

# SENATE BILL 272

M2

5lr1871

---

By: **Senator Jackson**

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Natural Resources – Sunday Deer Hunting and**  
3 **Archery Hunting Safety Zones**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to  
5 hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer bow hunting season in Prince George's County;  
6 adding Prince George's County to the list of counties in which the safety zone for  
7 archery hunters extends a certain distance from certain structures; and generally  
8 relating to hunting in Prince George's County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Natural Resources  
11 Section 10–410(a) and (g)(3)(i) and 10–906(b)(3)(i)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
15 Article – Natural Resources  
16 Section 10–410(g)(1)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Natural Resources**

22 10–410.

23 (a) (1) (i) The Department may allow a person to hunt on each Sunday of  
24 the game bird and game mammal seasons in:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 1. Allegany County;

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

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

6 4. Cecil County;

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

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

11 7. Garrett County;

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

14 9. St. Mary's County;

15 10. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset  
16 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.;

17 11. Washington County;

18 12. Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Worcester  
19 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.; and

20 13. Subject to subparagraph (v) of this paragraph, Wicomico  
21 County, from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30 a.m.

22 (ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 and 12 of this  
23 paragraph do not apply:

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

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

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

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

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

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

4                                   (iv)   The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)6 of this paragraph  
5 do not apply:

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

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

9                                   (v)   The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)(13) of this  
10 paragraph do not apply:

11                                  1.     On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

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

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

17                                  (i)   Carroll County; and

18                                  (ii)  Frederick County.

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

22                                   1.     Kent County;

23                                   2.     Montgomery County; and

24                                   3.     Talbot County.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9                   (i)     On each Sunday in Harford County; and

10                  (ii)    On the first Sunday in Anne Arundel County.

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

13                  (i)     The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in  
14 November in Harford County; and

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

16                  (6)    **THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON**  
17 **EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.**

18                  (7)    The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey on each Sunday of  
19 the spring turkey hunting season in:

20                  (i)     Carroll County;

21                  (ii)    Kent County; and

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

23                  [(7)] (8)    Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the  
24 Department may allow a person with a deer management permit to shoot deer on any  
25 Sunday throughout the year in accordance with the terms of the permit.

26                  [(8)] (9)    The Department may allow a person using a State certified  
27 raptor to hunt game birds or mammals on each Sunday during the open season for the  
28 game birds or mammals.

29                  [(9)] (10)   The Department may allow an unarmed person participating in  
30 an organized fox chase to chase foxes on Sunday.

1            **[(10)] (11)** The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game  
2 birds or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting  
3 ground in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

4            **[(11)] (12)** The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or  
5 younger to hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department  
6 in accordance with this subtitle.

7            **[(12)] (13)** Except as provided in paragraphs **[(8)] (9)** through **[(10)] (11)** of  
8 this subsection and subject to paragraph **[(7)] (8)** of this subsection, a person may not hunt  
9 on Sunday in:

- 10                    (i) Baltimore City;
- 11                    (ii) Baltimore County; **OR**
- 12                    (iii) Howard County; or
- 13                    (iv) Prince George's County].

14            **[(13)] (14)** A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

15            **[(14)] (15)** A person may not hunt on public land within the State park  
16 system on Sunday.

17            **[(15)] (16)** (i) The Department may not allow a person to hunt on public  
18 land designated for hunting by the Department on Sunday except in:

- 19                    1. Allegany County;
- 20                    2. Cecil County;
- 21                    3. Garrett County;
- 22                    4. St. Mary's County;
- 23                    5. Washington County;
- 24                    6. Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey  
25 hunting season;
- 26                    7. Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in  
27 October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive;

1                   8.     Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, Somerset  
2 County, on public land leased to a hunt club from 30 minutes before sunrise until 10:30  
3 a.m.;

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

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

8                   (ii)    The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)8 and 9 of this  
9 paragraph do not apply:

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

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

13                   (iii)   The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 of this paragraph  
14 do not apply:

15                   1.     On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; and

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

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

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

30 10–906.

31           (b)   (3)   (i)    As part of the application for a regulated shooting ground permit,  
32 a person may apply to the Department for authorization to allow hunting on Sunday as  
33 provided under [§ 10–410(a)(10)] **§ 10–410(A)(11)** of this title.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2   1, 2025.