

FAQ - The Outdoor Heritage Act

1. What is the Outdoor Heritage Act?

The legislation creates an Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council and establishes a trust fund to engage and promote youth participation in the outdoors; amends some wildlife regulations; and provides for Sunday hunting with firearms on private property, with some restrictions.

2. When does this act take effect?

The [Outdoor Heritage Act](#), signed into law July 8, will take effect October 1, 2015. Details will be included in the 2015-2016 North Carolina Inland Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Regulations Digest, which will be available August 1.

3. What responsibilities will be assigned to the Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council?

The eleven-member Council will advise State agencies and the General Assembly on the promotion of outdoor recreational activities, including, but not limited to, fishing, horseback riding, camping, hiking and bird watching in order to preserve North Carolina's outdoor heritage for future generations.

4. Where does the money come from for the North Carolina Outdoor Heritage Trust Fund?

The act provides for the receipt of funds through check-off donations of not more than \$2.00 by persons paying for transactions processed through the Commission, including, but not limited to, hunting and fishing licenses or paying outdoor access fees issued by other organizations. Private organizations and citizens may also donate to the Trust Fund.

5. How will the North Carolina Outdoor Heritage Trust Fund be used?

The North Carolina Outdoor Heritage Trust Fund will provide for the expansion of opportunities for youth, ages 16 and younger, to engage in outdoor recreational activities in order to pass on North Carolina's outdoor heritage to future generations.

6. When can I begin hunting on Sundays with a firearm?

October 1, 2015, with exceptions as stated below.

7. Is Sunday hunting allowed on public land?

No, Sunday hunting with firearms in North Carolina is permitted on private property only.

8. What exceptions are outlined in the Outdoor Heritage Act?

Sunday hunting with firearms on private property will be allowed, provided the hunter has written permission from the landowner, with the following exceptions:

- Hunting on Sunday between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. is prohibited, except on controlled, licensed hunting preserves.
- Hunting of all migratory birds is prohibited on Sunday.
- The use of a firearm to take deer run by dogs is prohibited.
- Hunting within 500 yards of a place of worship or within 500 yards of a place of residence not owned by the landowner is prohibited on Sunday.
- Sunday hunting with the use of a firearm is prohibited in Wake and Mecklenburg counties.

9. Can I hunt waterfowl, dove and other migratory birds on Sundays?

No, hunting of all migratory birds is prohibited on Sundays.

10. Can I hunt deer with dogs on Sundays?

The use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs on Sunday is prohibited.

11. How does this affect archery and falconry?

Archery and falconry are not affected by the Outdoor Heritage Act. Since September 2010, North Carolinians have been hunting on Sundays on private lands by falconry and with archery equipment. The act addresses manner of take with a firearm only.