

SENATE BILL 879

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CF 6lr2285

By: Senator Attar

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City – Natural Resources – Sunday Deer Hunting and Archery**
3 **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 Baltimore City; adding
6 Baltimore City to the list of jurisdictions in which the safety zone for archery hunters
7 extends a certain distance from certain structures; and generally relating to hunting
8 in Baltimore City.

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 2025 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 2025 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;

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

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:

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

17 (i) Carroll County; and

18 (ii) Frederick County.

22 1. Kent County;

23 2. Montgomery County; and

24 3. Talbot County.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(6) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON EACH SUNDAY OF THE DEER BOW HUNTING SEASON IN BALTIMORE CITY.

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

20 (i) Carroll County;

21 (ii) Kent County; and

(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;

12 [(iii)] (II) Howard County; or

13 [(iv)] (III) 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;

(ii) The time restrictions under subparagraph (i)8 and 9 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.

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

2. On the last three Sundays in October and the first two
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.

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, 2026.