

## Two-day bear season begins Monday

HARRISBURG—Hunters will have two days in which to take a black bear in all or parts of 41 Pennsylvania counties Monday and Tuesday, this Monday and Tuesday.

Originally, a one-day season was planned, but numerous damage complaints during late summer and early autumn led the Game Commission to schedule two days of hunting.

Counties in which bears may be taken are Armstrong, Blair, Bradford, Cambria, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clarion, Clear-

field, Clinton, Columbia, Elk, Forest, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Potter, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Venango, Warren, Wayne and Wyoming.

Also, those parts of Berks, Dauphin, Lebanon and Lehigh Counties north of Route 22 and that part of Northampton County north of Route 22 (except that portion east of Route 191 and north of

Routes 512 and 611) are open to bear hunting.

During the last year's one-day season, hunters took 819 bruins, the third largest harvest on record. Biologists are hopeful more bears will be taken this year.

Game protectors in 34 districts, concentrated in northcentral and northeastern counties, rate bear populations "excellent." Regardless of the population, many variables, such as weather, the economy, hunting pressure, land accessibility, early denning activity, bear concentrations and

food availability, can affect the size of the harvest.

Licensed bear hunters are reminded they must wear at least 100 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, or on the chest and back combined. A cap contains 100 square inches, but all bear hunters are urged to wear both a cap and vest (coat) or fluorescent orange. No hunting accidents were recorded during the last three bear seasons, and it is hoped this fine record will continue this year.

Successful hunters are reminded that bear meat is much like pork. It should be thoroughly cooked to avoid trichinosis. Last year, tissue samples from nine bears revealed trichinosis.

Five or more persons hunting bear together or cooperating together in manner, must maintain a roster. Hunting together or cooperating with other means actual participation, such as driving. Simply staying together at a camp does not require a roster.

A hunter may take only one bear per season and hunting parties of two or more persons are restricted to one bear per party. Shooting a bear in a den is unlawful.

Each person who kills a bear must, immediately after removing the entrails, or within an hour of harvest, and before the carcass is moved fill out the temporary tag supplied with the bear license and attach it to the head (ear) of the bear. A 3-inch stick should be placed vertically in the bear's mouth to hold it open and facilitate removal of a tooth at a bear check station.

Within 24 hours, all bear lawfully taken must be officially inspected and tagged by a Game Commission officer at an established

bear check station. The metal tag shall remain permanently attached to the head, or until the head has been tanned or mounted.

Hunters may take bears to one of the following Pennsylvania check stations:

- Northwest**
  - Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Routes 6 and 62, near Irvine, Warren County
  - Allegheny National Forest storage building, Marienville, Forest County
  - Ross Leffler School of Conservation (Game Commission Training School), 7 miles northwest of Brockway off Route 28, Jefferson County
- Southwest**
  - Yellow Creek State Park, off Route 422, Indiana County
- Northcentral**
  - Trout Run, intersection of Routes 14 and 15, Lycoming County
  - Ansonia, one mile west of intersection of Routes 6 and 362, Tioga County
  - A. B. Elliott State Park, off Route 153 just north of Exit #18 (Penfield) of Interstate Route 80, Clearfield County
  - Renovo Forestry Building, two miles west of Renovo on Route 120, Clinton County
  - Sinnemahoning, intersection of Routes 120 and 872, Cameron County
  - Lantz Corners, intersection of Routes 6 and 219, McKean County
  - Weedville, intersection of Routes 255 and 555, Elk County
  - Penn Nursery, on Route 322 south of Potters Mills Centre County
- Northeast**
  - State Game Lands #12, Wheelersville storage building, Route 154, eight miles south of Canton, Bradford County
  - State Game Lands #57, Ricketts storage building, Route 487, seven miles north of Red Rock, in Wyoming County
  - State Game Lands #180, Shohola storage building, Route 6 at Shohola Falls, thirteen miles south of Hawley, Pike County
  - Bear check stations will operate Monday and Tuesday, November 22 and 23, from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. Bears may also be checked at the Game Commission's six field division offices on those days. After Nov. 23, bears will be checked only at the division offices open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The locations of these offices follow:
    - Northwest Division, 1509 Pittsburgh Road, three miles south of Franklin, Venango County, on Route 8
    - Northcentral Division One and one-half miles south of Jersey Shore, Lycoming County on Route 44
    - Northeast Division Dallas, Luzerne County, at the intersection of Routes 415 and 118
    - Southwest Division 339 W. Main Street, Ligonier, Westmoreland County
    - Southcentral Division One mile west of Huntingdon on Route 22, Huntingdon County
    - Southeast Division Seven miles north of Reading, one mile off Route 222 on Lauer Road

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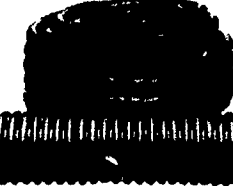
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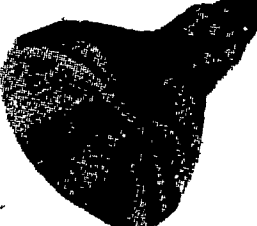
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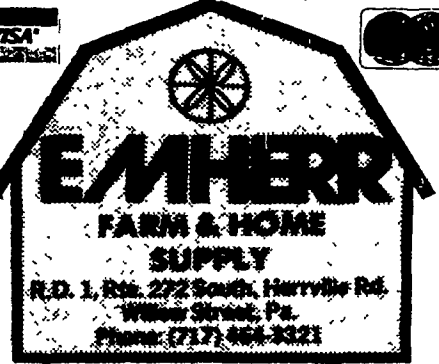
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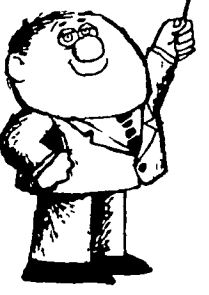


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