SEASON DESCRIPTIONS

YOUTH & DISABILITY (April 1–16, 2024)
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. 115–16–13, 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, and ask for Law Enforcement.

ARCHERY (April 8–16, 2024)
Anyone who possesses a valid Spring Turkey Permit may hunt during this season using a longbow, recurve bow, compound bow.

REGULAR (April 17–May 31, 2024)
Anyone who possesses a valid Spring Turkey Permit may hunt during this season using any legal equipment.
**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 immediately family members living with them — are considered residents. Members of the armed services on active duty and officially stationed in Kansas may purchase 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.

**LEGAL EQUIPMENT**

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. Longbows, recurve bows, compound bows, and crossbows, or arrow 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 pins, pin or holographic sights; illuminated nocks; rangefinders; film or video cameras; and radio-frequency transmission devices or 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.

**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, and multiply the sum of spur lengths multiplied times 10.

Example: 20-pound bird, 10-inch beard and 1 2/8-inch spurs =

\[ 20 + \frac{20}{10} \times 10 = 65 \]

Application is available at KDWP offices and one ksoutdoors.com. Duplicate applications must be printed at the time of purchase. Duplicate applications must be returned to one ksoutdoors.com.

**LEGAL EQUIPMENT**

Applicants must carry evidence of being a full-time student residing in Kansas.

**20 + \frac{20}{10} \times 10 = 65**

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

**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 nonresidents tenants may purchase a Spring Turkey Permit valid in Units 1, 2, 3, 5, or 6 over-the-counter, at GoOutdoorsKansas.com or on the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app.

**RESIDENT YOUTH**

Resident hunters age 15 or younger may purchase youth permits for 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 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 operations and have a substantial financial benefit from such production in the form of salary, shares of such production, or some other economic incentive based upon such production.

**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 deposit is required for each permit sought. 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. A $12.50 preference point can be made at GoOutdoorsKansas.com, on the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app or by calling (620) 672-5911 no later than Feb. 9, 2024.

**PERMITS (Continued)**

**UNIT 4 (BY DRAW ONLY)**

Spring Turkey Permits for Unit 4 must be obtained through a pre-season draw. 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 nonresident tenants actively engaged in the agricultural operation of 80 acres or more of Kansas farm 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 operations and have a substantial financial benefit from such production in the form of salary, shares of such production, or some other economic incentive based upon such production.

**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 ineligible.

**POST-HARVEST INSTRUCTIONS**

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

**PAPER TAGS**

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.

**MOBILE/ETAG TAGS**

Hunters choosing electronic delivery at the time of purchase will store their permits and tags within their mobile device in the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app. After harvest, open the GoOutdoorsKS mobile app and follow the instructions for the e-tag application or mobile app. A confirmation number will work the same as harvest reporting for a hunter wanting to bone-out an animal and transport the meat.

**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/tag. 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 Service Office, (620) 342-0638. State law (K.S.A. 32-9317) requires hunters receiving a harvest report card to complete the survey.