



STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

2027 Spring Turkey Lottery Application Information

Apply online at <https://exploremoreil.com>

SPRING TURKEY APPLICATION FEES

Illinois Resident Lottery (R-L-ST): \$19

Nonresident Lottery (NR-L-ST): \$129

Processing fees are non-refundable.

SPRING TURKEY APPLICATION INFORMATION

Lottery 1: Illinois resident hunters may apply for one turkey permit – excludes hunters who have applied for, or are already in possession of, a landowner spring turkey permit.

- Group Hunt applications allowed: Yes
- Landowner spring turkey permit applicants/recipients eligible to apply: **NO**
- **Application period:** October 6, 2026 - December 1, 2026

Lottery 2: All hunters are eligible to apply for one turkey permit, but hunters who have not already been awarded a permit will receive preference.

- Group Hunt applications allowed: Yes
- Landowner spring turkey permit applicants/recipients eligible to apply: Yes
- **Application period:** December 11, 2026 - January 11, 2027

Lottery 3: All hunters are eligible to apply. Hunters may submit up to 3 applications; however, no one may receive more than 3 permits in total for spring turkey hunting.

- Group Hunt applications allowed: **NO**
- Landowner spring turkey permit applicants/recipients eligible to apply: Yes
- **Application period:** January 22, 2027 - February 9, 2027

Landowner (POH): Individuals applying for, or receiving, a spring turkey landowner permit may not apply in the Lottery 1 Spring Turkey drawing.

- Landowner application deadline date: February 9, 2027.

OVER-THE-COUNTER SALES PERIOD

County-specific permits remaining after the Lottery 3 Drawing will be available over the counter from license vendors throughout the state on a first-come, first-served basis beginning March 9, 2027. Permits will be sold until quotas are exhausted, or until the close of the specific turkey season segment (i.e., of seasons 1 through 5) in the Zone (north vs. south).

HUNTING LICENSE and HABITAT STAMP

In addition to your turkey permit, you must have a valid Illinois Hunting, Sportsman's, Youth Hunting/Trapping, or Apprentice License, unless exempt. Before any person 18 years of age or older takes, attempts to take, or pursues any species of wildlife protected by the Wildlife Code, except migratory waterfowl, coots, and hand-reared birds on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas and state-controlled pheasant hunting areas, he or she shall first obtain a State Habitat Stamp. Disabled veterans and former prisoners of war shall not be required to obtain a State Habitat Stamp. Any person who obtained a Lifetime License before January 1, 1993, shall not be required to obtain a State Habitat Stamp.

GROUP HUNT INFORMATION

Up to six individuals may apply to hunt as a group during the First and Second Lottery Drawings. Groups must identify a group leader, and all applicants must list the same group leader in their submitted application. Groups must list the same county or special hunt area of choice and complete, in an identical fashion, all options regarding hunting locations and the season choices. **THERE ARE NO GROUP HUNTS IN LOTTERY 3.**

HUNT LOCATION & SEASON CHOICES

There are ten rows of boxes to allow the applicant to make up to ten DIFFERENT COUNTY or SPECIAL HUNT AREAS choices of combined locations and seasons (the 2nd through 10th choices are optional). When the applicant is drawn during the lottery, if the 1st choice is not available, the 2nd choice will be considered and so forth.

PREFERENCE SYSTEM - LOTTERY 1

(This does not apply to special hunt areas.)

The following must be met to obtain preference in the first computerized drawing:

- The applicant must apply using the official agency application.
- The applicant must be a resident of the State of Illinois, be eligible to receive a spring turkey permit, and not have turkey hunting privileges revoked.
- The applicant must apply for the same county and season choices which he/she listed on the previous year's application. Preference will not be granted for special hunt areas.

PERMIT SPECIFICATIONS

- Permits are not transferable.
- A permit allows the holder to hunt with either a shotgun or a bow and arrow.
- A lottery permit is valid only for the season and location (county/Special Hunt Area) indicated on the permit.
- A landowner permit is valid for all 5 seasons of the Northern or Southern zone where the landowner's property is located.

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL TO

- Submit applications before the second computerized lottery drawing for more than one permit for the same person.
- Submit applications before the third computerized lottery drawing for more than two permits for the same person.
- Apply for or receive more than three permits for the spring turkey season. The three-permit total includes lottery-drawn, youth, landowner, and OTC permits.

R-L-ST 2027 IL Resident Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Permit Application

State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Lottery Selection – select only one box. Applications received in our office after a deadline date will be entered into the next lottery.

- ☐ **First Lottery: 10/6/26 – 12/1/26**
Limit 1 application. Landowner applicants/permit recipients **shall not** apply. Group hunts are allowed.
- ☐ **Second Lottery: 12/11/26 – 1/11/27**
Limit 1 application. Group hunts are allowed.
- ☐ **Third Lottery: 1/22/27 – 2/9/27**
Up to 3 applications. Shall not exceed 3 total spring turkey applications. No group hunts.

Up to 10 choices	County Name or Special Hunt Area Acronym	Season
Choice 1		
Choice 2		
Choice 3		
Choice 4		
Choice 5		
Choice 6		
Choice 7		
Choice 8		
Choice 9		
Choice10		

SAMPLE APPLICATION CHOICES	
County/SHA	Season (1-5)
Choice 1: Union	2
Choice 2: Union	3
Choice 3: Wayne	2
Choice 4: Wayne	4
Choice 5: JEPC	1
Choice 6: ACRSP	5

Counties, SHAs, and season dates can be found on back of application

For Marshall-Putnam Counties, enter Marshall. For Gallatin-Hardin Counties, enter Gallatin.

Please enter your SSN or your IDNR Customer #. All individuals must have a valid SSN on file with IDNR to be eligible for any type of license purchase.

Social Security Number

IDNR Customer # (Located above name on IDNR hunting license)

First Name

MI

Last Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

County of Residence

IL

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

Daytime Phone Number

Email

Applicant's Signature (Required)

I certify to the truth of all, including, but not limited to, state residency. By signing this application, I certify that I am not delinquent on a child support order. I further certify that the privileges applied for have not been suspended in this state, or by any other state or federal agency.

This area for Group Hunt applications only. No Group Hunt applications in Lottery3.

GROUP LEADER'S LAST NAME

GROUP LEADER'S FIRST NAME

MIDDLE INITIAL

GROUP LEADER'S CUSTOMER ID NUMBER (Required)

Up to 6 individuals may apply to hunt as a group. All individuals in the group must pre-select a group leader, and each application for the group MUST have IDENTICAL choices for the application period, hunt locations & seasons, and group leader information. Illinois residents are given preference for permits allocated in lotteries; therefore, groups containing both resident and non-resident applicants will be treated as non-resident applications. No Group Hunts allowed in Third Lottery.



Mail completed application and \$19 check payable to IDNR:
IDNR Resident Spring Turkey Application
One Natural Resources Way
PO Box 19446
Springfield, IL 62794-9446

Processing fees are non-refundable. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Save a stamp!
Apply online @
exploremoreil.com

IDNR 2027 Resident Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Permit Application

APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Landowner (POH) Spring Turkey applicants/recipients may not apply in Lottery 1.
- Permits are not transferable.
- A permit allows the holder to hunt with either a shotgun or a bow and arrow.
- A Lottery permit is valid only for the season and location indicated on the permit.
- The fee for an Illinois Resident Spring Wild Turkey Permit is \$19. You must enclose an individual check or money order with your application. Do not send cash. Processing fees are non-refundable.

PREFERENCE SYSTEM (This does not apply to special hunt areas.)

The following criteria must be met to obtain preference in the first computerized drawing:

- The applicant must apply using the official agency application.
- The applicant must be a resident of the State of Illinois, be eligible to receive a spring turkey permit, and not have turkey hunting privileges revoked.
- The applicant must apply for the same county and season choices which he/she listed on the previous year's application.

HUNTING ZONES

There are north and south turkey hunting zones with different season dates in each zone. Special Hunt Area permits are not valid anywhere else in the county. County permits are not valid for Special Hunt Areas listed on this application.

Location information, site maps, and regulations for Special Hunt Areas are available online at <https://huntillinois.org/directory>.

SEASON	SOUTH ZONE	NORTH ZONE
1st Season	April 5 - April 9	April 12 - April 16
2nd Season	April 10 - April 15	April 17 - April 22
3rd Season	April 16 - April 21	April 23 - April 28
4th Season	April 22 - April 28	April 29 - May 5
5th Season	April 29 - May 6	May 6 - May 13

APPLY ONLINE @ WWW.EXPLOREMOREIL.COM

Open South Zone Counties

Alexander, Bond, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Franklin, Gallatin-Hardin, Hamilton, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Massac, Monroe, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Richland, Saline, St. Clair, Union, Wabash, Washington, Wayne, White, Williamson

Open South Zone Special Hunt Areas

Burning Star SFWA
 Carlyle Lake SFWA - East Fork Unit
 Chauncey Marsh
 Crab Orchard NWR
 Crawford County SFWA
 Dixon Springs SP
 Dixon Springs SP Disabled
 Eldon Hazlet SP
 Eldon Hazlet SP Disabled
 Embarras River Bottoms SHA
 Ferne Clyffe SP- Ferne Clyffe Hunting Area
 Fort Massac SP
 Fox Creek SFWA
 Hamilton County SCA
 Horseshoe Lake SP
 Meeker SHA
 Mermet Lake SFWA
 Mermet Lake SFWA Disabled
 Mt. Vernon Game Propagation Center
 Newton Lake SFWA
 Pyramid SP - Park Unit
 Pyramid SP - Captain Unit
 Pyramid SP - Denmark Unit
 Pyramid SP - East Conant Unit
 Pyramid SP - Galum Unit
 Ramsey Lake SP
 Randolph County SCA
 Red Hills SP
 Sahara Woods SFWA
 Sam Dale Lake SFWA
 Sam Parr SFWA
 Stephen A. Forbes SP
 Ten Mile Creek SFWA
 Washington County SCA
 Wayne Fitzgerald SRA
 Zoeller SNA

County Located

Jackson
 Clinton
 Lawrence
 Williamson
 Crawford
 Pope
 Pope
 Clinton
 Clinton
 Lawrence
 Johnson
 Massac
 Richland/Wayne
 Hamilton
 Madison
 Jasper
 Massac
 Massac
 Jefferson
 Jasper
 Perry
 Perry
 Perry
 Perry
 Fayette
 Randolph
 Lawrence
 Saline
 Wayne
 Jasper
 Marion
 Hamilton/Jefferson
 Washington
 Franklin/Jefferson
 St. Clair

Acronym

BSSFWA
 CLEFU
 CM
 CRAB
 CCSFWA
 DSSP
 DSSPD
 EHSP
 EHSPD
 EMBARR
 FCSP
 FMSP
 FCSFWA
 HCSCA
 HLP
 MEEK
 MLSFWA
 MLD
 MVGPC
 NLSFWA
 PSPPU
 PSCU
 PSPDU
 PSPECU
 PSPGU
 RLSP
 RCSCA
 RHSP
 SW
 SDLSFWA
 SPSFWA
 SAFSP
 TMCSFWA
 WCSCA
 WFSRA
 ZSNA

Open North Zone Counties

Adams, Boone, Brown, Bureau, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, DeKalb, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Ford, Fulton, Greene, Grundy, Hancock, Henderson, Henry, Iroquois, Jersey, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Knox, Lake, La Salle, Lee, Livingston, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Marshall-Putnam, Mason, McDonough, McHenry, McLean, Menard, Mercer, Montgomery, Morgan, Moultrie, Ogle, Peoria, Piatt, Pike, Rock Island, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Shelby, Stark, Stephenson, Tazewell, Vermilion, Warren, Whiteside, Will, Winnebago, Woodford

Open North Zone Special Hunt Areas

Apple River Canyon SP-Thompson & Salem Units
 Beaver Dam SP
 Big Bend SFWA
 Big River SF
 Butterfield Trail SRA
 Castle Rock SP
 Chain O'Lakes SP
 Clinton Lake SRA
 Coffee Lake SFWA
 Eagle Creek SP (1st & 2nd seasons only)
 Fox Ridge SP
 French Bluff SNA
 Green River SWA
 Hanover Bluff SNA
 Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA
 Heidecke SFWA/Goose Lake Prairie SNA (1st & 2nd seasons only)
 Hidden Springs SF
 Iroquois County SWA
 Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA
 Johnson-Sauk Trail SP
 Jubilee College SP
 Kankakee River SP (½ hr. before sunrise - noon)
 Kickapoo SP
 Kishwaukee River SFWA
 Lake Shelbyville Project-Moultrie
 Lake Shelbyville Project-Shelby
 Lowden Miller SF
 Mackinaw River SFWA
 Marseilles SFWA
 (M-Th only; ½ hr. before sunrise - 8:30 am)
 Marshall SFWA
 Matthiessen SP (South of Vermilion River Area)
 Mautino SFWA
 Middle Fork SFWMA
 Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie
 Mississippi Palisades SP (No 5th season)
 Mississippi Palisades SP Disabled (No 5th season)
 Mornence Wetlands
 Moraine View SP
 (No Weekend Hunting 4th & 5th seasons)
 Morrison Rockwood SP (No 5th season)
 Paul C. Burrus SHA
 Pere Marquette SP-Piasa, Quotoga, Potawatomi
 Camp Areas
 Rall Woods SNA
 Ray Norbut SFWA - Dutch Creek Unit
 Rockton Bog SNA
 Sand Ridge SF
 Sandy Ford SNA
 Sangamon County SCA
 Sanganois SCA - Squirrel Timber Unit
 Sangchris Lake SP
 Siloam Springs SP
 Siloam Springs SP- Buckhorn Unit
 Spoon River SF
 Starved Rock SP
 Tapley Woods SNA
 Vesely Land and Water Reserve
 Weinberg-King SP- Scripps Unit
 Weldon Springs SP- Piatt County Unit
 Winston Tunnel SNA
 Witkowsky SWA
 Wolf Creek SP (1st & 2nd seasons only)

County Located

Jo Daviess
 Macoupin
 Whiteside
 Henderson
 Iroquois
 Ogle
 Lake/McHenry
 DeWitt
 Montgomery
 Shelby
 Coles
 Carroll
 Lee
 Jo Daviess
 Vermilion
 Grundy
 Shelby
 Iroquois
 Cass
 Henry
 Peoria
 Kankakee/Will
 Vermilion
 DeKalb
 Moultrie
 Shelby
 Ogle
 Tazewell
 La Salle
 Marshall/Peoria
 La Salle
 Bureau
 Vermilion
 Will
 Carroll
 Carroll
 Kankakee
 McLean
 Whiteside
 Coles
 Jersey
 Jo Daviess
 Pike
 Winnebago
 Mason
 La Salle
 Sangamon
 Mason
 Sangamon/Christian
 Adams/Brown
 Brown
 Knox
 La Salle
 Jo Daviess
 Will
 Schuyler
 Piatt
 Jo Daviess
 Jo Daviess
 Shelby

Acronym

ARCSP
 BDSP
 BBSFWA
 BRSF
 BTSRA
 CRSP
 COLSP
 CLSRA
 CLSFWA
 EAGLE
 FRSP
 FBSNA
 GRSWA
 HBSNA
 HBWSNA
 HSFWA
 HSSF
 ICSSWA
 JEPC
 JSTSP
 JCSP
 KKKRSP
 KSP
 KRFSWA
 LSPMOU
 LSPSHE
 LMSF
 MRSFWA
 MSFWA
 MARSFWA
 MATTSP
 MTSFWA
 MFSWMA
 MNTP
 MPSP
 MPSPD
 MW
 MVSP
 MRSP
 PCBSHA
 PMSP
 RALL
 RNSFWDU
 RBSNA
 SAND
 SF
 SCSCA
 SSCA
 SLSP
 SSSP
 SSBUCK
 SRSF
 SRSP
 TWSNA
 VESELY
 WKSCR
 WSSPPU
 WTSNA
 WSWA
 WCSP