



TREASURER'S OFFICE

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Good Morning, I would like to thank Representative Staback and all the other members of the Game and Fisheries Committee, for giving me this opportunity to speak to you this morning. The Point Of Sale system implemented by the Game Commission has for the most part been very good. I certainly do not miss hand writing all the information on the licenses. I feel these first months of using the Point of Sale system has been a learning experience for the Treasurers. As for the antlerless deer process, there was a lot of anxiety because we did not know how many licenses we would receive in our offices. For that reason, I did not get approval ahead of time for extra help. When we received almost 2600 envelopes the first three days, I did go to the County Commissioners. Only two of the Commissioners were present at the Meeting, and our Chairman told me not to get excited, that I could handle it, not taking into consideration that the hunter was expecting, first come first served. I was already working with one less person in my office because of budget cuts the end of 2008.

My dedicated staff worked diligently to process as many licenses as possible. The next week I went back to the Commissioners and with the full board present I did get extra help.

So to the Game Commission personnel that stated we could get out of the licensing business, my issue was not as much with the Game Commission as it was with my County Commissioners.

You have to realize those prior years even though Wildlife Management Units sold out in two or three days, we had approx. six weeks to process them. This year, actually went a lot better than what I thought it would.

Someone could process three to four hundred a day and the popular areas did not sell out as quickly as I thought they would. We did have some issues when we would enter the CID# and the information was not correct. I think when the license was sold, and the driver's license was swiped; the fields were not filled in properly. When this happened in our office we corrected it, but as we were processing antlerless applications, we could see other sales outlet did not correct them.


My staff is very diligent in getting a hunter his doe license, many times we call them if to verify a WMU if we could not read it or if there name did not correspond with the CID# on the application. We also took the time to go on the Game Commission website to check on results for many hunters who called to check if they received their antlerless license. It was easier to look it up for them, then it was to explain to them where to find it.

One thing I would request on the website is a date when the antlerless license was awarded. This could be helpful when doing replacements.

Being a hunter myself, I know that most Pennsylvania hunters are true hunters. I have often been told by Outfitters from other States and Canada, that they know when a hunter from Pennsylvania books a hunt with them, he is a dedicated hunter and true sportsmen. There has been many times when my Husband and Myself have not been able to hunt out west because we did not get drawn for a license, sometimes it takes years.

Antlerless licensing is a service the Treasurer's office provides and it is a revenue for the County. It may be a very small portion of our budget, but every little bit helps. We also found that the majority of the applications we received were from our local area.

Thank You again for listening.
Respectfully,


Sallie A. Neuin
Lebanon County Treasurer