

Chapter 389

(House Bill 143)

AN ACT concerning

Somerset County – Natural Resources – Sunday Hunting

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person in Somerset County to hunt on private property ~~on each Sunday~~ during a certain time period on certain Sundays of the game bird or game mammal seasons; establishing an exception to the prohibition against the Department authorizing Sunday hunting on public land for public land in Somerset County leased to a hunt club during a certain time period on certain Sundays; and generally relating to Sunday hunting in Somerset County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Natural Resources
 Section 10–410(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Natural Resources

10–410.

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

~~(i)~~ **1.** Allegany County;

~~(ii)~~ **2.** Cecil County;

~~(iii)~~ **3.** Garrett County;

~~(iv)~~ **4.** St. Mary's County; [and]

~~(v)~~ **5.** **SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, SOMERSET COUNTY, FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE UNTIL 10:30 A.M.; AND**

~~(vi)~~ **6.** Washington County.

(II) THE TIME RESTRICTIONS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I)5 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.

(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;
- (ii) Dorchester County; and
- (iii) 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; and
- 2. Montgomery 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; and
- 4. In Montgomery County, on one Sunday designated by the Department during the deer bow hunting season.

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

- (i) On each Sunday in:

1. Calvert County;
2. Caroline County;
3. Charles County;
4. Harford County;
5. Queen Anne's County; **AND**
6. [Somerset County; and
- 7.] Worcester County;

(ii) On the first Sunday in:

1. Anne Arundel County; and
2. Talbot County; and

(iii) In Wicomico County, on:

1. The first Sunday; and
2. The second Sunday from 30 minutes before sunrise until

10:30 a.m.

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

(i) The last three Sundays in October and the first two Sundays in November in:

1. Calvert County;
2. Caroline County;
3. Charles County;
4. Harford County;
5. Queen Anne's County;
6. [Somerset County;
- 7.] Talbot County;

[8.] 7. Wicomico County; and

[9.] 8. Worcester County; and

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

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

(i) Calvert County;

(ii) Caroline County;

(iii) Carroll County;

(iv) Charles County;

(v) Dorchester County; and

(vi) Kent County.

(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.

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

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

(12) Except as provided in paragraphs (8) through (10) of this subsection and 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:

- ~~(i)~~ **1.** Allegany County;
- ~~(ii)~~ **2.** Cecil County;
- ~~(iii)~~ **3.** Garrett County;
- ~~(iv)~~ **4.** St. Mary’s County;
- ~~(v)~~ **5.** Washington County;
- ~~(vi)~~ **6.** Dorchester County, for turkey during the spring turkey hunting season; [and]

~~(vii)~~ **7.** Frederick County, for deer from the first Sunday in October through the second Sunday in January of the following year, inclusive; AND

~~(viii)~~ **8.** 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.

(II) THE TIME RESTRICTIONS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I)8 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.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2022.