

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

PART 760
CROSSBOW AND STANDING VEHICLE
HUNTING AUTHORIZATIONS

Section

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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Sections 2.25, 2.26 and 2.33 of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/2.25, 2.26 and 2.33].

SOURCE: Adopted at 24 Ill. Reg. 4950, effective March 13, 2000; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 19178, effective December 18, 2000; amended at 25 Ill. Reg. 6899, effective May 21, 2001; amended at 25 Ill. Reg. 15585, effective November 21, 2001; amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 3294, effective February 25, 2008; amended at 34 Ill. Reg. 12862, effective August 20, 2010; emergency amendment at 36 Ill. Reg. 4428, effective March 7, 2012, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 11152, effective July 3, 2012; amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 13633, effective September 13, 2016.

Section 760.10 Issuance of Permits

- a) Persons age 62 and older may hunt with the use of a crossbow in accordance with this Part without first obtaining a crossbow permit.
- b) The Department of Natural Resources (Department) shall, after investigation, issue a permit to hunt with a crossbow to any qualified person as provided in Section 760.20.
- c) The Department shall, after investigation, issue a permit to hunt from a standing vehicle to any qualified person as described in Section 760.30.
- d) An applicant for a crossbow or standing vehicle permit shall submit an application on a form prepared and furnished by the Department, which shall include a written statement or report prepared and signed by a licensed physician, no more than 3 months preceding receipt of the application by the Department, verifying

that the applicant is physically disabled as defined in Section 760.20(a) or 760.30(a) of this Part.

(Source: Amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 11152, effective July 3, 2012)

Section 760.20 Crossbow Permits

a) Eligibility

After proper application, the Department shall issue a permanent (Class A) permit or temporary (Class B) permit to hunt with a crossbow to those persons who have a permanent or temporary physical impairment due to injury or disease, congenital or acquired, that renders them so severely disabled as to be unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device.

1) Class A Permanent Disability

A person who meets any of the following qualifies for a permanent crossbow permit:

- A) Has an amputation or other loss of one or more arms.
- B) Has an amputation or other loss of the index and middle finger on the draw and release hand.
- C) Has a permanent substantial loss of function in one or both arms or one or both hands and fails to meet the minimum standards of any one of the following standard tests, administered under the direction of a licensed physician:
 - i) Upper extremity pinch.
 - ii) Grip.
 - iii) Nine-hole peg.
- D) Has a permanent substantial loss of function in one or both shoulders and fails to meet the minimum standards of the standard shoulder strength tests, administered under the direction of a licensed physician.
- E) Is blind.
 - i) For the purpose of this subsection (a)(1)(E)(i), an individual is blind only if his or her central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting

lenses, or if his or her visual acuity is greater than 20/200 but is accompanied by a limitation in the fields of vision such that the widest diameter of the visual fields subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.

- ii) The holder of a crossbow permit issued under this subsection (a)(1)(E)(ii) shall be accompanied by a person who is not eligible to apply for a permit under this subsection. The accompanying person may not hunt or carry a firearm, bow, or crossbow unless that person has the appropriate licenses and/or permits to do so. The assistance rendered by the accompanying person who has not been issued the appropriate licenses and/or permits shall be limited to sighting the crossbow, identifying the game and field dressing, tagging and retrieving game for the permit holder.

2) Class B Temporary Disability

A person who meets any of the following qualifies for a temporary crossbow permit:

- A) Has a temporary, substantial loss of function in one or both arms or one or both hands and fails to meet the minimum standards of any one of the following standard tests administered under the direction of a licensed physician:
 - i) Upper extremity pinch.
 - ii) Grip.
 - iii) Nine-hole peg.
 - B) Has a temporary, substantial loss of function in one or both shoulders and fails to meet the minimum standards of the standard shoulder strength tests administered under the direction of a licensed physician.
- b) Any applicant with a permanent physical disability who, after taking the standard tests described in subsections (a)(1)(C), (a)(1)(D), (a)(2)(A) or (a)(2)(B) fails to qualify for a crossbow permit may file a supplemental application with the Department for further consideration and review. The nature of the applicant's disability and how it renders the applicant unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device must be thoroughly explained on the supplemental application by the physician. The supplemental application shall be forwarded to a physician,

selected by the Department, who is board certified in occupational and preventive medicine. The Department's physician will then notify the Department as to whether the applicant should be issued a crossbow permit.

- c) Class A permits issued under this Section shall be valid for a period of 3 years from the date of issuance specified on the permit. Class B permits issued under this Section shall be valid for a period of 1 year from the date of issuance specified on the permit.
- d) Loss of the crossbow hunting permit shall require the holder to reapply.
- e) Reapplication will require the Class A permit applicant to certify that he/she is still suffering from a permanent physical disability that renders him/her unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device. Persons issued a Class B permit are required to reapply upon expiration of the permit.
- f) By virtue of applying for a crossbow permit, the applicant is certifying that he or she is physically unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device. Once the crossbow permit is issued, and during the period that it is in effect, the permittee shall be limited to using a crossbow while archery hunting.

(Source: Amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 11152, effective July 3, 2012)

Section 760.21 Crossbow Equipment Requirements

Crossbows used in hunting shall meet all of the following specifications:

- a) shall use a bowstring to propel the bolt or arrow and have a minimum peak draw weight of 125 pounds;
- b) have a minimum length (from butt of stock to front of limbs) of 24 inches;
- c) have a working safety;
- d) be used with fletched bolts or arrows of not less than 14 inches in length (not including point). All other bows and arrows, including electronic arrow tracking devices utilizing radio telemetry, are illegal; and
- e) In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 530, flu flu arrows must be used on State-owned and -managed hunting areas for the taking of upland game.

(Source: Amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 13633, effective September 13, 2016)

Section 760.22 Crossbow Hunting Rules

- a) Hunters utilizing a crossbow in accordance with this Part are authorized to take game species during the seasons open to their taking by the use of archery devices. Season dates, hours, daily limits, possession limits and all other requirements of law apply.
- b) The crossbow authorization does not exempt the hunter from the necessity of obtaining hunting licenses, stamps or other permits as required by law.
- c) The crossbow permit must be carried by the disabled hunter while exercising this privilege and must be presented to any law enforcement authority upon request.
- d) A valid photo ID with proof of age must be carried by persons age 62 and older while exercising this privilege and must be presented to any law enforcement authority upon request.

(Source: Added at 32 Ill. Reg. 3294, effective February 25, 2008)

Section 760.30 Standing Vehicle Permits

- a) Eligibility
 - 1) Class A – Permanent Disability
After proper application, the Department may issue a Class A permit to shoot from a vehicle to paraplegics or other persons, if the person meets any of the following:
 - A) has a permanent or irreversible physical disability, is unable to ambulate and requires a wheelchair, walker, one leg brace or external prosthesis above the knee, 2 leg braces or external prosthesis below the knees, 2 crutches or 2 canes for mobility;
 - B) suffers significantly from lung disease, to the extent that forced expiratory volume for one second when measured by spirometry is less than one liter or arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 millimeters of mercury on room air at rest; or
 - C) suffers significantly from cardiovascular disease, to the extent that functional limitations are classified in severity as class 3 or 4, according to the standards accepted by the American Heart Association on May 3, 1988, and where ordinary physical activity causes discomfort, fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea or anginal pain.
 - 2) Class B – Temporary Disability

After proper application, the Department may issue a Class B permit to shoot from a vehicle to persons who are temporarily disabled and have restricted ambulation due to:

- A) a leg, hip or back, or any part thereof, casted by a licensed physician;
 - B) post-surgical effects of leg, hip or back surgery; or
 - C) illness or injury.
- b) Class A permits issued under this Section shall be valid for a period of 3 years from the date of issuance as specified on the permit. Class B permits issued under this Section shall be valid for a period of not more than 1 year from the date of issuance as specified on the permit.
- c) Loss of the standing vehicle hunting permit shall require the holder to reapply.
- d) Reapplication for a Class A permit will require the applicant to certify that he is still suffering from a permanent physical disability that renders him unable to walk. Reapplication for a Class B permit requires the same documentation as an original application.
- e) Standing Vehicle Hunting Rules
- 1) Standing vehicle permit holders are authorized to shoot from a vehicle that is totally immobile with the engine turned off. When the vehicle is moving, guns must be unloaded and enclosed in a case, and bow and arrow devices unstrung, enclosed in a case or otherwise rendered inoperable, in accordance with Section 2.33(n) of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/2.33(n)]. Holders of Standing Vehicle Permits, who are in the field legally hunting pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge or rabbit, shall be permitted to carry a loaded and uncased shotgun in or on a vehicle or conveyance in accordance with the provisions of 17 Ill. Adm. Code 530.10(b).
 - 2) The standing vehicle permit applies only on private property where permission of the landowner has been obtained. It does not apply on public roadways. Persons wishing to shoot/hunt from a standing vehicle on Department-owned or managed properties must obtain permission from the Site Superintendent in accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 110.
 - 3) Season dates, hours, daily limits, possession limits, and all other requirements by law apply.

- 4) The issuance of a standing vehicle permit does not exempt the holder from the necessity of obtaining hunting licenses, stamps, or other permits as required by law.
- 5) The standing vehicle permit must be carried by the hunter while exercising this privilege and must be presented to any law enforcement authority upon request.

(Source: Amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 11152, effective July 3, 2012)

Section 760.40 Rejection of Application/Revocation of Permits

- a) The Department may issue a permit to an applicant who is denied a permit under this Part if, upon review and after considering the physical condition of the applicant and the recommendation of a licensed physician selected by the applicant from a list of licensed physicians compiled by the Department, the Department finds that issuance of a permit complies with the intent of this Part. The use of this review procedure must be initiated by written request for review from the applicant, and all costs of the physician's services shall be paid by the applicant.
- b) In the event that an applicant for or holder of a crossbow or standing vehicle permit is in violation of this subsection (b), the application will be denied or the permit will be revoked in addition to any other penalties. The applicant/holder of the permit may request a hearing on this decision pursuant to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 2530. Violations are as follows:
 - 1) Providing false and/or deceptive information on the permit application form.
 - 2) Submitting an application during the period when the applicant has a license/permit currently revoked or privileges suspended pursuant to Section 3.36 of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/3.36].
 - 3) Any violations of the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5] or administrative rules of the Department (17 Ill. Adm. Code: Chapter I), in addition to other penalties, may result in suspension of privileges and the revocation of crossbow and standing vehicle permits as per 17 Ill. Adm. Code 2530.

(Source: Amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 3294, effective February 25, 2008)