

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

WHEREAS, Maryland has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and fishing, that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and

WHEREAS, Hunting and fishing continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and in recent years have offered a growing number of participants an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level while simultaneously providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency, and both mental and physical health benefits; and

WHEREAS, Maryland's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat, and through their license fees and grant monies generated from the purchase of hunting and fishing equipment largely fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, More than 700,000 anglers and hunters support the state's economy through their spending; fishing and boating activities contributed approximately \$700 million to Maryland's economy last year alone; and

WHEREAS, According to the most recent data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, on the national level, sportsmen and women spent more than \$41 billion on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, which does not include spending on items such as trips and travel, or license fees that were necessary for their participation; this spending helps fuel the outdoor economy, which comprised 1.9 percent of Maryland's GDP that same year; and

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 26, 2026, as NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 26th day of September
Two Thousand and twenty-six



Wes Moore
Governor
Dwaine Miller
Lt. Governor
Heaven E. Lee
Secretary of State