

# Supporting Pennsylvania's Proud Sportsmen's Heritage

Pennsylvania has a long history of hunting, fishing, boating and other outdoor activities. Our sportsmen and women are some of Pennsylvania's strongest conservationists and have a vested interest in ensuring that we protect our environment to guarantee Pennsylvania's vast array of outdoor activities for generations to come. Pennsylvania is blessed with more than 1.6 million acres of state forest and game lands, along with hundreds of miles of scenic backpacking trails and bike paths. For anglers, Pennsylvania has some of the best fishing in the world, with nearly 16,000 miles of flowing waters, including 213 stocked trout streams totaling 1,370 miles and an additional 2,067 miles of wild trout streams. We have nearly 100 boat launches throughout the commonwealth offering a variety of boating opportunities for sport fishing, recreation or simply enjoying Pennsylvania's scenic vistas. For the more than two million hunters and anglers in Pennsylvania, the commonwealth offers a wide variety of outdoor recreational and sport activities for people of all ages.

As Governor, Tom Corbett will protect our strong sportsmen legacy and ensure that Pennsylvanians can continue to enjoy our public lands, wildlife resources and the hunting and fishing experiences many of us grew up to cherish. His plan to support Pennsylvania's sportsmen includes:

- Support Pennsylvania hunters
- Expand angler and boater opportunities
- Ensure conservationism
- Protect the Second Amendment

### **SUPPORT PENNSYLVANIA HUNTERS**

Pennsylvania has a long outdoor heritage and is one of the premier hunting locations in the country. Through our waterways, forests, countryside and mountains, Pennsylvania provided our nearly one million hunters with great sport hunting opportunities. As Governor, Tom

Corbett will support Pennsylvania hunters and serve as an advocate to growing hunting in the future.

- ✓ <u>Serve as an advocate for hunters</u>. Tom Corbett believes that hunters, shooters and other sportsmen and women play an important part in the state's economy and conservation future. He will strengthen the role of the Governor's Sportsmen's Advisory Council and will work with the council on all issues that affect the hunting and outdoor community.
- ✓ Promote greater outdoor participation among youth and adults. Tom Corbett recognizes that hunting license sales in Pennsylvania have decreased over the past eight years. As Governor, Tom Corbett will promote and work with the Pennsylvania Game Commission to expand hunting and outdoor opportunities. He also will encourage greater youth involvement in Pennsylvania's outdoor activities through online education efforts coordinated by the commission and the Governor's Office.
- ✓ <u>Support outdoor and hunting related education</u>. Initiatives such as adult and youth hunter education, mentoring youth hunting and creative new approaches to hunter recruitment and retention help to expose varied audiences to Pennsylvania's wildlife and hunting opportunities. These efforts also keep Pennsylvania a safe and enjoyable place to enjoy the great outdoors. As Governor, Tom Corbett will encourage and support outdoor education and hunter recruitment efforts to strengthen and secure Pennsylvania's hunting tradition.

## **EXPAND ANGLER AND BOATER OPPORTUNITIES IN PENNSYLVANIA**

Nearly one million Pennsylvanians enjoy the commonwealth's world-class fishing opportunities, and Pennsylvania anglers contribute nearly \$3.5 billion annually to the state's economy. Among our thousands of lakes and streams, locations like Lake Erie, Penn's Creek, the Yellow Breeches, Pine Creek, the Letort and Fishing creeks, and the Susquehanna, Delaware and Allegheny Rivers offer some of the best fishing in the country and the world. Tom Corbett is committed to protecting fishing opportunities in Pennsylvania and will continue his efforts to keep our waterways clean. He also is committed to working with and being an advocate for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and he will support the boating and angling community.

✓ Protect our waterways and environment during natural gas drilling. Tom Corbett will work to protect our environment as we develop the natural gas fields in Pennsylvania in an environmentally sound manner by strengthening the existing regulations for drilling and enacting new ones that will protect the commonwealth's land and water. Pennsylvania is blessed with abundant natural resources to be enjoyed by our residents, visitors and sportsmen and women. As Governor, Tom Corbett will do everything he can

- to protect them. (See Tom Corbett's Energy & Environmental policies for additional information)
- ✓ Expand public fishing opportunities. As Governor, Tom Corbett will support the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in its efforts to expand public fishing opportunities and access especially among our state's youth.
- ✓ <u>Support the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission</u>. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has an important mission to protect and conserve aquatic resources throughout the commonwealth and provide for fishing and boating opportunities. As Governor, Tom Corbett will support and work with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in its efforts to support Pennsylvania anglers.

## **ENSURE CONSERVATIONISM IN PENNSYLVANIA**

Pennsylvania's hunters, anglers and other outdoor recreationists have worked diligently to conserve and protect the commonwealth's natural resources, thereby enhancing the outdoor experience for everyone. As Governor, Tom Corbett will be a partner and advocate in conservationism and will work with sportsmen and women to ensure that future generations can enjoy Pennsylvania's natural resources.

- ✓ <u>Support Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation</u>. As Governor, Tom Corbett will support and maintain the Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation and the Governor's Sportsman Advisor. This advisor serves an important role in supporting sportsmen and women throughout the commonwealth by fostering communication between the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the sportsmen's community and environmental advocacy groups. This cooperative approach will help to meet and to solve challenges and issues facing natural resource and wildlife management.
- ✓ <u>Maintain Pennsylvania's farmland preservation program</u>. Pennsylvania has been a national leader in farmland preservation, and as Governor, Tom Corbett will support those efforts through more efficient employment of traditional farmland preservation funding streams.
- ✓ Continue acid mine drainage abatement efforts. Tom Corbett will work to continue the acid mine drainage abatement programs and ensure that federal funds are spent wisely.
- ✓ <u>Maintain the Clean & Green program</u>. Tom Corbett will maintain the Clean and Green program, which helps to protect wildlife habitat and promotes sound natural resource management.

✓ <u>Prioritize sound land use and smart growth</u>. Continuing his commitment to conservation, Tom Corbett will promote sound land use practices and smart growth opportunities wherever possible.

## PROTECT THE SECOND AMENDMENT

Tom Corbett is a strong supporter of the Second Amendment and is a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association (NRA), which endorsed him on his two previous statewide campaigns and in his current run for Governor. He received an A+ rating from the NRA and also was endorsed by "Firearms Owners Against Crime" in his campaign for Governor, along with his two previous statewide campaigns. Tom Corbett signed on an amicus brief in support of our fundamental right under the Second Amendment in the U.S. Supreme Court case regarding Chicago's hand gun ban in *McDonald v. City of Chicago*. He also was involved in another federal case in 2008 and was successful in urging the high court to strike down Washington D.C.'s 32-year-old ban on handguns in *DC v. Heller*. Tom Corbett once again defended the rights of lawful firearm owners by sending a letter to every district attorney in the commonwealth alerting them that local governments do not have the authority to regulate firearm ownership in Pennsylvania and that as Attorney General he would protect the rights of lawful gun owners.

Tom Corbett believes in the right of all Pennsylvanians to keep and bear arms and, as Governor, he will continue to be a strong supporter of the Second Amendment.