



Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Purchasing a Turkey Hunting License in Minnesota

GENERAL SPRING LOTTERY DRAWING AND PREFERENCE SYSTEM

How is my preference level determined? Your preference level is determined by the number of years you have submitted a valid application without winning. You will receive **preference only if you use the same MDNR# from last year.**

What happens to my preference if I do not apply? Nothing, it remains where it was the last time you applied in the lottery.

What happens to my preference if I buy an over-the-counter license? Nothing, it remains where it was the last time you applied in the lottery.

Which time periods do I need to apply for? If you want to firearms hunt in time periods A, or B and you are an adult, you need to apply. If you are under 18 years old or you are purchasing an archery license, you do not need to apply.

OVER-THE-COUNTER LICENSES

Can't I just buy a turkey license over-the-counter? Yes, all adult firearms spring turkey licenses for the C through F time periods are sold over-the-counter in an unlimited number. All youth licenses are sold over-the-counter except for special hunts, and all archery licenses are sold over-the-counter. All fall turkey licenses are sold over-the-counter.

SURPLUS LICENSES

When can I buy a surplus license? If you applied for a turkey license but did not receive a winner's notice you can purchase a surplus license over-the-counter, first come, first serve, beginning in mid-March. The following day, any remaining available licenses will be offered to any eligible person on a first come, first serve basis Watch for DNR announcements in the media or check the DNR Web Page at [This link takes you to the MNDNR's main webpage](#) for exact dates.

FALL TURKEY

Do I need to apply for a fall turkey License? No, all fall turkey licenses are sold over-the-counter and they are unlimited in number.

Where can I hunt fall turkey? Statewide, but you must select and hunt in just one permit area.

ARCHERY LICENSES

What is a spring turkey archery license? A spring turkey archery license lets you take a turkey during the entire spring turkey season. You are not limited to one time period. They are all sold over-the-counter.

Can I buy both an archery and regular turkey license? No, you can only buy one license.

MILITARY LICENSES

Military residents on leave:

Military residents on leave who have maintained legal residency in Minnesota (must have a valid MN DL or Public Safety ID) and who are serving in the U.S. Military and stationed outside the state may hunt wild turkeys without charge after obtaining the appropriate licenses and tags from an ELS license agent by presenting official leave papers. You do not need to apply in the lottery.

Discharged Military Residents:

Military residents who have served at any time during the preceding 24 months in federal active service outside the United States and have been discharged from active service who have maintained legal residency in Minnesota (must have a valid MN DL or Public Safety ID) may hunt wild turkeys without charge after obtaining the appropriate licenses and tags from an ELS license agent by presenting official leave papers. You do not need to apply in the lottery.

Military residents who have served at any time during the past 24 months (but not discharged from overseas), resident Purple Heart Recipients, and residents with a 100% Service connected disability who want to hunt in a lottery time period

You must purchase a Turkey license, and apply for time periods A or B, but you will receive first preference in drawings. You must complete the application for preference and apply for the drawing by the appropriate deadlines.