

Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. Inc.



A Foxhunter's Rights and Obligations.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR DOG RUNS ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY:

Contact the landowner and ask permission to retrieve your dog(s).

If you cannot contact the landowner **do not** assume permission.

If the landowner refuses permission, contact your local police, state police or WCO to assist in the matter. Note: Legally, even law enforcement cannot enter onto private property without permission.

The only time that they may enter without permission is if exigent circumstances are present. Otherwise a search warrant must be obtained.

WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE INTERFERES WITH YOUR HUNT:

Contact your Wildlife Conservation Officer. Sec. 2302 of the Game Law prohibits the interference with the lawful taking of wildlife or other activities permitted by this title. It is unlawful for another person at the location where the activity is taking place to intentionally obstruct or interfere with the lawful taking of wildlife or other activities.

These types of activities may also constitute charges such as: Disorderly Conduct and Harassment.

Review the circumstances with Local or State Police to determine if additional charges may apply.

WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE REMOVES A COLLAR FROM YOUR DOG:

If your hound's collar (any type collar) has been removed, stolen etc., the Game Commission has jurisdiction, **under regulation 2302 - disruption of a legal hunt.**

Contact your local WCO for assistance.

If you are receiving a signal from a parked vehicle, residence or building, stress the urgency of response time since battery life may be limited.

Note: If it can be proven that your collar has been stolen, charges may also be brought under the criminal code, through the local District Attorney, with increased penalties. A new procedure developed by the PA Game Commission has been provided to WCO's for guidance in such cases.

Report a Violation:

Suspects Name:

Hunting License #:

Vehicle:

Vehicle Registration:

Date:

Time:

Location:

Witnesses:

Other Parties Involved:

Remarks:

**WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE
SHOOTS YOUR DOG:**

Contact your Local Police, State Police, Wildlife Conservation Officer and the county PSPCA. Ask them to respond to the scene.

Attempt to gather persons or vehicle information that may be pertinent to the case.

Begin to gather evidence to support your case that the shooting was unjustified.

This may include:

Photographing the footprints (if applicable) where the dog was shot.

Photographing the footprints (if applicable) of the game it was chasing, even if the dog was chasing, pursuing or following the track of big game (as described by the Game Commission).

Photographing the crime scene. This may establish that the hound(s) did not catch or attack the game.

The killing of a hound should be investigated/prosecuted by the PSPCA in your county, under Title 18 Chapter 55 Section 5511 Cruelty to Animals. Local police officers can bring charges as well.

Members of the PA State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. are reminded to call Dick Bednarczyk promptly (570)586-9270, if you are ever victimized in this manner.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this handout has been compiled by the **Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. Inc.** and is provided to our members as a resource. While the Association cannot represent an individual or provide legal counsel, we welcome the opportunity to provide general guidance and direction where appropriate.

This brochure is intended as an immediate starting point, in the event a hunter encounters an applicable situation. Game laws and civil laws covering these situations are often vague, conflicting or duplicative and may fall under a wide variety of jurisdictions. It would be futile for the Association to attempt to synthesize the regulations beyond this point.

The Pennsylvania State Fox & Coyote Hunter's Assn. was established in 1936 and continues to gain membership participation and enrollment. We are the primary advocate for the foxhunter with the PA Game Commission and related agencies. We strive to make the sport of foxhunting and field trialing available to everyone and take the necessary steps needed to preserve the tradition and heritage of hunting with hounds.

Anyone interested in becoming a member and enjoying the benefits may contact:

Dick Bednarczyk (570) 586-9270 dick.bednarczyk@epix.net

Kipp Adcock (570) 842-5477 -or- (570) 840-1086 foxhunterkipp@verizon.net