

SB2488



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2488

Introduced 2/7/2025, by Sen. Patrick J. Joyce

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

520 ILCS 5/2.10
520 ILCS 5/2.11

from Ch. 61, par. 2.10
from Ch. 61, par. 2.11

Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that the Department-set daily time limits for hunting wild turkey shall be the same for youths and adults and shall begin no later than sunrise and end no earlier than sunset. Provides that unfilled Wild Turkey Hunting Permits from one season may be carried over to any other wild turkey season in the same year. Requires the Department to adopt rules to implement the amendatory Act.

LRB104 07395 BDA 17436 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning wildlife.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Wildlife Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 2.10 and 2.11 as follows:

6 (520 ILCS 5/2.10) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.10)

7 Sec. 2.10. The Department may, on an annual basis,
8 establish a spring wild turkey open season within the period
9 beginning on March 1 and running through May 31, and a fall
10 wild turkey season within the period beginning on October 1
11 and running through January 31. The Department may, on an
12 annual basis, establish a youth-only spring wild turkey season
13 which shall include 2 consecutive weekends. The daily time
14 limits set by the Department for the taking of wild turkey
15 during the wild turkey season shall be the same for youths and
16 adults and shall begin no later than sunrise and end no earlier
17 than sunset. It shall be unlawful for any person to take wild
18 turkey without possessing a valid "Wild Turkey Hunting
19 Permit". Persons holding a spring permit may take female wild
20 turkeys with visible beards or male wild turkeys during the
21 spring open season. Persons holding a fall permit may take
22 turkeys of either sex during the fall open season. The
23 Department shall cause notice of administrative rules setting

1 forth the prescribed rules and regulations, including those
2 counties of the State where open seasons are established, to
3 be given in accordance with Sections 1.3 and 1.13.

4 The Department shall adopt rules to implement the
5 provisions added to this Section and Section 2.11 by this
6 amendatory Act of the 104th General Assembly.

7 (Source: P.A. 99-869, eff. 1-1-17.)

8 (520 ILCS 5/2.11) (from Ch. 61, par. 2.11)

9 Sec. 2.11. Before any person may lawfully hunt wild
10 turkey, he shall first obtain a "Wild Turkey Hunting Permit"
11 in accordance with the prescribed regulations set forth in an
12 administrative rule of the Department. The fee for a Resident
13 Wild Turkey Hunting Permit shall not exceed \$15.

14 Upon submitting suitable evidence of legal residence in
15 any other state, non-residents shall be charged a fee not to
16 exceed \$125 for wild turkey hunting permits.

17 The Department may by administrative rule allocate and
18 issue non-resident Wild Turkey Permits and establish fees for
19 such permits.

20 Unfilled Wild Turkey Hunting Permits from a season may be
21 carried over to any other wild turkey season in the same year.

22 It shall be unlawful to take wild turkey except by use of a
23 bow and arrow or a shotgun of not larger than 10 gauge nor
24 smaller than .410 bore. The Department may by administrative
25 rule restrict shot size, material, or density. No person while

1 attempting to so take wild turkey may have in his possession
2 any other gun unless in accordance with the Firearm Concealed
3 Carry Act.

4 It shall be unlawful to take, or attempt to take wild
5 turkey except during the time from 1/2 hour before sunrise to
6 1/2 hour after sunset or during such lesser period of time as
7 may be specified by administrative rule, during those days for
8 which an open season is established.

9 It shall be unlawful for any person to take, or attempt to
10 take, wild turkey by use of dogs, horses, automobiles,
11 aircraft or other vehicles, or conveyances, or by the use or
12 aid of bait or baiting of any kind. For the purposes of this
13 Section, "bait" means any material, whether liquid or solid,
14 including food, salt, minerals, and other products, except
15 pure water, that can be ingested, placed, or scattered in such
16 a manner as to attract or lure wild turkeys. "Baiting" means
17 the placement or scattering of bait to attract wild turkeys.
18 An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for
19 10 consecutive days following the removal of the bait.

20 It is unlawful for any person to take in Illinois or have
21 in his possession more than one wild turkey per valid permit.

22 For the purposes of calculating acreage under this
23 Section, the Department shall, after determining the total
24 acreage of the applicable tract or tracts of land, round
25 remaining fractional portions of an acre greater than or equal
26 to half of an acre up to the next whole acre.

1 For the purposes of taking wild turkey, nothing in this
2 Section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation,
3 including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal
4 agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots, or
5 normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting,
6 and maintenance such as cultivating. Such manipulation for the
7 purpose of taking wild turkey may be further modified by
8 administrative rule.

9 (Source: P.A. 102-237, eff. 1-1-22; 103-622, eff. 1-1-25.)