

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing  
5 Sections 3.1, 3.1-5, 3.1-9, 3.2, and 3.3 and by adding Section  
6 1.2v-1 as follows:

7 (520 ILCS 5/1.2v-1 new)

8 Sec. 1.2v-1. Youth. "Youth" means a person under 18 years  
9 of age.

10 (520 ILCS 5/3.1) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.1)

11 Sec. 3.1. License and stamps required.

12 (a) Before any person shall take or attempt to take any of  
13 the species protected by Section 2.2 for which an open season  
14 is established under this Act, he shall first have procured and  
15 possess a valid hunting license, except as provided in Section  
16 3.1-5 of this Code.

17 Before any person 18 ~~16~~ years of age or older shall take or  
18 attempt to take any bird of the species defined as migratory  
19 waterfowl by Section 2.2, including coots, he shall first have  
20 procured a State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp.

21 Before any person 18 ~~16~~ years of age or older takes,  
22 attempts to take, or pursues any species of wildlife protected

1 by this Code, except migratory waterfowl, coots, and  
2 hand-reared birds on licensed game breeding and hunting  
3 preserve areas and state controlled pheasant hunting areas, he  
4 or she shall first obtain a State Habitat Stamp. Veterans with  
5 disabilities and former prisoners of war shall not be required  
6 to obtain State Habitat Stamps. Any person who obtained a  
7 lifetime license before January 1, 1993, shall not be required  
8 to obtain State Habitat Stamps. Income from the sale of State  
9 Furbearer Stamps and State Pheasant Stamps received after the  
10 effective date of this amendatory Act of 1992 shall be  
11 deposited into the State Furbearer Fund and State Pheasant  
12 Fund, respectively.

13 Before any person 18 ~~16~~ years of age or older shall take,  
14 attempt to take, or sell the green hide of any mammal of the  
15 species defined as fur-bearing mammals by Section 2.2 for which  
16 an open season is established under this Act, he shall first  
17 have procured a State Habitat Stamp.

18 (b) Before any person who is a non-resident of the State of  
19 Illinois shall take or attempt to take any of the species  
20 protected by Section 2.2 for which an open season is  
21 established under this Act, he shall, unless specifically  
22 exempted by law, first procure a non-resident license as  
23 provided by this Act for the taking of any wild game.

24 Before a nonresident shall take or attempt to take  
25 white-tailed deer, he shall first have procured a Deer Hunting  
26 Permit as defined in Section 2.26 of this Code.

1           Before a nonresident shall take or attempt to take wild  
2 turkeys, he shall have procured a Wild Turkey Hunting Permit as  
3 defined in Section 2.11 of this Code.

4           (c) The owners residing on, or bona fide tenants of, farm  
5 lands and their children, parents, brothers, and sisters  
6 actually permanently residing on their lands shall have the  
7 right to hunt any of the species protected by Section 2.2 upon  
8 their lands and waters without procuring hunting licenses; but  
9 the hunting shall be done only during periods of time and with  
10 devices and by methods as are permitted by this Act. Any person  
11 on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States who  
12 is now and who was at the time of entering the Armed Forces a  
13 resident of Illinois and who entered the Armed Forces from this  
14 State, and who is presently on ordinary or emergency leave from  
15 the Armed Forces, and any resident of Illinois who has a  
16 disability may hunt any of the species protected by Section 2.2  
17 without procuring a hunting license, but the hunting shall be  
18 done only during such periods of time and with devices and by  
19 methods as are permitted by this Act. For the purpose of this  
20 Section a person is a person with a disability when that person  
21 has a Type 1 or Type 4, Class 2 disability as defined in  
22 Section 4A of the Illinois Identification Card Act. For  
23 purposes of this Section, an Illinois Person with a Disability  
24 Identification Card issued pursuant to the Illinois  
25 Identification Card Act indicating that the person named has a  
26 Type 1 or Type 4, Class 2 disability shall be adequate

1 documentation of the disability.

2 (d) A courtesy non-resident license, permit, or stamp for  
3 taking game may be issued at the discretion of the Director,  
4 without fee, to any person officially employed in the game and  
5 fish or conservation department of another state or of the  
6 United States who is within the State to assist or consult or  
7 cooperate with the Director; or to the officials of other  
8 states, the United States, foreign countries, or officers or  
9 representatives of conservation organizations or publications  
10 while in the State as guests of the Governor or Director. The  
11 Director may provide to nonresident participants and official  
12 gunners at field trials an exemption from licensure while  
13 participating in a field trial.

14 (e) State Migratory Waterfowl Stamps shall be required for  
15 those persons qualifying under subsections (c) and (d) who  
16 intend to hunt migratory waterfowl, including coots, to the  
17 extent that hunting licenses of the various types are  
18 authorized and required by this Section for those persons.

19 (f) Registration in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Migratory  
20 Bird Harvest Information Program shall be required for those  
21 persons who are required to have a hunting license before  
22 taking or attempting to take any bird of the species defined as  
23 migratory game birds by Section 2.2, except that this  
24 subsection shall not apply to crows in this State or  
25 hand-reared birds on licensed game breeding and hunting  
26 preserve areas, for which an open season is established by this

1 Act. Persons registering with the Program must carry proof of  
2 registration with them while migratory bird hunting.

3 The Department shall publish suitable prescribed  
4 regulations pertaining to registration by the migratory bird  
5 hunter in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird  
6 Harvest Information Program.

7 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

8 (520 ILCS 5/3.1-5)

9 Sec. 3.1-5. Apprentice Hunter License Program.

10 (a) ~~The Beginning 120 days after the effective date of this~~  
11 ~~amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, the~~ Department  
12 shall establish an Apprentice Hunter License Program. The  
13 purpose of this Program shall be to extend limited hunting  
14 privileges, in lieu of obtaining a valid hunting license, to  
15 persons interested in learning about hunting sports.

16 (b) Any resident or nonresident may apply to the Department  
17 for an Apprentice Hunter License. The Apprentice Hunter License  
18 shall be a one-time, non-renewable license that shall expire on  
19 the March 31 following the date of issuance.

20 (c) ~~The For persons aged 17 and under, the Apprentice~~  
21 ~~Hunter License shall entitle the licensee to hunt while~~  
22 ~~supervised by a validly licensed resident or nonresident~~  
23 ~~parent, guardian, or grandparent. For persons 18 or older, the~~  
24 Apprentice Hunter License shall entitle the licensee to hunt  
25 while supervised by a validly licensed resident or nonresident

1 hunter who is 21 years of age or older. ~~Possession of an~~  
2 ~~Apprentice Hunter License shall serve in lieu of a valid~~  
3 ~~hunting license, but does not exempt the licensee from~~  
4 ~~compliance with the requirements of this Code and any rules and~~  
5 ~~regulations adopted pursuant to this Code.~~

6 (d) In order to be approved for the Apprentice Hunter  
7 License, the applicant must request an Apprentice Hunter  
8 License on a form designated and made available by the  
9 Department and submit a \$7 fee, which shall be separate from  
10 and additional to any other stamp, permit, tag, or license fee  
11 that may be required for hunting under this Code. The  
12 Department shall adopt suitable administrative rules that are  
13 reasonable and necessary for the administration of the program,  
14 but shall not require any certificate of competency or other  
15 hunting education as a condition of the Apprentice Hunter  
16 License.

17 (Source: P.A. 95-739, eff. 7-17-08; 96-1213, eff. 7-22-10.)

18 (520 ILCS 5/3.1-9)

19 Sec. 3.1-9. Youth Hunting and Trapping License Licenses.

20 (a) Before any ~~Any resident~~ youth ~~age~~ under 18 years of age  
21 shall take or attempt to take any species protected by Section  
22 2.2 of this Code for which an open season is established, he or  
23 she shall first procure and possess a valid Youth Hunting and  
24 Trapping License ~~and under may apply to the Department for a~~  
25 ~~Youth Hunting License, which extends limited hunting~~

1 ~~privileges.~~ The Youth Hunting and Trapping License shall be a  
2 renewable license that shall expire on the March 31 following  
3 the date of issuance. The fee for a Youth Hunting and Trapping  
4 License is \$7.

5 ~~A For youth age 18 and under, the Youth Hunting and~~  
6 ~~Trapping License shall entitle the licensee to hunt while~~  
7 ~~supervised by an adult a parent, grandparent, or guardian who~~  
8 ~~is 21 years of age or older and has a valid Illinois hunting~~  
9 ~~license. Possession of a Youth Hunting License shall serve in~~  
10 ~~lieu of a valid hunting license, but does not exempt the~~  
11 ~~licensee from compliance with the requirements of this Code and~~  
12 ~~any rules adopted under this Code.~~

13 A youth licensed under this subsection (a) shall not hunt  
14 or carry a hunting device, including, but not limited to, a  
15 firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow unless the youth is  
16 accompanied by and under the close personal supervision of an  
17 adult ~~a parent, grandparent, or guardian~~ who is 21 years of age  
18 or older and has a valid Illinois hunting license.

19 ~~At age 19 years or when the youth chooses to hunt by~~  
20 ~~himself or herself, he or she is required to successfully~~  
21 ~~complete a hunter safety course approved by the Department~~  
22 ~~prior to being able to obtain a full hunting license and~~  
23 ~~subsequently hunt by himself or herself.~~

24 ~~In order to be approved for the Youth Hunting License, the~~  
25 ~~applicant must request a Youth Hunting License from the~~  
26 ~~Department and submit a \$7 fee, which shall be separate from~~

1 ~~and additional to any other stamp, permit, tag, or license fee~~  
2 ~~that may be required for hunting under this Code.~~ The  
3 Department shall adopt rules for the administration of the  
4 program, but shall not require any certificate of competency or  
5 other hunting or trapping education as a condition of the Youth  
6 Hunting and Trapping License. If a youth has a valid  
7 certificate of competency for hunting from a hunter safety  
8 course approved by the Department, he or she is exempt from the  
9 supervision requirements for youth hunters in this Section.

10 (b) ~~Any resident youth age 18 and under may apply to the~~  
11 ~~Department for a Youth Trapping License, which extends limited~~  
12 ~~trapping privileges. The Youth Trapping License shall be a~~  
13 ~~renewable license that shall expire on the March 31 following~~  
14 ~~the date of issuance.~~

15 A ~~For youth age 18 and under, the Youth Hunting and~~  
16 ~~Trapping License shall entitle the licensee to trap while~~  
17 ~~supervised by an adult a parent, grandparent, or guardian who~~  
18 ~~is 21 years of age or older and has a valid Illinois trapping~~  
19 ~~license. Possession of a Youth Trapping License shall serve in~~  
20 ~~lieu of a valid trapping license, but does not exempt the~~  
21 ~~licensee from compliance with the requirements of this Code and~~  
22 ~~any rules adopted under this Code.~~

23 A youth licensed under this Section ~~subsection (b)~~ shall  
24 not trap or carry a hunting device, including, but not limited  
25 to, a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow unless the youth is  
26 accompanied by and under the close personal supervision of an



1 adult ~~a parent, grandparent, or guardian~~ who is 21 years of age  
2 or older and has a valid Illinois trapping license.

3 ~~At age 19 years or when the youth chooses to trap by~~  
4 ~~himself or herself, he or she is required to successfully~~  
5 ~~complete a trapper safety course approved by the Department~~  
6 ~~prior to being able to obtain a full trapping license and~~  
7 ~~subsequently trap by himself or herself.~~

8 ~~In order to be approved for the Youth Trapping License, the~~  
9 ~~applicant must request a Youth Trapping License from the~~  
10 ~~Department and submit a \$7 fee, which shall be separate from~~  
11 ~~and additional to any other stamp, permit, tag, or license fee~~  
12 ~~that may be required for trapping under this Code. The~~  
13 Department shall adopt rules for the administration of the  
14 program, but shall not require any certificate of competency or  
15 other trapping education as a condition of the Youth Hunting  
16 and Trapping License. If a youth has a valid certificate of  
17 competency for trapping from a trapper safety course approved  
18 by the Department, then he or she is exempt from the  
19 supervision requirements for youth trappers in this Section.

20 (Source: P.A. 98-620, eff. 1-7-14; 99-78, eff. 7-20-15; 99-307,  
21 eff. 1-1-16; 99-868, eff. 1-1-17.)

22 (520 ILCS 5/3.2) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.2)

23 Sec. 3.2. Hunting license; application; instruction.  
24 Before the Department or any county, city, village, township,  
25 incorporated town clerk or his duly designated agent or any

1 other person authorized or designated by the Department to  
2 issue hunting licenses shall issue a hunting license to any  
3 person, the person shall file his application with the  
4 Department or other party authorized to issue licenses on a  
5 form provided by the Department and further give definite proof  
6 of identity and place of legal residence. Each clerk  
7 designating agents to issue licenses and stamps shall furnish  
8 the Department, within 10 days following the appointment, the  
9 names and mailing addresses of the agents. Each clerk or his  
10 duly designated agent shall be authorized to sell licenses and  
11 stamps only within the territorial area for which he was  
12 elected or appointed. No duly designated agent is authorized to  
13 furnish licenses or stamps for issuance by any other business  
14 establishment. Each application shall be executed and sworn to  
15 and shall set forth the name and description of the applicant  
16 and place of residence.

17 No hunting license shall be issued to any person born on or  
18 after January 1, 1980 unless he presents the person authorized  
19 to issue the license evidence that he has held a hunting  
20 license issued by the State of Illinois or another state in a  
21 prior year, or a certificate of competency as provided in this  
22 Section. Persons under 18 ~~16~~ years of age may be issued a  
23 Lifetime Hunting or Sportsmen's Combination License as  
24 provided under Section 20-45 of the Fish and Aquatic Life Code  
25 but shall not be entitled to hunt alone, without the  
26 supervision of an adult age 21 or older, unless they have a

1 certificate of competency as provided in this Section and ~~they~~  
2 ~~shall have~~ the certificate is in their possession while  
3 hunting.

4 The Department of Natural Resources shall authorize  
5 personnel of the Department or certified volunteer instructors  
6 to conduct courses, of not less than 10 hours in length, in  
7 firearms and hunter safety, which may include training in bow  
8 and arrow safety, at regularly specified intervals throughout  
9 the State. Persons successfully completing the course shall  
10 receive a certificate of competency. The Department of Natural  
11 Resources may further cooperate with any reputable association  
12 or organization in establishing courses if the organization has  
13 as one of its objectives the promotion of safety in the  
14 handling of firearms or bow and arrow.

15 The Department of Natural Resources shall designate any  
16 person found by it to be competent to give instruction in the  
17 handling of firearms, hunter safety, and bow and arrow. The  
18 persons so appointed shall give the course of instruction and  
19 upon the successful completion shall issue to the person  
20 instructed a certificate of competency in the safe handling of  
21 firearms, hunter safety, and bow and arrow. No charge shall be  
22 made for any course of instruction except for materials or  
23 ammunition consumed. The Department of Natural Resources shall  
24 furnish information on the requirements of hunter safety  
25 education programs to be distributed free of charge to  
26 applicants for hunting licenses by the persons appointed and

1 authorized to issue licenses. Funds for the conducting of  
2 firearms and hunter safety courses shall be taken from the fee  
3 charged for the Firearm Owners Identification Card.

4 The fee for a hunting license to hunt all species for a  
5 resident of Illinois is \$12. For residents age 65 or older,  
6 and, commencing with the 2012 license year, resident veterans  
7 of the United States Armed Forces after returning from service  
8 abroad or mobilization by the President of the United States,  
9 the fee is one-half of the fee charged for a hunting license to  
10 hunt all species for a resident of Illinois. Veterans must  
11 provide to the Department, at one of the Department's 5  
12 regional offices, verification of their service. The  
13 Department shall establish what constitutes suitable  
14 verification of service for the purpose of issuing resident  
15 veterans hunting licenses at a reduced fee. The fee for a  
16 hunting license to hunt all species shall be \$1 for residents  
17 over 75 years of age. Nonresidents shall be charged \$57 for a  
18 hunting license.

19 Nonresidents may be issued a nonresident hunting license  
20 for a period not to exceed 10 consecutive days' hunting in the  
21 State and shall be charged a fee of \$35.

22 A special nonresident hunting license authorizing a  
23 nonresident to take game birds by hunting on a game breeding  
24 and hunting preserve area only, established under Section 3.27,  
25 shall be issued upon proper application being made and payment  
26 of a fee equal to that for a resident hunting license. The

1 expiration date of this license shall be on the same date each  
2 year that game breeding and hunting preserve area licenses  
3 expire.

4 Each applicant for a State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp,  
5 regardless of his residence or other condition, shall pay a fee  
6 of \$15 and shall receive a stamp. The fee for a State Migratory  
7 Waterfowl Stamp shall be waived for residents over 75 years of  
8 age. Except as provided under Section 20-45 of the Fish and  
9 Aquatic Life Code, the stamp shall be signed by the person or  
10 affixed to his license or permit in a space designated by the  
11 Department for that purpose.

12 Each applicant for a State Habitat Stamp, regardless of his  
13 residence or other condition, shall pay a fee of \$5 and shall  
14 receive a stamp. The fee for a State Habitat Stamp shall be  
15 waived for residents over 75 years of age. Except as provided  
16 under Section 20-45 of the Fish and Aquatic Life Code, the  
17 stamp shall be signed by the person or affixed to his license  
18 or permit in a space designated by the Department for that  
19 purpose.

20 Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to require  
21 the purchase of more than one State Habitat Stamp by any person  
22 in any one license year.

23 The fees for State Pheasant Stamps and State Furbearer  
24 Stamps shall be waived for residents over 75 years of age.

25 The Department shall furnish the holders of hunting  
26 licenses and stamps with an insignia as evidence of possession

1 of license, or license and stamp, as the Department may  
2 consider advisable. The insignia shall be exhibited and used as  
3 the Department may order.

4 All other hunting licenses and all State stamps shall  
5 expire upon March 31 of each year.

6 Every person holding any license, permit, or stamp issued  
7 under the provisions of this Act shall have it in his  
8 possession for immediate presentation for inspection to the  
9 officers and authorized employees of the Department, any  
10 sheriff, deputy sheriff, or any other peace officer making a  
11 demand for it. This provision shall not apply to Department  
12 owned or managed sites where it is required that all hunters  
13 deposit their license, permit, or Firearm Owner's  
14 Identification Card at the check station upon entering the  
15 hunting areas.

16 (Source: P.A. 97-498, eff. 4-1-12; 98-800, eff. 8-1-14.)

17 (520 ILCS 5/3.3) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.3)

18 Sec. 3.3. Trapping license required. Before any person  
19 shall trap any of the mammals protected by this Act, for which  
20 an open trapping season has been established, he shall first  
21 procure a trapping license from the Department to do so. No  
22 traps shall be placed in the field, set or unset, prior to the  
23 opening day of the trapping season.

24 Traps used in the taking of such mammals shall be marked or  
25 tagged with metal tags or inscribed in lettering giving the

1 name and address of the owner, and absence of such mark or tag  
2 shall be prima facie evidence that such trap or traps are  
3 illegally used and the trap or traps shall be confiscated and  
4 disposed of as directed by the Department.

5 Before any person 18 ~~16~~ years of age or older shall trap,  
6 attempt to trap, or sell the green hides of any mammal of the  
7 species defined as fur-bearing mammals by Section 2.2 for which  
8 an open season is established under this Act, he shall first  
9 have procured a State Habitat Stamp.

10 ~~Before a trapping license shall be issued to any person~~  
11 ~~under the age of sixteen years, such person shall obtain the~~  
12 ~~written consent of his father, mother or legally constituted~~  
13 ~~guardian to obtain such license.~~

14 Beginning January 1, 2016, no trapping license shall be  
15 issued to any person born on or after January 1, 1998 unless he  
16 or she presents to the authorized issuer of the license  
17 evidence that he or she has a certificate of competency  
18 provided for in this Section.

19 The Department of Natural Resources shall authorize  
20 personnel of the Department, or volunteer instructors, found by  
21 the Department to be competent, to provide instruction in  
22 courses on trapping techniques and ethical trapping behavior as  
23 needed throughout the State, which courses shall be at least 8  
24 hours in length. Persons so authorized shall provide  
25 instruction in such courses to individuals at no charge, and  
26 shall issue to individuals successfully completing such

1 courses certificates of competency in basic trapping  
2 techniques. The Department shall cooperate in establishing  
3 such courses with any reputable association or organization  
4 which has as one of its objectives the promotion of the ethical  
5 use of legal fur harvesting devices and techniques. The  
6 Department shall furnish information on the requirements of the  
7 trapper education program to be distributed free of charge to  
8 applicants for trapping licenses by the persons appointed and  
9 authorized to issue licenses.

10 The owners residing on, or bona fide tenants of farm lands,  
11 and their children actually residing on such lands, shall have  
12 the right to trap mammals protected by this Act, for which an  
13 open trapping season has been established, upon such lands,  
14 without procuring licenses, provided that such mammals are  
15 taken during the periods of time and with such devices as are  
16 permitted by this Act.

17 (Source: P.A. 98-913, eff. 1-1-15; 99-868, eff. 1-1-17.)