

TITLE 17: CONSERVATION
CHAPTER I: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCHAPTER b: FISH AND WILDLIFE

PART 715
THE TAKING OF WILD TURKEYS – FALL GUN SEASON

Section

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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Sections 1.3, 1.4, 1.20, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11 and 2.20 of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/1.3, 1.4, 1.20, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11 and 2.20].

SOURCE: Adopted at 13 Ill. Reg. 14950, effective September 6, 1989; amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 12421, effective July 20, 1990; amended at 15 Ill. Reg. 11618, effective August 2, 1991; amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 11101, effective June 30, 1992; amended at 17 Ill. Reg. 10858, effective July 1, 1993; amended at 18 Ill. Reg. 10013, effective June 21, 1994; amended at 19 Ill. Reg. 11806, effective August 3, 1995; amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 10898, effective August 5, 1996; amended at 21 Ill. Reg. 9110, effective June 26, 1997; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 14866, effective August 3, 1998; amended at 23 Ill. Reg. 9091, effective July 28, 1999; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 8965, effective June 19, 2000; amended at 25 Ill. Reg. 11460, effective August 14, 2001; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 13855, effective September 5, 2002; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 12650, effective July 21, 2003; amended at 28 Ill. Reg. 11904, effective July 27, 2004; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 15542, effective September 27, 2005; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 18938, effective November 4, 2005; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 14518, effective August 24, 2006; amended at 31 Ill. Reg. 11711, effective July 27, 2007; amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 14830, effective August 27, 2008; amended at 33 Ill. Reg. 13911, effective September 21, 2009; amended at 34 Ill. Reg. 10814, effective July 16, 2010; amended at 35 Ill. Reg. 15259, effective September 2, 2011; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 19283, effective November 14, 2013; amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 10983, effective July 27, 2015; amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 10654, effective July 20, 2016; amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 8754, effective June 28, 2017; amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13199, effective June 22, 2018.

Section 715.10 Hunting Season, Open Counties and Permit Quotas

- a) Season: The 9 days beginning on Saturday of the Second complete 2-day weekend (Saturday and Sunday) after October 10. Hunting outside the set season dates is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9).

b) Open Counties

OPEN COUNTIES

Adams
Alexander
Brown
Calhoun
Carroll
Cass
Clark
Clay
Crawford
Edwards
Franklin
Fulton
Gallatin
Greene
Hamilton
Hancock
Hardin
Henderson
Jackson
Jasper
Jefferson
Jersey
Jo Daviess
Johnson
Knox
Lawrence
Macoupin
Madison
Marion
Mason
Massac
McDonough
Menard
Mercer
Monroe
Morgan
Perry

Pike
Pope
Pulaski
Randolph
Richland
Rock Island
Saline
Schuyler
Scott
Stephenson
Union
Wabash
Warren
Washington
Wayne
White
Whiteside
Williamson
Winnebago

- c) Permit quotas shall be set by the Department of Natural Resources on a county or special hunt area basis.

(Source: Amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 19283, effective November 14, 2013)

Section 715.20 Statewide Turkey Permit Requirements

- a) To take, or attempt to take, a wild turkey, Illinois residents must first obtain a "Wild Turkey Hunting Permit" from the Department of Natural Resources for a fee of \$15. Lifetime licenses issued after August 15, 2006 shall not qualify a non-resident of Illinois for a resident turkey permit. Non-resident turkey hunters shall be charged the maximum fee allowed by Section 2.11 of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/2.11] for each turkey hunting permit. All hunters, except those exempted by Section 3.1 of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/3.1], are required to obtain a hunting license before hunting wild turkey. Permits are issued for a specific county or area and are valid only in the county or area designated on the permit. Hunting without a valid turkey permit is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9). Applications for wild turkey permits shall be completed by applying on-line at www.dnr.state.il.us or by calling DNR-Direct License sales at 1-888-6PERMIT (1-888-673-7648).
- b) Applicants must supply all information necessary to complete the application.

Incomplete applications shall be rejected and fees returned. Each applicant must submit payment for his/her individual application at the time of application. Not more than 6 applications may be submitted for group hunters. Applicants submitting applications within three weeks prior to the season shall not be guaranteed receipt of permit by start of season.

- c) Applications shall be accepted from residents only from the date on which they became available through the first Monday in July. Permits are not transferable and refunds shall not be granted. Permits shall be allocated in a computerized drawing to be held in Springfield. Applications received after the first Monday in July shall not be included in the drawing.
- d) Permits not issued during the first computerized drawing shall be available in a second computerized lottery drawing. Applications for this drawing will be accepted through the seventh Monday after the initial lottery deadline. Applications received after this date will not be included in the drawing. All hunters not receiving a permit in the first computerized drawing and non-residents may apply at this time for the available permits. Illinois residents will be given preference for permits allocated in the second lottery drawing.
- e) Permits remaining after the two lotteries will be available in a drawing that will have an application deadline of the fourth Monday after the second lottery deadline. Applications received after this date will not be included in the drawing. This lottery is open to hunters applying for their first and/or second permits. Hunters may obtain a maximum of two permits for the fall gun season.
- f) A \$3 service fee shall be charged for replacement permits issued by the Department, except when permits are lost in the mail, no charge will be made.
- g) It shall be unlawful to:
 - 1) Submit applications before the second computerized lottery drawing for more than one permit for the same person. Violation is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9);
 - 2) Apply for or receive more than two permits for the fall gun turkey season. Violation is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9); or
 - 3) Provide false and/or deceptive information on a permit application form. In addition to criminal charges, individuals found guilty of violating this Section shall have their application rejected, permit revoked, and fees forfeited. Violation is a Class A misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.38).

(Source: Amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 10983, effective July 27, 2015)

Section 715.21 Turkey Permit Requirements – Special Hunts

Special hunt sites are defined as those sites which are owned or controlled by agencies/entities other than the Department, or sites at which the Department only controls a portion of the property designated for hunting, which issue hunting permits through the Department of Natural Resources' Permit Office. The Permit Office issues turkey hunting permits for sites listed below:

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (Williamson County)

(Source: Amended at 34 Ill. Reg. 10814, effective July 16, 2010)

Section 715.25 Turkey Permit Requirements – Landowner/Tenant Permits

Requirements and procedures for obtaining landowner/tenant permits are provided in 17 Ill. Adm. Code 528.

(Source: Amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 8754, effective June 28, 2017)

Section 715.30 Turkey Hunting Regulations

- a) Violation of this Section is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9), except that hunting prior to ½ hour before sunrise or after ½ hour after sunset is a Class A misdemeanor with a minimum \$500 fine and a maximum \$5,000 fine in addition to other statutory penalties (see 520 ILCS 5/2.33(y)). It is unlawful:
- 1) to use live or electronic turkey decoys, recorded calls, dogs or bait. An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of bait;
 - 2) to take, or attempt to take, more than one wild turkey per valid permit (either sex may be harvested);
 - 3) to use any weapon except a shotgun. #4 shot is the largest size shot that may be legally used;
 - 4) to hunt except from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset during each day of the season;
 - 5) for any person to hunt wild turkeys without having a signed Wild Turkey

Hunting Permit in possession, except that a person without a weapon may accompany a turkey hunter as a caller or observer;

- 6) to transport or leave a wild turkey without first affixing the adhesive-backed turkey permit securely around the leg. Immediately upon kill and before the turkey is moved, transported or field dressed, the hunter must cut out the designated notch on the leg tag to invalidate it, and the tag must be affixed to the turkey;
 - 7) for any person to shoot a wild turkey while it is in a tree before 7:00 a.m.; and
 - 8) to possess while in the field, during turkey season, any turkey permit issued to another person. (Permits are non-transferrable.)
- b) Successful hunters must register their harvest by 10:00 p.m. on the same calendar day the turkey was taken by calling the toll-free telephone check-in system at 1-866-ILCHECK or by accessing the on-line check-in system at www.dnr.illinois.gov. Hunters must provide all information requested by the check-in system, and will be provided with a confirmation number to verify that they checked in their harvest. The confirmation number must be written by the hunter onto the leg tag. The leg tag must remain attached to the leg of the turkey until it is at the legal residence of the person who legally took or possessed the turkey and the turkey has been checked in. The turkey must remain whole (or field dressed) until it has been checked in.
- c) Failure to comply with the regulations in this Part is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9).

(Source: Amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13199, effective June 22, 2018)

Section 715.40 Regulations at Various Department-Owned or -Managed Sites

- a) Statewide regulations shall apply for the following sites:

Horseshoe Lake State Park (Madison County) – Gabaret, Mosenthein and Chouteau Island Unit

Kaskaskia River State Fish and Wildlife Area (except that area north of Hwy. 154, east of the Kaskaskia River and south of Risdon School Road and Beck's Landing access road)

Mississippi River State Fish and Waterfowl Management Area (Pools 25 and 26)

Mississippi River Pools 16, 17, 18

Mississippi River Pools 21, 22, 24

Rend Lake Project Lands

Wise Ridge State Natural Area

- b) Statewide regulations shall apply except that all hunters must check in, check out, and report harvest at those sites listed below. Quotas, where listed, shall be on a first come-first served basis. Hunters shall not be allowed to sign in prior to 4 a.m. each day of the season.

Cache River State Natural Area (Johnson County portion only)

Cape Bend State Fish and Wildlife Area

Cypress Pond State Natural Area

Deer Pond State Natural Area

Devil's Island State Fish and Wildlife Area

Ferne Clyffe State Park

Fort de Chartres State Historic Site (muzzleloading shotguns only)

Giant City State Park

Horseshoe Lake State Conservation Area (public hunting area except for controlled goose hunting area)

Kinkaid Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area

Skinner Farm State Habitat Area

Trail of Tears State Forest

Turkey Bluffs State Fish and Wildlife Area

Union County State Fish and Wildlife Area – Firing Line Management Unit Only

- c) Statewide regulations shall apply except that all hunting is allowed by site-specific permit only. The Department of Natural Resources allocates permits for these areas through the lottery process set forth in Section 715.20. This permit is only valid for the specific site indicated on the permit.

Apple River Canyon State Park – Salem and Thompson Units (windshield card required)

Crawford County State Fish and Wildlife Area (windshield card required)

Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area

Flag Pond State Natural Area

Hamilton County State Conservation Area (windshield card required)

Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area (windshield card required)

Meeker State Habitat Area (windshield card required)

Newton Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area (windshield card required)

Sam Parr State Fish and Wildlife Area (windshield card required)

Sand Ridge State Forest (windshield card required)

Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area (windshield card required)

Witkowsky State Wildlife Area (windshield card required)

- d) Statewide regulations shall apply except hunters shall register and report their harvest through the use of windshield cards as specified in 17 Ill. Adm. Code 510.10.

Argyle Lake State Park

Big River State Forest

Copperhead Hollow State Fish and Wildlife Area

Cretaceous Hills State Natural Area

Dog Island State Wildlife Management Area

Hanover Bluff State Natural Area

Nauvoo State Park (Max Rowe Unit only)

Pere Marquette State Park

Rall Woods State Natural Area

Ray Norbut State Fish and Wildlife Area

Ray Norbut State Fish and Wildlife Area – Dutch Creek Unit

Sahara Woods State Fish and Wildlife Area

Saline County State Conservation Area

Siloam Springs State Park (sign in/sign out required)

Spoon River State Forest

Tapley Woods State Natural Area

Weinberg-King State Park

Weinberg-King State Park – Cecil White Unit

Weinberg-King State Park – Scripps Unit

Weinberg-King State Park – Spunky Bottoms Unit

Winston Tunnel State Natural Area

- e) Special program for hunters with disabilities. Statewide regulations shall apply unless designated otherwise by site regulations. Only disabled persons participating in the site's firearm deer hunt are eligible to participate. This hunt

will run concurrent with the site's firearm deer hunt (refer to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 650.67 for hunt dates). Permits will be \$15 each; site specific for Rock Cut; issued at the site during check in for firearm deer hunting. Any additional availability will be publicly announced.

Rock Cut State Park

- f) Violation of a site specific regulation is a Class B misdemeanor (see 520 ILCS 5/2.9).

(Source: Amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 13199, effective June 22, 2018)