

GENERAL INFORMATION

- In addition to a Spring Turkey Permit, a valid Kansas hunting license is required of all residents age 16 through 74 and all nonresidents regardless of age except persons hunting their own land.
- Many licenses are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase. Visit www.ksoutdoors.gov/365-licenses for details.
- Select licenses and permits purchased online include an auto-renew option, which can automatically renew those purchases upon expiration. License buyers can opt in/out of auto-renew at any time. Visit www.ksoutdoors.gov/auto-renew for details.
- Residents ages 65-74 may purchase an annual hunting license at half the regular price (\$15). Residents age 75 or older are exempt from hunting license requirements, but they must have a Spring Turkey Permit.
- Dogs may NOT be used while hunting turkeys.
- Turkey permits are not transferable.
- Turkeys may be shot only while they are on the ground or in flight; it is illegal to shoot turkeys roosting in trees.
- Permits and duplicate permits are valid on day of purchase.
- Turkey permits are valid only in unit numbers printed on those permits or tags. (See map for unit boundaries.)
- It's illegal to use drugs, chemicals, or any chemical compound as part of or in conjunction with broadhead arrows to take turkeys.
- It's illegal to shoot at, kill, or pursue turkeys from water, air, or land vehicles (without a disability/hunt from vehicle permit).
- It's illegal to use two-way radios in any manner for the purpose of pursuing, chasing, or hunting turkeys, or to give information concerning the location of turkeys by radio or mechanical means.
- It's illegal to use live decoys and electronic calls when hunting turkeys.

REFUNDS

Permit refunds can be issued for the following reasons: **(1)** death of the applicant prior to season of use; **(2)** medical emergency or illness of permittee or an immediate family member preventing permittee from participating in the activity for which the permit was issued, prior to season of use; **(3)** permit was issued in error by the department; **(4)** armed forces personnel experiencing a change of duty station prior to the first day of season, preventing use of the permit; or **(5)** in the instance of a catastrophic disaster; natural or unnatural, declaration of war or police action, that prevents the permittee from participating in the activity for which the permit was issued.

KDWP will not issue a hunting license refund for applicants who were unsuccessful in a draw.

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sex (gender), sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information, or protected veteran's status, in employment, access to programs, or other KDWP benefits or services. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any employment, access to programs, or other KDWP benefit or service, please submit a complaint to: Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Office of the Secretary, 1020 S Kansas Ave. Topeka, KS 66612-1327 (785) 296-2281. 01/26

SEASON DESCRIPTIONS

YOUTH & DISABILITY

All youth 17 or younger who possess a valid Spring Turkey Permit may hunt with **any legal equipment** during this season while under the immediate supervision of an adult age 18 or older.

Any person who possesses a valid Spring Turkey Permit and has a permit to hunt from a vehicle pursuant to K.A.R. 115-18-4 or a disability assistance permit issued pursuant to K.A.R. 115-18-15, may also hunt with any legal equipment during this season.

Any person with a permanent physical or visual disability that prevents them from hunting safely, as certified by a physician, may be eligible to obtain a permit to designate someone else to take a turkey for the permit holder. A permit holder who is, because of disability, unable to pursue a wounded turkey may designate any individual to assist in pursuing and dispatching. For more information, or for a disability assistance application, contact the KDWP Pratt Operations Office, (620) 672-5911 option #6 for Law Enforcement.

ARCHERY

Anyone who possesses a valid Spring Turkey Permit may hunt during this season using a longbow, recurve bow, crossbow or compound bow.

REGULAR

Anyone who possesses a valid Spring Turkey Permit may hunt during this season using any legal equipment.

HUNTING LICENSES

Resident Hunting License \$27.50
Resident Senior (ages 65-74) Hunting License \$15.00
Resident Youth (15 or younger) Hunting License N/A

Nonresident Hunting License \$127.50
Nonresident Youth (15 or younger) Hunting License \$42.50

PERMIT QUOTAS

RESIDENT (Over the counter)

Units 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 - Unlimited permits

NONRESIDENT (Draw Only)

Unit 1 - 700 permits
Unit 2 - 2,400 permits
Unit 3 - 2,800 permits
Unit 5 - 900 permits
Unit 6 - 2,900 permits

UNIT 4 (Draw Only)

Unit 4 - 175 permits (Residents)
Unit 4 - 200 permits (Landowner/Tenant)

REPORT WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS TO
OPERATION GAME THIEF at 1 (877) 426-3843

This publication is a summary of spring turkey hunting regulations. Complete laws and regulations are available online at ksoutdoors.gov/regulations.

SEASON DATES

Youth & Disability: April 1-14, 2026

Archery: April 6-14, 2026

Regular: April 15-May 31, 2026

SHOOTING HOURS

1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

PERMIT/BAG LIMIT

One turkey with a visible beard. There will be no additional game tags valid for a second turkey available in 2026 for resident and non-resident hunters.

FEES

RESIDENT Units 1, 2, 3, 5, 6

Available over-the-counter, online at GoOutdoorsKansas.gov, or through the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app.

Resident Permit \$27.50
Resident Landowner/Tenant Permit \$15.00
Resident Youth (15 or younger) Permit \$7.50
Nonresident Tenant Permit \$32.50

NONRESIDENT Units 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 (Draw)

Available through lottery draw only. Apply online at GoOutdoorsKansas.gov, the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app or by calling 833-587-2164 no later than Feb. 13, 2026.

Nonresident Permit \$87.50
Nonresident Youth (15 or younger) Permit \$22.50
Preference Point (instead of applying for current draw) \$12.50

Prices include the \$12.50 nonrefundable application fee.
Unsuccessful applicants will receive
a preference point for future draws.

Draw results should be available by the end of February.
Leftover permits will be sold first-come, first-served.

UNIT 4 (Draw)

Available through lottery draw only. Apply online at GoOutdoorsKansas.gov, the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app or by calling 833-587-2164 no later than Feb. 13, 2026.

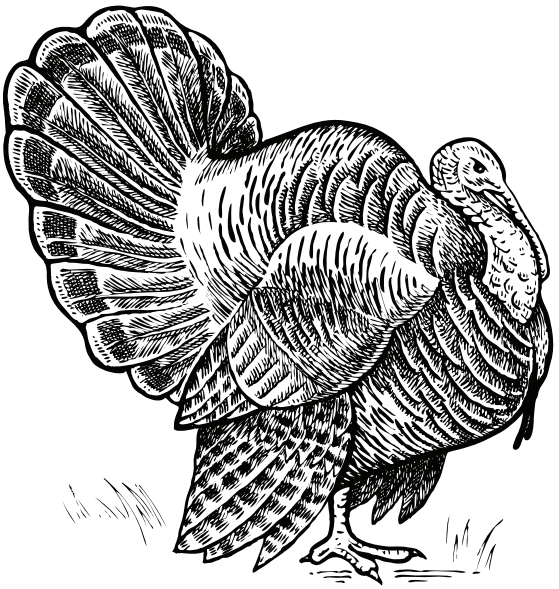
(RESIDENTS/NONRESIDENT TENANTS ONLY)

Resident Unit 4 Permit \$32.50
Resident Landowner/Tenant Unit 4 Permit \$20.00
Nonresident Tenant Unit 4 Permit \$37.50
Unit 4 Preference Point (instead of applying for current draw) \$7.50

Prices include the \$7.50 nonrefundable application fee.
Unsuccessful applicants will receive
a preference point for future draws.

Draw results should be available by the end of February.
Leftover permits will be sold first-come, first-served.

2026
Kansas
Spring Turkey
Regulations
Summary



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512 SE 25th Ave.
Pratt, KS 67124
(620) 672-5911
ksoutdoors.gov

REQUIREMENTS

AGE, HUNTER EDUCATION

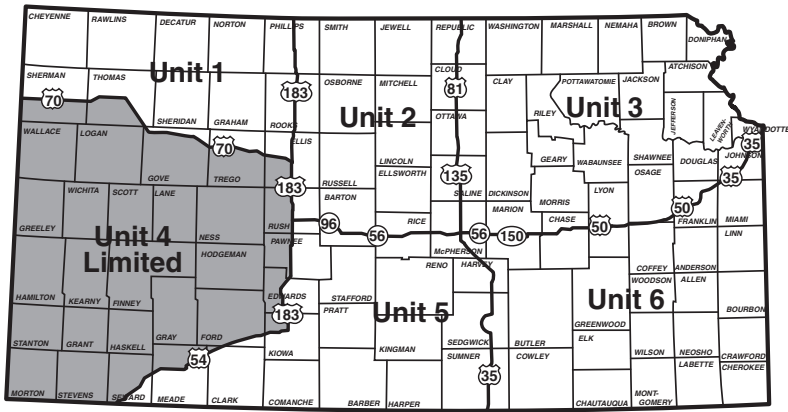
There is no minimum age to hunt turkeys in Kansas. Anyone born on or after July 1, 1957, must be certified by an approved course in hunter education before they can hunt in Kansas EXCEPT that anyone age 15 and younger may hunt without hunter education certification provided they are under the direct supervision (immediate audible and visual control) of an adult age 18 or older. Persons age 16 or older who have not completed a hunter education course are eligible to purchase up to two apprentice hunting licenses, which allow the license holder to hunt while accompanied by a licensed adult age 18 or older. Hunting licenses, including apprentice licenses, are valid 365 days from date of purchase. In addition to the license, a permit is also required to hunt turkeys in Kansas.

Hunters who have completed an approved hunter education course must carry their certificate, or card, while hunting until age 27. Only persons hunting on their own land are exempt from this requirement. Except during the youth season, hunters age 12 to 15 may hunt without adult supervision, provided they possess a valid hunter education certificate and valid turkey permit.

RESIDENCY

A resident is defined as a person who has maintained a permanent abode in the state for 60 days immediately prior to purchase. Domiciliary intent is required, evidence of which may include the location where the person votes, pays personal income taxes or obtains a driver's license. Members of the armed services on active duty who were Kansas residents at the time of entering the service – and immediate family members living with them – are considered residents. Members of the armed services on active duty and officially stationed in Kansas may purchase resident licenses and permits (including applying for a Unit 4 permit), except for lifetime licenses. Any holder of a Kansas lifetime hunting license who has moved from the state may apply for and purchase permits as a resident. Any person who is a registered full-time student in residence at a public or private secondary, post secondary, or vocational school located in Kansas may purchase resident licenses and permits (including applying for a Unit 4 permit), except lifetime licenses. While hunting, the student must carry evidence of being a full-time student residing in Kansas.

SPRING TURKEY MANAGEMENT UNITS



TROPHY TURKEY AWARD

Hunters who harvest a turkey that scores 65 or higher on the scoring system described below are eligible to receive a Trophy Turkey Award certificate issued by the KDWP. To score a turkey, weigh it on accurate scales, then measure the beard and spurs to the nearest 1/8 of an inch. Each beard is measured at the point of protrusion from the skin to the opposite end of the longest bristle. Each spur is measured from a point where the hard spur protrudes from the leg to the tip of the spur.

To score a bird, add its weight to the total beard length multiplied times two, then add the sum of spur lengths multiplied times 10.

Example: 20-pound bird, 10-inch beard and 1 2/8-inch spurs =
20 + 20 (10-inch beard x 2) + 25 (2 4/8 x 10) = 65

Applications are available at KDWP offices and at ksoutdoors.gov. Separate records are kept on typical and non-typical turkeys with multiple beards or spurs. Only turkeys harvested in Kansas may be entered.

METHOD OF TAKE

Legal equipment includes shoulder-mounted shotguns and choked handguns with a minimum barrel length of 10 inches, shotguns using shot sizes 2-9, longbows, recurve bows, compound bows, and crossbows. No bow, crossbow or arrow may have any electronic device attached that controls the flight of the arrow. Devices that may be attached to a bow or arrow shall include lighted pin, dot or holographic sights; illuminated nocks; rangefinders; film or video cameras; and radio-frequency location devices; and draw-lock devices. Range-finding devices and optical scopes or sights that project no visible light toward the target and do not electronically amplify visible or infrared light may be used. Arrows used for hunting turkeys must be equipped with broadhead points that cannot pass through a ring 3/4-inch in diameter when fully expanded. Non-broadhead arrows may be possessed while hunting but may not be used to take wild turkeys. Devices capable of dispensing chemicals to take animals may not be used.

Youth and disabled permit holders may use any legal equipment during the spring youth/disabled season and archery season.

PERMITS

All individuals, regardless of land ownership and age, must possess a valid Spring Turkey Permit to hunt turkeys. **In addition, a valid Kansas hunting license is required of all residents age 16 through 74 and all nonresidents regardless of age, except persons hunting on their own land.**

No person shall apply for or purchase more than one Spring Turkey Permit valid for one bearded turkey. Permits obtained through false representation, misrepresentation, or in excess of the number authorized shall be invalid.

RESIDENTS

All Kansas residents and qualifying nonresident tenants may purchase a Spring Turkey Permit valid in Units 1, 2, 3, 5, or 6 over-the-counter, at GoOutdoorsKansas.gov or on the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app.

RESIDENT YOUTH

Resident hunters age 15 or younger may purchase youth permits at a reduced fee. **Youth permits are valid statewide, including Unit 4.**

LANDOWNERS/TENANTS

Residents who own or operate 80 acres or more of Kansas farm or ranch land located in the unit intended to hunt; or residents or nonresident tenants actively engaged in the agricultural operation of 80 acres or more of Kansas farm or ranch land for the purpose of producing agricultural commodities or livestock **AND** must **(1)** have a substantial financial investment in the production of agricultural commodities or livestock on such farm or ranch land and the potential to realize substantial financial benefit from such production or, **(2)** be a bona fide manager having an overall responsibility to direct, supervise, and conduct such agricultural operation and have the potential to realize substantial benefit from such production in the form of salary, shares of such production, or some other economic incentive based upon such production.

Members of the immediate family who live with a resident landowner or qualifying tenant may purchase or apply for a resident spring turkey permit as a landowner or as a tenant, but at least 80 acres must be owned by such landowner or operated by such tenant for each permit sought.

NONRESIDENTS (BY DRAW ONLY)

Spring Turkey Permits for nonresidents and nonresident youth must be obtained through a pre-season draw. A limited number of permits are issued (see “PERMIT QUOTAS”) and are valid only within the unit applied for. A \$12.50 nonrefundable application fee is due at the time of application. Successful applicants will be charged the remaining permit fee. Unsuccessful applicants will receive a preference point for future draws. A \$12.50 preference point may be purchased instead of applying for the current draw. **Applications can be made at GoOutdoorsKansas.gov, on the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app or by calling 833-587-2164 no later than Feb. 13, 2026.**

PERMITS (Continued)

UNIT 4 (BY DRAW ONLY)

Spring Turkey Permits for Unit 4 must be obtained through a pre-season drawing. The limited number of permits issued (see “PERMIT QUOTAS”) are valid only in Unit 4. Two hundred of these permits are reserved for applicants who qualify as landowners or tenants in that unit. **Applications for Unit 4 permits can be made at GoOutdoorsKansas.gov, on the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app or by calling 833-587-2164 no later than Feb. 13, 2026.**

DUPLICATES

In the event of loss or theft, duplicate permits may be obtained from any KDWP office, license agent or online for \$2.50. Duplicate permits will not be issued for harvested birds deemed inedible.

POST-HARVEST INSTRUCTIONS

At the time of purchase, hunters will have the option of a paper carcass tag or mobile/E-tag.

PAPER TAG: Sign PERMIT prior to hunting to validate it. After an animal is harvested, the CARCASS TAG must be signed, dated and attached to the animal in a visible manner before the carcass is moved from the harvest site.

Paper permits and tags purchased online must be printed at the time of purchase. To protect non-waterproof paper tags, cut it from the permit, place it in a clear plastic bag and attach it to the animal with a zip-tie or other secure manner.

The carcass tag must remain attached to the animal during transport and kept with the meat until it is consumed, given to another or otherwise disposed of.

Hunters using paper tags can complete a voluntary harvest report if they wish to “bone-out” in the field. Visit ksoutdoors.gov/harvest-reporting and follow the online instructions on how to complete the harvest report for your animal.

MOBILE/E-TAGS: Hunters who choose electronic delivery at the time of purchase will store their permits and tags on their mobile device in the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app. After harvest, open the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app and follow the instructions for the e-tag appropriate for the species/sex of harvest. A confirmation number will work the same as harvest reporting for a hunter wanting to bone out an animal and transport only meat from the harvest site.

SURVEYS: Hunters may be asked to complete online HARVEST SURVEYS at the end of the season. Information received helps biologists make informed decisions to manage healthy game populations. A random sample of hunters will be contacted, making it important to update your address each year when purchasing a permit/tags. Hunters surveyed will receive an email or postcard with a link to the online survey. Questions about this survey or assistance in completing surveys may be obtained through the KDWP Research and Survey Office, (620) 342-0658. State law (K.S.A. 32-937) requires hunters receiving a harvest report card to complete the survey.

