

Subchapter C. ANTLERLESS DEER LICENSES

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§ 143.41. Purpose and scope.

- (a) The intent of this section is to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of licenses.
- (b) The Commission, after reviewing available management data, will establish the number of antlerless deer licenses allocated to each wildlife management unit.
- (c) An application shall be accepted without restriction or regard to the applicant's county of residence. The following procedure shall be adhered to when determining successful applicants for licenses:
 - (1) Accept applications on a first-come-first-served basis.
 - (2) Envelopes received by first class mail delivered through and by the United States Postal Service will be processed and licenses issued as soon as practicable.
 - (3) This process of license issuance will continue until the available supply of licenses for that wildlife management unit is exhausted.
- (d) The Commission may act in the capacity of a county treasurer for issuing antlerless licenses if authority to issue licenses has been removed from any or all county treasurers.
- (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter limiting the number of licenses available, the Commission will authorize antlerless deer licenses to be issued regardless of an established quota to:
 - (1) A resident of this Commonwealth within 60 days of discharge from active duty under honorable conditions from the United States Armed Forces or United States Coast Guard.
 - (2) A disabled veteran as defined in 34 Pa.C.S. § 2706(b)(1) (relating to resident license and fee exemptions).
 - (3) An applicant whom the Executive Director has determined to have been erroneously denied a license.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.41 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 101—2965; amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.41 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 31, 1987, effective August 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 3228; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (296676) to (296677).

§ 143.42. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Application—The original PALS form issued with a regular hunting license or the original or reasonable facsimile of the universal form provided by the Commission that is used in applying for an antlerless license or an unsold tag.

County treasurer—A county treasurer in this Commonwealth or a person carrying out the duties and responsibilities of a county treasurer in counties functioning under a home rule charter.

Date issued—The date printed on the license at the time of issuance indicating when the license was mailed or given to the person named on the license.

Envelope—The official envelope issued with a regular hunting license which shall be used by the applicant to mail completed applications to a county treasurer.

Home address—The location where a person is legally domiciled; a true, fixed and permanent home and principal residence; and the place to which, whenever the applicant is temporarily absent, he intends to return.

License—The numbered license which is issued by the county treasurer or the Commission authorizing the holder thereof to hunt antlerless deer in a specific wildlife management unit.

Management unit allocation—The number of licenses allocated by the Commission to an individual wildlife management unit.

Unsold tag—An antlerless deer license permitting properly licensed persons to take an antlerless deer during any firearms antlerless deer season, archery or flintlock muzzleloader and muzzleloader deer seasons in the wildlife management unit of issue.

Void—A voided license which remains nonissuable.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.42 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 101—2965; amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 721(a), 2102 and 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.42 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 22, 1988, effective upon publication and applies retroactively to July 1, 1988, 18 Pa.B. 3213; corrected August 5, 1988, effective upon publication and applies retroactively to July 1, 1988, 18 Pa.B. 3213, 18 Pa.B. 3432; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1,

1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; corrected December 11, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5950; corrected December 24, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 6120; amended March 13, 1998, effective March 14, 1998, 28 Pa.B. 1316; amended October 30, 1998, effective October 31, 1998, 28 Pa.B. 5487; amended May 19, 2000, effective May 20, 2000, 30 Pa.B. 2475; amended June 8, 2001, effective June 9, 2001, 31 Pa.B. 2926; corrected July 27, 2001, effective August 4, 2001, 31 Pa.B. 4088; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388; amended August 25, 2017, effective August 26, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 4982. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (342326) and (349881).

§ 143.43. Preamble.

(a) An application shall be submitted to a county treasurer and a license shall be issued only in accordance with the act and this subchapter.

(b) A nonresident of this Commonwealth may only apply under § 143.50 (relating to procedure for nonresidents of this Commonwealth).

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.43 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.43 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (296678).

§ 143.44. Application.

It is unlawful to apply for more than one license before the unsold tag and unlimited antlerless license application periods as set forth in this chapter.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.44 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 101—2965.

Source

The provisions of this § 143.44 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (296678) and (304861).

§ 143.45. Completing and submitting applications.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in § 143.52 (relating to procedure for unlimited antlerless licenses) and for those applications submitted by qualified landowners, it is unlawful for a county treasurer to accept an application other than by regular first class mail delivered through and by the United States Postal Service. Applications for unsold antlerless deer licenses shall be accepted by county treasurers over the counter and may immediately be processed if any licenses remain available in any wildlife management unit beginning on the second Monday in September.

(b) Applications will not be accepted by county treasurers prior to the start of the normal business day on the second Monday in July.

(c) The application shall be legibly completed, in its entirety, in accordance with instructions on the application. An applicant may enter up to three units, in order of preference, on the application.

(d) The application shall be mailed only in the envelope provided.

(e) Applications are limited to not more than three per envelope.

(f) The envelope must contain return first class postage and a return address. If requirements of this subsection are not met, applications will be placed in a dead letter file and may be reclaimed by the applicant upon contacting the county treasurer's office. Postage, both forward and return, is the responsibility of the applicant.

(g) Unless otherwise ordered by the Director, remittance shall be in the form of a negotiable check or money order payable to "County Treasurer" for applications enclosed, and in the total amount specified in the act for each license. Cash may be accepted by county treasurers for over the counter sales.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.45 amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102(a), 2705(13) and 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.45 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 22, 1988, effective upon publication and applies retroactively to July 1, 1988, 18 Pa.B. 3213; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; amended May 26, 1995, effective May 27, 1995, 25 Pa.B. 2072; amended March 13, 1998, effective March 14, 1998, 28 Pa.B. 1316; amended August 7, 1998, effective August 8, 1998, 28 Pa.B. 3801; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended May 28, 2004, effective May 29, 2004, 34 Pa.B. 2826; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388; amended June 11, 2010, effective June 12, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 3108; amended May 21, 2021, effective May 22, 2021, 51 Pa.B. 2944. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (388078).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 143.48 (relating to first-come-first-served license issuance); 58 Pa. Code § 143.50 (relating to procedure for nonresidents of this Commonwealth); and 58 Pa. Code § 143.51 (relating to application and issuance of surplus tags).

§ 143.46. [Reserved].

Source

The provisions of this § 143.46 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; reserved March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (280091) to (280092).

§ 143.47. [Reserved].

Source

The provisions of this § 143.47 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; reserved March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (280092).

§ 143.48. First-come-first-served license issuance.

- (a) Envelopes containing applications will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis.
- (b) If there are more than three applications in one envelope, the enclosed applications will be rejected and returned to the sender as soon as practicable.
- (c) The first-come-first-served procedure will continue until the management unit's allocation is exhausted.
- (d) Applications received over the management unit's allocation will be returned to the applicants as soon as practicable.

(e) If an application fails to be in compliance with § 143.45 (relating to completing and submitting applications), applications enclosed in the envelope shall be rejected and returned by the county treasurer to the sender as soon as practicable.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.48 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and amended under Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102(a) and 2722(g)(2).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.48 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; amended May 16, 1997, effective May 17, 1997, 27 Pa.B. 2417; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended July 16, 2004, effective July 17, 2004, 34 Pa.B. 3715; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (304862) to (304863).

§ 143.49. Issuing licenses.

(a) Licenses may be issued by county treasurers immediately following receipt of applications.

(b) Licenses will be issued through the Commission's PALS. The county treasurer shall write in ink the applicants' customer ID numbers on the face of the check or money order. If there are no licenses available in the applicant's first unit of preference, the county treasurer shall issue a license for the applicant's next unit of preference in the order given. If all three units have no licenses available, the county treasurer shall return the application to the applicant indicating that the selected units were sold out.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in § 143.52 (relating to procedure for unlimited antlerless licenses) and for qualified landowners, licenses issued shall be delivered to successful applicants in the envelope by first class mail through and by the United States Postal Service. Licenses shall be placed with the United States Postal Service no later than the second Monday in September, except for licenses issued under § 143.51(f) (relating to application and issuance of unsold tags) which shall be placed with the United States Postal Service no later than the fourth Monday in September. If more than one application is mailed to the county treasurer in the same envelope, the licenses shall be mailed to the person whose name appears on the return section of the envelope. The person receiving the additional licenses is responsible for delivering them to the appropriate people.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.49 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102 and 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.49 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; amended May 26, 1995, effective May 27, 1995, 25 Pa.B. 2072; amended May 19, 2000, effective May 20, 2000, 30 Pa.B. 2475; amended June 8, 2001, effective June 9, 2001, 31 Pa.B. 2926; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (304863).

§ 143.50. Procedure for nonresidents of this Commonwealth.

Nonresidents may apply for unsold licenses on the third Monday in July and thereafter in compliance with § 143.45 (relating to completing and submitting applications).

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.50 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § 2722(g).

Source

§ 143.52. Procedure for unlimited antlerless licenses.

(a) Subject to the procedures and limitations of this section, applicants are eligible to make application to receive an unlimited number of antlerless licenses within each wildlife management unit that remains unexhausted beginning on the second Monday in September.

(b) Unexhausted antlerless licenses allocated to a wildlife management unit shall be made available to eligible applicants over the counter starting the second Monday in September, subject to the following limitations:

(1) An applicant is eligible to make application for an antlerless license under this section only when the Commission's PALS licensing system shows five or less active and unfulfilled antlerless licenses on their license profile.

(2) Once an applicant has been issued a sixth cumulative antlerless license, the applicant will not be eligible to make reapplication for additional antlerless licenses until one or more previously issued antlerless licenses have been exhausted by harvest and the harvest or harvests have resulted in a verified completed harvest report in PALS.

(3) At no time is an applicant authorized to exceed six cumulative active and unfulfilled antlerless licenses in their PALS license profile.

(c) The authorizations of this section will terminate automatically for each wildlife management unit once its antlerless license allocation quota is exhausted.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.52 amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102, 2705(13) and 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.52 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended August 24, 1990, effective September 24, 1990, 20 Pa.B. 4488; amended May 3, 1991, effective July 1, 1991, 21 Pa.B. 2009; amended July 12, 1991, effective immediately and apply retroactively to July 1, 1991, 21 Pa.B. 3141; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; amended July 29, 1994, effective July 30, 1994, 24 Pa.B. 3716; amended May 26, 1995, effective May 27, 1995, 25 Pa.B. 2072; amended March 13, 1998, effective March 14, 1998, 28 Pa.B. 1316; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended May 28, 2004, effective May 29, 2004, 34 Pa.B. 2826; amended March 28, 2008, effective March 29, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 1469; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388; amended May 21, 2021, effective May 22, 2021, 51 Pa.B. 2944. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (342332).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 143.45 (relating to completing and submitting applications), 58 Pa. Code § 143.49 (relating to issuing licenses); 58 Pa. Code § 143.51 (relating to application and issuance of surplus tags); and 58 Pa. Code § 143.55 (relating to unlawful acts).

§ 143.53. Reapplication.

(a) A person whose application has been rejected and returned may secure a new official envelope from a hunting license issuing agent and reapply for a license by:

(1) If applicable, correcting the errors which caused the original application to be rejected and returning it to a county treasurer.

(2) Changing on the application the designated wildlife management units in which the applicant desires to hunt and forwarding it to a county treasurer.

(b) A person who was issued a license that was subsequently lost in the United States mail and never received by the licensee may, upon submitting an affidavit stating this fact, receive a replacement license from any

county treasurer. There will be no additional cost for this license. Prior to issuing a replacement license, county treasurers shall first verify through the Commission's PALS that the applicant was issued the original license.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.53 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102(a) and 2722(g)(2).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.53 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475; amended July 16, 2004, effective July 17, 2004, 34 Pa.B. 3715; amended March 20, 2009, effective March 21, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 1388. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (333678).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 143.55 (relating to unlawful acts).

§ 143.54. Validity of license.

An antlerless deer license is valid for taking antlerless deer only in the wildlife management unit designated on the antlerless deer license.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.54 amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102 and 2722(g).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.54 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended August 18, 2000, effective August 19, 2000, 30 Pa.B. 4354; amended June 8, 2001, effective June 9, 2001, 31 Pa.B. 2926; amended March 21, 2003, effective March 22, 2003, 33 Pa.B. 1475. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (280098).

§ 143.55. Unlawful acts.

It is unlawful:

- (1) For a county treasurer to accept an application or to issue a license contrary to the act or this part.
- (2) For a person to apply for or to receive a license contrary to the act or this part.
- (3) For a person to aid another person in applying for or receiving a license contrary to this subchapter.
- (4) For a person to transfer or reissue a license or back tag, or to issue a void.
- (5) For a person to apply for or receive more than one antlerless license or more than one unsold tag, except as specified in § § 143.51(f), 143.52 and 143.53 (relating to application and issuance of unsold tags; procedure for unlimited antlerless licenses; and reapplication).

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.55 issued under The Game Law (34 P. S. § § 1311.101—1311.1502) (Repealed); and the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 101—2965; amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102(a) and 2722(g)(2).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.55 adopted June 19, 1987, effective July 1, 1987, 17 Pa.B. 2464; amended July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended August 24, 1990, effective September 24, 1990, 20 Pa.B. 4488; amended May 3, 1991, effective July 1, 1991, 21 Pa.B. 2009; amended November 20, 1992, effective July 1, 1993, 22 Pa.B. 5608; amended March 13, 1998, effective March 14, 1998, 28 Pa.B. 1316; amended May 19, 2000, effective May 20, 2000, 30 Pa.B. 2475; amended June 8, 2001, effective June 9, 2001, 31 Pa.B. 2926; amended July 16, 2004, effective July 17, 2004, 34 Pa.B. 3715. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (296685).

§ 143.56. Penalties.

- (a) A person violating this chapter shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay the fine prescribed in the act.
- (b) Hunting antlerless deer or killing an antlerless deer with an invalid license constitutes hunting or killing deer without a license.

Authority

The provisions of this § 143.56 issued under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 101—2965; amended under the Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S. § § 2102(a) and 2722(g)(2).

Source

The provisions of this § 143.56 adopted July 7, 1989, effective July 8, 1989, 19 Pa.B. 2956; amended July 16, 2004, effective July 17, 2004, 34 Pa.B. 3715. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (296685) to (296686).

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