
4 Worcester County to hunt game birds or game mammals on a Sunday, subject to  
5 certain time restrictions, during the open season for that game bird or game  
6 mammal; authorizing the Department to allow a person in Worcester County to hunt  
7 on public land designated for hunting on Sundays, subject to certain time  
8 restrictions; altering the safety zone in Worcester County within which archery  
9 hunting may not take place except under certain circumstances; and generally  
10 relating to hunting in Worcester County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Natural Resources  
13 Section 10–410(a) and (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 (a) (1) (i) The Department may allow a person to hunt on each Sunday of  
2 the game bird and game mammal seasons in:

3 1. Allegany County;

4 2. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Calvert  
5 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

6 3. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Caroline  
7 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

8 4. Cecil County;

9 5. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Charles  
10 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

11 6. Subject to subparagraph (iv) of this paragraph, Dorchester  
12 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

13 7. Garrett County;

14 8. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Queen  
15 Anne's County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

16 9. St. Mary's County;

17 10. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset  
18 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; [and]

19 11. Washington County; AND

20 **12. SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**  
21 **PARAGRAPH, WORCESTER COUNTY, FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL**  
22 **10:30 A.M.**

23 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i) **AND 12** of this  
24 paragraph do not apply:

25 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

26 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two  
27 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

28 (iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i) **2, 3, 5, and 8** of this  
29 paragraph do not apply:

1                   1.     On each Sunday during the deer firearms season;

2                   2.     On the last three Sundays in October and the first two  
3     Sundays in November during the deer bow hunting season; and

4                   3.     On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

5                   (iv)    The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)<sup>6</sup> of this paragraph  
6     do not apply:

7                   1.     On each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first  
8     Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive; and

9                   2.     On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season.

10                  (2)    The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the  
11     deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in  
12     January, inclusive, in:

13                  (i)     Carroll County; and

14                  (ii)    Frederick County.

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

18                   1.     Kent County;

19                   2.     Montgomery County; and

20                   3.     Talbot County.

21                  (ii)    The time restrictions under this paragraph do not apply:

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

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

26                   3.     In Kent County, on each Sunday during the deer bow  
27     hunting season and the deer muzzle loader season;

28                   4.     In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the  
29     Department during the deer bow hunting season; and

1                                   5.     In Talbot County, on the last three Sundays in October  
2 and the first two Sundays in November during the bow hunting season.

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

5                   (i)     On each Sunday in[:

6                                   1.]     Harford County; [and

7                                   2.     Worcester County;]

8                   (ii)    On the first Sunday in Anne Arundel County; and

9                   (iii)   In Wicomico County, on:

10                                  1.     The first Sunday; and

11                                  2.     The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until  
12 10:30 a.m.

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

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

17                                  1.     Harford County; AND

18                                  2.     Wicomico County; and

19                                  [3.    Worcester County; and]

20                   (ii)    The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County.

21                   (6)     The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of  
22 the spring turkey hunting season in:

23                   (i)     Carroll County;

24                   (ii)    Kent County; and

25                   (iii)   Talbot County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

26                   (7)     Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the Department  
27 may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any Sunday  
28 throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.



1 ~~¶6.¶7.~~ Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey  
2 hunting season;

3 ~~¶7.¶8.~~ Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in  
4 October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive; ~~and~~

5 ~~¶8.¶9.~~ Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset  
6 County, on public land leased to a hunt club from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30  
7 a.m.; AND

8 **9. SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**  
9 **PARAGRAPH, WORCESTER COUNTY, FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL**  
10 **10:30 A.M.**

11 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph [(i)8] ~~(i)9~~ **(I)8 AND 9**  
12 of this paragraph do not apply:

13 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

14 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two  
15 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.

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

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

25 (3) (i) For archery hunters in Allegany County, Calvert County, Carroll  
26 County, Cecil County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Montgomery  
27 County, St. Mary’s County, [or] Washington County, **OR WORCESTER COUNTY**, the  
28 safety zone described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 50 yards from a  
29 dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

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

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

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

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

11           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
12 1, 2023.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.