

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**SENATE BILL**

No. **77** Session of  
2015

INTRODUCED BY ALLOWAY, BROWNE AND SCARNATI, JANUARY 14, 2015

REFERRED TO GAME AND FISHERIES, JANUARY 14, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 34 (Game) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in special licenses and permits, further providing  
3 for dog training areas.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 2941 of Title 34 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 2941. Dog training areas.

9 (a) Establishment.--Upon the application of 20 or more  
10 citizens of this Commonwealth, the commission may issue a permit  
11 to the applicants authorizing the establishment and maintenance,  
12 on land owned by them or over which they have legal control, of  
13 a special dog training area where dogs may be trained at any  
14 time during the entire year and field trials may be conducted  
15 without the necessity of securing a field trial permit. No such  
16 dog training area shall be less than [100] 50 acres nor more  
17 than 250 acres. Permits shall not be issued for more than ten  
18 special dog training areas in any one county. Persons training  
19 dogs in established dog training areas shall not be required to

1 have a hunting or furtaking license.

2 (b) Training periods.--At any time during the year,  
3 permittees or guests may train their dogs or the dogs of other  
4 persons on the designated dog training area.

5 (c) Hunting and furtaking restrictions.--[Neither the  
6 permittees nor any other person shall at any time hunt or take  
7 furbearers within the confines of the dog training area. The  
8 permittees, or any person authorized by them, may hunt or trap  
9 unprotected game or wildlife for the purpose of population  
10 control. A permit must be secured from the director permitting  
11 the removal of any protected game or wildlife.] Hunting or  
12 trapping of a furbearer or other protected game animal by the  
13 permittee or any other person authorized in writing by the  
14 permittee may occur during seasons established by the  
15 commission.

16 (d) Big game hunting may be permitted.--Hunting of big game  
17 may be permitted on dog training areas during seasons fixed by  
18 the commission. [Action of the permittees to permit big game  
19 hunting shall be conspicuously posted in the vicinity of the  
20 area at least two weeks prior to any such season.] A person may  
21 not hunt big game on a dog training area without permission from  
22 the permittee, unless the area is conspicuously posted open to  
23 the public for big game hunting.

24 (e) Marking boundary.--[The boundary line of a special dog  
25 training area shall be plainly and conspicuously posted prior to  
26 October 1 of each year with legible notices at least 10 by 12  
27 inches in size, placed in such a manner that any intruder is  
28 warned of the purpose of the area and bearing such information  
29 as the commission may require.] A roadway, vehicle entrance or  
30 pedestrian pathway entering or bordering a dog training area

1 must be posted prior to October 1 of each year with either a  
2 legible notice to warn a trespasser of the purpose of the area  
3 or by legible no trespassing signs endorsed by the permittee.  
4 The endorsement must note the purpose of the area.

5 (f) Unlawful acts.--It is unlawful to:

6 (1) Permit, or through negligence permit, dogs to  
7 disturb game or wildlife on a dog training area contrary to  
8 the provisions of this section.

9 (2) Trap for any game or wildlife on a dog training area  
10 without [a permit] written permission from the permittees.

11 (3) Willfully, negligently or maliciously cut, remove,  
12 cover up, deface or otherwise mutilate, injure or destroy any  
13 special dog training area boundary fence or wire or poster  
14 placed in accordance with the provisions of this section[.]  
15 or willfully, negligently or maliciously destroy, vandalize  
16 or remove any equipment, vegetation, buildings or other  
17 facilities within the dog training area.

18 (3.1) Willfully, negligently or maliciously kill, maim,  
19 injure or interfere with a dog engaged in training or field  
20 trials within a permitted dog training area or willfully,  
21 negligently or maliciously interfere with a person training  
22 dogs or participating in field trial events or lawfully  
23 engaged in hunting or trapping within a permitted dog  
24 training area.

25 (3.2) Enter onto a posted dog training area without the  
26 written permission of the permittee for any purpose.

27 (4) Violate any other provision of this section.

28 (g) Penalty.--A violation of this section is a summary  
29 offense of the fifth degree.

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.