

# NONRESIDENT SPRING TURKEY HUNTING

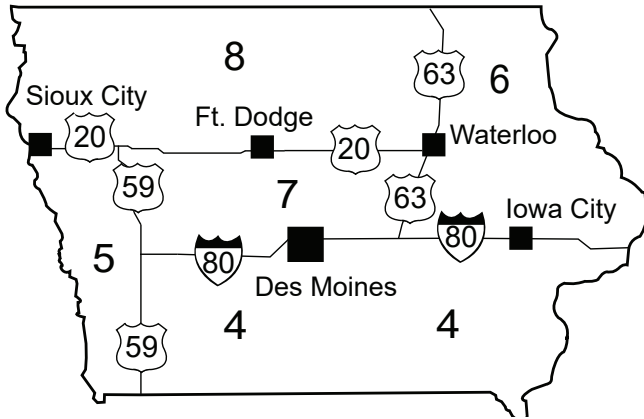
Applications accepted  
Jan. 1-25, 2026

## License Quotas: Combination Gun/Bow

(Number in parenthesis is number of applications received in 2025)

	<u>DATES</u>	<u>ZONE 4</u>	<u>ZONE 5</u>	<u>ZONE 6</u>	<u>ZONE 7</u>	<u>ZONE 8</u>
Season 1	April 13-16	262 (419)	55 (69)	165 (117)	35 (22)	20 (20)
Season 2	April 17-21	262 (377)	55 (70)	165 (96)	35 (21)	20 (31)
Season 3	April 22-28	262 (515)	55 (74)	165 (151)	35 (18)	20 (22)
Season 4	April 29-May 17	262 (584)	55 (98)	165 (235)	35 (38)	20 (45)
Muzzleloading Shotgun-only licenses:		150 statewide (95)				

## SPRING TURKEY ZONES



## NONRESIDENT HUNTING

Nonresident hunting licenses for 2026 are on sale Jan. 1, 2026. 2026 nonresident licenses expire Jan. 10, 2027.

Spring Turkey .....	<b>\$119.00</b>
Hunting 18 years & older .....	<b>\$131.00</b>
*Hunting 16-17 years old .....	<b>\$32.00</b>
Habitat Fee .....	<b>\$15.00</b>
Hunting & Habitat Fee Combo	
18 & Older .....	<b>\$144.00</b>
*Nonresidents under age 16 who hunt under the direct supervision of their properly licensed parent, guardian or other competent adult do not need a hunting license or pay the habitat fee.	

## NONRESIDENT LICENSE TYPES

Nonresidents may obtain one Spring Turkey License. Two types of licenses are issued:

**Combination Gun/Bow Licenses** are issued by zone and season and are valid only in the zone and season selected by the hunter at the time of purchase. A maximum of 2,148 licenses are available for 2026. Licenses are issued by a random drawing from a pool of applicants for each zone and season. Shotguns, muzzleloading shotguns, and bows may be used.

**Muzzleloading Shotgun-only Licenses** are issued by zone and season from a statewide pool of 150 licenses. Hunters may select any zone and season, but must hunt only in that zone and season. Only muzzleloading shotguns may be used.

## HOW TO PURCHASE NONRESIDENT LICENSES

Applications may be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from **Jan. 1 to the last Sunday in January**. Nonresident Spring Turkey hunting licenses must be applied for through the DNR's web-based license sales system at

gooutdoorsiowa.com and click on "Nonresident Deer and Turkey Tags" and follow the prompts. A nonrefundable application fee based on the total cost of the licenses will be added to all orders and provided at the time of application. The application and license fees may be charged to a MasterCard, Visa or Discover.

If applications are sold in excess of the license quota for any zone and season, a drawing will be held to determine which applicants receive licenses. Licenses or license fee refunds will be returned to unsuccessful applicants 6 to 8 weeks after the drawing is complete. License agent writing fees, department administrative fees, and Internet and telephone application fees will not be refunded.

If any quotas have not filled, the excess licenses will only be sold online beginning **6 a.m. Feb. 7, 2026**, until the quotas are filled or the last day of the respective season, whichever comes first. Hunters will be emailed regarding their draw status prior to the excess sale on Feb. 8. Please do not call the DNR. Your drawing status will not be provided over the phone.

## INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP APPLICATIONS

Hunters may apply individually or as a group of up to 15 applicants, with one member identified as the group leader. Members of a group must apply separately. The group leader must apply first and state that he/she is the group leader and obtain a group number. Then each member of the group must submit the group number when applying. **If there is a drawing, all members of the group will be assigned the preference point(s) of the member with the fewest points.** All members of a group will be accepted or rejected together in the drawing. Members of a group that are rejected may purchase excess licenses individually if any are available.

## PREFERENCE POINTS

Hunters who choose not to apply for a Spring Turkey license in 202 may purchase one preference point that will improve chances of getting a license in a future year. **Preference points may only be purchased Jan. 1-25.** Preference points are \$60.50 plus application fees and will be available online only.

If you are unsuccessful in the drawing, you will be assigned one preference point at a cost of \$60.50. An additional preference point will be assigned each year you apply but are denied a license. Preference points will not accrue in a year in which you fail to apply, but you will retain all preference points earned in previous years. Once you receive a Spring Turkey Hunting License, either through the drawing or by purchasing an excess license, your preference points will be removed. Preference points may be used in any zone or season. The first license drawing each year will be made from the pool of applicants with the most preference points and continue to pools with successively fewer points.

## HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Nonresident hunters born after Jan. 1, 1972, must provide proof of having successfully completed a hunter education course to apply for or obtain a turkey hunting license. Applicants will not be accepted without proof of completion. Hunters required to have hunter education certification and who have not previously bought an Iowa license may be required to either email ([customerservice@gooutdoorsiowa.com](mailto:customerservice@gooutdoorsiowa.com)) or call

(833-759-9797) in a copy of their hunter education certification card or letter to the Go Outdoors Iowa service desk.

## HUNTING REGULATIONS THAT APPLY TO ALL TURKEY HUNTERS (p. 14)

General hunting regulations that apply to all hunters are found in the **Iowa Hunting and Trapping Regulations** booklet available online and where licenses are sold. Regulations include definitions for legal method of take, tagging requirements and harvest reporting and more that turkey hunters must follow. Page numbers are included for quick reference.

## SHOOTING HOURS

**Gun/Bow:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

## LEGAL METHOD OF TAKE

■ Archery equipment as defined on p. 47, and .410, and 28-gauge shotguns shooting shot sizes no smaller than 10 shot. 20-, 16-, 12- and 10-gauge or muzzleloading shotguns shooting shot size 10 through 4, lead or nontoxic. **Muzzleloading rifles may not be used to hunt turkeys.**

■ **Nonresident Muzzleloading Shotgun-only License:** Muzzleloading shotguns shooting number 4 through 10 lead or nontoxic shot. Hunters may not have shot sizes other than those listed above on their person while hunting turkeys. **Muzzleloading rifles may not be used to hunt turkeys.**

## TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

The leg that bears the tag must be attached to the carcass of any wild turkey being transported within the state during any wild turkey hunting season. (p. 43)

## HARVEST REPORTING

All hunters who shoot a turkey must report the harvest through the DNR's Harvest Reporting System. Hunters who do not shoot a turkey do not report. (p. 43)

## DAILY BAG AND SEASON POSSESSION LIMIT

One bearded or male wild turkey per license and unfilled transportation tag issued to the hunter.



## PROHIBITED DEVICES AND ACTIVITIES

You may not use live decoys, dogs, horses, radios, motorized vehicles, aircraft, bait, recorded or electronically amplified turkey calls or electronically amplified imitations of turkey calls or sounds when hunting turkeys. Paraplegics and single- or double-leg amputees may hunt from any stationary motor-driven conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with the involvement of both legs, usually due to disease or injury to the spinal cord.


**"Bait"** means grain, fruit, vegetables, nuts, hay, salt, mineral blocks, or any other natural food materials, commercial products containing natural food materials, or by-products of such materials transported to or placed in an area for the purpose of attracting wildlife. Bait does not include food placed during normal agricultural activities.

## HELPING OTHER HUNTERS



A **nonresident** may assist other hunters only in the zone and season indicated on their license. The hunter doing the assisting may not carry a shotgun or bow or shoot a turkey unless he or she has a valid license and an unfilled transportation tag for that zone and season.



## IOWA'S ONLINE HUNTING ATLAS



AVAILABLE ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE



- HUNTING ALLOWED ON ALL AREAS LISTED
- ATLAS INCLUDES COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL LAND
- MORE THAN 680,000 ACRES STATEWIDE
- FIND HUNTING AREAS CLOSE TO HOME OR ACROSS THE STATE
- HUNTING SEASON AND ZONE INFORMATION INCLUDED