



## Program Benefits

- Landowner Liability Protection
- Free Game News Magazine
- Landowner Hunting License (80acres)
- Landowner Antlerless Tag (50acres)
- Free Tree Seedlings and Bird Boxes
- Potential Pheasant Releases (Adequate Habitat Required)
- Free Habitat Improvements
- ATV and other Game Law Enforcement



A variety of signs are available to landowners, including *Keep Gates Closed*, *Live-stock Area*, *No Motorized Vehicles*, *Hunting by Permission Only*, *Safety Zone*, and others.

## PGC Regions and Contact Information

- Northwest Region— 814-432-3187  
P.O. Box 31, Franklin, PA 16323
- Southwest Region— 724-238-9523  
4820 Route 711, Bolivar, PA 15923
- Northcentral Region— 570-398-4744  
1566 S. Rt. 44 Hwy, Jersey Shore, PA 17740
- Southcentral Region— 814-643-1831  
8627 William Penn Hwy, Huntingdon, PA 16652
- Northeast Region— 570-675-1143  
Intersection Rts.415&118, Dallas, PA 18612
- Southeast Region— 610-926-3136  
448 Snyder Road, Reading, PA 19605

## Pennsylvania Game Commission State Office Headquarters

Mike Pruss  
2001 Elmerton Ave.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

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# HUNTER ACCESS PROGRAM For PRIVATE LANDOWNERS

## Pennsylvania Game Commission



For Questions or to enroll, call your local PGC Region Office using the Contact Information provided on back, or Visit Our Website : [WWW.PGC.STATE.PA.US/VPA](http://WWW.PGC.STATE.PA.US/VPA)

## Hunter Access on Private Lands

Private Lands make up more than 80% of Pennsylvania. The majority of hunters in Pennsylvania hunt on private lands. As a result, private landowners are our most important cooperators when it comes to hunting and appropriate wildlife management.



The Pennsylvania Game Commission recognized this important relationship and created the first Hunter Access Program in 1936. We currently have 13,000 landowner cooperators on 3 million acres of private lands. The Game Commission continuously strives to improve the hunter-agency-landowner partnership.

A new cooperative effort with the Farm Service Agency is allowing renewal and expansion of Hunter Access Program incentives that benefit landowners, hunters and wildlife. Funding for the new initiative comes from the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Improvement Program (VPA-HIP) authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill.



**Wild turkeys and white-tailed deer are the most popular game animals hunted on private lands.**

## Landowner Benefits

**Liability Protection** — Landowners who allow hunting access must feel comfortable that they are protected from liability. In 1966, the PA Legislature passed the Recreation Use of Land and Water Act (RULWA). The Act provides liability protection to landowners who allow public hunting access. Enrollment in the Hunter Access program affords RULWA protection to landowners.

**Game News is Back!** — The PGC is renewing our commitment to provide every hunter access cooperator with a free subscription to PA Game News, beginning in fall 2011.

**Free Habitat Improvements**—Many new options, 100% Paid for, no hassle.

- **Non-commercial tree cutting**— cutting wooded areas with low timber value to encourage new woody and shrub growth beneficial to rabbits, woodcock, deer, and other wildlife that use shrubby areas. At least 10 acres in size.
- **Shrub plantings**— shrub plantings into failed clear-cuts, reclaimed strip mines, and other human disturbance sites that are at least 100 feet wide, and at least 10 acres in size.
- **Native grass planting**— establishing blocks of native grassland habitat of at least 10 acres per property (can be field edges, slopes and waste areas, or whole fields).
- **CREP Incentive** — For Hunter Access cooperators enrolling in CREP, an incentive payment is available for landowners who opt for the “Establishment of Permanent Native Grass” conservation practice (CP2).
- **Paid Grassland Delayed Use**— Inside Wild Pheasant Recovery Areas, contracts for annual (\$80/acre) or 3-year (\$100/acre) seasonally deferred use on existing hay land and cropland. No use between April 1st and July 15th, but may apply manure or harvest or graze outside those dates. Current mulch hay not eligible. Minimum size of 10 acres. See specific brochure for more details and options.

## Who is Eligible?

**Ownership**— All privately owned lands, including individuals, corporations, partnerships and conservancies.

**Land Use**— All undeveloped land uses, including farmland, forest land, wetland, and mineland are eligible.

**Property Size**— Minimum of 50 acres of farmland, forestland, reclaimed mineland, or other huntable land.

## What are the Landowner Obligations?

**Enter 5-Year Agreement** to allow hunting or trapping access(10 years if new habitat is established by PGC).

**Allow reasonable Hunter Access** to at least one of the four following categories: Deer/Bear, Turkey, Small Game, or Trapping. Some limitations are permitted, but at least one category must have no limitations.

Enrolled properties are marked by a dot on a county level map available to hunters on the PGC website. All personal information is protected by law. Names, addresses, phone numbers or any other personal information will not be released or available to the public.

**Cottontail rabbits respond well to grassland habitats interspersed with brushy areas and hedgerows.**

