



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
& ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE
McKay House - Wildlife and Hunter Safety Field Office
6180 Hay Point Landing Road
Smyrna, Delaware 19977

Office of the Director

Delaware Terms and Conditions of Wildlife Control Operator Permit

1. Permittee is not an employee of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), but is a private contractor.
2. This permit is in effect through XX/XX/XXXX, at which time it automatically expires unless revoked or invalidated for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the permit or for the conviction of a wildlife violation. Copies of this permit must be carried by the permittee or his/her designees. Change of address must be reported within 30 days or the permit becomes invalid.
3. Before obtaining a Delaware Wildlife Control Operator (WCO) Permit the prospective permittee must successfully complete the DFW's approved training course and obtain a passing grade of at least 80% on the competency exam.
4. Upon successful completion of the DFW's approved training course, WCOs will be permitted to conduct control activities on:
 - (a) Bats
 - (b) Raccoons
 - (c) Skunks
 - (d) Tree squirrels
 - (e) Unprotected birds.

To conduct control work on other wildlife species, the permittee must sign an affidavit stating they have reviewed the training information found within the Delaware Supplemental Species Training Manual for each additional species with which they intend to work.

5. Traps must be set according to best management practice standards published by the Division and must be set to avoid the taking of household pets and non-target wildlife.
6. Before a new permit is issued upon expiration or revocation of this permit, permittees must reapply for the program and retake a knowledge exam to ensure competency in the techniques used in nuisance wildlife control work.
7. An annual report of control activities undertaken in accordance with this permit must be submitted by January 31st of each year. Failure to submit a report will render this permit invalid without further action by the Division. Reports should be mailed to: Wildlife Section, 6180 Hay Point Landing Rd, Smyrna, DE 19977 or by email attention to joseph.rogerson@state.de.us.
8. Before a permit will be renewed, the permittee shall submit an annual report to the DFW which summarizes all control activities conducted during the previous year. A record shall be kept by the permit holder indicating the following information:

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- (a) Location of call.
- (b) Type of wildlife species removed/evicted.
- (c) Number and species of animals removed/evicted.
- (d) Disposition of the removed/evicted wildlife.
- (e) Technique/methods of control used (trapped, lured, excluded, single bat removed by opening windows, etc.).

These records shall be updated within 24 hours of the event or job completion and shall be open to inspection by the DFW at any time. This information shall be documented in an annual report, covering the calendar year, which should be filed with the DFW by January 31st each year. Failure to file an annual report by January 31st shall result in permit revocation.

A WCO permit may be renewed by the DFW when all reporting requirements for the previous year have been satisfactorily met at the discretion of the DFW.

9. The Permittee must possess a valid WCO permit. The permittee or their designee shall be in possession of this permit while engaged in nuisance wildlife control activities and shall show the permit to any member of the DFW or landowner requesting to see such permit.
10. Permittee may take, possess, and transport species protected by the Delaware Code in accordance with the term, conditions, and limitations of this permit.
11. It will be the responsibility of the Permittee to obtain proper authorization from subdivisions or municipalities when necessary to carry out nuisance wildlife control work in those respective areas, and to obtain the necessary municipal, state, and/or federal permits when necessary.
12. Permittee must describe to the client the estimated costs, types of control that will be used to alleviate damage, and obtain the landowner's or tenant's permission before initiating control efforts.
13. Permittee must have studied and agree to follow *the Delaware Best Management Practices for Bat Exclusions* document (available on <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/bats/>) and be familiar with effective and safe bat exclusion techniques.
14. Permittee must have read the *Delaware Bat-Related Health Concern Fact Sheet* document (available on <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/fw/bats/>) and agree to provide factual information to potential clients regarding bats and human health issues. Equipment used to exclude bats shall be decontaminated as per attached document or as indicated on the White-nose Syndrome.org website within the "Documents & Resources" section: http://static.whitenosesyndrome.org/sites/default/files/resource/national_wns_revise_final_6.25.12.pdf
15. Wildlife control must be done in a manner in accordance with Delaware's training program and standard WCO practice.
16. The use of firearms to destroy wildlife is prohibited within city limits. The use of firearms elsewhere shall be subject to county or state restrictions.
17. Permissible traps that may be used include the following:
 - (a) Body gripping traps with a jaw spread of 5 inches or less
 - (b) Foothold traps set beneath the waterline with a jaw spread less than 7 ¾"
 - (c) Foothold traps set above the waterline with a jaw spread less than 6 ½" (All foothold traps set above the waterline must have padded, offset, or laminated jaws)

- (d) Cable restraints
 - (e) Cage/Box traps
18. All traps must be tagged by the permittee's name and address, or WCO Permit Number in the following manner (Delaware WCO XX).
 19. All traps must be checked, and any captured animals or birds removed, no more than 24 hours after they are set. Permittees who rent, lend, or otherwise transfer traps to clients under authority of this permit are responsible for their client's compliance with this requirement.
 20. Permittee may not kill, take, possess, or transport white-tailed deer, wild turkey, bats, state or federally threatened or endangered species, or migratory birds unless they are declared unprotected by the State of Delaware and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), without special authorization from the DFW and accompanying state and/or federal permits when/where required.
 21. The Permittee must possess a valid Delaware Trapping License or valid License Exempt Number if the pelts or meat of animals harvested during an open trapping season for that species are to be sold. The pelts, meat, and glands from animals taken outside of a regulated season may not be sold.
 22. Injured wildlife may be taken to one of the DFW's licensed wildlife rehabilitators for care. When injured animals are encountered, the DFW may be contacted for advice.
 23. Wildlife which are destroyed or found dead will be promptly and properly disposed of by the Permittee. The carcass of all dead wildlife must be disposed of within 24 hours of their discovery. Above ground disposal of the carcass is not permitted. Methods of proper carcass disposal include:
 - (a) Placing in an approved waste receptacle to be hauled to an approved landfill.
 - (b) Taking to an approved landfill.
 - (c) Taking to an approved incinerator site.
 - (d) Taking to an approved renderer.
 - (e) Burying outside of city limits.
 - (f) Storing in a freezer until ready for proper disposal.All expenses/costs related to euthanizing an animal or disposal of carcasses are the responsibility of the permittee.
 24. Wildlife may NOT be kept in possession of the permittee for more than 24 hours. During this time, wildlife taken during control operations shall be released, taken to a wildlife rehabilitator, or euthanized. All coyotes captured must be euthanized and may not be released alive. No live animals may be taken out of the state without first seeking permission by notifying the DFW. Wildlife and their associated parts may not be retained for any purpose, and shall not be sold or given to other individuals, excluding fur-bearing animals as allowed (Item #21) when the permittee has the approval of the landowner to do so. Wildlife may not be used for display or programs, kept in captivity, or used for the purpose of training dogs.
 25. Wildlife which are relocated must be released in a suitable habitat, preferably within 10 miles of the capture location. Wildlife are not to be liberated in an area close to human dwellings or businesses, which would result in a transfer of, rather than a solution to, the nuisance problem. Wildlife shall NOT be released within the city limits of any city, State Wildlife Area, State Park property, or National Wildlife Refuge. Landowner permission is required before any wildlife are released onto a new location.

26. The use of toxicants for the taking of wildlife is permissible provided the permittee furnish all applicable state and/or federal permits or licenses to the DFW. All toxicant use must follow label instructions as well as methods described within the Delaware WCO Training Manuals.
27. Methods of euthanizing wildlife as authorized by this permit are limited to (refer to Item #20 for list of species that may not be euthanized without prior approval):
 - (a) Gunshot.
 - (b) Drowning.
 - (c) Cervical dislocation ONLY for the species in which this practice is recommended in the Delaware WCO Training Manuals.
 - (d) Inhalants, including: anesthetics such as ether, halothane, methoxyflurane, isoflurane, nitrous oxide, nitrous oxide, carbon monoxide, or carbon dioxide.
 - (e) Non-inhalant pharmaceutical agents (injectables) excluding: acetone (skunks), strychnine, nicotine, magnesium sulfate, potassium chloride, chloroform, and cyanide products.

All applicable state and/or federal laws must be followed governing the acquisition, use, and storage of any of the chemicals or agents used to conduct euthanasia. Proper euthanasia methods must be used, and appropriate disposal of the animal carcass is required. More information can be found from the American Veterinary Medical Association at <https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf>

28. Permittee shall at all times hereafter indemnify and save harmless the State of Delaware, DFW, from and against any and all losses, claims, demands, suits, costs, and expenses that may arise by reason of the issuance of this permit.
29. Any violation of the terms, limitations, or conditions of this permit as outlined above, or violations under the Delaware Code or DNREC Administrative Code, will result in the revocation or suspension of this permit and/or criminal prosecution.

THIS IS NOT A LICENSE TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN DELAWARE.