§11227. Placement of bait for hunting

- **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.
 - A. "Bait" means an animal or plant or a part of an animal or plant used to attract wild animals for the purpose of hunting. "Bait" does not include:
 - (1) A derivative of an animal or plant in a liquid or paste form, including but not limited to urine or commercially prepared lures or scents; or
 - (2) Packaging or container materials that fall within the definition of "litter" under Title 17, section 2263, subsection 2. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]
 - B. "Bait site" means the place where the bait has been placed and the immediate surrounding area. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

- **1-A. Prohibited bait.** Notwithstanding any authorization to use or place bait or bear bait under this Part, a person may not place a medicinal, poisonous or stupefying substance to entice an animal to that place. A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime. [PL 2015, c. 301, §18 (NEW).]
- **2. Placement of bait.** A person may not place or hunt over bait without the oral or written permission of the landowner or the landowner's agent. The bait site must be plainly labeled with a 2-inch-by-4-inch tag identifying the name and address of the person establishing the bait site. This subsection does not apply to bear baiting, which is governed by section 11301.
 - A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]
 - B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2011, c. 432, §1 (AMD).]

- **3. Hunting over another's bait.** A person may not hunt at a bait site established by another person unless that person has permission from the person that established the bait site.
 - A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]
 - B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

- **4. Bait site cleanup.** A person placing bait may not leave the bait or bait label at the bait site and must clean up the bait site immediately after the landowner requests the removal of that bait or, if not requested by the landowner, within 20 days from the last day the bait site was hunted over by the person that established the bait site.
 - A. A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 may be adjudged. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]
 - B. A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

5. Litter at bait sites. A person establishing a bait site under this section is subject to the littering provisions of Title 17, chapter 80.

[PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

6. Construction. Nothing in this section authorizes hunting of wild animals that is otherwise prohibited by law or rule.

[PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

- **7. Applicability.** This section does not apply to:
- A. Bear baiting under section 11301; or [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]
- B. Placing of bait on the ice of inland waters. [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).] [PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2009, c. 70, §1 (NEW). PL 2011, c. 432, §1 (AMD). PL 2015, c. 301, §18 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.