



TAGGING YOUR DEER

This photo shows the proper way to tag a deer. Hunters (including Mentored Youth Hunters who harvest an antlered deer) must detach the deer harvest tag (do not attach the actual hunting license and be sure to use the correct tag; the harvest tags have animal icons) from their license, fill it out (use a ballpoint pen) and attach it to the ear of the animal as shown. There are two holes in the center of the tag that can be punched to insert a string, twist tie or safety pin to attach it to the animal. Big game must be tagged immediately after harvested and before the carcass is moved. The tag must remain attached until the animal is processed for consumption or prepared for mounting. Note that the bar code on the right edge of the tag should be unobstructed, so PGC personnel can scan.



SPECIAL REGULATIONS AREAS

Special Regulations Areas include: In western Pennsylvania, all of Allegheny County. In southeastern Pennsylvania, all of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties, and also includes Ridley Creek and Tyler state parks. The following regulations apply to Special Regulations Areas. For statewide seasons and bag limits see the Small Game, Turkey, Bear and Deer sections of this Digest.

DEER: All Special Regulations Area counties are now contained within the Wildlife Management Unit system. Seasons and antler restriction requirements are mostly based on these units and general deer seasons. However, certain laws and regulations in regards to arms and ammunition still apply to specific counties in Special Regulations Areas. Also, the regulation: when multiple harvests of deer per day are authorized, only one deer at a time may be taken; before attempting to take an additional deer, the first deer shall be lawfully tagged, does not apply when hunting in Special Regulations Areas. Baiting for deer is no longer permitted on private lands in the southeast special regulations areas.

DEER & BEAR SEASON ARMS & AMMUNITION: Allegheny County—Muzzleloading long guns .44 caliber or larger, bows and arrows, crossbows, manual or semi-automatic shotguns, .410 or larger using slugs. Buckshot is not permitted. **Philadelphia County**—Only bows and arrows, including crossbows. **Ridley Creek and Tyler state parks**—Manual or semi-automatic shotguns 20-gauge or larger using buckshot, bows and arrows and crossbows. **Remaining Counties**—Muzzleloading long guns, .44 caliber or larger, manual or semi-automatic shotguns .410 or larger using slugs, 20-gauge or larger using buckshot, bows and arrows and crossbows. Crossbows must have a minimum draw weight of 125 pounds.

DEER SEASONS & FLUORESCENT ORANGE REQUIREMENTS: Deer Archery (Antlerless Only) WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D: Sept. 21-Oct. 4 & Nov. 18-30. No fluorescent orange required. **Deer Archery (Antlered & Antlerless) WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D:** Jan. 13-25. During the Oct. 19-26 muzzleloader antlerless season, 250 square inches of fluorescent orange is required while moving but may be removed provided 100 square inches of fluorescent material is placed within 15 feet. Flintlock season Dec. 26-Jan. 11: fluorescent orange is not required, but keep in mind a firearms deer season is open and it is suggested that orange be worn. **Deer Antlerless (Statewide):** Junior, senior license holders, disable person permit holders and PA residents serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. Oct. 24-26: 250 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, chest and back at all times is required. **Deer Antlerless Muzzleloader (Statewide):** Oct. 19-26: 250 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, chest and back at all times is required. **Deer Firearms Season (Antlered & Antlerless):** Dec. 2-14: 250 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, chest and back at all times is required. **Deer Flintlock (Antlered & Antlerless) WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D:** Dec. 26-Jan. 25: fluorescent orange is not required, but keep in mind, a firearms deer season is open and it is suggested that orange be worn. **Deer Firearms (Antlerless) Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties:** Dec. 26-Jan. 25: 250 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, chest and back at all times is required.

SMALL GAME, HUNTABLE FURBEARERS & CROWS: Manually operated or semi-automatic shotguns plugged to a 3-shell capacity; manually operated .22 caliber or less rimfire rifles and handguns; and bows and arrows. **Lawful While Trapping:** Manually operated .22 caliber or less rimfire rifles and handguns, except as noted under specific "Furtaking" regulations elsewhere in the Digest. For small game in WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D, 250 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, chest and back at all times is required. Hunters after furbearers and crows do not need to wear fluorescent orange. Woodchuck hunters must wear a solid fluorescent cap on the head visible 360 degrees.

FERAL SWINE

Feral swine have no place in Pennsylvania. They pose a very real threat to native Pennsylvania wildlife and wildlife habitats. Not only do they damage wildlife habitats, but they will kill birds, the young of many mammalian species, and transmit a host of dangerous diseases. Because they have no natural predators, can live anywhere, and reproduce rapidly, they will be difficult to control in the best of circumstances.

In some areas of the state, protection may be removed from feral swine by an executive order of the director; however, to increase the efficiency of eradication efforts, protection may be applied to townships or counties where eradication trapping operations are being actively conducted. If you think you may encounter a feral swine, refer to our website (www.pgc.state.pa.us) for specific details on townships or counties that may have restrictions on incidental shooting of feral swine. Firearm and archery equipment are restricted to lawful arms and ammunition identified in the Game & Wildlife Code Sec. 2308. If you kill a feral swine, contact the nearest region office within 24 hours, so samples can be collected for disease testing.