

Hunting Licenses

Hunter Safety Education Requirement

All first-time hunters must pass one or more courses before they can get a hunting license in New York.

Purchase Your Hunting License/Privilege/Permit License Types & Fees

Annual Hunting License

With this license you can hunt big game and small game.

****This license is required before other privileges (i.e. bowhunting, muzzleloading & turkey permit) can be purchased.*

Resident Fee	Nonresident Fee
\$22 (ages 16-69) \$5 (ages 70+) \$5 (ages 12-15)	\$100 (ages 16+) \$5 (ages 12-15) <i>(Note: It is not necessary to purchase a separate bear tag when buying a hunting license. Small game and big game hunting is now included in the annual hunting license for both residents and nonresidents.)</i>

Type	Resident Fee	Nonresident Fee	Needed For
Bowhunting Privilege	\$15 (ages 16-69) No fee (ages 70+) \$4 (ages 12-15)	\$30 (ages 16+) \$4 (ages 12-15)	
Muzzleloading Privilege	\$15 (ages 14-69) No fee (ages 70+)	\$30 (ages 14+)	
Turkey Permit	\$10 (ages 12+)	\$20 (ages 12+)	

Valid Dates of Annual Licenses/Privileges

- Annual hunting licenses and privileges are valid from September 1 through August 31 each year.

Free/Reduced Fee & Lifetime Licenses

- **Free/Reduced Fee Licenses:** You may qualify for free/reduced fee annual hunting licenses/privileges if you are:
 - Active duty military
 - Military veteran with 40% or greater disability
 - Junior hunter (12-15 years)
 - Senior citizen (70 years or older)
 - Native American member (select tribes)
 - Non-resident student attending a New York State College or University full-time
- **Lifetime Licenses:** Hunt for life with our lifetime licenses! Available to residents only.

Who Needs a Hunting License

You need a hunting license if you are:

- 12 years and older and using a firearm or bow to hunt or take wild game. Persons under age 12 cannot hunt.
 - *Junior Hunters (12-15):* review DEC regulations and information for junior hunters, ages 12-15.
 - *Additional Privileges/Permits:* depending on the season and species you are hunting you may need additional privileges or permits.

You do not need a hunting license if you are:

- A resident landowner primarily engaged in farming (including lessees and members of their immediate families) when **small game** hunting on farm lands they are occupying and cultivating.
- A Native American living and hunting on reservation land.
- Hunting on a licensed shooting preserve or big game shooting facility.

Note: To hunt turkey, all hunters must purchase a turkey permit. There are no exceptions.

Fishing Licenses

Most people fishing in New York need a New York State Fishing License.

Purchase Your Fishing License Types & Fees

General Fishing Licenses

Type	Resident Fee	Nonresident Fee
Annual <i>valid one full year (365 days) from the date of purchase</i>	\$25 (ages 16-69)	\$50
	\$5 (ages 70+)	
7-day	\$12	\$28
1-day	\$5	\$10

Free/Reduced Fee & Lifetime Licenses

- Free/Reduced Fee Licenses: You may qualify for a free/reduced fee annual fishing license if you are:
 - Active duty military
 - Military veteran with 40% or greater disability
 - Senior citizen (70 years or older)
 - Legally blind
 - Non-resident student attending a New York State college or university full-time
- Lifetime Licenses: Fish for life with a lifetime license! Available to residents only.

License Requirements

You need a fishing license if you are 16 years and older and fishing for:

- Freshwater fish species by angling, spearing, hooking, longbow, and tip-ups.
- Frog species by spearing, catching with the hands or by use of a club or hook.
- Freshwater baitfish for personal use.

Note: You need a marine fishing registration if fishing for migratory fish of the sea and saltwater fish species.

You do not need a fishing license if you are:

- Fishing on a licensed fishing preserve
- Fishing during the free fishing weekend
- Fishing at a free fishing clinic
- A resident landowner primarily engaged in farming (including lessees and members of their immediate families) when fishing on farm lands they are occupying and cultivating.
- A farm fish pond license holder (including members of their immediate families) fishing on waters covered by the license.
- A Native American living and fishing on reservation land.
- A patient residing at a qualifying U.S. Veterans Administration hospital or facility in New York State.

Recreational Marine Fishing Registry

Cost

No fee.

Valid Registration Dates

Registration is valid for one full year (365 days) from the date you register. There is no lifetime registration.

You need to register if you are 16 and older and are:

- Fishing for saltwater fish species in the marine and coastal district
- Fishing for migratory fish of the sea within tidal waters of the Hudson River and its tributaries, or waters of Delaware River or Mohawk River.

You do not need to register if you are:

- Fishing aboard an appropriately licensed party or charter boat in the marine and coastal district.
- A New York State licensed party/charter boat owner.
- A Connecticut or Rhode Island resident and have a valid marine fishing license from your resident state.
- Fishing for lobsters, crabs, clams, mussels, scallops, or oysters.

- **Recreational Activities Not Covered by Registration**

- **Tuna or shark fishing.** This requires a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- **Lobstering.** This requires a New York State recreational lobster permit (\$10), which is available to residents only. For more information, contact the Crustaceans Unit at 631-444-0430.
- **Crabbing.** The state does not require a license to recreationally harvest crab; however recreational crab harvest limits and seasons apply.
- **Shellfishing/Clamming.** The state does not require a license to recreationally harvest shellfish by non-mechanical means; however, towns may require residents to get a permit before harvesting in town waters.