

**CHAPTER 6236**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**TURKEYS**

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**TURKEY HUNTING**

**6236.0100 DEFINITIONS.**

Subpart 1. **Scope.** The terms used in this chapter have the meanings given them in this part.

Subp. 2. **Agricultural land or grazing land.** "Agricultural land" or "grazing land" has the meaning given "agricultural land" under Minnesota Statutes, section 97B.001.

Subp. 3. **Bearded turkey.** "Bearded turkey" means a turkey with a visible beard. A beard is a feathered appendage protruding from the breast and generally found only on males.

Subp. 4. **Landowner or tenant.** "Landowner" or "tenant" means a person who is an owner or tenant of and who lives on at least 40 acres of agricultural or grazing land within the zone being applied for.

Subp. 5. **Legal bow and arrow.** "Legal bow and arrow" means a bow that has a pull of no less than 40 pounds, at or before full draw, and that is not drawn, held, or released by a mechanical device. Arrowheads must be of a blunt head design or:

- A. sharp and have a minimum of two metal cutting edges;
- B. of a barbless broadhead design and function, as follows:

(1) nonretractable arrowheads are barbless if the trailing edge of each blade creates a 90 degree or greater angle with the shaft of the arrow; and

(2) retractable arrowheads are a barbless design if the trailing edge of each blade creates a 90 degree or greater angle with the shaft when the blades are fully retracted. Retractable arrowheads function in a barbless manner if, when withdrawn from a wild turkey, the blades retract so that the trailing edge of each blade is at a 90 degree or greater angle to the arrow shaft; and

C. of a diameter of at least seven-eighths of an inch at or after impact with a wild turkey.

Subp. 6. **Legal firearms.** "Legal firearms" means shotguns 20 gauge or larger, or muzzleloading shotguns 12 gauge or larger, using fine shot size No. 4 or smaller diameter shot.

Subp. 7. **Wild turkey permit area.** "Wild turkey permit area" means an area of the state comprised of partial, single, or grouped deer and bear registration blocks where taking wild turkeys is authorized by permit.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; 97B.723; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 19 SR 484; 19 SR 2222; 20 SR 2287*

**6236.0200 TURKEY LICENSE ELIGIBILITY.**

To be eligible for a turkey license, a person must not have any small game hunting privileges revoked within one year prior to purchasing a turkey license.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97A.435*

**History:** *18 SR 83*

**6236.0300 TURKEY HUNT DRAWING.**

Subpart 1. **License application drawings.** Drawings will be conducted by the department to determine persons who will be eligible to purchase licenses for each season. The drawings will be subject to the quotas established by the commissioner. Preference in the respective drawings is given to applicants based upon the number of times they have correctly applied for a license for that hunt but have been unsuccessful. A person selected by the drawings is eligible to purchase a license to hunt turkey. Upon issuance of a turkey license for the spring or fall season, all accumulated preference for that season is lost.

Subp. 2. **Participation in application drawings.** Applicants may complete an application form for either the spring or fall turkey hunt or both. Qualifying individuals may apply for the resident landowner-tenant turkey drawing. All of the information in items A to G must be supplied on the application forms.

A. A resident applicant 18 years or older must provide the applicant's individual Minnesota driver's license number of 13 characters, a 13-character firearms safety number, or an official state of Minnesota identification number of 13 characters issued by the Department of Public Safety.

B. A nonresident 18 years or older must provide a driver's license number or other identification number.

C. A resident or nonresident applicant age 12 to 15 by the opening day of the season may provide one of the above numbers or may participate in the drawing without a number by providing the applicant's full first, middle, and last name and date of birth. Youthful applicants who do not provide a number will be placed into the drawing using a number generated by the department.

D. An applicant must choose one of the wild turkey permit areas and one of the time periods.

E. Up to four persons desiring to hunt together as a group may apply by submitting their drawing applications in one envelope. Applications by a group must all be for the same wild turkey permit area and time period. The person within a group with the lowest preference rating will determine the preference rating of the group. Properly completed applications which are submitted in one envelope will either all be selected or none selected. Mixing landowner-tenant applications with general applications will not be permitted for purposes of applying as a group.

F. A person who makes a faulty application or who applies as a landowner or tenant but does not meet the definition as provided by this part will be ineligible for that season's drawings.

G. Application deadlines are as follows:

(1) spring season: the first Friday in December; and

(2) fall season: the Friday nearest June 29.

Subp. 3. **Landowner-tenant drawing.** A landowner-tenant license application drawing will be held subject to the restrictions in items A to F.

A. An applicant must meet all eligibility requirements and must provide a complete and accurate description of the qualifying land.

B. An applicant must be a landowner, tenant, or a member of the landowner's or tenant's immediate family.

C. For each wild turkey permit area and time period, no more than 20 percent of the successful participants will be drawn from the special landowner-tenant applications.

D. An individual participant in the landowner-tenant drawing may submit only one application and only for the turkey wild turkey permit area in which the participant resides.

E. Applicants unsuccessful in the landowner-tenant drawing will be included in the general drawing.

F. Landowner-tenant licensees must allow turkey hunting as provided by Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.435, and the commissioner will provide descriptions of these lands to licensed turkey hunters.

Subp. 4. **Modification of quota numbers for group applications.** The quota of licenses or permits for a drawing may be increased to accommodate group members if the last applicant to be selected is a member of a group.

Subp. 5. **Drawing application fee.** An applicant must submit, along with the application, a cashier's check, money order, or personal check payable to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Any check that is returned to the department for nonpayment will invalidate the application and the check will be destroyed. Refunds of application fees will not be made for any reason.

Subp. 6. **Undersubscribed wild turkey permit areas.** A second preference drawing may be held for undersubscribed time periods. All unsuccessful applicants for the wild turkey permit area that includes the undersubscribed time period will be eligible for the second drawing.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; 97B.723*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 20 SR 2287*

#### **6236.0400 OBTAINING LICENSE.**

The following provisions apply to persons who have applied for a turkey license:

A. Only successful applicants will be notified.

B. Successful applicants will receive a license application with instructions for obtaining their licenses. Persons who do not return the license application and the fee according to the provisions specified on the license application or who do not provide all the requested information will be disqualified.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; 97B.723*

**History:** *18 SR 83*

#### **6236.0500 TURKEY HUNT LICENSE RESTRICTIONS.**

Turkey hunters licensed for the same wild turkey permit area and time period may assist other licensed turkey hunters but each hunter may not shoot or tag a turkey for another hunter.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; 97B.723*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 20 SR 2287*

#### **6236.0550 FIREARM AND BOW AND ARROW RESTRICTIONS.**

While afield hunting turkeys, licensees may not have in possession or control any firearm or bow and arrow except those defined as legal as provided by part 6236.0100.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *19 SR 484*

#### **6236.0600 SPRING TURKEY SEASON.**

Subpart 1. **Open dates.** The spring turkey season opens the Wednesday nearest April 15 and consists of seven consecutive five-day periods.

Subp. 2. **Shooting hours.** Shooting hours for turkeys during the spring season are from one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon.

Subp. 3. **Bag limit.** The bag limit for the spring season is one bearded turkey.

Subp. 4. **Open areas.** Wild turkey permit areas are open for the spring turkey season as prescribed by the commissioner.

Subp. 5. **Registration.** Turkeys must be registered no later than 2:00 p.m. of the day taken during the spring turkey season.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; 97B.721; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 19 SR 484; 20 SR 2287*

#### 6236.0700 FALL TURKEY SEASON.

Subpart 1. **Open dates.** The fall turkey season consists of two five-day periods, the first period beginning the Wednesday nearest October 15 and the second beginning the Wednesday nearest October 22.

Subp. 2. **Shooting hours.** Shooting hours for turkeys during the fall season are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Subp. 3. **Bag limit.** The bag limit for the fall season is one turkey of either sex or any age.

Subp. 4. **Open areas.** Wild turkey permit areas are open for the fall turkey season as prescribed by the commissioner.

Subp. 5. **Registration.** Turkeys must be registered within 24 hours after being taken during the fall turkey season.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711; 97B.721; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 19 SR 484; 20 SR 2287*

#### 6236.0800 [Repealed, 20 SR 2287]

#### 6236.0810 WILD TURKEY PERMIT AREA DESCRIPTIONS.

Wild turkey permit areas are comprised of partial, single, or grouped deer and bear registration blocks, as established in part 6232.4700, and are described as follows:

##### A. Wild turkey permit areas in Zone 1:

- (1) wild turkey permit area 152 consists of registration block 152;
- (2) wild turkey permit area 157 consists of registration block 157;
- (3) wild turkey permit area 158 consists of registration block 158; and
- (4) wild turkey permit area 159 consists of registration block 159;

##### B. Wild turkey permit areas in Zone 2:

- (1) wild turkey permit area 221 consists of registration block 221;
- (2) wild turkey permit area 222 consists of registration block 222;
- (3) wild turkey permit area 223 consists of registration block 223;
- (4) wild turkey permit area 224 consists of registration block 224;
- (5) wild turkey permit area 225 consists of registration block 225;
- (6) wild turkey permit area 226 consists of registration block 226;
- (7) wild turkey permit area 227 consists of registration block 227;
- (8) wild turkey permit area 228 consists of registration block 228;
- (9) wild turkey permit area 235 consists of registration block 235;
- (10) wild turkey permit area 236 consists of registration block 236;
- (11) wild turkey permit area 244 consists of registration block 244;
- (12) wild turkey permit area 251 consists of registration block 251;
- (13) wild turkey permit area 286 consists of registration block 286; and
- (14) wild turkey permit area 297-298 consists of registration blocks 297

and 298;

##### C. Wild turkey permit areas in Zone 3:

(1) wild turkey permit area 337-338 consists of registration blocks 337 and 338;

(2) wild turkey permit area 341-342 consists of registration blocks 341 and 342;

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347; (3) wild turkey permit area 343-347 consists of registration blocks 343 and

(4) wild turkey permit area 344 consist of registration block 344;

348; (5) wild turkey permit area 345-348 consists of registration blocks 345 and

(6) wild turkey permit area 346 consists of registration block 346; and

(7) wild turkey permit area 349 consists of registration block 349;

#### D. Wild turkey permit areas in Zone 4:

(1) wild turkey permit area 402 consists of registration block 402;

(2) wild turkey permit area 405 consists of registration block 405;

(3) wild turkey permit area 406 consists of registration block 406;

(4) wild turkey permit area 407 consists of registration block 407;

(5) wild turkey permit area 408 consists of registration block 408;

(6) wild turkey permit area 409 consists of registration block 409;

(7) wild turkey permit area 410 consists of registration block 410;

(8) wild turkey permit area 411 consists of those portions of registration block 411 described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of State Trunk Highway (STH) 78 and STH 210; thence along STH 210 in an easterly direction to STH 29; thence along STH 29 in a southerly direction to STH 235; thence along STH 235 in a westerly direction to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 38; thence along CSAH 38 to the intersection of STH 78; thence along STH 78 in a northerly direction to the point of beginning;

(9) wild turkey permit area 412 consists of registration block 412;

(10) wild turkey permit area 413 consists of registration block 413;

(11) wild turkey permit area 414 consists of registration block 414;

(12) wild turkey permit area 415 consists of those portions of registration block 415 described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Interstate Highway 94 (I-94) and State Trunk Highway (STH) 28; thence along STH 28 in a northeasterly direction to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 2; thence along CSAH 2 in an easterly direction to STH 238; thence along STH 238 to CSAH 26; thence along CSAH 26 to the Mississippi river; thence along the Mississippi river in a southerly direction to STH 23; thence along STH 23 to the intersection of CSAH 75; thence along CSAH 75 to the intersection of I-94; thence along I-94 in a westerly direction to the point of beginning;

(13) wild turkey permit area 416 consists of registration block 416;

(14) wild turkey permit area 417 consists of those portions of registration block 417 described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of State Trunk Highway (STH) 55 and STH 4; thence along STH 4 in a southerly direction to U.S. Highway 12; thence along U.S. Highway 12 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 104, Swift county; thence northerly on CSAH 104 to STH 55, Douglas county; thence along STH 55 in a southeasterly direction to the point of beginning;

(15) wild turkey permit area 418 consists of those portions of registration block 418 described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of Interstate Highway 94 and County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 10; thence along CSAH 10 in a southerly direction to State Trunk Highway (STH) 23; thence along STH 23 to STH 55, Stearns County; thence along STH 55 to STH 15; thence along STH 15 to Interstate Highway 94; thence along Interstate Highway 94 to the point of beginning;

(16) wild turkey permit area 419 consists of registration block 419;

- (17) wild turkey permit area 420 consists of registration block 420;
- (18) wild turkey permit area 421 consists of registration block 421;
- (19) wild turkey permit area 422 consists of registration block 422;
- (20) wild turkey permit area 423 consists of registration block 423;
- (21) wild turkey permit area 424 consists of registration block 424;
- (22) wild turkey permit area 425 consists of registration block 425;
- (23) wild turkey permit area 426 consists of registration block 426;
- (24) wild turkey permit area 427 consists of registration block 427;
- (25) wild turkey permit area 428 consists of registration block 428;
- (26) wild turkey permit area 429 consists of registration block 429;
- (27) wild turkey permit area 431 consists of registration block 431;
- (28) wild turkey permit area 433-446-447 consists of registration blocks 433, 446, and 447;
- (29) wild turkey permit area 435 consists of registration block 435;
- (30) wild turkey permit area 440 consists of registration block 440;
- (31) wild turkey permit area 442 consists of registration block 442;
- (32) wild turkey permit area 443 consists of registration block 443;
- (33) wild turkey permit area 448-449-451 consists of registration blocks 448, 449, and 451;
- (34) wild turkey permit area 450 consists of registration block 450;
- (35) wild turkey permit area 452 consists of registration block 452;
- (36) wild turkey permit area 453 consists of registration block 453;
- (37) wild turkey permit area 454-455-456-458 consists of registration blocks 454, 455, 456, and 458;
- (38) wild turkey permit area 457 consists of registration block 457;
- (39) wild turkey permit area 459 consists of registration block 459;
- (40) wild turkey permit area 461 consists of registration block 461;
- (41) wild turkey permit area 463 consists of registration block 463;
- (42) wild turkey permit area 464-465 consists of registration blocks 464 and 465; and
- (43) wild turkey permit area 466-467 consists of registration blocks 466 and 467; and

E. Wild turkey permit area 339-462 consists of registration blocks 339 and 462 in Zones 3 and 4.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.711*

**History:** *20 SR 2287; 24 SR 644*

### 6236.0900 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR TAKING TURKEYS.

Subpart 1. **Use of dogs.** A person may not be accompanied by a dog or dogs while taking turkeys.

Subp. 2. **Electronic devices.** Turkeys may not be taken with the aid of any electronic device, except that a hearing aid or other device designed to enhance hearing may be used.

Subp. 3. **Live decoys.** The use of live decoys is prohibited while taking turkeys.

Subp. 4. **Game refuges open to taking turkeys.** The Lost Lake refuge in Fillmore county, the Whitewater state game refuge in Winona county, the Minnetonka game refuge in Carver and Hennepin counties, the Albert Lea and Moscow state game refuges in Freeborn county, the Linn Lake state game refuge in Chisago county, the Rochester state game refuge in Olmsted county, the Stearns county state game refuge in Stearns county, the Claremont state game refuge in Dodge county, and the St. Croix

River and Stillwater game refuges in Washington county are open for the taking of turkeys during open wild turkey seasons in the zones in which they are located.

Subp. 5. **Wildlife management areas open to taking turkeys.** Those portions of the Carlos Avery wildlife management area posted with "Wildlife Sanctuary Do Not Trespass" signs that lie within an open turkey zone are open for the taking of turkeys during the spring turkey season.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97A.091; 97B.711; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 19 SR 484; 24 SR 644*

#### **6236.0950 TAGGING TURKEYS.**

Immediately after taking a turkey, the hunter must punch date of kill, sign, and attach the tag provided with the license to the turkey as specified on the tag. This tag must remain attached to the turkey during transit.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.721; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *19 SR 484*

#### **6236.1000 TURKEY REGISTRATION.**

A person taking a turkey must register the turkey at a designated registration station within the time specified for that season. The feathers, head, and feet must remain on the turkey until it is registered. An unregistered turkey may not be possessed outside the wild turkey permit area where taken unless it is being transported in a direct route to a registration station. Registration stations will be listed in materials provided to all licensees.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.721; and others at 19 SR 6*

**History:** *19 SR 484; 20 SR 2287*

### **TURKEY HUNTING GUIDES**

#### **6236.1100 LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR GUIDES.**

A person is qualified to obtain a turkey hunting guide license only in the wild turkey permit area and during the dates that their turkey hunting license is valid.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.725*

**History:** *18 SR 83; 20 SR 2287*

#### **6236.1300 GUIDE LICENSE PURCHASE DEADLINE.**

A turkey hunting guide license must be obtained before the individual season for which the guide has a valid turkey hunting license.

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 97B.725*

**History:** *18 SR 83*