

Regulations in red are new this year.

DEER PERMITS ARE VALID for the 2015–16 hunting season. New Jersey sporting licenses are valid for the calendar year and expire on Dec. 31. Beaver and river otter trapping permits are valid for the 2015–16 trapping season. For permit and license fees, see page 1.

Licenses

All persons hunting or trapping must be properly licensed. It is unlawful for any person age 10 or older to hunt without a hunting license. (See *Farmer License Exemption*, this page.) It is unlawful for any person age 12 or older to trap without a trapping license. Hunting licenses are valid for the calendar year and expire on Dec. 31 regardless of the purchase date. See page 1 for license and permit fees. See page 10 for youth license information. To acquire your first New Jersey hunting license (firearm, bow and arrow), present to a license agent (see list, page 20) either an appropriate hunter education course completion card or a resident (firearm or bow and arrow) license from this or any other state. The automated

license system will allow subsequent hunting license purchases for that sporting arm to be purchased by phone or online or at any license agent. All hunters and trappers must openly display their license in the middle of the back on their outer clothing and must show their license to any law enforcement officer or any person requesting to see it. Farmers hunting their own land must also display any deer season permit.

Licenses, permits and stamps may be purchased using Fish and Wildlife's Internet sales site (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com), via your smartphone or other mobile device, from approved license agents listed on page 20, or by calling (888) 773-8450. Permits with a designated zone or hunting season must be purchased at a license agent. See also *Non-resident* and *Resident Licenses*, page 10.

Do NOT heat laminate the durable license or permit. High temperature will destroy these waterproof, heat-sensitive documents.

Child Support Certifications

The "Child Support Program Improvement Act" requires Fish and Wildlife to collect and maintain Social Security numbers and a child support

obligation certification from license applicants and to make the collection of this information part of the license application. To comply, Fish and Wildlife, working with the Division of Law in the Office of the Attorney General, created the Supplemental License Application available on the Fish and Wildlife website at NJFishandWildlife.com/child_support_info.htm or at license agents.

The online child support application allows an individual to be certified from the privacy of their home. Once completed—either over the Internet or at a license agent—the certification remains valid for the calendar year in which the certification was completed.

Farmer License Exemption

A farmer and members of the immediate family (see definition under *Farmer Regulations*, page 28) who also reside on the farm may hunt, trap and fish on the farm without being licensed or possessing a valid rifle permit. For details, see *Farmer Hunting and Permit Information*, page 28.

All farmers must have a Conservation Identification number (CID#). Register online now for a free CID# at www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. No purchase is required.

Hunter and Trapper Education Requirements

New Jersey requires that everyone, age 10 and above, applying to hunt with a firearm or bow must show a previous resident license of the appropriate type from this or any state, or a course completion card from the appropriate hunter education course. Anyone, age 12 and above, applying to trap furbearing animals must show a previous resident trapping license from this or any state, or a trapper education course completion card. See also *Youth Licenses*, page 10.

The New Jersey Hunter Education Program is offered as a home study, video-based course. Students may obtain course materials at most license agents and Fish and Wildlife field offices or download from our website. After completing an extensive homework assignment, the student will choose from a list of testing facilities and dates to complete their hunter education course. For more Hunter Education Program details, including course material availability, facility locations, dates and course registration, go to Fish and Wildlife's website at NJFishandWildlife.com/hunted.htm or call (877) 2HUNTJ (248-6865).

Trapper education courses are offered four times throughout the state in the months of September and October. To enroll in a trapper education course, go to the Fish and Wildlife website or call (877) 2HUNTJ to register.

Note: Devices accessing the mobile version of our website must click on "full site" to register for a Hunter Education course.

Lost Licenses

A license, permit or stamp can be replaced at any license agent, at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site, www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com, via your mobile device or by calling (888) 773-8450. Licenses and permits which contain Harvest Report stubs

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Disabled Veteran Licenses, Stamps & Permits

Free hunting and fishing licenses, stamps and permits are available for resident disabled veterans.

For the purposes of this program, legislation defines disabled veterans as "...any resident of New Jersey who has been honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active service from any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and who has been declared by the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, or its successor, to have a service-connected disability of any degree..."

New applicant disabled veterans may obtain their hunting and fishing licenses and stamps by FIRST CALLING before going to one of the following Fish and Wildlife field offices to ensure that staff will be available to assist you:

- Pequest Trout Hatchery/Natural Resource Ed. Ctr, Oxford, Warren Co., (908) 637-4125;
- Central Region Office, Upper Freehold Twp., Monmouth Co., (609) 259-2132;
- Southern Region Office, Sicklerville, Camden Co., (856) 629-0090.

Call before going to one of these offices to ensure that staff will be available to assist you. Applications for disabled veteran certification and your first disabled veteran license may be made via the mail by sending the application and all required documentation to:

NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Attn: Disabled Veteran Licensing
MC 501-03, PO Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

All licenses, stamps and permits for which the veteran is eligible will be free of charge. Disabled Vet status does not give preferential treatment in any lottery. For questions call (609) 984-6213.

Disabled Veteran Applicants:

1. Documentation of current benefits for a service-connected disability and proof of honorable discharge (such as a copy of your DD-214, VA card or monthly check stub) must be presented to obtain a free disabled veteran license.
2. Applicant must provide a hunter education (archery, shotgun or rifle) course certificate applicable to the license for which he or she is applying or a previously issued resident archery or firearm license or rifle permit. Resident licenses from other states issued to hunters prior to establishing residency in New Jersey will be accepted if the license indicates the sporting arm for which it was valid. Non-resident licenses from other states are not acceptable.
3. To obtain the free disabled veteran deer/turkey permits one must *first* have a **free** disabled veteran hunting license.

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can be duplicated at license agents or on the Internet sales site only twice. All subsequent duplicates of these license and permit types must be handled in person at Fish and Wildlife regional offices or the Pequest Natural Resource Education Center. The Trenton office is no longer open to the public for license and permit sales. A \$2 fee is charged for each duplicate license/permit.

National Guard Licenses

Eligible National Guard personnel are entitled to free sporting licenses, permits and stamps. These privileges are not available using Fish and Wildlife's website. However, the NJ Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs can issue fishing licenses through their DMAVA website at www.nj.gov/military/fishing_application.html. For all other free sporting licenses, call (609) 530-6866, e-mail or write to: MSG (Ret.) Robert Greco, NJ DMAVA, 101 Eggert Crossing Rd., Lawrenceville, NJ 08648.

Non-resident Licenses

Non-residents must show either a resident license from their state or proof of successfully completing an appropriate hunter education course in order to obtain a license to hunt or trap in New Jersey. (See *License Information and Fees*, page 1 for license types and also *Youth Licenses, Resident and Non-resident*, this page.) Non-immigrant aliens who temporarily import firearms to the United States must first obtain an application for the permit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). For importation of firearms, use both forms ATF F 5330.3A and 3B. The approval may take up to 12 weeks. Contact ATF's New Jersey field office at (609) 989-2142 or download forms from their website at <http://www.atf.gov/content/firearms/firearms-industry/guides/conditional-importation>.

Non-resident hunters: see also *Non-resident Game Removal*, page 25. For more information on non-resident hunting, go to NJFishandWildlife.com/nonrshnt.htm.

Military Licenses, Active Duty

Any person on active duty in the armed services, regardless of their current residency, may buy a New Jersey resident hunting license. Present a previous resident license (from this or any other state) of the appropriate type or show proof to the license agent of successful completion of the appropriate hunter education course along with proof of your current active duty status in the armed services.

One-day License

A one-day license may be issued for hunting on a licensed commercial shooting preserve. This license may be obtained at the shooting preserve and is valid only on the day issued for the species covered by the preserve's license. Hunter education requirements still apply.

Resident Licenses

A resident license may be purchased if one currently resides in—and has resided in—the state for at least six months immediately prior to application.

Revocation of Licenses

Anyone convicted of a second fish and game violation within a period of five years will have their New Jersey hunting and fishing privileges revoked for two years. Certain violations carry greater periods of revocation, ranging from three years to lifetime revocation. Two convictions of any wildlife management area regulation will result in a five-year revocation of all sporting privileges. Two convictions of the following will result in lifetime revocation: safety zone violation, causing damage to real or personal property and negligent use of a firearm or bow. Fish and Wildlife may revoke any permit or other authorization issued for violation or due cause.

Youth Licenses, Resident and Non-Resident

A Youth Firearm or Youth Bow and Arrow License is valid from 10 years of age (or the time of issuance) until the end of the year when the youth turns 16. Note that properly licensed youth hunters age 10–13 may hunt only when under the direct supervision of

a properly licensed adult hunter age 21 or older. See also *Youth Hunting*, page 27. **Youth licenses are available free to youths who have completed the hunter (ages 10–16) or trapper (ages 12–16) education course; see page 8 for course information.** See also *Take a Kid Hunting* pages 22–23.

Permits for Hunters and Trappers

Lottery Permit Application Process

For permit and license fees, see page 1.

A lottery is conducted to allocate spring turkey, black bear, beaver and otter hunting or trapping permits. **There is no lottery for deer permits.** To receive certain permits you must first apply for the lottery. The application period is listed below with each permit type. Apply at license agents or via the Internet. Be sure to have your Conservation ID number (CID#) on hand. A non-refundable \$2 application fee is charged for each lottery application.

Hunters or trappers will have three choices in each lottery. If you will accept a permit only for one particular zone (and/or period), complete only a first choice selection. There is no obligation to select a second or third choice; these are optional. When an applicant's first choice cannot be filled, the computer will check for the second choice listed. If this selection is also sold out, the computer will check for your third choice. Each lottery is completely random and awards only ONE permit — not three. Your chance of winning a permit in the lottery depends on the number of applicants and the number of permits allocated (permit quota.)

Application via the Internet—Before You Start

- ♦ Know your Conservation ID number (CID#) or Social Security Number and date of birth (DOB).
- ♦ Know your desired permit zone and, if applicable, time period or season. **Note: After a period of inactivity, the Internet transaction will time out, requiring you to start over from the beginning.**
- ♦ Have your payment ready. Internet transactions may be paid either by electronic check (e-check) or major credit card. For e-check transactions, have your bank routing number and your check book ready before you begin.
- ♦ During every transaction, there are several opportunities to review your information for accuracy. A complete review at each step will allow you to make corrections, if necessary. **Once a purchase transaction is complete there will be NO refunds or exchanges.** Permit applicants will have the opportunity to edit their application at any time during the permit application period; see *Changing Your Lottery Application*, left. Applicants are responsible to make application carefully. When the process is complete, print the confirmation page or note the transaction number for your records.

Application at License Agent Locations—Know Before You Go

- ♦ Know your Conservation ID number (CID#) or Social Security Number and date of birth (DOB.)

Access Your Lottery Application Online

Changing Your Lottery Application

Regardless of where or how you applied for a lottery, applicants may review their information at any time from any computer, smartphone or tablet with Internet access. Check your application status or edit your application if you discover a correction is necessary. With your CID# and DOB, visit www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com to access your profile and follow the prompts. Applications may be edited only during the actual application period. Once the application period is closed, it is impossible to change your application. License agents and Fish and Wildlife offices DO NOT have the ability to change your application once submitted. Only you can make changes, so take care during the application process.

Application Status Check

Hunters and trappers may check their application status at any time from a computer, smartphone or tablet. Go to the licensing website (www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com) to access your profile using your CID# and DOB, then follow the prompts. The license system indicates if the lottery has been run and if you won a permit. When the system shows 'pending,' the lottery has not been completed. During the application period the system displays your application as 'pending.'

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- ♦ Know your desired permit zone and, if applicable time period or season. The store proprietor or clerk is not responsible to know the zone/area of your hunting/trapping property. Be sure to review the map and zone descriptions at home before you arrive at the license agent. Not sure of your area? Use a county map, then follow the zone or area description shown either on Fish and Wildlife's website, NJFishandWildlife.com/ahrs.htm, in this hunting *Digest* or in the turkey permit supplement to drive around the zone boundary.
- ♦ To speed your transaction, write down your information (CID#, DOB, lottery type, first, second and third choices) and hand it to the license agent.
- ♦ NOTE for applying at license agents: Agents using a VeriFone® machine (a special keypad) can print a transaction receipt, but might do so only at your request. Therefore, you should ask for a receipt of the transaction. This receipt will list your choices and the transaction number. Agents using Web-based (computer) systems may or may not be able to print a receipt. **ASK FIRST!** When an agent cannot print a receipt, it's important to have the clerk orally verify your application choices and to provide your transaction number. Keep this transaction number; it can be helpful should a problem occur with your application.
- ♦ Each agent decides what types of payment to accept. Learn this in advance, then have the correct payment ready when you arrive.

Notification of Lottery Results (Did you win a permit?)

Once the lottery is complete, applicants will be notified of their results. When applying at a license agent, applicants may or may not be asked to choose a notification mode. Some license issuing machines must use the default method of mailing a postcard notification. Those who select email notification are reminded to set your junk/spam folder to accept this notification. **IMPORTANT:** the notification email may fail to arrive due to issues with account providers such as email filters or data storage capacity. **The applicant is responsible to know the notification dates and claim period deadlines.** Do not wait until the award claim period has ended to check your profile for your permit award status. (See Application Status Check, above.)

Claiming Your Permit

Lottery permit winners may claim their permit(s) by going to any license agent or via the Internet. See the corresponding lottery permit claim dates listed in this *Digest* for beaver/otter, black bear and spring turkey permits. Recall that at the time of application, you paid only the non-refundable \$2 application fee; the actual permit fee must still be paid. Be sure to bring your CID# to the license agent; tell the agent you're there to claim your Fish and Wildlife-awarded lottery permit. Permits claimed via the Internet are subject to an additional convenience fee and will arrive via mail in 7–10 business days.

Purchasing Non-lottery and Unclaimed Lottery Permits

Leftover (unclaimed) lottery permits and non-lottery permits are available at license agents and online. Internet permit purchases **CANNOT** be printed at home. Plan ahead, as it may take 7–10 business days for your permit(s) to arrive. During every transaction there are several opportunities to review your information for accuracy. A complete review at each step will allow you to make corrections, if necessary. Note: Once a purchase transaction is complete there will be **NO** refunds or exchanges. When purchasing permits at a license agent, speed your transaction by presenting to the agent a written note with your CID# and DOB, plus the season and zone of your permit choices.

Beaver and Otter Permits

- ♦ Beaver and otter trapping are allowed by special permit only.
- ♦ Additional information—including the zone map and descriptions—becomes available Sept. 14 on Fish and Wildlife's website, NJFishandWildlife.com.
- ♦ Application period: Oct. 1–31.
- ♦ Leftover permits, if available, will be sold at all license agents and at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Award notifications will go out during the week of Nov. 10. Successful applicants may begin to claim their awards on Nov. 10. Beaver and Otter Permits awarded in the lottery must be claimed prior to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 30. Awarded permits that are not claimed prior to 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 30 will be returned to the quota and become available for sale over the counter. Leftover and unclaimed permits will become available for sale beginning at 10 a.m. on THURSDAY,



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LICENSES AND PERMITS

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Dec. 3, 2015. However, trappers may possess only one Special River Otter Trapping Permit. Permits will be available at all license agents and via the Internet. For leftover and unclaimed permit availability, see our website late in the afternoon of TUESDAY, December 1, 2015.

♦ For trapping season information including regulations, season dates and bag limits see *Trapping Regulations*, page 66.

Black Bear Hunting Permits

A total of 11,000 black bear hunting permits, allocated by black bear hunting areas, will be available to properly licensed hunters and farmer hunters. **There will be two lotteries this year. Black bear hunters are limited to two permits, however only one bear may be taken, regardless of the number of permits one possesses.** Only two applications may be submitted per individual—one application for an initial permit lottery and one application for a secondary/leftover permit for a **different bear management zone**.

Permits can be purchased at any license agent or online on our Internet sales site. Hunters are limited to two black bear hunting permits, however they must be for **different zones**. Application fee: \$2 per lottery. Application period: Sept 15–Oct 15.

Award notifications and permit claim period begins on October 20. Permits awarded in the lottery must be claimed prior to 11:59 P.M. on TUESDAY, November 10.

Any leftover and unclaimed permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 10 a.m. on MONDAY, November 16, 2015. Permits will be available for sale at all license agents and on our Internet sales site. Leftover permit availability will be posted on our website by the end of the day on THURSDAY, November 12, 2015.

2015 Black Bear Hunting Permit Quota	
Black Bear Management Zone	# of Permits
1	2,000
2	3,000
3	3,000
4	2,000
5	1,000

Special Coyote, Red and Gray Fox Hunting Permits

♦ A \$2 permit is required to hunt coyote, red or gray fox during the special permit season from Jan. 1–March. 15.

♦ Permits will be available at any license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site beginning Dec. 1, 2015. A 2016 hunting license must be purchased prior to, or in conjunction with, the purchase of a 2015 Coyote/Fox Permit.

♦ For season details, see coyote and fox hunting regulations, page 60.

Deer Hunting Permits

Permits are required to hunt during the Permit Bow, Permit Muzzleloader and Permit Shotgun deer seasons. **There is no lottery for deer permits.** See *Special Areas*, page 50, for specific deer

permit requirements on those properties.

Permits may be purchased either at a license agent or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com. For details, see *Deer Season Permits*, page 16. See page 1 for fees.

Farmer Permits

See *Farmer Hunting and Permit Information*, page 28.

Falconry Permits

Hunting with raptors (birds of prey) is allowed only with both a falconry permit and a hunting license. For hunting regulations see *Falconry*, page 24.

Rifle Permits

All persons in possession of a rifle (modern or muzzleloading rifle including a smoothbore muzzleloader firing a single projectile) while hunting or trapping must have a valid rifle permit. See the specific regulations for each game or furbearing animal for the permissible use of rifles. A rifle permit is not required for hunting with an air gun. Initial rifle permit applicants must be at least 10 years old and have successfully completed a rifle Hunter Education Course. New hunters taking the Firearms Hunter Education courses offered this year will automatically be certified for rifle education. See page 1 for rifle permit fees.

♦ Rifle permits may be purchased at license agents or at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site. Rifle permits are valid for all ages of permit holders.

♦ Rifle permits are valid from July 1–June 30.

Turkey Hunting Permits, General

♦ Turkey hunting is by permit only. For turkey season details, see page 64. See page 1 for fees.

♦ **Fall and spring turkey permit quotas increased in THAs 14 and 22. The popularity of these areas has increased due to turkey population increases. The new permit quota for THA 14 will be 450 permits for the fall season and 450 permits per each week of the spring 2016 season. The new permit quota for THA 22 will be 200 permits for the fall season and 200 permits per each week of the spring 2016 season.**

♦ Complete instructions for the 2016 spring gobbler season will be detailed in the 2016 *Wild Turkey Hunting Season Permit Supplement*, available in late January at license agents, Fish and Wildlife offices, and on our website at NJFishandWildlife.com.

Turkey Permits, 2015 Fall Season

The fall turkey permit lottery has been eliminated. A turkey hunting permit is still required and may be purchased at license agents or online at Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.NJ.WildlifeLicense.com.

Fall Turkey Permits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. Permits will be available until the permit quota is reached or the season ends.

Permits for Hunters with Disabling Conditions

A permit to use alternative methods/equipment for taking game during the prescribed seasons for certain

physically challenged persons may be issued. The application period is Jan. 1 to Aug. 31 of each year.

Permits to Shoot from a Standing Vehicle

A permit to hunt or shoot from a standing vehicle that is parked off the road may be issued to licensed hunters who:

1. have a permanent or irreversible physical disability that limits their ambulatory ability,
2. suffer from cardiovascular disease and are classified as Class 3 or 4 heart patients according to American Heart Association standards, or
3. suffer from chronic lung disease. This permit will be issued if the need is certified by a licensed physician or chiropractor.

Individuals hunting with a permit to hunt or shoot from a motor vehicle must mark the vehicle being used for the purpose of hunting either with handicapped license plates issued by the Motor Vehicle Commission or by displaying a sign provided by Fish and Wildlife in the rear window of the vehicle being used.

Additional information about permits for hunters with disabling conditions is available by calling (609) 292-1473 or by writing: NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Handicapped Permits, MC501-03, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 or downloaded directly from our website: NJFishandWildlife.com/disinfo.htm.

Permits, Other

Captive Wildlife Permits

The possession, ownership and release of wildlife is strictly regulated and allowed only for limited purposes. Information and permit applications may be obtained online or by calling:

- ♦ Nongame and exotics permits at (908) 735-5450, NJFishandWildlife.com/exotic_apps.htm;
- ♦ Game birds and mammals: (908) 735-7040, NJFishandWildlife.com/captpermits.htm.

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Licenses, Permits & Stamps

LICENSES AND PERMITS



Wood duck drake.

Jeff Cravn

Regulations in red are new this year.

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Deer Road-kill Permits

Deer accidentally killed by motor vehicles may be possessed only for private consumption by obtaining a free permit from the local police department or from a Fish and Wildlife regional law enforcement office. The permit authorizes only possession of the meat for consumption and is valid only for 90 days. The possession of all other parts such as antlers, under terms of this permit, are expressly prohibited. Wrapped venison packages must be labeled with the permit number.

Stamps

Stamps (such as federal migratory bird stamps) are not transferable to another person and are not valid unless signed across the face in ink. Stamps need not be affixed to the license. State waterfowl "stamps" and Pheasant and Quail stamps now print either directly on your hunting license or as a separate stub, replacing the former paper stamp for these privileges. Waterfowl stamps may be purchased **ONLY** for a specific individual; hunters can no longer purchase multiple stamps on behalf of a fellow hunter.

Pheasant and Quail Stamp

Anyone aged 16 and over (except 16 year olds whose youth license remains valid through the end of the

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year in which they turn 16 and which includes a free youth pheasant and quail stamp) hunting or possessing pheasant (or quail only on Greenwood Forest or Peaslee WMAs) on the following designated wildlife management areas must have in possession a current Pheasant and Quail Stamp:

- ♦ Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook, Glassboro, Greenwood Forest, Howardsville, Heislerville, Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Millville (Bevan), Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Rockport, Stafford Forge, Tuckahoe (MacNamara), Walpack, Whittingham and Winslow. The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is also a designated pheasant and quail stamp area. Pheasant and quail stamps are valid for the calendar year, January–December. **Quail may be hunted or possessed ONLY on Peaslee or Greenwood WMAs.**

New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp

Anyone 16 or older who hunts waterfowl must possess a New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp (now printed directly on your license at the time of purchase) in addition to the Federal Migratory Bird Stamp. Both stamps are valid for the fiscal year, July 1–June 30. A Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification is also required. For HIP details, see *Migratory Bird Regulations*, page 68. ♪

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