

Agricultural Deer Program Changes Adopted

By Rep. Joe Emrick

The Pennsylvania Game Commission has adopted four changes to the agency's agricultural deer control permit program, which allows farmers to address deer damage through hunters harvesting additional antlerless deer on enrolled farms and in longer hunting seasons. The program aims to expand accessibility to agricultural deer depredation programs and provide opportunities to hunters.

Most notably, the rule limiting hunters to four agricultural deer permits, also known as "ag tags" or "red tags," to harvest antlerless deer for any particular property is removed. Additionally, the time frame during which the tags can be used is more than doubled. A brief closure will be held during the peak of fawning season in spring and early summer.

With ag tags now permitted during regular deer seasons, hunters using those tags will be limited to using the sporting arms allowed in those seasons. Otherwise, hunters may use any lawful sporting arm.

Finally, those who apply to enroll their farms in the program will be required only to certify they are the owner or lessee of both the agricultural interest adversely affected by deer damage and the hunting rights to be covered by the permit. Previously, to be eligible, applicants had to supply a deed or a lease agreement.



It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

By Turning Point of Lehigh Valley

Our work with youth is a daily reminder that the environments we create at home, in schools, and in communities have a profound impact on how young people grow, see themselves, and understand the world around them.

In our empowerment groups, like I AM HER and SPACES, we often ask questions such as:

"What does it mean to you be a man?"

"What does it mean to you to be a woman?"

These questions open up honest, emotional conversations around gender, identity, expectations, and societal pressures. And what we hear from students tells us something important: young people are carrying a lot, and they're deeply affected by the messages and models they see every day.

That's why prevention is more than just education—it's about being present. It's about listening. It's about creating safe, consistent spaces where youth feel seen and supported. When we provide places where they can talk openly, explore healthy vs. unhealthy patterns, and build emotional tools, we help them thrive—not just survive.

As we continue partnering with schools and youth-serving organizations, we invite you to reflect with us:

What messages are we giving our youth about identity and relationships?

Are we creating a village that nurtures them—or one that leaves them to figure it out alone?

Let's continue building spaces where young people feel safe, heard, and valued. That's where real change begins.



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&

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WARREN COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
31 BELVIDERE AVENUE
WASHINGTON, NJ 07882
office@habitatnwnj.org**

VISIT www.NJHRC.gov FOR MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

APPLICATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL JUNE 13, 2025

(Mortgage Application Fee is \$20)

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