



Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association

An association of commercial vegetable, potato and berry growers.

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2019 Policy Resolutions

The Members of the Association recently adopted these additions to our Policy Resolutions putting the Association on record as:

State Issues

1. Supporting the adoption of federal guidelines by state pertaining to withholding from employees and employer contributions to the unemployment compensation (UC) fund when employing H-2A workers
2. Supporting a right to repair law, requiring manufactures to sell repair parts, make diagnostic tools and repair information available to the public and require manufactures to provide a way to get around proprietary software locks that are designed to prevent repair.
3. Supporting provisions for farmers to contract licensed hunters to harvest deer for crop damage.
4. Supporting allowances that persons lawfully killing deer for crop damage, that will not be utilized for food consumption, not be required to: a. Provide cold storage for compliance with standards of "safekeeping" b. Perform field dressing or gutting. and c. Surrender deer harvested."
5. Supporting the following requirements/restrictions if Sunday hunting expansion were to become law:
 - a. Trespass laws be amended to address Pennsylvania Farm Bureau "trespass policy";
 - b. Hunting be allowed only with written private landowner permission;
 - c. Hunting for deer be allowed "on state game lands and state forests with "No Sunday Hunting" signage provided at no charge for adjacent private lands at the owner's request;
 - d. Hunting be expanded to include antlerless deer and woodchuck only on Sundays;
 - e. Sunday hunting for antlerless deer be limited to:
 - i. 1st Sunday of archery,
 - ii. 1st Sunday of flintlock,
 - iii. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday after the Thanksgiving holiday.
6. Supporting restrictions that no more than two antlerless deer tags be issued per hunter and the issued permits be filled before obtaining additional tags.
7. Supporting the addition of wild cucumber, autumn olive, sow thistle, water hemlock, ailanthus, common teasel, wild teasel, Japanese knotweed, marestail, and bamboo to the noxious weed list, with 90 percent cost-sharing for eradication on private land.
8. Opposing any requirements for the certification of persons authorized to apply commercial manufactured fertilizer and agricultural minerals for agricultural purposes.

Federal Issues

1. Supporting efforts to better coordinate the responses of Food and Drug Administration, the Center for Disease Control, the United States Department of Agriculture and state and local agencies to food safety outbreaks.
2. Supporting the creation of an independent body similar to the National Transportation Safety Board to investigate food safety outbreaks with the goal of more quickly and systematically determining the root source of the outbreak so that contaminated food can be removed from the marketplace with minimal disruption of the market for uncontaminated food.