

Bill No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Requested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Drafted by: Tracy  
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Stored – 11/08/17  
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By: **Delegate Flanagan**

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Howard County – Deer Hunting**

3 **Ho. Co. 16–18**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to  
5 hunt deer on certain property during a certain time period on Sundays in Howard  
6 County, subject to certain provisions of law; establishing for archery hunters in  
7 Howard County a safety zone of a certain size within which archery hunting may not  
8 take place except under certain circumstances; establishing that archery hunters in  
9 the county may hunt in certain areas only under certain circumstances; and  
10 generally relating to deer hunting in Howard County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Natural Resources  
13 Section 10–410(a)(1), (10), and (11)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

16 BY adding to  
17 Article – Natural Resources  
18 Section 10–410(a)(12)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

2 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
3 Article – Natural Resources  
4 Section 10–410(g)  
5 Annotated Code of Maryland  
6 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

7 Preamble

8 WHEREAS, Deer/vehicle collisions pose a significant threat to personal property and  
9 safety and are a particularly painful and inhumane way for deer to die; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2016 1,381 deer were killed by vehicles in Howard County; and

11 WHEREAS, Maryland is considered a high–risk state for deer/vehicle collisions,  
12 which negatively impacts motor vehicle insurance rates; and

13 WHEREAS, Deer/vehicle collisions result in significant costs to State and local  
14 jurisdictions in the form of accident response and the disposal and refrigeration of deer  
15 carcasses; and

16 WHEREAS, The overpopulation of deer poses a danger to people by contributing to  
17 the spread of Lyme disease; and

18 WHEREAS, The overpopulation of deer results in millions of dollars in crop damage  
19 statewide; and

20 WHEREAS, Sunday deer hunting and managed deer hunts assist the Department  
21 of Natural Resources in controlling the deer population; now, therefore,

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Natural Resources**

25 10–410.



1                   B.     On private land only on one Sunday designated by the  
2 Department during deer bow hunting season; and

3                   C.     On private land only on one Sunday designated by the  
4 Department during the firearms season.

5                   **(12) (I)     THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES ONLY IN HOWARD COUNTY.**

6                   **(II)     SUBJECT TO § 10-415 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE**  
7 **DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER ON A SUNDAY THROUGHOUT**  
8 **THE DEER HUNTING SEASON ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, SUBJECT TO § 10-411 OF THIS**  
9 **SUBTITLE.**

10                  **(III)     THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALLOW A PERSON TO HUNT DEER**  
11 **ON A SUNDAY UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH ONLY FROM 30 MINUTES BEFORE SUNRISE**  
12 **UNTIL 10:30 A.M.**

13           (g)     (1)     Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a  
14 person, other than the owner or occupant, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal may  
15 not shoot or discharge any firearm or other deadly weapon within 150 yards, known as the  
16 “safety zone”, of a dwelling house, residence, church, or other building or camp occupied by  
17 human beings, or shoot at any wild bird or mammal while it is within this area, without  
18 the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

19                   (2)     A person, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal, may not shoot or  
20 discharge any firearm within 300 yards of a public or nonpublic school during school hours  
21 or at a time when a school-approved activity is taking place.

22                   (3)     (i)     For archery hunters in Calvert County, Carroll County,  
23 Frederick County, Harford County, Montgomery County, or St. Mary’s County, the safety  
24 zone described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 50 yards from a dwelling  
25 house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

26                   (ii)     For archery hunters in Anne Arundel County **OR HOWARD**  
27 **COUNTY**, the safety zone described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 100  
28 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by  
29 human beings.

1                   (4)     During any open hunting season, a person, other than the owner or  
2 occupant, may not hunt or chase willfully any wild bird or mammal within the safety zone  
3 without the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

4                   (5)     **(I)**     In Harford County or Montgomery County, an archery hunter  
5 shall use a tree stand when hunting any wild bird or mammal within 50 to 100 yards of a  
6 dwelling house, residence, church, public or nonpublic school, or other building or camp  
7 occupied by human beings.

8                                 **(II)     IN HOWARD COUNTY, AN ARCHERY HUNTER MAY HUNT ANY**  
9 **WILD BIRD OR MAMMAL WITHIN 100 TO 150 YARDS OF A DWELLING HOUSE,**  
10 **RESIDENCE, CHURCH, OR ANY OTHER BUILDING OR CAMP OCCUPIED BY HUMAN**  
11 **BEINGS UNDER PARAGRAPH (3)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION ONLY ON LAND THAT IS**  
12 **USED AS PART OF A MANAGED HUNT CONDUCTED IN COORDINATION WITH THE**  
13 **HOWARD COUNTY RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT.**

14                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
15 1, 2018.