

Dear Sports Enthusiast,

Thank you for being part of the sportsman and outdoor legacy in our great Commonwealth.

Like you, I enjoy the endless opportunities provided by thousands of acres of forestland across our region. It's a great tradition, and I encourage you to help continue it for future generations.

This newsletter includes information about a recent court ruling impacting landowners, expansion of the certified hunter program, updated regulations related to chronic wasting disease, information about hunter-trapper education and more.

I hope you find this newsletter helpful and informative. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact my office or visit my website at www.RepCauser.com. It is always wonderful to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Marty Causer

Rep. Marty Causer
67th Legislative District



I always enjoy hunting with my son, Matthew.

***Landmark Ruling Protects Private Property
from Warrantless Searches***

In a major win for private landowners, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has unanimously ruled game wardens, like other law enforcement officials, must secure a warrant before entering private property.

The case, brought by two private hunting clubs in the Commonwealth, centered on whether provisions of the Game Code allowing officers to enter private property without a warrant were consistent with Article I, Section 8 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

The court ultimately concluded that these broad warrantless entry provisions were in violation, affirming game wardens and other government officials must obtain a warrant or meet recognized exceptions before entering posted private property. The court also emphasized the importance of marking private property through methods such as signage, purple paint or a fence.

The decision is a critical one for sportsmen and private property owners, ensuring their constitutional rights are protected.



***Have You Tried the
Interactive Hunting Map?***

The Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources have teamed up to create a new interactive map specifically for hunters. Use the map to view public lands open to hunting; search hunting seasons and bag limits across different parts of the state; add personal GPS data to the map; and more. Check it out at www.hunting.pa.gov/bof/huntmap.

Bradford Gun Club Earns Grant

Great news! The Bradford Gun Club has been selected as one of 10 recipients of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's 2026 Shooting Range Improvement Program grant.

The organization is set to receive \$42,000 in grant funding for improvements to its shotgun field.

The Shooting Range Improvement Program provides funding to increase opportunity, access and safety at sportsmen's clubs throughout the Commonwealth. This initiative also provides the ability to host Hunter-Trapper Education classes and workshops in more locations. This is the third year for this program.



Certified Hunter Program to Expand

The Pennsylvania Game Commission adopted regulations earlier this year that will guide the agency's Certified Hunter Program, which connects hunters and landowners as a means of addressing crop-damage concerns.

The Certified Hunter Program launched last year in the southwest region and is expected to expand statewide.

For hunters, the program provides an opportunity to access productive hunting grounds and harvest antlerless deer to help landowners meet deer-management goals on their properties. Participating landowners retain full control of their properties and enjoy peace of mind knowing the hunters there have met the program's qualifications.

More information about the program is available on the Certified Hunter Program page at www.pa.gov/pgc.

Proposal Would Boost Access to Hunter-Trapper Education

Working to develop the next generation of hunters, I recently voted for legislation to boost the availability of Hunter-Trapper Education (HTE) in our schools.

House Bill 2460 would require the Pennsylvania Game Commission to develop an age-appropriate HTE Program, including firearm safety instruction, for students in grades six through 12. Schools could opt to incorporate this as an extracurricular class, or as part of an existing course for the purpose of outdoor recreation activity.

Under state law, all new hunters must successfully complete the Game Commission's basic HTE course before obtaining a hunting license. Students who would take the course in school would be eligible to purchase a license after they successfully complete the course.

The bill is pending consideration in the Senate. For information about current HTE options, see page 4 of this newsletter.



Regulations on Chronic Wasting Disease Updated

At its spring meeting, the Pennsylvania Game Commission made adjustments to regulations regarding chronic wasting disease (CWD) to better protect the state's white-tailed deer and simultaneously help hunters.

Hunters are no longer prohibited from transporting harvested deer – including high-risk deer parts – between any two locations. But hunters statewide would be required to dispose of high-risk deer parts through their commercial trash pickup and expressly prohibited from disposing of high-risk parts on the landscape after a deer is moved from the harvest site.

Other changes include eliminating the regulatory prohibition on the use of cervid urine-based attractants in any outdoor setting – state law already was changed to make these attractants legal – and providing the commission's executive director with the discretionary authority to establish targeted restrictions on feeding deer and other wild cervids in relation to CWD.

More information about chronic wasting disease in the Commonwealth is available at www.pa.gov/pgc.



Are You Enjoying This Newsletter? Sign Up to Receive it Every Year!

If you are receiving this Sportsmen's Report for the first time – and you want to receive it again – please fill out the coupon below or log onto my website and sign up at www.RepCauser.com/huntfish. Your information will not be provided to any third party.

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

2026-27 Hunting Season and Bag Limits

SMALL GAME

SQUIRREL
6 daily, 18 possession
Combined Species

JUNIOR HUNT
Sept. 12-27

STATEWIDE
Sept. 12-Dec. 24
Dec. 26-Feb. 28, 2027

COTTONTAIL RABBIT
4 daily, 12 possession

JUNIOR HUNT
Oct. 3-18

STATEWIDE
Oct. 17-Dec. 24
Dec. 26-Feb. 28, 2027

PHEASANT
2 daily, 6 possession

JUNIOR HUNT
Oct. 10-18

STATEWIDE
Oct. 24-Dec. 24
Dec. 26-Feb. 28, 2027

*Pheasant permit required for most pheasant hunters.
Male and female pheasants may be taken in all WMUs.*

BOBWHITE QUAIL
No Limit

STATEWIDE

Sept. 1-Dec. 24
Dec. 26-March 31, 2027

*There is no open season
for quail and no release
of quail in the Letterkenny
Army Depot Bobwhite Quail
Recovery Area*

WOODCHUCK
No Limit

STATEWIDE
July 1-Dec. 24
Dec. 26-June 30, 2027

CROW
No Limit

STATEWIDE
Aug. 20-March 21, 2027
*Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays
& Sundays only*

RUFFED GROUSE
2 daily, 6 possession

STATEWIDE
Oct. 17-Dec. 24

SNOWSHOE HARE
1 daily, 3 season limit

STATEWIDE
Dec. 26-31

NO CLOSED SEASON, NO OPEN SEASON

English sparrows and European starlings may be taken in unlimited numbers, but cannot be hunted during the regular firearms deer season. There is no open season for pine martens or sharp-tailed grouse.

WATERFOWL AND MIGRATORY BIRDS

*Seasons and bag limits for waterfowl and migratory birds,
including doves, are available on page 42 of the PA Hunting
and Trapping Digest.*

FURTAKING

HUNTING

BOBCAT

1 per license year

WMUS 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F,
2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C,
4D, 4E & 5A

Jan. 9-Feb. 3, 2027
Permit required

RACCOON

No Limit

Oct. 24-Feb. 21, 2027
*May only be hunted from one-half
hour after sunset to one-half hour
before sunrise Nov. 28-Dec. 13*

FOX

No Limit

Oct. 24-Feb. 21, 2027
*May only be hunted from one-half
hour after sunset to one-half hour
before sunrise Nov. 28-Dec. 13*

OPOSSUM, STRIPED SKUNK & WEASEL

No Limit

July 1-June 30, 2027
with certain exceptions

PORCUPINE

3 daily, 10 per season

Oct. 10-Nov. 27
Dec. 14-24
Dec. 26-Jan. 31, 2027

COYOTE

No Limit

*No closed season,
with certain exceptions
during big-game seasons*

TRAPPING

RACCOON, OPOSSUM STRIPED SKUNK & WEASEL

No Limit

Oct. 24-Feb. 21, 2027

FOX & COYOTE

No Limit

GENERAL

Oct. 24-Feb. 21, 2027

CABLE RESTRAINTS

Dec. 26-Feb. 21, 2027

MINK & MUSKRAT

No Limit

Nov. 21-Jan. 10, 2027

BEAVER

Limits vary by WMU
Dec. 19-March 31, 2027

BOBCAT

1 per license year

WMUS 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F,
2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C,
4D, 4E & 5A

Dec. 19-Jan. 10, 2027
Permit required

FISHER

1 per license year

WMUS 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F,
2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B,
4C, 4D & 4E

Dec. 19-Jan. 10, 2027

Permit required

RIVER OTTER

1 per license year

WMUS 1A, 1B, 2F, 2G, 3A,
3B, 3C, 3D, 4C & 4E

Feb. 13-21, 2027

Permit required

• *A porcupine is classified
as a furbearer, but like the
coyote, it can be hunted
with either a hunting or
furtaker license. There is
no trapping season for
porcupines.*

TURKEY

- *One fall turkey per license
year, plus one bearded bird
in spring.*

FALL SEASON

Bearded or unbearded birds.
Season lengths vary by WMU.

WMUS 1A, 2G, 3A,
4A, 4B & 4D
Oct. 31-Nov. 15

WMUS 1B, 3D, 4C & 4E
Oct. 31-Nov. 8

WMUS 2A, 2F, 3B & 3C
Oct. 31-Nov. 15
& Nov. 25-27

WMUS 2B, 2C, 2D & 2E
Oct. 31-Nov. 20
& Nov. 25-27

WMUS 5A & 5B
Oct. 31-Nov. 3

WMUS 5C & 5D
Fall season is closed.

SPRING SEASON

Bearded birds only.

YOUTH HUNT

April 24-25, 2027

STATEWIDE

May 1-31, 2027
Hunting hours vary

ELK

- *One elk per license year,
with elk license.*

ARCHERY

Sept. 12-27

FIRST REGULAR

Oct. 3-11

SECOND REGULAR

Oct. 31-Nov. 8

THIRD REGULAR

DEER

- *One antlered deer per license year, and an antlerless deer with each required license or permit.*

AG TAG

Antlerless Only

STATEWIDE
Aug. 1-April 15, 2027

ARCHERY

Antlered & Antlerless

STATEWIDE
Oct. 3-Nov. 20 and Dec. 26-Jan. 24, 2027

WMUS 2B, 5C & 5D

Sept. 19-Nov. 27 and Dec. 26-Jan. 24, 2027

SPECIAL FIREARMS

Antlerless Only

STATEWIDE
Oct. 22-25
*Licensed seniors,
Junior license holders,
mentored permit holders,
qualified active-duty
military personnel, and
persons with a permit to
use a vehicle as a blind*

REGULAR FIREARMS

Antlered & Antlerless

STATEWIDE
Nov. 28-Dec. 13

FLINTLOCK

Antlered & Antlerless

STATEWIDE
Dec. 26-Jan. 24, 2027

MUZZLELOADER

Antlerless Only

STATEWIDE
Oct. 17-25

EXTENDED FIREARMS

Antlerless Only

DMAP
Dec. 26-Jan. 24, 2027
WMUS 4A, 4C, 4D & 5A
Dec. 26-Jan. 18, 2027

WMUS 2B, 5C & 5D
Dec. 26-Jan. 24, 2027

BEAR

- *One bear per license year, with bear license.*

ARCHERY

STATEWIDE

Oct. 17-Oct. 25

WMUS 2B, 5C & 5D
Sept. 19-Nov. 27

WMU 3C, 3D & 5B
Oct. 3-Nov. 20

MUZZLELOADER

STATEWIDE

Oct. 22-25

SPECIAL FIREARMS

STATEWIDE

Oct. 22-25
*Licensed seniors,
Junior license holders,
mentored permit
holders ages 7 and older,
qualified active-duty
military personnel, and
persons with a permit to
use a vehicle as a blind*

REGULAR FIREARMS

STATEWIDE

Nov. 21-24

EXTENDED FIREARMS

WMUS 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D
Nov. 28-Dec. 13

WMUS 3A, 3B, 3C,
3D, 4C, 4E & 5A
Nov. 28-Dec. 6

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

MARTY CAUSER



67TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICES:

78 Main St., 1st Floor, Bradford, PA 16701
Ph: 814-362-4400

279 Route 6 West, Office 2, Coudersport, PA 16915
Ph: 814-274-9769

54 N. Fraley St., Suite 2, Kane, PA 16735
Ph: 814-837-0880

EMAIL: mcauser@pahousegop.com

WEB: RepCauser.com

FACEBOOK.COM/RepCauser

ATTENTION First-Time Hunters!

Hunter-Trapper Education courses are required for all first-time hunters and trappers before they can buy a license in the Commonwealth. The Pennsylvania Game Commission offers both in-person and online options.

The course covers responsible hunting behavior, firearms basics and safety, basic shooting, wildlife conservation and management, outdoor safety and survival, hunting techniques, trapping and furtaking basics, and hunting safety. The following options are available:

- ✓ PGC's Basic Hunter-Trapper Education In-Person Course is offered free of charge to anyone age 11 and older. Classes are held in various locations across the Commonwealth. A schedule is available at www.pgc.pa.gov.
 - ✓ An interactive online version of PGC's Basic Hunter-Trapper Education Course is offered to Pennsylvania residents age 11 and older. The fee for this course is \$49.95.
 - ✓ PGC's official online course is offered to Pennsylvania residents age 16 or older. The fee for this course is \$34.95.
 - ✓ The National Rifle Association offers a free online hunter education course to Pennsylvania residents age 11 and older.
- Visit www.pgc.pa.gov/pgc for more information.

Services Available at My Office

Among the many resources available at my offices in Bradford, Coudersport and Kane are several publications of interest to the region's sportsmen and women. Stop by during office hours for the following publications:

- Fish and Boat Code (Title 30)
- PA Fishing Summary
- Game and Wildlife Code (Title 34)
- PA Hunting and Trapping Digest
- PA Laws Relating to Firearms
- Personal Firearms Inventory
- A Guide to Purchasing Firearms
- PA Firearms Laws and Commonly Asked Questions
- PA Hunting and Trapping Pocket Guides
- Targets

Hunters Sharing the Harvest

Did you know Pennsylvania has a venison donation program to help families in need?

Each season, Hunters Sharing the Harvest (HSH) aims to donate over 100,000 pounds of venison to the state's food banks, which then redistribute it to more than 5,000 local provider charities such as food pantries, missions, homeless shelters, Salvation Army facilities and churches.

Since 1991, HSH has coordinated the processing and distribution of approximately 3 million pounds of donated venison. An average-sized deer will provide enough high-protein, low-fat meat for 200 servings. Thanks to program sponsors, hunters can donate venison at no charge.

To learn more about the program, and find participating processors, visit www.sharedeer.org or call 866-474-2141.

