



What You Should Know About Permits for People with Disabilities

Wisconsin law provides for a variety of hunting, fishing and recreational use permits designed to help people with disabilities enjoy the state's natural resources. The following information is important if you have a permanent or temporary physical disability, or if you are legally blind. Different permits allow you to:

-  ***Hunt from a
Stationary Vehicle***
-  ***Hunt with a
Crossbow***
-  ***Sponsor or
participate in Gun
Deer Hunts for
People with
Disabilities***

-  ***Receive a Discount on Your Annual Fishing License
(Wisconsin residents only)***
-  ***Fish While Trolling with an Electric Motor***



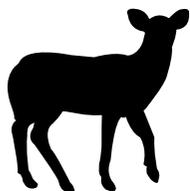
Terry Koper/The Milwaukee Sentinel

The Class A Permit: For hunters with certain permanent physical disabilities.

The Class A permit is designed to provide hunting opportunities for people who need physical or mechanical assistance for mobility. The initial permit is valid for a period of five years and is issued, at no charge, by the Department of Natural Resources. Upon renewal, the permit is valid for ten years from the date of issuance. Costs associated with any medical and chiropractic examinations are the responsibility of the permit applicant.

Class A permit holders may:

- 🦌 Hunt with a crossbow.
- 🦌 Hunt with a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow from a vehicle parked at least 50 feet from the center line of roadways. (Permission from property owner is required.)
- 🦌 Hunt from a vehicle legally parked along a county highway or town road so long as the roadway is not within municipal boundaries and has not been restricted from this use, and permission has been secured from owner of the property to be hunted. Disabled license plates or 11" x 11" sign ("Disabled Hunter" ss. 167.31 (4) cg) clearly displayed in window must identify the occupant as disabled. All shots must be directed away from the roadway. Persons hunting from stationary vehicles parked along a roadway may not fill deer tags for others. It is also permissible to hunt from a vehicle parked off the roadway on the left side of the road.
- 🦌 Take a deer of either sex with regular gun deer license. No hunter's choice permit is required. Applies to muzzleloader season as well.
- 🦌 Fish or troll on state waters using an electric motor.



Note: Hunters and anglers must possess valid hunting or fishing license. Check with your local warden regarding restrictions against hunting from certain roadways.

To qualify for a Class A permit, you must have a doctor or a licensed chiropractor complete application form #9400-543 (Application for a Class A Disability Permit). The doctor or chiropractor must verify that you have a permanent physical disability, which either:

- 🦌 prevents mobility without the aid of a wheelchair, walker, single leg brace or prosthesis above the knee, two leg braces or prosthesis below the knees, two crutches, or two canes;
- 🦌 prevents you from exhaling at least one liter of air per second, or displacing at least 60 millimeters of mercury in a lung capacity test, or;
- 🦌 reflects a cardiovascular disorder with a severity rating of 3 or 4 by the standards of the American Heart Association. This is generally defined as a condition in which ordinary physical activity causes you to experience discomfort, fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea or anginal pain.

The Class B Permit: For hunters with temporary/permanent physical disabilities.

The Class B permit is designed to help people enjoy safe and successful hunting experiences despite a temporary loss of mobility or medical condition that precludes hunting using traditional methods. Upon a physician's or chiropractor's recommendation Class B permits may be issued to persons with certain upper or lower extremity disabilities or with other valid medical reasons that restrict mobility or ambulation.

The Class B permit is issued at no cost, though the applicant is responsible for all costs associated with medical examinations. Class B permits are issued for time periods sufficient to cover a specific hunting season or seasons and may be issued for hunting from a stationary vehicle, hunting with a crossbow, or trolling using an electric motor. (Class B permits expire as determined by the Department).

The Class B permit holder is allowed to hunt from a stationary vehicle under the same restrictions as a Class A permit holder. However, a Class B permit holder may not take a deer of either sex.

A doctor or licensed chiropractor must complete a Class B application form # 9400-544, indicating your mobility has been restricted as the result of an injury or surgery involving your upper or lower extremities, or that a medical condition exists that prevents your ability to hunt using traditional methods.

The Class C Permit: For legally blind hunters.

The Class C permit allows persons who are legally blind an opportunity to hunt when assisted by another person. Applicants must provide the department with a completed application form #9400-415 (for Class C Visually Impaired Permit). Costs associated with determination of legal blindness are the responsibility of the applicant. The initial Class C permit is valid for a period of five years, and issued by the department at no cost. Upon renewal the permit is valid for ten years from date of issuance. Class C permit holders may:

- 🦌 Hunt with a crossbow.
- 🦌 Take a deer of either sex with regular gun deer license. No hunter's choice permit is required. Applies to muzzleloader season as well.

While in the field, Class C permit holders must be assisted by another person who is not eligible for a Class C permit. The assistant may not hunt or carry a firearm, bow or crossbow unless he or she possesses a valid hunting license. This person may help the permit holder identify targets; sight the firearm, bow or crossbow; retrieve, tag and field dress game.

If Your Permit Application is Rejected:

Most permits are denied because applications fail to include the required test results. **Please make sure both you and your doctor or chiropractor have thoroughly reviewed and completed the application before it is submitted.**

Under state law, it is possible to ask for review of a department decision rejecting a permit application. For more information please contact the regional office nearest you.

Persons denied a Class A permit may reapply for a Class B permit (see Class B permit).

Subsequent examinations must be conducted by physicians selected from the department's list of licensed physicians. Costs associated with these examinations are the responsibility of the applicant. The Department may issue a Class B permit under the re-application procedure if the Department determines that, due to the nature of the disability, it is consistent with the intent of laws covering disability permits.

Permit to Hunt with a Crossbow



Authorization to hunt with a crossbow is automatically included with a Class A and Class C permit. The Department of Natural Resources may also issue crossbow permits to others who are unable to use a bow and arrow due to a permanent disability.

To qualify for a crossbow permit you must complete and submit application form #2300-107 (Hunt with crossbow), indicating you have either:

- 🦌 an amputation or other loss of one or both arms above the wrist;
- 🦌 an amputation or other loss of the index or middle finger on the draw and release hand;
- 🦌 permanent, substantial loss of function in one or both hands, or one or both arms (as determined through standard upper extremity pinch, grip and 9-hole peg tests administered under the direction of a licensed physician), or;
- 🦌 permanent, substantial loss of function in one or both shoulders (as determined by standard shoulder strength tests administered under the direction of a licensed physician).

Permit to Fish or Troll with an Electric Motor

Class A permit holders automatically receive authorization to troll with an electric motor. Other persons, missing a hand or an arm, or those who have permanently lost significant function of a hand or arm, may qualify for a trolling permit. To apply, you must complete and submit application form #3600-162 (Permit to Troll) to a DNR office.

Note: Permit holders must also possess a valid fishing license to make use of this permit. Persons in the boat who do not possess trolling permits are subject to normal trolling restrictions.

Discounted Annual Fishing License

(Wisconsin residents only)

Wisconsin residents with disabilities are eligible for a discount on their annual fishing license fees if, as a result of disability, they receive Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, or Railroad Retirement benefits, or Veteran's disability compensation for a reduction in earning capacity that is rated greater than 70%. The fishing license must be renewed annually, and does not exempt the holder from the need to purchase required fishing stamps.

Note: Under state law, all permanent fishing licenses issued previously to residents with disabilities, and residents who are legally blind, expired effective March 31, 1996.

When purchasing your license at a DNR or County Clerk's office, you must be able to provide evidence that you are receiving benefits as the result of a disability. Acceptable evidence includes:

- a Social Security Disability Award notice.
- a letter from Social Security Administration advising that the applicant is receiving disability benefits.
- a letter or notice of Railroad Retirement.
- a letter from the Veteran's Administration which indicates you receive disability benefits and specifies the percentage of disability.



Wisconsin residents who are legally blind may also be eligible to receive a discount on their annual fishing licenses. When purchasing your license at a DNR or County Clerk's office, you must produce a certificate from a licensed physician or optometrist certifying that you cannot read ordinary newsprint with or without corrective lenses.



Michael C. Yates/Wisconsin Department of Tourism

Gun Deer Hunts for Persons with Disabilities



Individuals and organizations in many parts of the state sponsor gun deer hunting opportunities for Class A and Class C permit holders each year in the early fall. Hunters with disabilities have a chance to enjoy deer hunting during a time of year in which temperatures are generally milder and mobility in the woods is easier.

Individuals and organizations interested in sponsoring a hunt must complete application form #2300-211 (Application and Authorization to Conduct a Gun Deer Hunt for Hunters with Disabilities) and submit the completed form to local wildlife managers by June 1. The DNR's Bureau of Wildlife Management produces a statewide list of authorized hunts in July. To receive a copy of this list, write to:

DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Persons interested in participating in a sponsored hunt should contact their local DNR wildlife manager to see if one is being held in their area, or write to the address listed above for a list of authorized hunts.



Photo by Bill Stevens

Spring Turkey Hunting Opportunities



The Department of Natural Resources allows hunters with Class A and Class C permits to hunt turkeys in certain state parks during the spring turkey hunting season. A list of these parks is included on the Spring Turkey Hunting application form (#2300-118). Your Class A or Class C permit number must be included on your application. Applications must be mailed to the DNR, and must be postmarked on or before December 10.



Don Bragg/Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

DNR Service Centers

Antigo

DNR Service Center
223 E Steinfest Rd
Antigo, WI 54409
(715) 627-4317-Phone

Baldwin

DNR Service Center
990 Hillcrest Ste 104
Baldwin, WI 54002
(715) 684-2914-Phone

Black River Falls

DNR Service Center
910 Hwy 54 E
Black River Falls,
WI 54615
(715) 284-1400-Phone

Dodgeville

DNR Service Center
1500 N Johns St
Dodgeville, WI 53533
(608) 935-3368-Phone

Eau Claire

DNR West Central Region
Hdqs/Service Center
1300 W Clairemont
Box 4001
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4001
(715) 839-3700-Phone
(715) 839-2786-TDD

Fitchburg

DNR South Central
Region Hdqs/Service
Center
3911 Fish Hatchery Rd
Fitchburg, WI 53711
(608) 275-3266-Phone
(608) 275-3231-TDD

Green Bay

DNR Northeast Region
Hdqs/Service Center
1125 N Military
Box 10448
Green Bay, WI 54307-0448
(920) 492-5800-Phone
(920) 492-5812-TDD

Hayward

DNR Service Center
10220 N St Hwy 27
Box 2003
Hayward, WI 54843
(715) 634-2688-Phone

Horicon

DNR Service Center
N7725 Hwy 28
Horicon, WI 53032-1060
(920) 387-7860-Phone

Janesville

DNR Service Center
2514 Morse St
Janesville, WI 53545
(608) 743-4800-Phone
(608) 743-4808-TDD

La Crosse

DNR Service Center
3550 Mormon Coulee Rd
La Crosse, WI 54601
(608) 785-9000-Phone

Ladysmith

DNR Service Center
N4103 Hwy 27
Ladysmith, WI 54848
(715) 532-3911-Phone

Madison

DNR Information Center
101 S Webster St
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 266-2621-Phone
(608) 267-6897-TDD

Milwaukee

DNR Southeast Region
Hdqs/Service Center
2300 N Dr Martin Luther
King Jr Dr
Box 12436
Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-263-8500-Phone

Oshkosh

DNR Service Center
625 E County Rd Y Ste 700
Oshkosh, WI 54901-9731
(920) 424-3050-Phone

Park Falls

DNR Service Center
875 S 4th Ave Box 220
Park Falls, WI 54552
(715) 762-3204-Phone

Peshtigo

DNR Service Center
101 N Ogden Rd
P O Box 208
Peshtigo, WI 54157
(715) 582-5000-Phone

Plymouth

DNR Service Center
W5750 Woodchuck Ln
Box 408
Plymouth, WI 53073
(920) 892-8756-Phone

Poynette

DNR Service Center
W7303 Co Hwy Cs
Poynette, WI 53955
(608) 635-8110-Phone

Rhineland

DNR Northern Region
Co-Hdqs/Service Center
107 Sutliff Ave
Rhineland, WI 54501
(715) 365-8900-Phone

Spoooner

DNR Northern Region
Co-Hdqs/Service Center
810 W Maple St
Spoooner, WI 54801
(715) 635-2101-Phone
(715) 635-4001-TDD

Sturgeon Bay

DNR Service Center
110 S Neenah Ave
Sturgeon Bay, WI
54235-2718
(920) 746-2860-Phone

Sturtevant

DNR Service Center
9531 Rayne Rd Ste 4
Sturtevant, WI 53177
(262) 884-2300-Phone
(262) 884-2304-TDD

Superior

DNR Service Center
1401 Tower Ave
Superior, WI 54880
(715) 392-7988-Phone

Wausau

DNR Service Center
5301 Rib Mt Rd
Wausau, WI 54401
(715) 359-4522-Phone

Wautoma

DNR Service Center
427 E. Tower Dr,
Suite 100
Wautoma, WI 54982
(920) 787-4686-Phone

Wisconsin Rapids

DNR Service Center
473 Griffith St
WI Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 421-7800-Phone

Woodruff

DNR Service Center
8770 Hwy J
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-5211-Phone



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