



Return Abundant Wildlife to Pennsylvania

Please sign the petition in support of House Bill 1483, the most important hunting and wildlife management bill in generations.

Today, closed tree-tops in Pennsylvania's old and aging forests are blocking sunlight from reaching the forest floor -- preventing the regeneration of plant-life as food and cover for wildlife. As a result, many wildlife populations are rapidly declining.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission has failed to address this serious problem, and, instead, mistakenly blamed white-tailed deer (our State Mammal) for deteriorating habitat. Over a 5-year period, the Game Commission directed the slaughter of 2,500,000 deer – mostly pregnant does and fawns.

In so doing, they turned a problem into a crisis. Not only have they collapsed the deer herd in many regions of the state, but they still fail to address aging forests, deteriorating habitat, and declining wildlife populations. Legislative studies have determined that these failed policies have cost thousands of family businesses, rural communities, and the Commonwealth's economy over \$7 billion, which is increasing at the rate of \$501.6 million each year. The state is also losing \$40 million in annual tax revenue.

To resolve the crisis, the Pennsylvania Legislature, sportsmen and conservation organizations, independent scientists, and concerned citizens have joined in creating House Bill 1483. HB 1483 is designed to correct Game Commission policies, to create critically needed early successional wildlife habitat over the 6,000-square-mile system of Pennsylvania's public forestlands, and return abundant wildlife to Penn's Woods.

From deer, ruffed grouse, wild turkeys, snowshoe hares, and our magnificent elk herd, to songbirds, bats, and at-risk pollinators such as honeybees and Monarch butterflies, Pennsylvania wildlife will again flourish and our forests will return to their former reputation as one-of-the-world's healthiest and most productive hardwood forest ecosystems.

Please join with us in becoming a Friend of Pennsylvania Wildlife by adding your name to this petition supporting House Bill 1483.

Go to <https://www.friendsofpennsylvaniawildlife.org/petition>, simply click on the "Petition" button, and sign the petition to pass House Bill 1483.

Time to Hold PGC Accountable

In a 2016 Legislative hearing in the Pennsylvania Capitol, the Pennsylvania Game Commission stated that the agency's deer program was second to none in the country, that most hunters love it, and that it would not be changed. Also in 2016, a national review by WideOpenSpaces.com listed the eight worst states to bowhunt. Pennsylvania was ranked dead last. Quoting from the published report:

"Truth be told, you could probably hunt with a hand grenade and still strike out in one of these states. A lot of states are doing things right when it comes to deer and deer hunting. However, a few states are on a stark downward trend. Good old Penn is the unanimous winner as the worst state to not only bowhunt, but just really hunt in general. To make matters worse, CWD is only spreading."

We now have the opportunity to correct the Game Commission's mistakes, and to turn around the downward spiral in Pennsylvania for deer, grouse, and other wildlife species. Help us to save these species and return Pennsylvania to the top hunting state in the nation as it once was decades ago.

Please sign this critical "Petition" for hunters and all friends of Pennsylvania wildlife toward passing House Bill 1483. Let your signature be a message that enough is enough, and it is now time to return to sensible deer and wildlife management in the Commonwealth.

Go to <https://www.friendsofpennsylvaniawildlife.org/petition> and please sign the petition.

Acknowledgement: This request to sign our sportsmen's petition in support of House Bill 1483 is sponsored by Allegheny County Sportsmen's League, Buffalo Valley Sportsmen's Association, Eastern Pennsylvania Firearms Coalition, Unified Sportsmen of Pennsylvania, and select sportsmen.

PLEASE SIGN THE PETITION

Please join hundreds of your fellow hunters at the annual "Pennsylvania Hunters Rally", Sunday, October 15, 2017 at the Castanea Social Hall Picnic Grounds across from the airport in Lock Haven, 17745. There will be a free lunch at noon with a distinguished cast of speakers starting at 1 pm covering topics including deer and wildlife management, House Bill 1483, and CWD. A Ruger 5.56/.223 cal rifle will be raffled.