

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

BASIC HUNTER-TRAPPER EDUCATION

By law, all first-time hunters and trappers, regardless of age, must successfully complete Hunter-Trapper Education training before they can buy a Pennsylvania hunting or trapping license. A training certificate, which is recognized throughout North America, is awarded when you pass a test at the end of the course. You must be at least 11 years old to enroll in a class. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children. The training is designed to produce safe, responsible, knowledgeable and involved participants. Hunter education is rooted in concepts of firearm safety, but has grown to include important training in ethical behavior and showing respect for others and the resource. The program provides instruction in basic techniques plus a host of hunting, trapping and outdoor skills all designed to enhance a new participant's knowledge and enjoyment of wildlife and our hunting and trapping heritage.

The results of this program are remarkable. Since 1959, hunting-related shooting incidents have declined drastically. Hunting is safe and getting safer, thanks to hunter education.

TRAINING OPTIONS

Complete your training in a classroom. Register for a class using the Hunter Education Class Calendar. Use the Today's Hunter & Trapper in Pennsylvania study guide to complete the independent-study portion your class. You can register to take a 6-hour class requiring some pre-class independent study or an 8-hour class requiring some pre-class independent study and a skill-station format.

Complete your training entirely online. This option is available only to students 16 years of age and older. This course can be taken on any device, including smart phones, tablets, and computers. Simply complete the Pennsylvania online course, print your temporary hunter education certificate (your permanent one will be delivered by mail), buy your license, and hit the field!

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INCLUDE?

- Responsible hunting behavior
- Basic firearm knowledge and safe handling
- Wildlife conservation and management
- Outdoor safety and survival
- Basic and advanced hunting techniques
- Trapping and furtaking basics
- Basic shooting and safe hunting skills
- Expanding your hunting opportunities