



COMMERCIAL BIRD SHOOTING PRESERVE REQUIREMENTS

The laws governing this license may change periodically. License holders are required to maintain a knowledge and understanding of all laws pertaining to this license and to comply with all requirements contained in the laws. The most up-to-date version of the law can be found at codes.ohio.gov/.

DEFINITION

“Commercial bird shooting preserve” means an area of land where game birds are released and hunted by shooting, as authorized by a commercial bird shooting preserve license obtained under section 1533.72 of the Ohio Revised Code.

GENERAL INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

1. Annual shooting preserve license cost: \$200.00
2. This license covers the shooting preserve and all game birds held for use in the shooting preserve an additional Wild Animal Propagation License is NOT required.
3. A hunting license is NOT required to hunt approved game birds, other than wild turkeys.
4. The preserve shall be one contiguous block of land.
5. Maximum preserve size: 640 acres; minimum preserve size: 80 acres.
6. Preserves shall not be located within 1500 feet of each other.
7. The boundaries of the preserve must be posted with signs prescribed by the Division of Wildlife. Signs must be posted at intervals of no more than 200 feet.
8. The license will expire on the thirtieth (30) day of April each year.
9. Hunting hours: between sunrise and sunset.
10. No closed season on game birds legally acquired or propagated. Hunting may occur on Sundays.
11. Artificially propagated ring-necked pheasants, bobwhite quail, black ducks, mallards, chukar partridge, and any other game bird, on which there is an open season in Ohio, approved by the chief of the Division of Wildlife may be hunted. Other game can be hunted on the preserve only during the regular state seasons for those species.
12. No bag limit on artificially propagated game birds.
13. All birds taken by hunting must be banded with bands supplied by the Division of Wildlife before being transported outside the preserve.
14. Licensee must own or lease the preserve land.
15. At least five hundred (500) game birds must be released on the preserve during the season.
16. The operation of the commercial bird shooting preserve cannot conflict with a prior reasonable public interest.

17. Game birds sold for food must be tagged with a tag or seal approved by the Division of Wildlife. See Ohio Revised Code 1533.74.

ALLIED ACTIVITIES

1. Only a bona fide field trail club may apply for a permit from the state to hold a shooting field trial, and only from September 1 through April 30. Shooting field trails may be conducted without a state permit on a licensed shooting preserve on any day that the preserve may be legally operated if the preserve owner grants permission to do so.

WHERE TO GET ASSISTANCE, MATERIALS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Sign Requirements:
 - a. Lettering and layout as shown here:
 - b. Dimensions: 10 inches by 14 inches minimum.
 - c. Material: Durable, weather resistant.
 - d. Posting: Place signs no more than 200 feet apart and at least four feet above the ground.
 - e. The words “No Trespassing” on the sign are optional.



2. A list of all shooting preserves in Ohio may be obtained from the Division of Wildlife by contacting any Division of Wildlife district office.
3. For additional information, contact the wildlife district office or the wildlife officer in your county.
4. Commercial Bird Shooting Preserve Licensees are responsible for the provisions contained in Sections 1533.72, 1533.73 and 1533.74 of the Ohio Revised Code and Section 1501:31-31-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code. Up-to-date versions of these laws may be reviewed at: codes.ohio.gov/

SECTIONS OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE DEALING WITH LICENSED COMMERCIAL BIRD SHOOTING PRESERVES

1533.72 Licensing of commercial bird shooting preserves

(A) No person shall own or operate a commercial bird shooting preserve without a license issued by the chief of the Division of Wildlife under this section.

(B) Application for a commercial bird shooting preserve license shall be made on a form prescribed by the chief and shall be accompanied by an annual license fee of \$200.00. The application shall contain a list of which species of game birds are to be released for hunting in the preserve, a description of the lands that are to constitute the preserve, and any other information required by the chief.

(C) The chief, upon payment of the license fee, may issue to the applicant a commercial bird shooting preserve license if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The operation of the commercial bird shooting preserve does not conflict with a prior reasonable public interest;

(2) The proposed commercial bird shooting preserve meets the requirements established in division (A) of section 1533.73 of the Ohio Revised Code;

(3) The applicant is the owner or lessee of the land described in the application and maintains his status as the owner or lessee of the land until the license expires;

(4) The applicant produces evidence satisfactory to the chief that he will comply with division (E) of section 1533.73 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(D) All licenses issued under this section shall expire on the thirtieth (30) day of April of each year. Any license holder wishing to own or operate a commercial bird shooting preserve in the year following the expiration of his license shall apply for a new license under division (B) of this section.

(E) In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code, the chief may suspend or revoke a commercial bird shooting preserve license if he finds that the license holder has violated or is violating this chapter of Chapter 1531. of the Ohio Revised Code or any division rule.

1533.73 Regulations for commercial bird shooting preserves

(A) Except as otherwise provided in this division or by division rule, licensed commercial bird shooting preserves may be established in any county of the state, but no such preserve shall be less than 80 acres or more than 640 acres in area. A commercial bird shooting preserve shall be in one continuous block of land, except that the block of land may be intersected by highways or roads. No commercial

bird shooting preserve shall be located within 1,500 feet of any other such preserve.

A licensed commercial bird shooting preserve operated by a municipal corporation on lands located within its corporate limits is not subject to this division.

(B) The boundaries of each licensed commercial bird shooting preserve shall be clearly defined by posting, at intervals of not more than 200 feet, with signs prescribed by the Division of Wildlife.

(C) Mallard or black ducks and other game birds upon which there is an open season in this state, which the chief of the division may approve for such use, and that have been legally acquired or propagated under the authority of a propagating license issued under section 1533.71 of the Ohio Revised Code may be released and harvested by shooting within the confines of any licensed commercial bird shooting preserve between sunrise and sunset, without regard to sex, daily bag limit, or open season.

(D) No game birds shall be possessed or transported outside the licensed area unless each such bird is tagged with a suitable tag or seal supplied by the division.

(E) The holder of a commercial bird shooting preserve license shall raise, or purchase, and release on the licensed commercial bird shooting preserve, at least 500 pheasants annually. With the approval of the chief, the license holder may raise, or purchase, and release, in lieu of pheasants, a like number of other game birds. No person shall fail to release the required number of game birds on a licensed commercial bird shooting preserve as required by this division.

(F) The holder of a commercial bird shooting preserve license is not liable for any damage to or destruction of growing crops on land adjacent to the preserve caused by game birds released on the preserve.

(G) No holder of a commercial bird shooting preserve license shall violate this chapter or Chapter 1531. of the Ohio Revised Code or any division rule.

(H) A person may hunt game birds, other than wild turkeys, in a licensed commercial bird shooting preserve without obtaining a hunting license otherwise required by section 1533.10 of the Revised Code.

1533.74 Sale of game or wildlife for food; tags for sale or transportation

No game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur-bearing animals held under the authority of a license issued under this section 1533.71, 1533.72, 1533.721 of the Ohio Revised Code shall be sold for food unless the carcass of each game bird, game quadruped, or fur-bearing animal is tagged with a suitable tag or seal approved by the Division of Wildlife. Game birds, game quadrupeds, and fur-bearing animals so killed and tagged may be possessed, bought, or sold at any time. Common carriers shall receive

and transport game birds, game quadrupeds, and fur-bearing animals so tagged, but to every package containing them shall be affixed a tag or label upon which shall be plainly printed or written the name of the person to whom the license was issued, the name of the person to whom they are to be transported, the number of game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur-bearing animals contained in the package, and a statement to the effect that they were killed and tagged in accordance with sections 1533.71 to 1533.79 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The chief of the Division of Wildlife may adopt rules under section 1531.10 of the Ohio Revised Code necessary to administer this section.

This section and rules adopted pursuant to it do not apply to meat that has been inspected by the Department of Agriculture under chapter 918. of the Ohio Revised Code and rules adopted under it and that has been marked with an official inspection mark, stamp, or brand pursuant to that inspection.

1533.79 Control of parasites and diseased game and wildlife

- (A) The chief of the Division of Wildlife may adopt, amend, and rescind such rules as the chief considers necessary to control or eradicate parasites and diseases of domesticated or semi-wild game birds, game quadrupeds other than captive white-tailed deer, fur-bearing animals, or nonnative wildlife on the lands subject to sections 1533.71 to 1533.79 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (B) This chapter and Chapter 1531. of the Ohio Revised Code and division rules do not supersede the authority of the director of agriculture under Chapter 941. of the Ohio Revised Code to prevent the spread of dangerously contagious or infectious diseases and to provide for the control and eradication of such diseases.

1501.31-31-02 Ohio Administrative Code Commercial bird shooting preserves; tagging; permit application

(A) It shall be lawful to release game birds on a commercial bird shooting preserve without banding each bird prior to hunting. Provided further, it shall be unlawful to possess any bird taken from a commercial bird shooting preserve that does not have attached to it a tag or seal provided by the Division of Wildlife.

(B) It shall be unlawful to fail to clearly define the boundaries of each commercial bird shooting preserve with signs except commercial bird shooting preserves that are licensed along with a wild animal hunting preserve, and the commercial bird shooting preserve is within the enclosure of the wild animal hunting preserve. The signs must:

- (1) be constructed of a durable, weather resistant material;
- (2) be at least 10 inches by 14 inches in size;
- (3) read "Licensed Shooting Preserve", in English;
- (4) be placed at a height, above the ground, of no less than four feet;
- (5) be posted along all boundaries of the land described in the license at intervals that do not exceed 200 feet;

(C) All definitions set forth in rule 1501:31-1-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code shall apply to this rule.

Forms: **DNR 8912**, Commercial Bird Shooting Preserve Application and License
DNR 8850, Wild Animal Food Tag Approval Application

Wildlife District One
 1500 Dublin Road
 Columbus, Ohio 43215
 Phone: (614) 644-3925

Wildlife District Four
 360 E. State Street
 Athens, Ohio 45701
 Phone: (740) 589-9930

Wildlife District Two
 952 Lima Avenue
 Findlay, Ohio 45840
 Phone: (419) 424-5000

Wildlife District Five
 1076 Old Springfield Pike
 Xenia, Ohio 45385
 Phone: (937) 372-9261

Wildlife District Three
 912 Portage Lakes Drive
 Akron, Ohio 44319
 Phone: (330) 644-2293

