Fall Turkey Hunting Hours

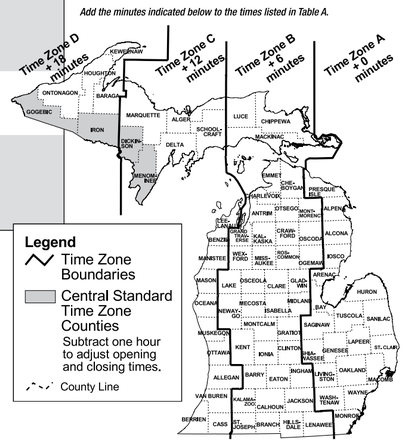
Below is a map of the 2012 hunting-hour zones. Legal hunting hours (one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset) for Time Zone A are printed below. To determine the opening (a.m.) or closing (p.m.) time for any day in another zone, add the minutes shown on the map for the zone to the time from the Time Zone A table.

The hunting hours listed in the table reflect Eastern Standard Time adjusted for daylight-saving time where appropriate. If you are hunting in Gogebic, Iron, Dickinson or Menominee counties (Central Standard Time), you must make an additional adjustment to the printed time by subtracting one hour.

Time Zone A. Hunting Hours Table.
One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset (adjusted for daylight-saving time).

2012	Sep.		Oct.		Nov.	
Date	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
1			7:00	7:43	7:36	6:55
2			7:01	7:41	7:38	6:54
3			7:02	7:39	7:39	6:52
4			7:03	7:38	6:40	5:51
5			7:04	7:36	6:41	5:50
6			7:06	7:34	6:43	5:49
7			7:07	7:33	6:44	5:48
8			7:08	7:31	6:45	5:47
9			7:09	7:29	6:46	5:46
10			7:10	7:28	6:48	5:45
11			7:11	7:26	6:49	5:44
12			7:12	7:24	6:50	5:43
13			7:13	7:23	6:51	5:42
14			7:15	7:21	6:53	5:41
15	6:43	8:11	7:16	7:20		
16	6:44	8:09	7:17	7:18		
17	6:45	8:08	7:18	7:16		
18	6:46	8:06	7:19	7:15		
19	6:47	8:04	7:21	7:13		
20	6:48	8:02	7:22	7:12		
21	6:49	8:01	7:23	7:10		
22	6:50	8:59	7:24	7:09		
23	6:51	7:57	7:25	7:07		
24	6:52	7:55	7:27	7:06		
25	6:53	7:53	7:28	7:04		
26	6:55	7:52	7:29	7:03		
27	6:56	7:50	7:30	7:02		
28	6:57	7:48	7:31	7:00		
29	6:58	7:46	7:33	7:29		
30	6:59	7:45	7:34	6:58		
31			7:35	6:56		

Add the minutes indicated below to the times listed in Table A.



Wild Turkey Management

Managing wild turkeys in Michigan involves the complex interactions of turkey populations, their habitat and their relationship to people. Hunting plays an important role in managing turkeys by regulating their numbers. The goal of the spring wild turkey hunting season is to maximize hunter opportunity while maintaining a satisfactory hunting experience. Limited to bearded turkeys only, this conservative harvest approach has allowed the continued growth and expansion of the wild turkey population in Michigan. Wild turkey hunting in the fall enables the DNR to stabilize or reduce wild turkey numbers in certain areas of the state to meet local goals based on habitat conditions and public attitudes. License quotas are developed to harvest the desired number of turkeys to meet the management goal. To help reach these goals, hunters are encouraged to harvest female turkeys during the fall season.

Wild Turkey Cooperator Patch

Michigan's wild turkey patch program is coordinated by the Michigan chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, in partnership with the DNR. Young hunters, ages 10-17, who have a valid wild turkey hunting license may receive a free patch. To receive a patch, please send name and complete address, along with a legible copy of the youth's valid wild turkey hunting license, to National Wild Turkey Federation, Wild Turkey Patch Program, P.O. Box 8, Orleans, MI 48865. **Please allow four to six weeks for delivery.** If you have questions please e-mail michiganwildturkeypatch@yahoo.com.

Adult hunters, collectors and other interested individuals may purchase the patch for $5, including postage and handling. Only the current-year patch is available for purchase. You do not have to harvest a turkey to purchase a patch. Send orders to the address above, and please make your check or money order payable to the National Wild Turkey Federation. The NWTF is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the American wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting tradition. Proceeds from patch sales are used to fund wild turkey-related projects and wildlife management in Michigan. Each year the NWTF, working cooperatively with the DNR, contributes more than $300,000 to wild turkey and hunter-heritage programs in Michigan.

General Rules

Hunting Hours—It is unlawful to take or attempt to take a turkey except from one-half hour before local sunrise to one-half hour after local sunset. See the hunting hours in this digest.

Bag Limit—One turkey (any sex) per fall turkey license. It is unlawful to tag a turkey you did not kill, use a tag of another, use a tag more than once or allow another person to use your tag. Turkeys may not be taken while they are in a tree.

Hunting Methods—Hunters may use a bow and arrow, a crossbow, a firearm that fires a fixed shotgun shell or a muzzleloading shotgun for turkey hunting. Crossbow hunters may use only arrows, bolts, and quarrels for taking turkey with broadhead hunting type of point not less than 7/8 inch wide with a minimum of 14 inches in length. It is illegal to use or carry afield any other firearm. The prohibition on carrying any other type of firearm does not apply to pistols carried under authority of a concealed pistol license or properly carried under authority of a specific exception from the requirement of a concealed pistol license. When taking wild turkey, a person shall not use or carry afield any ammunition except shotgun shells loaded with no. 4 or smaller shot or no. 4 or smaller loose shot for use in muzzleloading shotguns. You may hunt turkeys from an elevated stand or tree using a bow and arrow or crossbow. A free crossbow stamp, available from all license agents or online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings, is required in addition to a valid hunting license for those using a crossbow to hunt. Turkeys may be hunted with dogs during the fall season. The use or possession of electronic devices that imitate wild turkey calls is illegal.

Authority to Hunt—Hunters may not hunt wild turkeys in any area or during any hunt period other than the area and hunt period designated on their license.

Validating Kills—Immediately upon killing a turkey, hunters must validate their license by notching out the appropriate information as instructed on the license and securely attaching the license around a leg of the bird. Hunters shall not have in their possession or transport a turkey unless the validated license is attached to a leg of the bird. Although not required, hunters are encouraged to report their harvest online at www.michigan.gov/hunting, under Wildlife Surveys and Reports.

Baiting Prohibited—It is unlawful to make use of bait to aid in the taking of a wild turkey. For the purpose of this regulation, "bait" means a substance composed of grain, fruit, vegetables or other food placed to lure or entice wild turkeys. This does not apply to standing farm crops (normal agricultural practices) or other naturally growing grains, fruits or vegetables.

License—The license is not valid unless signed by the licensee. Licenses cannot be altered or transferred. When hunting, you must carry your license and the identification used to purchase that license and exhibit both upon demand of a Michigan conservation officer, a tribal conservation officer or any law enforcement officer.

Decoys—Mechanical, electronic or electronic decoys are prohibited. Mechanical decoy means any device that, by design or construction, uses motion to attract a wild turkey, except a wind sock or similar decoy body anchored at a fixed point into the ground and whose only motion is derived exclusively by power of the natural wind.

Commercial Hunting Guides on Public Land

All commercial hunting guides using state-owned lands require DNR oversight. In 2012, all commercial hunting guides utilizing state-owned lands must receive written authorization. Guides are also required to meet the conditions of the written authorization. If you are a guide who utilizes state-owned lands, please visit the DNR website at www.michigan.gov/statelandpermission for more information.

Commercial guiding on National Forest (NF) lands requires a special use permit. Applications can be obtained through any NF office or by calling - Hiawatha NF: 906-428-5800; Huron-Manistee NF: 231-775-5023; or Ottawa NF: 906-932-1330.

Recreational Trespass

This law requires permission from the landowner or lease-holder before you may hunt on any farmlands or connected woodlots or on any fenced or posted private lands, and prohibits discharge of a firearm within the right-of-way of public roads adjacent to these lands without permission of the landowner.

Poachers Beware: Hunters are Watching

Violations of turkey hunting regulations, including application violations, are misdemeanors. Misdemeanors may be punishable by five to 90 days imprisonment, $200 to $1,000 fines and revocation of hunting licenses for the remainder of the year of conviction plus next three consecutive years. Reimbursement to the state for unlawful taking of a wild turkey is $1,000 per animal. You can report all poaching by calling 800-292-7800.

Mentoring: See the Difference It Makes

The fall wild turkey season offers the perfect setting for experienced turkey hunters to share their knowledge and skills with other hunters or introduce the sport to new hunters. Turkey hunting is a challenging, interactive activity, which is best shared with others. In addition to passing on the great tradition of our hunting heritage, turkey hunting in the fall also is a good opportunity to bring home a bird for a Thanksgiving Day feast. Get kids involved in this tradition. A youngster must be at least 10 years old by the time a turkey license is purchased. For youth nine and younger, see the Mentored Youth Hunting Program section. So the next time you enter the woods, be a mentor and see the difference it makes. If you plan to mentor an apprentice hunter, remember that you also must possess a valid 2012 fall turkey hunting license. The license does not have to be for the same management unit or the same hunt dates.

REPORT ALL POACHING
Call: 800-292-7800

Mentored Youth Hunting Program

New! The Mentored Youth Hunting Program allows youth hunters **nine years old and younger** to hunt deer, turkey, small game, trap furbearers and fish for all species with a licensed mentor who is at least 21 years old and hunter-safety certified. The mentored youth license is a "package" license that entitles the youth to hunt, trap and fish for the species listed above during all open seasons for the species. Additional restrictions apply; complete program details can be found in the Michigan Hunting and Trapping Digest, or online at www.michigan.gov/mentoredhunting.

A turkey kill tag issued under the mentored youth hunting license is valid for one turkey during any hunt period, in any open hunt unit, on private or public land. **No application is required for the mentored youth license.**

Apprentice Hunting License

A person who does not have a hunter safety certificate and is **10 years of age or older** may purchase an apprentice hunting license. An apprentice hunter may purchase this license for two license years before he or she must successfully complete a hunter safety course. The apprentice hunting license is available to residents and nonresidents.

When afield, an apprentice hunter must be accompanied by someone 21 or older who possesses a regular current-year hunting license for the same game as the apprentice. For apprentices between ages 10-16, the accompanying hunter must be the apprentice's parent, guardian, or someone designated by the parent or guardian. "Accompanied by" requires the accompanying hunter to be able to come to the immediate aid of the apprentice and stay within a distance that permits uninterrupted, unaided visual and verbal contact.

For hunting wild turkey, the accompanying hunter needs a 2012 turkey hunting license, but it does not have to be for the same hunt unit and season dates as the apprentice. **A person may accompany no more than two apprentice hunters while hunting.**

PURE MICHIGAN HUNT **www.michigan.gov/puremichiganhunt**

The hunt of a lifetime could be yours! Don't miss your chance to experience the best hunting in Michigan. Three lucky hunters win a package of licenses to hunt elk, bear, turkey, deer and waterfowl, and hunting gear from Michigan organizations. Buy as many $4 applications as you want - apply at www.michigan.gov/puremichiganhunt or at a license agent.

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

The Natural Resources Commission provides a strategic framework for the DNR to effectively manage the state's natural resources. The NRC works closely with a broad cross-section of constituents to advise the DNR on continuous improvement of resource management policy.

Department of Natural Resources

Wildlife Division • P.O. Box 30444 • Lansing, MI 48909 • 517-373-1263
www.michigan.gov/hunting
Report All Poaching: 800-292-7800

The DNR Operations Service Centers are open
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Baraga
427 US-41 North
Baraga, MI 49908
906-353-6651

Bay City
3580 State Park Drive
Bay City, MI 48706
989-684-9141

Cadillac
8015 Mackinaw Trail
Cadillac, MI 49601
231-775-9727

Gaylord
1732 West M-32
Gaylord, MI 49735
989-732-3541

Marquette
1990 US-41 South
Marquette, MI 49855
906-228-6561

Newberry
5100 State Highway M-123
Newberry, MI 49868
906-293-5131

Plainwell
621 North 10th Street
Plainwell, MI 49080
269-685-6851

Roscommon
I-75 & M-18 South
8717 North Roscommon Rd.
Roscommon, MI 48653
989-275-5151

Rose Lake Field Office*
8562 Stoll Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-641-4903
* This is a field office

Southfield
26000 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48034
248-359-9040

Thank you for purchasing a Michigan hunting license. Your hunting license dollars help restore and improve habitats for wildlife species, advance research on wildlife and wildlife-borne diseases, foster programs that help ensure access for public hunting, support hunter safety education and much more. We encourage you to keep hunting and to share your experiences with others. In doing so, you can do your part to keep our state's hunting heritage alive for future generations.

WILDLIFE RESTORATION

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act places an excise tax on firearms, handguns, ammunition and archery equipment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service apportions these funds to state wildlife agencies to be used for wildlife management, research, habitat acquisition, game area and shooting range development and hunter education. Since its inception in 1937, Michigan's share of the Wildlife Restoration funds has reached over $238 million.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both state and federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453) and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program activities, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909-7528 or the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, Suite 3-600, 3054 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202 or the Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

For information or assistance on this publication, contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-7944. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

How to Obtain a Fall Turkey License

A limited number of hunting licenses are available in each fall turkey management unit. Hunters may apply for a license from July 1 - August 1 and will be selected by drawing. It costs $4 to apply. Any remaining licenses will be sold beginning August 27 at 10 a.m. until license quotas are met. **Hunters may apply for a reserved license or wait to purchase a leftover license, if available**. **Note: An application is not required for hunt unit YY; hunters may purchase this license beginning August 27 at 10 a.m.**

Application Information

- You may apply for the license drawing at a license agent, DNR Operations Service Center or online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings. It costs $4 to apply.
- You will need one of the following forms of customer identification:
  – Valid Michigan driver license
  – State of Michigan ID card (issued by the Secretary of State)
  – DNR Sportcard (issued through license agents or at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings)
- You must be at least 10 years old by the time a fall turkey license is purchased. For youth nine years old and younger, see the Mentored Youth Hunting Program section.
- You may only submit a single application.
- You may apply in partnership with one other person. The first applicant of each partnership chooses a hunt area and receives a party ID number on their receipt. The other partner will need this number when applying to complete the partnership. Applicants who apply with more than one partner will be ineligible for the drawing.
- You are responsible for obtaining a DNR application receipt that states your customer ID and hunt choice. Check this receipt for accuracy and retain as proof that you applied. Ensure that any application errors are corrected prior to the application deadline. Do not accept a DNR receipt that is not legible.
- Applicants who submit an invalid application will be ineligible for the drawing.
- You are responsible for obtaining your drawing results online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings.
- For application assistance, call 517-373-1263.

IMPORTANT: It is your responsibility to check your application receipt for accuracy.

Drawing results will be posted at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings on August 15.

License Purchase

- If you are selected in the drawing or wish to purchase a leftover license, you may purchase your hunting license online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings or from any license agent.
- All licenses must be signed to be valid. Your signature on the license certifies that you meet applicable residency and hunter-safety requirements to purchase a Michigan hunting license.
- Make sure the information on your license is accurate.
- Licenses may not be altered or transferred.

MICHIGAN WILD TURKEY HUNTING DIGEST

2012 FALL SEASON

Application Period July 1–August 1, 2012

Apply online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES · DNR · MICHIGAN

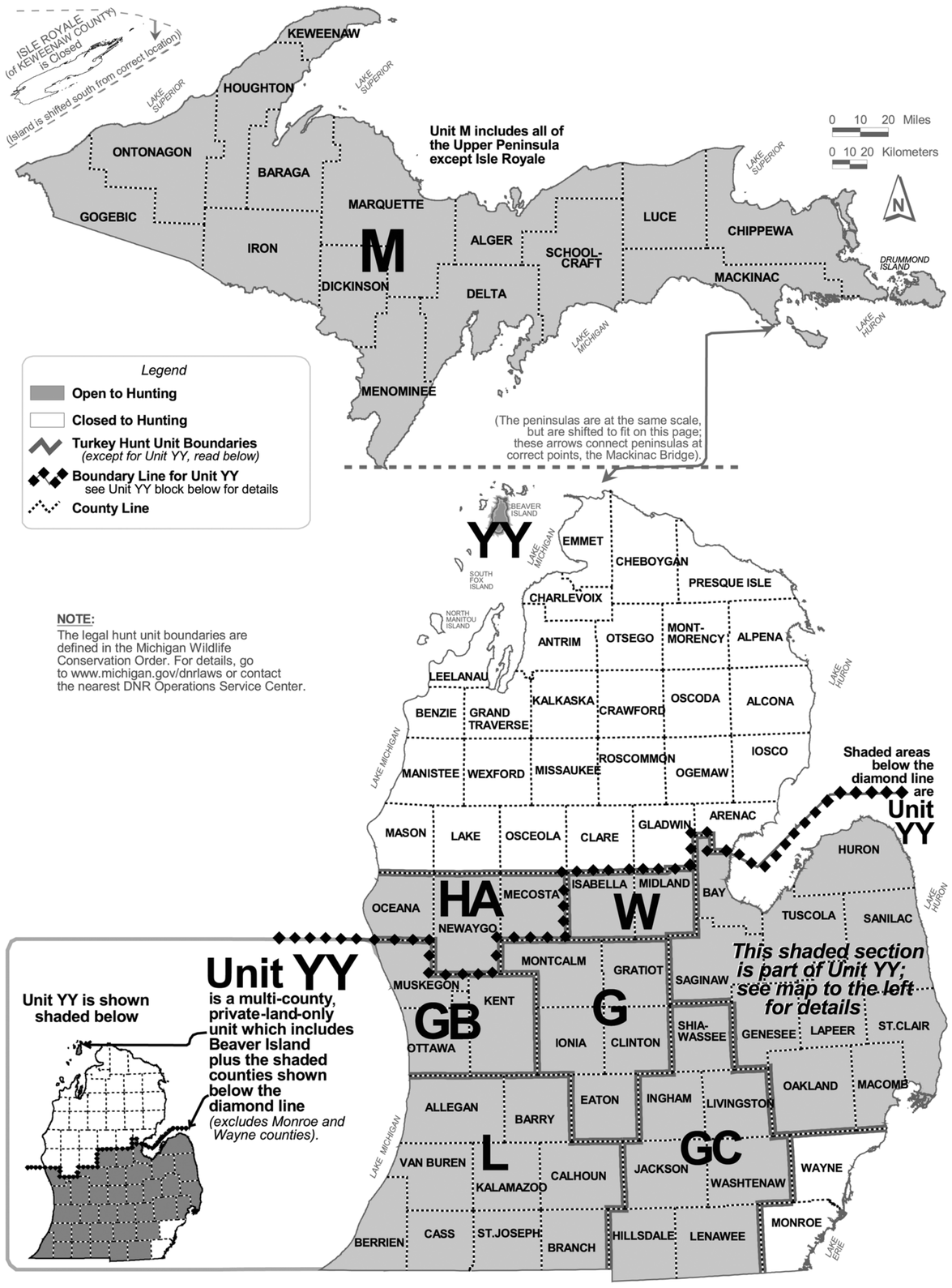
Important Changes

- **New Mentored Youth Hunting Program created for youth nine years old and younger.**

Important Reminders

- **Season opens September 15.**
- **Unit YY is for private-land hunting in southern Michigan and on Beaver Island.**
- **Beginning August 27, hunters may purchase one license per day until quotas are met.**

2012 Fall Turkey Hunting Units



NOTE:
The legal hunt unit boundaries are defined in the Michigan Wildlife Conservation Order. For details, go to www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws or contact the nearest DNR Operations Service Center.

MI-HUNT

www.michigan.gov/mihunt

No matter where you are in Michigan, you can find public hunting land with Mi-HUNT. Plan your next hunting adventure online or on your smartphone with this interactive mapping tool featuring the most up-to-date information on public lands open to hunting and trapping. Customize your search to find vegetation types; land topography; aerial photography; campgrounds, trails, boat launches and parking areas; your GPS location; the route to and from your selected point; links to local hunting information and more!

How to Apply

1. Look at the map and choose a hunt unit.
2. Find the hunt number for the hunt unit you chose. You may make only one choice.
3. Complete worksheet.
4. Apply at a license agent, or online at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings.
5. It is unlawful to apply more than once.
6. Check your application receipt. Retain receipt as proof of application.

Hunters may apply for a turkey license or wait to purchase a leftover license after the drawing, if available. Licenses will be sold until quotas are met. There is no guarantee leftover licenses will be available in any hunt unit.

NOTE: It is unlawful to apply for more than one turkey license. If you are selected in the drawing, your drawing success authorizes you to purchase only one turkey license. This does not preclude you from purchasing remaining licenses after the drawing, if available.

Application Worksheet

You will be asked for the following information when applying:

1. Your birth date?	___ ___ / ___ ___ / ___ ___ ___ ___
2. Customer ID?	Michigan driver license, State of Michigan ID card or DNR Sportcard
3. Application item number?	160 Fall Turkey Application
4. Joining existing party? (Parties may not exceed two people)	No, if applying by yourself or if you are the first person in a party to apply; go to item 6. Yes, if joining a partner; go to item 5.
5. Party ID number?	(_____) Same number as printed on your partner's receipt; none, if applying by yourself.
6. Hunt Number (See table for hunt numbers)	0 ___ ___ ___ **Enter last three digits**

Note: You must get a new party ID number each year, even if you apply for the same hunt number and have the same partner.

2012 Fall Wild Turkey Limited-License Hunt Units

General Licenses

The general licenses listed below are valid on all land, both public and private, within the unit.

HUNT NUMBER	OPEN UNIT	SEASON DATES	LICENSE QUOTA
0401	G	September 15-November 14	200
0402	GB	September 15-November 14	250
0403	GC	September 15-November 14	200
0404	L	September 15-November 14	1,000
0405	M	September 15-November 14	1,500
0406	W	September 15-November 14	200

Private-Land-Only Licenses

The private-land licenses listed below are not valid on county, state or federal lands, except Hunt No. 501 (Unit YY) may be used to hunt Fort Custer military lands with permission. You are encouraged to have permission to hunt private lands before applying for one of these licenses.

HUNT NUMBER	OPEN UNIT	SEASON DATES	LICENSE QUOTA
0407	HA	September 15-November 14	1,700
0501	YY	September 15-November 14	45,000

Unit YY (Hunt Number 501)

Fall hunt unit YY encompasses only private lands in southern Michigan and on Beaver Island. Licenses for unit YY will be sold over the counter and may be purchased when leftover licenses are available for purchase, as explained below. **No application is required.**

Leftover Licenses

There is no guarantee that leftover licenses will be available for any hunt unit. If any licenses remain after the drawing, unsuccessful applicants may purchase one leftover license online or from any license agent on a first-come, first-served basis for a one-week period beginning August 20 at 10 a.m. EDT. Any limited-quota fall turkey licenses that remain as of August 27 at 10 a.m. EDT may be purchased by any hunter, including those who did not apply for a fall turkey license. A hunter may purchase one license per day until quotas are met. Remaining licenses may be viewed at www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings.

2012 Fall Workshop Dates

The DNR, National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) and other groups are cooperating to offer wild turkey hunter orientation courses. The training sessions are open to anyone and may include turkey hunting methods, calling, regulations and population status.

For details, contact:

Sunday, August 19:
Auburn Hills - Bass Pro Shop
Beard & Spurs Chapter, NWTF
Workshop at 1 p.m.
For more information call
Dan Potter (248) 548-2036

NOTICE: This brochure is not a legal notice, nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed guide issued for hunters' convenience. Copies of Wildlife Conservation Orders can be obtained from our website, www.michigan.gov/dnrlaws.

Fall Turkey License Costs

Item No.	Apprentice Item No.	Type of License	Cost
160		Application for License Drawing	$ 4.00
161	620	Resident License (Successful Applicants)	$15.00
162	621	Senior License (Successful Applicants)	$ 6.00
163	622	Nonresident License (Successful Applicants)*	$69.00
261	623	Leftover Resident License	$15.00
262	624	Leftover Senior License	$ 6.00
263	625	Leftover Nonresident License*	$69.00
320		Mentored Youth LIcense - OTC	$ 7.50

*Nonresidents under age 17 may purchase a resident license.
OTC = Over the counter, no application required.
If you have any questions, call 517-373-1204.

Dioxin Advisory Information

Health assessors from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and Michigan Department of Natural Resources determined that samples of wild game taken in 2003, 2004 and 2007 from the floodplains of the Tittabawassee River and Saginaw River downstream of Midland contain high levels of dioxin and dioxin-like compounds. Wild game that have been tested include deer, turkey, cottontail rabbit, squirrel, wood duck and Canada goose. As a result, the MDCH advises that hunters and their families follow these recommendations related to turkey:

- Do not eat turkey harvested in or near the floodplain of the Tittabawassee River downstream of Midland. If you choose to eat turkey taken from this area anyway, at a minimum the skin, liver and gizzard should be removed and discarded.
- Other wild game that have not been tested in this area may also contain dioxins at levels that are a concern. To reduce general dioxin exposure from other wild game, trim any visible fat from the meat before cooking, do not consume organ meats such as the liver or brains, and do not eat the skin.

Additional information regarding dioxin, dioxin-like compounds and wild game advisories for the Tittabawassee River and Saginaw River floodplains, including a map of the area covered by these advisories, is available on the MDCH website at www.michigan.gov/dioxin.

Report Sightings of Diseased Wildlife

In an effort to maintain healthy wildlife populations, the DNR encourages people to report any sightings of sick or diseased wildlife, including wild turkeys. Information about the location, number of animals and animal condition should be provided to the Wildlife Health Disease Laboratory. You can report your information online at www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases, then scroll down to the "Seasonal Information" section and click on the "Report Diseased Wildlife" link. Or you can call the Wildlife Health Disease Laboratory at 517-336-5030.

Wild Turkey Hunting Tips, Ethics and Safety

A key component of successful fall turkey hunting is locating birds. Good areas for sighting flocks include idle fields, woodlands and around logging trails. Scout for tracks, fresh droppings and feathers.

Locate a good food source, around which birds are congregating – in the fall, for instance, turkeys feed on insects and mast crops like acorns – and learn the habits of the birds. Listen for the sounds of birds scratching in the leaves or for their "flock talk" as they come and go to roost. Roosting flocks may produce a wide variety of yelps, clucks, "kee-kees" and gobbles.

Once you have located a flock, one hunting tactic is to scatter the flock. Approach the flock within 50 yards and flush the birds so they will scatter. A dispersed flock normally will begin to regroup near the original point of separation within 15 to 30 minutes. Quickly set up at this spot and, as the flock begins to reassemble, begin calling the turkeys by imitating the same sounds they make. Answer every turkey call you hear with similar tone, pitch and rhythm. Using a decoy also may help fool birds into approaching your location.

Successful hunters sit still and allow the birds to come to them. Because a turkey can detect and react to movement 10 times faster than a human, movement is a turkey hunter's greatest enemy. And remember that camouflage does not make you invisible – even though camouflaged, you are still an unnatural form in the woods that birds will notice.

Do not attempt to stalk a turkey. Your chances of success are poor and, at best, you might get a glimpse of tail feathers. More importantly, that gobbler or hen you are stalking may turn out to be another hunter, a potentially dangerous situation. Many turkey hunters are very convincing callers, so assume that another person is making every sound you hear and always keep a safe distance. If another hunter is working a flock, give that person the same respect that you would expect and do not interfere by calling or spooking the birds.

Do not jump and turn at a turkey approaching from behind. The chance of getting a good shot is very slim. Instead be patient, remain still and let the bird pass.

Know the capabilities of your gun, crossbow, or bow and use it safely. Be positive of your target, make sure the bird is within range, and shoot at the neck and head only.

Turkey Hunting Reporting Option

Turkey hunters, we need your help. After your hunting season has ended, please report your turkey hunting activity online at www.michigan.gov/turkey. Participation in this program is important to the future of turkey hunting. Information you provide will improve turkey management and ensure decisions regarding hunting seasons are based on the best information available.