



Dear Commercial Shooting Preserve Applicant,

This letter provides direction for completing the Shooting Preserve License application. A copy of applicable Georgia law is attached to the application. You must complete the application and **return it to your Department of Natural Resources Regional Office** (list of offices attached to the application), along with a check or money order, or complete the information on the application to pay by credit card. The following information must be provided fully for each item on the form.

- Give complete business name, applicant name, and mailing address and telephone numbers for the business and applicant. Be sure to include the county where the preserve is located.
- Ques 1 Give a complete description of land and its location. Shooting preserves must contain a minimum of 100 contiguous acres; however, each permit is only valid for up to 1,000 acres. Shooting preserves exceeding 1,000 acres must purchase a separate permit (at full price) for each additional 1,000 acres or portion in excess of 1,000 acres.
- Ques 2 If the land is under lease to the applicant, the lease must be for a term of not less than one year from the date of application, and the lease is subject to inspection and approval by the department.
- Ques 3 Provide a complete description of facilities for holding pen raised birds.
- Ques 4 **Boundary line markers must be installed before application can be approved.** Note that the 400-foot minimum distance between signs has been eliminated.
- Ques 5 Give a detailed description of the proposed activities and operations of the shooting preserve.
- Ques 6 A complete record of all birds propagated, released, or taken on the preserve must be maintained, and must include source of birds, including the name, address, and phone number of each supplier. Pen-raised birds harvested must be accompanied with preserve contact information from where harvested, but individual birds do not have to be marked.
- Ques 7 State law requires that children who have reached the age of 12 and persons born on or after January 1, 1961 must satisfactorily complete an approved hunter education course before procuring a hunting license or hunting by means of weapons (OCGA 27-2-5). Exceptions include: a child age 12-15 that is directly supervised by an adult licensed hunter; a hunter that purchases any of the three short-term (3-day) licenses; any person hunting pen raised game birds on a properly licensed shooting preserve, provided such person has received hunter education instruction from the shooting preserve that, at a minimum, demonstrates techniques for proper firearm handling, unloading and safety. By signing the application, the shooting preserve owner, lessee, or his or her agent attests that any person hunting on the shooting preserve has met requirements for hunter education or the shooting preserve has provided the person hunter education instruction that at a minimum includes firearm handling, unloading, loading, and safety.
- Ques 8 This question is optional and applies only to Commercial Shooting Preserve applicants.
- Ques 9 All patrons of shooting preserves must have a valid hunting privilege in Georgia. A valid privilege may be any license that allows the licensee to legally hunt small game in Georgia during the appropriate period. License types that may be purchased include the 2-year shooting preserve license (\$12 resident or nonresident); the Lifetime Shooting Preserve license (\$75 resident or nonresident), an annual or 2-year regular hunting license; 3-day, annual or 2-year combination license; annual or 2-year Sportsman license; or Sportsman Lifetime licenses. Residents over 65 may obtain and use a free senior (65+) lifetime license. Resident honorary licenses that may be used include disability and one time veteran's licenses. Commercial shooting preserve operators may choose to become WRD license agents and sell licenses through the agent interface and retain \$0.50 for each license sold, operators may provide the customer with Internet access for purchase of licenses online on the WRD license sales site, or operators may choose to issue paper copies of the \$12 shooting preserve license using a book of licenses provided by WRD.
- Ques 10 Applicants must verify they are lawfully present in the United States by initialing in the appropriate block.
- Ques 11 The application must be signed and accompanied by the appropriate license fee.

Shooting preserve licenses sold to patrons include a fishing privilege for use only on commercial shooting preserves. Shooting preserve facilities are subject to inspection by DNR personnel prior to approval of a license for any hunting activity and at any reasonable time thereafter. Please allow four to six weeks for processing the application. Returning the license to the regional office; answering all questions completely and including all requested information and documentation; and enclosing correct fee amount will speed the application process. **Do not submit applications prior to March 31st for the upcoming season.**