



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission Bureau of Law Enforcement

1-855-FISH-KIL

Frequently Asked Questions:

Is there a hotline that I can use to report a suspected pollution or major poaching event?

Yes. 1-855-FISH-KIL (1-855-347-4545)

What if I think it's an immediate threat to public safety or the environment?

If you believe it is an immediate threat to public safety or the environment, dial 911 or the Department of Environmental Protection's emergency number at 1-800-541-2050.

Can I use the hotline to ask other questions or to provide comments?

No. The number is to be used only for reporting suspected cases of pollution or serious poaching and is not meant for general inquiries related to license sales, boat registrations, or other agency issues. For nonemergency questions, please call or visit;

- Licensing – (877)707-4085
- Boat Registration/Titling – (866)262-8734
- Boating Safety Education Courses – (888)723-4741
- General Questions – (717)705-7800
- Frequently Asked Questions and electronic comments – [The Fishing Hole-fishandboat.com/AboutUs/Pages/ContactUs.aspx](http://TheFishingHole-fishandboat.com/AboutUs/Pages/ContactUs.aspx)

Is the hotline free?

Yes, the hotline is toll free.



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Where do the calls go?

Calls are routed to the PFBC's Bureau of Law Enforcement at the Commission's headquarters in Harrisburg.

What happens if I get a busy signal or no one answers when I call?

Staff from the Bureau of Law Enforcement will answer all calls received Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. weekdays or on weekends will be sent to voice mail, where you can leave your information. PFBC staff will review voice messages and respond as soon as possible.

What information should I provide when I call?

The more information you can provide us about the location of the incident, the easier it will be for our law enforcement officers to find the location and evaluate the situation. When you call between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays, our staff will ask you various questions, such as the time and date when you first noticed the incident and the location of the incident.

If you call on weekends or after 4 p.m. weekdays, you will be directed into voice mail. Please provide your name, a phone number where we can reach you, and as many details as you can about the incident, including the date and time that you saw the incident. The name of the county and municipality, and names of nearby streets, intersections and local landmarks can help us locate the site. Additionally, if you see a violator, a description and vehicle registration is extremely helpful.

Do I have to tell you my name and give you my phone number?

We would like you to provide your name and number so we can reach you if we have follow-up questions or have difficulty finding the location of the incident. However, it is entirely voluntary for you to provide the information and even if you do provide your information you can remain anonymous.



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After I report a possible incident, when will the PFBC respond?

We will evaluate the information you provide and will respond as soon as possible.

What can I do as a citizen to help the Commission investigate an incident?

Be a good witness but don't interact with a violator or attempt to collect evidence. You can be of great assistance by taking notes of important information such as the time, date and location of the incident. Write down and describe what you see such as a substance running into a waterway. If you see someone dumping something into a waterway or taking fish illegally, write down the description of the vehicle, driver, and license plate number. Take photographs.

IMPORTANT – For your safety, do not attempt to collect samples or contact a violator.

Who else can I contact to report a suspected pollution incident?

The toll-free hotline is intended to make it easy for the public to quickly report a suspected pollution incident to the Fish and Boat Commission. You can always contact the Commission's regional law enforcement offices as well. The regions and numbers are:

Northwest Region (Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and Warren Counties)

11528 State Highway 98, Meadville, PA 16335
(814)337-0444

Southwest Region (Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland counties)

239 Lake Road, Somerset, PA 15504
(814)445-8974



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Northcentral Region (Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Jefferson, Lycoming, McKean, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Tioga, and Union counties)

595 East Rolling Ridge Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814)359-5250

Southcentral Region (Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, and York counties)

1704 Pine Road, Newville, PA 17241
(717)486-7087

Northeast Region (Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming counties)

5566 Main Road, Sweet Valley, PA 18656
(570)477-5717

Southeast Region (Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill counties)

255 West Brubaker Valley Road, Lititz, PA 17543
(717)626-0228

Does the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) have a hotline?

Yes, 1-800-541-2050.

Is there a reward for a successful conviction of violations?

No.