

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Code Book

The regulations in this Code Book are hereby adopted by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission under authority of Amendment 35 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas. All laws, rules, regulations, or orders in conflict with the regulations in this Code Book are hereby repealed by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

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03.01 License And Permit Requirements

It is unlawful to hunt or fish when and where a license, permit, tag or stamp is required without having on the person the appropriate license, permit, tag or stamp. It also is unlawful for any person to fail to comply with the terms of any Commission-issued license, permit, tag, or stamp ([Addendum D1.01](#)).

PENALTY: Class 1

03.02 Fishing License Requirements

It is unlawful to fish in any manner in Arkansas without possessing on the person the appropriate Arkansas fishing license as provided herein:

- A. Arkansas Resident (16 years of age and older) - Resident Fisheries Conservation License; Resident 3-Day Trip Fishing License; Lifetime Resident Combination Sportsman's License and Permit; Resident 65 Plus Lifetime Fishing License (or Resident 65 Plus Lifetime Combination License); Resident 65 Plus Annual Fishing License (or Resident 65 Plus Annual Combination License); Disabled Lifetime Fishing License (or Resident Disabled Lifetime Combination License); Resident Disabled Fishing 3-Year License (or Resident Disabled Combination 3-Year License); or Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Fishing License (or Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Combination License or Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Combination License and Permit).
- B. Nonresidents (16 years of age and older) - Non-Resident Annual Fishing License; Non-Resident 3-Day Trip Fishing License or Nonresident 14-Day Trip Fishing License.
- C. Persons must possess a valid Commercial Fishing Permit and Sportfishing License (CFS) to purchase tags for commercial tackle or to operate commercial tackle. A CFS holder may purchase a Helper Permit, which will allow the permitted helper to operate the CFS holder's tackle. Tackle tags may not be purchased with the Helper Permit. The Helper Permit does not confer sport-fishing rights.
- D. Youths and individuals 65 years of age or older are required to purchase a Junior/Senior Commercial Fishing Permit.
- E. In lieu of an Arkansas Nonresident Fishing License, Missouri resident fishing license holders, age 16 or older, are required to purchase a White River Border Lakes License (Addendum [H1.04](#)), in compliance with the White River Lakes License Agreement.

EXCEPTION: Persons fishing in put-and-take pay lakes licensed by the Commission.

PENALTY: Class 1

03.03 Resident Hunting License Requirements

It is unlawful for a resident to hunt wildlife by any means in Arkansas without possessing on the person the appropriate Arkansas hunting license as provided herein:

- A. To hunt alligator, deer, turkey, bear or elk, the hunter must have physical possession of a valid Arkansas hunting license. A temporary, internet license or a confirmation/authorization number from a telephone license order is not valid for hunting these species.
- B. Arkansas Residents (16 years of age and older) - **Small Game:** Resident Wildlife Conservation License; Resident Sportsman's License; **Big Game:** Resident Wildlife Conservation License (permits residents to harvest one legal deer during any deer season); Resident Sportsman's License; **Furbearer (Hunting):** Any valid hunting license. **Furbearer (Trapping):** Any valid hunting license and a resident trappers permit. **All game:** Holders of the following licenses are entitled to hunt all game, except if taking waterfowl an Arkansas Resident Waterfowl Stamp, Federal Waterfowl Stamp, and Harvest Information Program (HIP) are required: Resident 65 Plus Lifetime Sportsman's Hunting License (or 65 Plus Lifetime Combination License); Resident 65 Plus Annual Hunting License (or Resident 65 Plus Annual Combination License); Resident Disabled Lifetime Sportsman's Hunting License (or Resident Disabled Lifetime Combination License) Resident Disabled Hunting 3-Year License (or Resident Disabled Combination 3-Year License); Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Hunting License; or Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Combination License. **All game:** Holders of the following license are entitled to hunt all game, including waterfowl with a Federal Waterfowl Stamp and Harvest Information Program (HIP): Lifetime Resident Combination Sportsman's License and Permit; or Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Combination License and Permit.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Residents hunting on a licensed game bird shooting resort in compliance with regulations (Code [09.06](#)).
- B. In compliance with Code [04.04](#) and Addendum [B1.14](#).

PENALTY: Class 1

03.04 Nonresident Hunting License Requirements

It is unlawful for a nonresident, 16 years of age or older, to hunt wildlife by any means in Arkansas without possessing on the person the appropriate Arkansas hunting license as provided herein:

- A. To hunt deer, turkey, bear or elk, the hunter must have physical possession of a valid Arkansas hunting license. A temporary, internet license or confirmation/authorization number from a telephone license order is not valid for hunting these species.
- B. Nonresidents hunting small game only (excluding deer, elk, turkey and bear). Requirements: Nonresident Annual Small Game License, or Nonresident 5-Day Small Game License for a period of said license, and Nonresident Trapper Permit if trapping furbearers. Small game may also be taken on the Nonresident All Game Licenses. If hunting waterfowl, an Arkansas Nonresident Waterfowl Stamp, Federal Waterfowl Stamp and Harvest Information Program (HIP) are required.
- C. Nonresidents hunting deer, elk and/or wild turkey. Requirements: Nonresident Annual All Game License (provides holder all applicable tags for deer, bear and turkey); Nonresident 1-Day All Game License (provides holder 1 game tag); Non-Resident 3-Day All Game License (provides holder 2 game tags); or a Nonresident 5-Day All Game License (provides holder 3 game tags) and a Nonresident Trapper Permit if trapping furbearers.
- D. Nonresidents hunting bear. Requirements: Nonresident Annual All Game License.
- E. Nonresidents are ineligible to obtain public land permits through the permit draw process for hunting elk or alligators.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Nonresidents hunting on a licensed game bird shooting resort in compliance with regulations (Code [09.06](#)).
- B. In compliance with Code [04.04](#), Addenda [B1.14](#), [H1.01](#), [H1.03](#).
- C. Nonresidents who possess a Resident Lifetime License for either hunting or combination hunting-and-fishing (Addendum [D1.01](#)) obtained prior to September 1, 2021, while a bona fide Arkansas resident (Code [01.00](#)-C, RESIDENT) are eligible to obtain public land permits through the permit draw process for hunting elk or alligators.

PENALTY: Class 2

03.05 State Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamp Requirements

It is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl without having purchasing the appropriate Arkansas Resident or Nonresident Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamp, as indicated by holding a valid universal license form issued by the Commission or its representative, coded DSR or DSN (Addendum [D1.01](#)).

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Youths.
- B. Persons possessing a valid Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Sportsman's License.
- C. Persons possessing a valid Resident 65 Plus Lifetime Waterfowl Permit.
- D. In compliance with Code [04.04](#) and Addenda [B1.14](#), [H1.03](#).

PENALTY: Class 1

03.06 Nonresident Illegally Possessing Resident License

It is unlawful for any nonresident to possess while hunting, fishing or guiding any resident license, permit, tag, or stamp issued by the Commission, or at any time to represent a resident license, permit, tag, or stamp as his own.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Former residents who possess a valid Resident Lifetime License for hunting, fishing, or combination hunting-and-fishing, or possess a Resident Lifetime Permit for trout or waterfowl (Addendum [D1.01](#)).

PENALTY: Class 4

03.07 Possession Of License Of Another

It is unlawful while hunting or fishing to possess any license, permit, tag, or stamp issued by the Commission to any other person, or at any time to represent the license, permit, tag, or stamp of any other person as his own.

PENALTY: Class 1

03.08 Lending License Prohibited

It is unlawful to lend to any other person any license, permit, tag, or stamp issued by the Commission.

PENALTY: Class 1

03.09 Counterfeiting License Prohibited

- A. It is unlawful for any person to counterfeit, backdate, or alter any license, permit, tag, stamp, or hunter education or boater education certificate issued by the Commission.
- B. It is unlawful for any person knowingly to possess, sell, or offer for sale any counterfeited, backdated, or altered license, permit, tag, or stamp issued or purportedly issued by the Commission.

PENALTY: Class 4

03.10 Acceptable Proof Of License, Permit, Stamp, And Education Certificate

- A. When any Commission regulation requires a person to carry a Commission-issued license, permit, stamp, or hunter education or boater certificate “on the person,” possession of any of the following will be sufficient to establish compliance:
 - 1. a physical or an electronic copy of said Commission-issued license, permit, stamp, or hunter education or boater education certificate; or
 - 2. a Commission-issued Conservation Card that is linked to the required license, permit, stamp, or hunter education or boater education certificate.
- B. For purposes of this regulation, “electronic copy” shall mean an electronic image produced on a person's own cellular phone or other type of portable electronic device that clearly displays and accurately reproduces all of the information found on a Commission-issued license, permit, stamp, or hunter education or boater education certificate.
- C. For a state migratory waterfowl hunting stamp, an electronic copy of a person's Commission-issued hunting license coded DSR or DSN, or a Commission-issued Conservation Card linked to same, will be sufficient to establish compliance with Code 03.05
- D. For Federal Migratory Bird Hunting E-Stamp, an electronic copy of a person's Commission-issued hunting license coded FDE, or a Commission-issued Conservation Card linked to same, will be sufficient to establish compliance with Code [03.10](#) for up to 45 days from the date of purchase of the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting E-Stamp.
- E. For a Snow, Blue, or Ross's Goose Registration Permit, the following will be sufficient to establish compliance with Code [04.04](#):
 - 1. an electronic copy of a person's Commission-issued hunting license coded with the Snow, Blue, or Ross's Goose Registration Permit number;
 - 2. separate electronic copies of both a person's Commission-issued hunting license and a person's Commission-issued Snow, Blue, or Ross's Goose Registration Permit; or
 - 3. a Commission-issued Conservation Card linked to one of the previous options.
- F. The presentment of proof of an electronic copy of a Commission-issued license, permit, stamp, or hunter education or boater education certificate does not:
 - 1. Authorize a search of any other content of an electronic device without a search warrant or probable cause; or
 - 2. Expand or restrict the authority of a wildlife law enforcement officer to conduct a search or investigation.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Neither a Commission-issued Conservation Card nor electronic proof of tags shall be sufficient to establish compliance with any Commission regulation requiring a person to carry a Commission-issued tag “on the person.”
- B. Neither a Commission-issued Conservation Card nor electronic proof of a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp coded DFS shall be sufficient to establish compliance with Code [10.03](#). A Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp coded DFS must be possessed on the person in its original form and signed before harvesting waterfowl. See Code [10.03](#).
- C. Neither a Commission-issued Conservation Card nor electronic proof of a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting E-Stamp coded FDE shall be sufficient to establish compliance with Code [10.03](#) beyond 45 days from the date of purchase. After 45 days from the date of purchase, the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp must be possessed on the person in its original form and signed to continue harvesting waterfowl. See Code [10.03](#).
- D. Neither a Commission-issued Conservation Card nor electronic proof shall be sufficient to establish compliance with Chapter [09.00](#) or Code [10.02](#).

03.11 Falsifying Information Prohibited

- A. It is unlawful to furnish, record or provide any false information on any form, license, stamp, tag, permit, affidavit, or application, electronic or otherwise, furnished to or used by the Commission.
- B. It is unlawful to obtain by false application any license, permit, tag, stamp, or hunter or boater education certificate issued by the Commission.
- C. It is unlawful for an AGFC License Dealer knowingly to accept or input into the AGFC License System any false information.

PENALTY: Class 4

03.12 License Dealer Permit Required To Sell AGFC Licenses

- A. It is unlawful to sell or offer for sale any license, permit, tag, or stamp issued by the Commission without first obtaining a valid AGFC License Dealer Permit from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the Commission (Addendum [D1.02](#)). Permits shall be nontransferable and may be issued only to natural persons or business entities licensed to do business in the state(s) and locality(ies) where the license dealer will sell licenses, permits, tags, or stamps issued by the Commission.
- B. In addition to complying with Commission regulations, license dealers shall comply with the terms and conditions of the AGFC License Dealer Application, the AGFC License Dealer Agreement, and the AGFC License Dealer Permit.

EXCEPTION: An AGFC License Dealer Permit shall not be required in order for the Commission to sell or offer for sale licenses, permits, tags, or stamps issued by the Commission.

PENALTY: Class 3

03.13 Charging Unauthorized License Fees Prohibited

- A. It is unlawful for a license dealer to directly or indirectly charge, collect, or receive for any Commission-issued license, permit, tag, stamp, or other privilege an amount less than or in excess of the price established by the Commission for such Commission-issued license, permit, tag, stamp, or privilege.
- B. For the purposes of this code section, an excess cost, price, or charge includes but is not limited to a cash fee, convenience fee, credit card usage fee, service charge, surcharge, sales tax, or the requirement to rent or purchase goods or services as a condition of purchasing a Commission-issued license, permit, tag, stamp, or other privilege. For purposes of this code section, a deficient cost, price, or charge includes, but is not limited to, a discount on face value, a rebate or a discount for goods or services offered by the license dealer in exchange for the purchase of a Commission-issued license, permit, tag, stamp, or other privilege.
- C. License dealers who violate this Code [03.13](#) shall have their permits suspended as set forth in Addendum [D1.03](#).

PENALTY: Class 3

03.14 Resident Guide License Requirements

It is unlawful for any resident to guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in the taking of any species of wildlife by any means in Arkansas without possessing on the person the appropriate Arkansas guide license as provided herein:

- A. To guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in hunting in Arkansas, the guide must have physical possession of a valid Arkansas Resident Guide License/Hunting.
- B. To guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in hunting on WMAs, the guide must also have physical possession of a valid Arkansas Resident Special Guide License.
- C. To guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in fishing in Arkansas, the guide must have physical possession of a valid Arkansas Resident Guide License/Fishing.

PENALTY: Class 2

03.15 Nonresident Guide License Requirements

It is unlawful for any nonresident to guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in the taking of any species of wildlife by any means in Arkansas without possessing on the person the appropriate Arkansas guide license as provided herein:

- A. To guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in hunting on land not owned or leased by the Commission, the guide must have physical possession of a valid Arkansas Nonresident Guide License for Hunting.
- B. To guide, aid or assist another person, for pay or other consideration, in fishing in Arkansas, the guide must have physical possession of a valid Arkansas Nonresident Guide License for Fishing.
- C. It also is unlawful for any nonresident to exercise the rights of the Resident Special Guide License.

PENALTY: Class 3

03.16 Hunter Education Certificate Requirements

It is unlawful for persons born after 1968 to hunt wildlife without having on the person a valid Arkansas hunter education certificate.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Youths hunting under direct supervision of an adult at least 21 years of age.
- B. Persons possessing a valid hunting license/permit displaying the dealer imprinted code DHE (Code [01.00-C](#)). Requirements for a person to be eligible to hunt with DHE-coded licenses/permits are as follows:
 - 1. Be at least 16 years of age and born after 1968 and not huntereducation certified.
 - 2. Be in the immediate presence of an adult hunter who is at least 21 years of age and possesses valid hunter education certification, or who was born before 1969.
 - 3. Not eligible if convicted of prior violation of this regulation.
- C. Any person who has successfully completed a hunter education course approved by another state or province and has the valid hunter education certificate on his or her person.

PENALTY: Class 1

03.17 Boater Education Certificate Requirements

It is unlawful for any person with a birth date after 1985 to operate a motorboat or a personal watercraft without having on the person a valid Arkansas boater education certificate.

EXCEPTION: Any person who has successfully completed a boater education training course approved by the National Association of State Boating Administrators and has on his or her person a valid boating education certificate issued by another state.

PENALTY: Class 1

03.18 Guiding While Intoxicated Or Under The Influence Prohibited

It is unlawful for a holder of any Arkansas guide license to be guiding another person while the licensed guide is intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic drug, barbiturate, or marijuana.

PENALTY: Class 3; Suspension of guide and hunting/fishing licenses as set forth in Codes [01.00-L](#), [01.00-K](#).