



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 57
[2005 Assembly Bill 93]

**Using A Flashlight
While Hunting Coyotes**

Current law, subject to certain exceptions, prohibits the use or possession with intent to use a light for the purpose of shining wild animals while the person is hunting or in possession of a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow. The current statute provides that a person is shining an animal if the person is casting rays of light on an area for the purpose of illuminating, locating, or attempting to illuminate or locate wild animals. The current statute also prohibits, with exceptions, a person from using or possessing with intent to use a light for shining wild animals between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. from September 15 to December 31, whether or not the person is hunting with a weapon. The current statutes include several exceptions. Among these exceptions is an authorization for a person who possesses a flashlight or uses a flashlight at the point of kill while hunting on foot raccoons, foxes, or other unprotected animals during the open season for the animals hunted.

Act 57 expands this exception to allow a person to possess a flashlight or use a flashlight at the point of kill while hunting on foot coyotes during the open season for hunting coyotes.

Effective Date: Act 57 took effect on December 31, 2005.

Prepared by: Mark C. Patronsky, Senior Staff Attorney

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MCP:tlujal

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.