

LICENSES AND PERMITS

GENERAL HUNTER LICENSING

If you take or attempt to take game, you are considered a hunter and therefore subject to licensing requirements unless specifically exempted by law. (See page 65 for the complete definition of 'take'.)

Unless you fall into one of the categories listed below, you must obtain and carry while in the field proof that you've met the license requirements for the kind of hunting you're doing. This proof can be either a paper license/permit or a license authorization number. If you can't show you're licensed properly while you're hunting, you risk being issued a citation.

Each hunter must have his or her own license or permit. Paper licenses and permits must be signed and the hunter information portion (signature, address, eye and hair color, sex, height and weight) completed before going afield.

Phoning it in?

Hunters who purchase licenses and permits on the phone or internet must read the requirements listed on page 9.

LICENSE-EXEMPT HUNTERS

In some cases, a resident hunter may not be required to buy a hunting license, permits to hunt deer or turkey, or a state waterfowl permit. Here are those situations:

- Kentucky resident owners of farmlands, their spouses and dependent children hunting **upon their own farmlands** during an open season;
- Tenants, their spouses and dependent children hunting on farmlands **where they reside and work** (see 'tenant' definition on page 65); and
- Kentucky residents on military leave of more than three days in this state who carry identification and papers that verify their leave status.

Resident and nonresident children under the age of 12 are not required to purchase licenses and permits, except the elk lottery application, elk quota hunt permit, out-of-zone elk permit and

bear permit.

Hunters eligible to participate in the Free Youth Hunting & Trapping Week or Free Youth Deer Hunting Weekend, and adults who accompany a youth hunter but are not hunting themselves, are not required to have a license or permit during these seasons.

Other laws still apply!

Hunters exempt from buying licenses and permits are required to follow hunting season laws, bag limits, comply with the hunter orange clothing law, and follow hunter harvest recording, checking and tagging requirements. Kentucky landowners, their legal dependents and their tenants, as described above, ARE subject to the usual license requirements anytime they hunt somewhere other than their own lands.

WHICH LICENSE OR PERMIT?

Deer, elk, turkey and bear

Both an **annual** hunting license and an additional permit are required for hunters 12 and older. Hunters under 12 must purchase elk and bear permits. (See the Deer, Elk, Fall Turkey and Bear sections for details).

Waterfowl and other migratory birds

In addition to a Kentucky hunting license (annual or short-term), permits are required **for ages 16 and older** as follows:

- **Kentucky Migratory Bird Permit:** required to hunt doves, snipe, woodcock, moorhens, rails and gallinules.
- **Kentucky Waterfowl Permit:** required to hunt ducks, geese, coots and mergansers. This permit **also covers** the species permitted by the Kentucky Migratory Bird Permit.
- **Federal Duck Stamp:** required in addition to the Kentucky Waterfowl Permit to hunt ducks, geese, coots and mergansers. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service requirement; available at post offices and online at www.duckstamp.com.

All other species

For hunters 12 and older, only a hunting license (annual, short-term, or

a license that includes the hunting privilege) is required for everything else, except that no license or permit is needed to take exotic species as noted in the Small Game & Furbearers section of this guide.

Shooting preserve license

A \$5 shooting preserve license is available to Kentucky residents and nonresidents, online at fw.ky.gov only. This license is for hunters who do not already possess a regular hunting license. The license is valid for one license year, and for one shooting preserve only (which must be indicated at the time of purchase.)

License details

See the chart on page 7 and text on pages 10-11 for more details about licensing, along with a full description of what's included in the Resident Sportsman's License, Youth Sportsman's License and Resident Senior/Disabled License.

SHORT-TERM LICENSES

The following short-term licenses are valid for all types of hunting **except** deer, elk, turkey and bear. (Hunting those four species requires an **annual** hunting license along with the appropriate permit. Bear permits are available only to Kentucky residents.) Short-term licenses are valid **only** for the 1- or 5-day period shown on the license.

- **1-Day Hunting License:** available to residents and nonresidents.
- **5-Day Hunting License:** available **only** to nonresidents.

HIP SURVEYS

When purchasing a Kentucky Waterfowl Permit, Kentucky Migratory Bird Permit, or any license that includes those permits, hunters are required by federal law to complete a harvest information program (HIP) survey at the time of purchase. Your license retailer (or phone operator) will ask you questions to fill out this survey. If you purchase your license online, you will be prompted to answer those questions at the end of your purchase.

WHICH LICENSE OR PERMIT DO I NEED?

The tables below are a quick overview of current licensing requirements for hunting and trapping in Kentucky. See the rest of this section for exemp-

tions and **complete** residency, licensing and hunter education requirements. **All elk and bear hunting requirements are explained in those sections.**

Also: See page 11 for Senior/Disabled License eligibility.

NOTE: Licenses and permits for the species below are not required for kids under the age of 12.

KENTUCKY RESIDENTS	Ages 12-15	Ages 16-64	Ages 65 and over OR Disabled
Deer	Youth Hunting License* + Youth Deer Permit*	Annual Hunting License† + Statewide Deer Permit†	Senior/Disabled License
Fall Turkey	Youth Hunting License* + Youth Turkey Permit*	Annual Hunting License† + Fall Turkey Permit†	Senior/Disabled License
Spring Turkey	Youth Hunting License* + Youth Turkey Permit*	Annual Hunting License† + Spring Turkey Permit†	Senior/Disabled License
Small Game & Furbearer	Youth Hunting License*	Annual† or 1-Day Hunting License	Senior/Disabled License
Trapping	Annual Youth Trapping License	Annual or Landowner/Tenant Trapping License	Annual or Landowner/Tenant Trapping License
Migratory Birds (dove, snipe, woodcock, moorhens, rails, gallinules)	Youth Hunting License*	Annual† or 1-Day Hunting License + Kentucky Migratory Bird or Kentucky Waterfowl Permit†	Senior/Disabled License
Waterfowl (ducks, geese, coots and mergansers)	Youth Hunting License*	Annual† or 1-Day Hunting License + Kentucky Waterfowl Permit† + Federal Duck Stamp	Senior/Disabled License + Federal Duck Stamp

NONRESIDENTS (must buy nonresident licenses/permits)	Ages 12-15	Ages 16 and over
Deer	Youth Hunting License* + Youth Deer Permit*	Annual Hunting License + Statewide Deer Permit
Fall Turkey	Youth Hunting License* + Youth Turkey Permit*	Annual Hunting License + Fall Turkey Permit
Spring Turkey	Youth Hunting License* + Youth Turkey Permit*	Annual Hunting License + Spring Turkey Permit
Small Game & Furbearer	Youth Hunting License*	Annual, 1-Day or 5-Day Hunting License
Trapping	Annual Trapping License	Annual Trapping License
Migratory Birds (dove, snipe, woodcock, moorhens, rails, gallinules)	Youth Hunting License*	Annual, 1-Day or 5-Day Hunting License + Kentucky Migratory Bird or Kentucky Waterfowl Permit
Waterfowl (ducks, geese, coots and mergansers)	Youth Hunting License*	Annual, 1-Day or 5-Day Hunting License + Kentucky Waterfowl Permit + Federal Duck Stamp

*Included in Youth Sportsman's License
†Included in Resident Sportsman's License

HIP survey required (also required for Resident Sportsman's License) (You will be asked survey questions during your purchase)

Q: Who needs a federal duck stamp?

A: Hunters ages 16 and over must get a **federal** duck stamp (available from post offices and at www.duckstamp.com) to hunt ducks, geese, coots and mergansers. This is not included in the Sportsman's or Senior/Disabled licenses.

Q: Does the Resident Sportsman's License cover dove and other migratory bird hunting?

A: Yes. The Sportsman's License includes a Kentucky Waterfowl Permit, which covers dove and other migratory bird hunting.

LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES

LICENSE / PERMIT	Resident	Nonresident
Annual Hunting	\$20.00	\$130.00
Annual Fishing	\$20.00	\$50.00
Joint Husband/Wife Annual Fishing	\$36.00	Not available
1-Day Fishing	\$7.00	\$10.00
Nonresident 7-Day Fishing	Not available	\$30.00
Nonresident 15-Day Fishing	Not available	\$40.00
Trout Permit	\$10.00	\$10.00
1-Day Hunting (not valid for deer, elk, turkey or bear)	\$7.00	\$10.00
5-Day Hunting (not valid for deer, elk, turkey or bear)	Not available	\$40.00
Annual Youth Hunting (ages 12-15 only)	\$5.00	\$5.00
Annual Combination Hunting/Fishing	\$30.00	Not available
Senior/Disabled Combination Hunting/Fishing* (includes same license and permits as Resident Sportsman's License, plus bonus antlerless-only deer permits.)	\$5.00	Not available
Deer Permit (statewide) (two deer)	\$30.00	\$60.00
Youth (ages 12-15) Deer Permit (one deer)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Bonus Antlerless-Only Deer Permit (two deer)	\$15.00	\$15.00
Spring Turkey Permit (statewide) (two turkeys)	\$30.00	\$60.00
Youth (ages 12-15) Turkey Permit (one turkey, spring or fall)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Fall Turkey Permit (statewide)(four turkeys)	\$30.00	\$60.00
Kentucky Waterfowl Permit	\$15.00	\$15.00
Migratory Bird Permit	\$10.00	\$10.00
Annual Trapping	\$20.00	\$130.00
Annual Landowner/Tenant Trapping	\$10.00	Not available
Annual Youth (ages 12-15) Trapping	\$5.00	Not available
Sportsman's License* (Includes combination hunting/fishing, statewide deer permit, spring and fall turkey permits, state waterfowl permit and trout permit.)	\$95.00	Not available
Youth (ages 12-15) Sportsman's License* (Includes youth hunting license, youth deer permit and youth turkey permit.)	\$25.00	\$25.00
Elk Lottery Application (deadline April 30; available at fw.ky.gov only)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Youth WMA Elk Lottery (deadline April 30; available at fw.ky.gov only)	\$10.00	\$10.00
Elk Quota Hunt Permit (if drawn)	\$30.00	\$365.00
Out-of-Zone Elk Permit	\$30.00	\$365.00
Bear Permit	\$30.00	Not available
Peabody WMA User Permit	\$15.00	\$15.00
Land Between the Lakes (LBL) Hunter Use Permit	\$20.00	\$20.00
Temporary Hunter Education Exemption Permit (available online at fw.ky.gov only)	\$5.00	\$5.00
Federal Duck Stamp (available at post offices and online at www.duckstamp.com)	\$15.00	\$15.00
Shooting Preserve License (available online at fw.ky.gov only)	\$5.00	\$5.00

*Peabody and LBL permits, elk lottery application, elk quota hunt permit, out-of-zone elk permit, bear permit and federal duck stamp not included.

Annual licenses and permits are valid from the date of purchase through the last day in February. New licenses are required annually March 1. (A 1- or 5-day hunting license is valid only for the period shown on the license.)

Resident and nonresident youth under the age of 12 are not required to purchase licenses or permits (except the elk lottery application, elk quota hunt permit, out-of-zone elk permit and resident bear permit).

Note: The bonus WMA quota hunt deer permit is no longer available. Drawn quota deer hunters must use their statewide deer permit or a bonus antlerless-only deer permit.

HOW TO BUY LICENSES AND PERMITS

GETTING A LICENSE IN PERSON

Licenses and permits can be purchased throughout the Commonwealth. Most Walmart, Kmart, county court clerk offices and outdoor sporting goods stores sell licenses. License vendor locations are listed at fw.ky.gov. Licenses and permits can also be purchased on this website, or toll-free at 1-877-598-2401.

GETTING A LICENSE BY PHONE

Licenses and permits can be purchased by phone 24 hours a day. It is the caller's responsibility to know what type of license or permit is needed before calling. Operators should NOT be relied upon to explain licensing requirements. If you are unsure what license or permit you need, refer to previous portions of this guide, or contact Kentucky Fish and Wildlife at 1-800-858-1549 during business hours.

All Kentucky hunting and fishing licenses and permits, except a disabled license, elk lottery application and all youth licenses and permits, can be purchased over the phone for a small fee.

By phone:

Call toll-free 1-877-598-2401

Persons purchasing by phone:

1. Must use Visa, Mastercard, Discover or e-check;
2. Will be charged a small fee;
3. Must provide their name, address, date of birth and Social Security number;
4. Will be issued a paper license/permit by mail (except short-term licenses);
5. Will be issued an authorization number which serves as a license/permit until paper license/permit is issued; and
6. Must have the authorization number in addition to a picture ID while hunting, if they have not yet received their paper license/permit in the mail.

By Internet:

Visit fw.ky.gov

Persons purchasing online:

1. Must use Visa, Mastercard or Discover;
2. Must provide their name, address, date of birth and Social Security number;
3. Must carry proof of their license/permit in addition to a picture ID while hunting; and
4. Will not receive a paper license/permit in the mail.

Husband/Wife Fishing License, can be purchased through the secured Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website. **Replacement licenses can be printed free at fw.ky.gov.**

Deer, elk, turkey and bear hunters, and otter and bobcat hunters/trappers, should be absolutely sure to read the requirements of recording, checking and tagging these species.

GETTING A LICENSE THROUGH THE INTERNET

All Kentucky hunting and fishing licenses and permits, except a **Joint**

What a deal for the **TRUE KENTUCKY SPORTSMAN!**

SPORTSMAN'S LICENSE

INCLUDES:
 Combo Hunting & Fishing License
 Spring & Fall Turkey Permits
 Statewide Deer Permit
 Statewide Waterfowl and Trout Permits

ALL FOR ONLY \$95 Save 35% by purchasing your Sportsman's License TODAY!

Available wherever licenses are sold and online at fw.ky.gov or call 1-877-598-2401.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

SPORTSMAN'S LICENSE - SAVE \$50!

Available to Kentucky residents only, the Sportsman's License includes a combination hunting and fishing license, spring and fall turkey permit, statewide deer permit, state waterfowl permit (which also covers dove and other migratory bird hunting) and trout permit. Peabody and LBL permits, trapping license, elk lottery application, elk quota hunt permit (if drawn), out-of-zone elk permit, bear permit and bonus deer permits must be purchased separately. A federal duck stamp (available at post offices and online at www.duckstamp.com) is required for waterfowl hunting.

YOUTH HUNTER LICENSING

Hunters under the age of 12 are not required to purchase licenses and permits, except the elk lottery application, elk quota hunt permit, out-of-zone elk permit and bear permit. Hunters ages 12-15 are eligible to purchase a less expensive youth hunting license instead of a regularly priced license.

A youth hunting license authorizes the holder to hunt all small game species and migratory bird species. Unless exempt, youth hunters ages 12-15 are required to purchase additional permits to hunt deer and turkey. (**All** hunters must purchase an additional permit to

hunt bear, or if drawn for a quota elk hunt.) Specific permit requirements for youth deer and turkey hunters are found in the Deer and Fall Turkey sections of this guide. Both a youth deer and turkey permit are available at a reduced price. (How these permits may be used is discussed in the sections on youth deer and turkey hunting.) **Youth hunting licenses and permits are valid for the entire license year, even if the hunter turns 16 during the license year after purchasing the license.** After a hunter turns 16 years old, he or she is no longer eligible to buy a youth hunting license.

A Youth Sportsman's License is available to resident and nonresident youth ages 12-15, and includes a youth hunting license, youth deer permit and youth turkey permit.

Hunters 15 and younger are exempt from purchasing a Kentucky waterfowl or state migratory bird permit, and a federal duck stamp.

A youth hunting license shall not be issued without the written permission of a parent or guardian, or person having custody of the youth hunter, who shall sign the youth hunter's license to signify consent. Persons under 12 years old who hunt **any species** must be accompanied by an adult if they have not yet taken a hunter education course. **Persons 15**

and under who hunt turkey, elk, deer or bear with a firearm must always be accompanied by an adult.

During the Free Youth Hunting and Trapping Week (Jan. 1-7, 2011), resident and nonresident hunters 15 and under may hunt or trap small game and furbearers without a license. All other regulations and limits apply, except no license is required.

Youth hunters who hunt deer or **out-of-zone** elk with a firearm during the Free Youth Deer Hunting Weekend (Jan. 1-2, 2011) are not required to have a deer or out-of-zone elk permit, but must be accompanied by an adult, and follow all other deer/elk hunting regulations.

Hunter education is not

required for youth to participate in the Free Youth Deer Hunting Weekend, or the Free Youth Hunting & Trapping Week, but taking the course ahead of time is strongly recommended.

NONRESIDENT LICENSING

Those who do not meet the definition of a Kentucky resident are required to purchase nonresident licenses and permits. A resident is any person who has established **permanent** domicile and legal residence and has resided in Kentucky for 30 days prior to purchasing a license, full-time students enrolled in an educational institution for at least a six-month term, and military service personnel on permanent assignment in Kentucky.

Nonresident youth hunters are subject to the same license and permit requirements as resident youth hunters.

Q: I'm a nonresident but I own land in Kentucky. Do I have to buy nonresident licenses and permits?

A: Yes. **All** nonresidents must purchase nonresident licenses and permits.

TRAPPING LICENSE

Trappers under the age of 12 are not required to purchase a trapping license. A trapping license is required of all resident and nonresident trappers ages 12 and older, including landowners/tenants unless otherwise provided by law. A trapping license is not included in any other combination license package. Landowner/tenant trapping

Lost licenses and permits

Persons who need a replacement license or permit have three options:

1. Print a replacement online at fw.ky.gov. Click on "Licenses & Permits," then the "Lost Your License?" tab.
2. Purchase the same type of license or permit from any license vendor, ask them for a license refund form (or print one at fw.ky.gov), fill it out and send it to: KDFWR Licensing, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601. You will receive a refund minus a \$5 handling fee.
3. Send \$5, your name, address, date of birth and Social Security number, and which license(s) or permits you lost to: KDFWR Licensing, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601. The department will replace the license/permit once verification of original purchase occurs. Replacement may take up to 3 weeks.

Warning!

Persons convicted of providing false information regarding residency eligibility for purposes of purchasing hunting and fishing licenses and permits are subject to fines up to \$200 in addition to loss of hunting/fishing privileges for up to three years and seizure of hunting/fishing equipment.

licenses are only valid for landowners, tenants or their dependents trapping on their own property. A youth trapping license is available for resident trappers ages 12-15. Trapping licenses are available from license agents across the state, online at fw.ky.gov and by phone at 1-877-598-2401.

Carry proof

Holders of Disabled Combination Licenses must carry both the license and authorization card while hunting. Once a person who qualifies for this license reaches age 65, he or she is considered a senior for licensing purposes, and no longer needs to follow the process of obtaining a disability license authorization card.

Q: How long is my disability authorization card valid?

A: The disability authorization card is good for 3 years (check the expiration date on your card). Every 3 years, you must provide updated paperwork (following the instructions to the right) and get a new card.

Those who already have a disability authorization card through the Veteran's Administration, Railroad Retirement Board or Office of Personnel Management may call 1-800-310-1873 to get a new card.

RESIDENT SENIOR AND DISABLED LICENSES

The following are eligible to purchase the \$5 Senior or Disabled Combination Hunting and Fishing License (which includes the same license and permits as the Resident Sportsman's License, plus bonus antlerless-only deer permits):

- Kentucky residents 65 years of age or older.
- Kentucky residents certified totally and permanently disabled by the Federal Social Security Administration, a state Workers Compensation Board, the Kentucky Teacher Retirement System or the United States Railroad Retirement Board.
- Kentucky resident employees of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, declared totally and permanently disabled by a recognized authority.
- Kentucky resident veterans at least 50% disabled as the result of a service-connected disability.

Seniors need only show proof of age and residency to purchase this license. Persons with disabilities listed above must first obtain a disability authorization card from Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.

To obtain a disability license authorization card:

If your disability is through the:

- **Federal Social Security Administration:** Contact your local Social Security office and request a form showing your name, address, Social Security number and date of birth, which states that you are disabled and drawing benefits. Send form to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.
- **Veteran's Administration:** Contact your local VA office and request a letter that verifies you are at least 50% disabled as a result of a service-connected disability. Send letter to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.
- **State Worker's Compensation Board:** Request an application from Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, fill it out and send it to the State Worker's Compensation Board.
- **United States Railroad Retirement Board:** Contact the Board and request a letter stating you are 100% totally and permanently disabled. Send letter to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.
- **Kentucky Teacher Retirement System:** Contact the Teacher Retirement System and request written documentation stating you are on disability retirement. Send documentation to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.
- **United States Office of Personnel Management:** Contact the federal Office of Personnel Management and obtain certification of employment and documentation of being 100% disabled. Send documentation to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.

Once the proper documentation is processed, applicants will receive their authorization card by mail. The authorization card is not a license. It must be presented to the license seller, or the authorization number entered online, at the time of purchase.

License vendors cannot sell a disability license using an expired authorization card.

Senior and Disabled Combination Licenses are valid through the end of February like any other license. If you lose your card, you may contact Kentucky Fish and Wildlife at the above address for a replacement.

Contacting us

Except for those who qualify for a Disability License through Worker's Compensation, mail or fax your disability certification to:

KDFWR Disability License
#1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601
FAX: (502) 564-9845

You may also bring the documentation in person to the department office in Frankfort at #1 Sportsman's Lane during business hours 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Monday - Friday.