

HOUSE BILL 186

M2

6lr1016

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Bouchat, Buckel, Fair, Grammer, Hornberger, Pippy, Valentine, and Wivell**

Requested: September 29, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – Bow Hunting – Sundays**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow statewide a
4 person to hunt deer on Sundays throughout the deer bow hunting season and to hunt
5 turkey using a bow and arrow on Sundays throughout the turkey hunting season;
6 and generally relating to bow hunting on Sundays.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Natural Resources
9 Section 10-410(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 10-410.

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

18 1. Allegany County;

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

11 9. St. Mary's County;

14 11. Washington County;

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

21 1. On each Sunday of the deer firearms season; [and]

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

1. On each Sunday [during] OF the deer firearms season;

1 2. On [the last three Sundays in October and the first two
2 Sundays in November during] **EACH SUNDAY OF** the deer bow hunting season; and

3 3. **A. ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE TURKEY HUNTING**
4 **SEASON FOR A PERSON HUNTING TURKEY USING A BOW AND ARROW; AND**

5 **B. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season FOR**
6 **A PERSON HUNTING TURKEY USING A HUNTING DEVICE OTHER THAN A BOW AND**
7 **ARROW.**

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

10 1. On each Sunday of the deer hunting seasons from the first
11 Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January, inclusive; [and]

12 2. **ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER BOW HUNTING**
13 **SEASON; AND**

14 3. **A. ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE TURKEY HUNTING**
15 **SEASON FOR A PERSON HUNTING TURKEY USING A BOW AND ARROW; AND**

16 **B. On each Sunday of the spring turkey hunting season FOR**
17 **A PERSON HUNTING TURKEY USING A HUNTING DEVICE OTHER THAN A BOW AND**
18 **ARROW.**

19 (v) The time restrictions under subparagraph [(i)(13)] **(I)13** of this
20 paragraph do not apply:

21 1. On the first Sunday of the deer firearms season; [and]

22 2. On [the last three Sundays in October and the first two
23 Sundays in November] **EACH SUNDAY** of the deer bow hunting season; **AND**

24 3. **ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE TURKEY HUNTING SEASON**
25 **FOR A PERSON HUNTING TURKEY USING A BOW AND ARROW.**

26 (2) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the
27 deer hunting seasons from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in
28 January, inclusive, **AND ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON**, in:

29 (i) Carroll County; and

30 (ii) Frederick County.

4 1. Kent County;

5 2. Montgomery County; and

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

10 2. On one Sunday designated by the Department during the
11 deer firearms season;

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

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

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

23 (5) The Department may allow a person to hunt deer [during the deer bow
24 hunting season on:

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

27 (ii) The first Sunday in November in Anne Arundel County] ON
28 **EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON IN:**

29 (I) ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY;

- 1 (II) BALTIMORE CITY;
- 2 (III) BALTIMORE COUNTY;
- 3 (IV) HARFORD COUNTY;
- 4 (V) HOWARD COUNTY; AND
- 5 (VI) PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

6 (6) (I) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT TURKEY

7 USING A BOW AND ARROW ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE TURKEY HUNTING SEASON IN:

- 8 1. ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY;
- 9 2. BALTIMORE CITY;
- 10 3. BALTIMORE COUNTY;
- 11 4. CARROLL COUNTY;
- 12 5. FREDERICK COUNTY;
- 13 6. HARFORD COUNTY;
- 14 7. HOWARD COUNTY;
- 15 8. KENT COUNTY;
- 16 9. MONTGOMERY COUNTY;
- 17 10. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY; AND
- 18 11. TALBOT COUNTY.

19 (II) The Department may allow a person to hunt turkey USING A

20 HUNTING DEVICE OTHER THAN A BOW AND ARROW on each Sunday of the spring turkey
21 hunting season in:

- 22 [(i)] 1. Carroll County;
- 23 [(ii)] 2. Kent County; and

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

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

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

20 (i) Baltimore City;

21 (ii) Baltimore County:

22 (iii) Howard County; or

23 (iv) Prince George's County.

24 (13) A person may not hunt migratory game birds on Sunday.

25 (14) A person may not hunt on public land within the State park system on
26 Sunday.

29 1. Allegany County;

30 2. Cecil County;

31 3. Garrett County;

4. St. Mary's County;
5. Washington County;
6. Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey

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

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

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

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

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

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
25 1, 2026.