



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Allan Fisher, Deputy Secretary

Bill Number: Senate Bill 342

Short Title: Queen Anne's County – Sunday Hunting

Department's Position: Letter of Information

Explanation of Department's Position

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides this letter of information on SB 342, which would increase hunting recreation in Queen Anne's County. Increased game mammal and game bird hunting opportunities assist with population management and will result in additional revenue for those industries and groups that participate and/or support hunting.

Hunting remains the most effective method for controlling and managing the deer population throughout Maryland. DNR advises that Sunday hunting has contributed positively to managing the state's white-tailed deer population in the 20 counties where it is now permitted. Sunday hunting can be especially important if the weather causes unfavorable hunting conditions on the Saturday of the same weekend. Likewise, many hunters only have time to hunt on weekends, so allowing Sunday hunting essentially doubles their opportunity to pursue deer.

On Sundays during the 2020-2021 deer seasons in Queen Anne's County, 435 deer were harvested. DNR estimates 50-100 deer would be harvested on the additional Sundays in Queen Anne's County as a result of this bill, depending on how the Sundays were allocated for the three seasons.

For additional information, please feel free to contact our Legislative and Constituent Services Director, Bunky Luffman.