

# TURKEY SEASONS, BAG LIMITS & REGULATIONS



Only one turkey may be taken in each season, except for those hunters who possess a second license for the spring season, in which case a second bearded bird can be taken. Only one bird may be harvested per day, however. **A second turkey license can be purchased before the start of the regular spring turkey season (by May 2, 2014)** from any issuing agent or on the Game Commission website ([www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us)).

## FALL TURKEY SEASON (MALE OR FEMALE):

WMU 1B	Nov. 2-9 & Nov. 28-30
WMU 2B (Shotgun, archery only)	Nov. 2-22 & Nov. 28-30
WMUs 1A, 2A 2D, 2F, 2G & 2H	Nov. 2-16 & Nov. 28-30
WMUs 2C, 2E, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D & 4E	Nov. 2-22 & Nov. 28-30
WMU 5A	Nov. 5-7
WMUs 5B, 5C & 5D	CLOSED TO FALL HUNTING

## SPRING GOBBLER SEASON: May 3-31, 2014

Statewide. Only turkeys with visible beards are legal. Hunting by calling only — no stalking — one-half hour before sunrise until noon from May 3 through May 17, and then from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset from May 19 through May 31. Hunters are asked to be out of the woods by 1 p.m. when closing hours are noon.

## YOUTH SPRING TURKEY HUNT: April 26, 2014

Statewide. Bearded birds only. Eligible junior hunters only with the required license and accompanied by an adult as required by law (see License Information section). The hunt will observe early season spring gobbler hours, starting one half hour before sunrise until noon. Only one bearded bird is legal.

## MENTORED YOUTH HUNTING PROGRAM:

Youngsters under 12 participating in the Mentored Youth Hunting Program can hunt on the Youth Spring Turkey Hunt day. Only one turkey may be taken by mentored youth hunters in the spring. Also, an adult mentor can transfer one fall turkey tag to a mentored youth. See the Mentored Youth Program section elsewhere in the Digest for details.

## REGULATIONS:

In both spring and fall seasons, it is unlawful to possess or use live turkeys as decoys, or to drive or use electronic callers or devices. Dogs can be used to hunt turkeys during the fall season but not during the spring.

**Blinds:** The use of turkey blinds is legal under the following definition: Any artificial or manufactured turkey blind consisting of all man-made materials of sufficient density to block the detection of movement within the blind from an observer outside the blind. Artificial or manufactured turkey blinds consisting of all man-made materials means blinds must be constructed of plastic, nylon, canvas, cotton cloth, plywood or other man-made materials. Blinds made by piling rocks, logs, branches, etc. are unlawful. The blind must completely enclose the hunter on all four sides and from above to block the detection of movement within the blind. When fluorescent orange is required at a stationary calling location in fall seasons, at least 100 square inches must be displayed outside the blind and within 15 feet of the blind, visible 360 degrees.

## ARMS & AMMUNITION:

**Fall Season:** 1) Manually operated rifles and handguns, including rimfires; 2) Manually operated and semi-automatic shotguns limited to a three-shell capacity in the chamber and magazine combined; 3) Muzzleloading shotguns, rifles and handguns; and 4) Long, recurve, compound bows (minimum draw weight of 35 pounds) or crossbows with broadheads of

cutting edge design.

Single projectile ammunition or shot no larger than No. 4 lead, No. 2 steel or No. 4 of any other U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service approved nontoxic shot. The fall seasons in WMU 2B (and the Allegheny County portion of 2A) are limited to shotguns and long, recurve, compound bows or crossbows with broadheads of cutting edge design.

## ARMS & AMMUNITION:

**Spring Gobbler Season:** 1) Manually operated and semi-automatic shotguns limited to a three-shell capacity in the chamber and magazine combined; 2) Muzzleloading shotguns of all types and gauges; 3) Long, recurve, compound bows (minimum draw weight of 35 pounds) or crossbows with cutting-edge broadheads.

Fine shot no larger than No. 4 lead, No. 2 steel or No. 4 of any other approved nontoxic shot. Rifle/shotgun combination guns may be used if ammunition is limited to shotgun shells. Carrying or using single projectile ammunition, rifles or handguns is unlawful.

## FLUORESCENT ORANGE REQUIREMENTS:

**Fall Season:** Turkey hunters must wear at least 250 square inches of fluorescent orange on the head, chest and back combined, visible 360 degrees at all times when moving. May be removed at a stationary calling location, providing a minimum of 100 square inches of fluorescent orange is posted within 15 feet of the location and is visible 360 degrees.

• **Exception:** In WMU 2B, which is limited to hunting with shotguns and bows and arrows, hunters when moving must wear a hat containing a minimum of 100 square inches of solid fluorescent orange material, visible 360 degrees at all times. While fluorescent orange is not required in this zone at stationary calling locations, it is strongly recommended.

**Spring Season: Fluorescent orange is not required but is recommended when moving.**

## TAGGING, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Successful turkey hunters must follow all instructions printed on tags supplied with licenses. Separate tags are provided for fall and spring seasons. The turkey must be tagged immediately after harvest and before the carcass is moved. The tag must be securely attached to a leg until the bird is prepared for consumption or mounting. Once you have used your tag it is unlawful to possess it in the field. Also, please remember to remove your old hunting license from your possession while in the field. If you keep your old licenses with you while hunting you may accidentally use a tag from a previous year and unwittingly violate the law.

Turkey hunters must report harvests to the PGC in Harrisburg within 10 days (5 days for mentored youth hunters), online at the Game Commission's website [www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us), or using a postage-paid report card supplied in this Digest. In addition to other information, hunters are asked to identify the WMU where the bird was taken. Hunters can also report their turkey harvest over the telephone through the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system by calling 1-855-PAHUNT1 (1-855-724-8681). Sportsmen will need to have their license and their copy of the carcass tag attached to the harvested turkey available to complete the call. Sportsmen should record the confirmation number supplied by the IVR system for the turkey reported. For more details, see the "Tagging, Transporting & Reporting" section under "Big Game Regulations" in this Digest.