

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §20-2-5K

§20-2-5k. Use of air rifles to hunt.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, any person lawfully entitled to hunt may hunt with an air rifle during small game and big game firearms season: *Provided*, That air rifles may only be used for deer hunting in counties open to firearm deer hunting.
- (b) An air rifle may not be substituted for a muzzleloader during any muzzleloader season or during the Mountaineer Heritage season.
- (c) No person may be afield with an air rifle and bow, or with an air rifle or any arrow at the same time.
- (d) No person may hunt with an air bow at any time.
- (e) Any person hunting with an air rifle is subject to all other rifle and firearm hunting regulations according to this chapter and rules promulgated thereunder.
- (f) Only air rifles meeting the following specifications may be used for hunting big game:
- (1) No person may hunt big game with an air rifle of less than .45 caliber and with a bullet of less than 200 grains, except that wild turkey may be hunted with an air rifle of .22 caliber or larger.
 - (2) No person may hunt small game with an air rifle of less than .22 caliber.
- (g) Air rifles may be shot within 500 feet of a dwelling.