

PALS SUMMARY

Hunting and furtaker licenses are issued through the Pennsylvania Automated License System (PALS). This automated licensing system is a joint project with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and our contractor, Automated Licensing Systems, a subsidiary of Active Outdoors. The system offers licensing options that hunters have not previously had. Following is a summary of the basics:

- **Customer Identification Number (CID):** If you have already purchased a hunting or fishing license through PALS, you were assigned a CID number that was printed on your license. Please use this number when applying for a license through PALS, because this will identify you in the database and speed the license issuance process. If you have never purchased a license through PALS, you will need to provide your Social Security number (SSN) when applying. This is a one-time only requirement, and will not be needed again, unless you don't have or can't remember your CID.

- **Senior Lifetime License Holders:** If you are a resident senior lifetime hunting or combination license holder, and have not purchased or renewed your license through PALS, you will need to provide your Social Security number when applying. This is a one-time only requirement, and will not be needed again unless you don't have or can't remember your CID. Senior lifetime license ID cards are no longer required because PALS will recognize your record through your SSN or CID. You will still need to provide proof of residency when you renew your license, usually done through a valid Pennsylvania driver's license.

- **Carcass Tags:** The tags that come with the license have two perforated holes in the center. These may be used with a string or twist tie to attach the tag to the carcass.

- **Harvest Reporting:** Licenses issued through PALS do not include pre-printed harvest report cards. To report a deer or turkey harvest, you may use the harvest report cards included with this Digest or report online at www.pgc.state.pa.us, or by phone (1-855-724-8681). DMAP participants and holders of second turkey licenses are required to report regardless of harvest success.

- **Display:** Licenses are no longer required to be displayed on an outer garment. If you are checked by a wildlife conservation officer or the landowner while afield, you must have all applicable hunting and furtaker licenses on your person, along with positive ID to confirm identification and residency.

- **Antlerless Deer Licenses:** Hunters will mail their applications directly to a County Treasurer of their choice, not the Game Commission. County Treasurers will be able to issue antlerless deer licenses for any wildlife management unit (WMU), not just the ones their county is a part of. Hunters may use the application panel that comes with the license or the forms contained in this Digest. Either type of application is valid. Hunters may indicate their first, second and third WMU preferences on the application. That way, if the first WMU of choice is sold out, the Treasurer can issue a license for the second or third WMU preference based on license availability. Official application envelopes are pink and still available through all hunting license issuing agents. PALS automatically tracks allocations and monitors personal license limits, so hunters will not be issued more licenses than they are entitled to at any given point. The application process begins earlier than in the past. If hunters do not receive antlerless licenses, they should first contact the county treasurer before contacting the Game Commission. Please refer to the Deer Section in this Digest for details on the application schedule and process.

- **License/Permit Availability:** Commercial issuing agents and County Treasurers are now able to offer more specialized licenses and permits through PALS that were not available at their locations in the past. These specialized licenses include the resident senior lifetime license categories (hunting, furtaker, combination and combo upgrades), disabled veteran lifetime renewals, resident landowner reduced-fee hunting licenses and special spring gobbler season licenses. Beginning June 11 DMAP harvest permits will be available for sale through the PALS system. Permits for landowners who enroll later in the summer will become available as their applications are approved. In addition, all agents can now accept elk and second spring gobbler license (must be purchased before the start of the spring turkey season) applications through PALS. Bobcat and fisher permits can be issued through PALS; the fee is \$6.70 and both permits must be purchased **before** the start of the December seasons. Hunters can check on the status of an antlerless deer or elk application by visiting the PGC website (www.pgc.state.pa.us) and clicking on "The Outdoor Shop."

PALS offers more licensing options and enhancements that benefit hunters, issuing agents and the Game Commission alike. Improved customer service, streamlined financial reporting and greater access to data will help the Game Commission better manage Pennsylvania's wildlife resources.

Another feature of the electronic license sales system is that persons who have had their hunting and furtaking license privileges revoked will be automatically prohibited from buying a license. License revocation can occur for the following reasons: failure to respond to a citation issued for a violation of the Game and Wildlife Code; failure to pay fines assessed by a court within 180 days of adjudication of the charges; revocation ordered by the court due to Game and Wildlife Code violations; failure to pay child support or for other lawful purposes; revocation ordered by the Commission for certain Game and Wildlife Code violations; revocation mandated by the Game and Wildlife Code; and failure to complete a remedial HTE course, if mandated. Anyone who may be affected by one or more of these situations may contact the Game Commission's Bureau of Wildlife Protection at 717-787-4024 to verify the status of their hunting privileges.

Assistance For Persons With Disabilities

A telephone service is available to help deaf, hard-of-hearing, hearing-impaired and speech-impaired persons communicate with the Game Commission.

Those persons who use a telecommunications device (TDD) may call 717-705-8816 to be connected directly to the Harrisburg Office or call 1-800-654-5984 to reach an AT&T Pennsylvania relay Center Communications assistant to be connected to any of the Game Commission's six region offices. Voice users may contact the AT&T Pennsylvania Relay Center at 1-800-654-5988. For more information on this service, please refer to the customer service section of your local telephone directory. Information is also available by writing: AT&T Pennsylvania Relay Center, 600 West Ave., 2nd Floor, Wayne, PA 19087.

People with disabilities who wish to attend Game Commission public functions and need special assistance should contact the appropriate region office or the Harrisburg Headquarters.

Permits are available from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for persons with disabilities who meet certain guidelines established in 34 Pa. C.S., the Game and Wildlife Code. Permit applications and the required physician's statement forms may be obtained from each of the Commission's six regional offices or the Bureau of Law Enforcement at the Harrisburg Headquarters. For more information, click on "Disabled Permits," check the Game Commission website.