



June 28, 2011

Valley Mountain Bikers has volunteered in excess of 10,000 hours constructing and maintaining multi-use trails, removing trash, and promoting outdoor recreation in public parks in the Lehigh Valley region. These same parks (Salisbury Walking Purchase Park, Lake Nockamixon State Park, and Trexler Nature Preserve) include hunting as one of the permitted activities. We hope the following concerns are being factored into the debate over expanding hunting to include Sundays:

- We regularly schedule our volunteer workdays on Sundays, primarily so we do not interfere with hunting activities.
- Our volunteer efforts benefit all park users, including hunters.
- Our volunteer efforts lessen the burden to state and local governments as we maintain park amenities at no cost to the government or taxpayers.
- We encourage younger people to enjoy the outdoors, as we promote healthy outdoor recreation for people of all ages. Mountain biking and other forms of outdoor recreation are excellent combatants to obesity.
- All park users have limited time to enjoy their personal choice of outdoor activities. Unfortunately, many people feel it is not safe to recreate in areas of active hunting which limits their opportunity for outdoor recreation to Sundays during active hunting seasons.

All of the items listed above will be seriously impacted if hunting is expanded to included Sundays. Thank you for taking these items into consideration as you debate HB 1760.

Sincerely,

Valley Mountain Bikers

Valley Mountain Bikers is a Lehigh Valley based educational and charitable organization devoted to preserving and promoting the sport of mountain bicycling. Our 150 member Club is dedicated to encouraging and organizing volunteerism, and views the sport as a vehicle to promote healthy outdoor recreation, conservation, and trail use opportunities that are environmentally sustainable and socially responsible.