

HOUSE BILL 780

M2
HB 654/25 – ENT

6lr1892
CF 6lr3293

By: **Wicomico County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Wicomico County – Sunday Hunting Time Restrictions – Repeal**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain time restrictions that apply to the hunting of game
4 birds and mammals on certain Sundays on private property and public land
5 designated for Sunday hunting in Wicomico County; and generally relating to
6 Sunday hunting in Wicomico County.

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.;

21 3. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, Caroline
22 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.



4. Cecil County;

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

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

7. Garrett County;

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

9. St. Mary's County;

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

11. Washington County;

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. On each Sunday during the deer firearms season;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(i) Carroll County; and

(ii) Frederick County.

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

1. Kent County;

2. Montgomery County; and

3. Talbot County.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12 (i) Carroll County;

13 (ii) Kent County; and

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

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

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

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

23 (10) The Department may allow a person shooting pen-reared game birds
24 or tower-released flighted mallard ducks to hunt on Sunday at a regulated shooting ground
25 in accordance with § 10-906 of this title.

26 (11) The Department may allow a person who is 16 years old or younger to
27 hunt on Sunday if participating in a junior hunt established by the Department in
28 accordance with this subtitle.

29 (12) Except as provided in paragraphs (8) through (10) of this subsection and
30 subject to paragraph (7) of this subsection, a person may not hunt on Sunday in:

- (i) Baltimore City;
- (ii) Baltimore County;
- (iii) Howard County; or
- (iv) Prince George's County.

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

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

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

1. Allegany County;
2. Cecil County;
3. Garrett County;
4. St. Mary's County;
5. Washington County;
6. **WICOMICO COUNTY;**
7. Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey hunting season;

[7.] 8. Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive;

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

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

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

(ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph [(i)8 and 9] **(I)9 AND 10** of this paragraph do not apply:

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

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

4 [(iii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)10 of this paragraph
5 do not apply:

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

7 2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
8 Sundays in November of the deer bow hunting season.]

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2026.