

Pennsylvania Sportsman's Firearm Permit

The Sportsman's Firearm Permit is issued by the county treasurers in Pennsylvania to individuals that have a license to hunt, trap or fish or who has been issued a permit relating to hunting dogs. This is a shall issue permit and does not require any type of background check to be completed. An individual that has a License to Carry does not need a Sportsman's Firearm Permit to hunt with a lawful handgun as defined by the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Below you will find some helpful information that should assist you with questions about the Sportsman's Firearm Permit.

To order Sportsman's Firearms Permits, please fax your request to the PA State Police, Firearm Administrative Section, 717-772-4249 (for official use only). General questions can be directed to 717-783-5495.

PA TITLE 18. CHAPTER 61 Pennsylvania Uniform Firearms Act of 1995.

§ 6106. Firearms not to be carried with-out a license. (a) OFFENSE DEFINED. — (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any person who carries a firearm in any vehicle or any person who carries a firearm concealed on or about his person, except in his place of abode or fixed place of business, without a valid and lawfully issued license under this chapter commits a felony of the third degree. (2) A person who is otherwise eligible to possess a valid license under this chapter but carries a firearm in any vehicle or any person who carries a firearm concealed on or about his person, except in his place of abode or fixed place of business, without a valid and lawfully issued license and has not committed any other criminal violation commits a misdemeanor of the first degree. (b) EXCEPTIONS. — The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to:

(9) Persons licensed to hunt, take furbearers or fish in this Commonwealth, if such persons are actually hunting, taking furbearers or fishing as permitted by such license, or are going to the places where they desire to hunt, take furbearers or fish or returning from such places.

(10) Persons training dogs, if such persons are actually training dogs during the regular training season.

(c) SPORTSMAN'S FIREARM PERMIT.

(1) Before any exception shall be granted under paragraph (b)(9) or (10) of this section to any person 18 years of age or older licensed to hunt, trap or fish or who has been issued a permit

relating to hunting dogs, such person shall, at the time of securing his hunting, furtaking or fishing license or any time after such license has been issued, secure a sportsman's firearm permit from the county treasurer. The sportsman's firearm permit shall be issued immediately and be valid throughout this Commonwealth for a period of five years from the date of issue for any legal firearm, when carried in conjunction with a valid hunting, furtaking or fishing license or permit relating to hunting dogs. The sportsman's firearm permit shall be in triplicate on a form to be furnished by the Pennsylvania State Police. The original permit shall be delivered to the person, and the first copy thereof, within seven days, shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police by the county treasurer. The second copy shall be retained by the county treasurer for a period of two years from the date of expiration. The county treasurer shall be entitled to collect a fee of not more than \$ 6 for each such permit issued, which shall include the cost of any official form. The Pennsylvania State Police may recover from the county treasurer the cost of any such form, but may not charge more than \$ 1 for each official permit form furnished to the county treasurer.

(2) Any person who sells or attempts to sell a sportsman's firearm permit for a fee in excess of that amount fixed under this subsection commits a summary offense.

(d) REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION.

Any registration of a firearm under subsection(c) of this section may be revoked by the county treasurer who issued it, upon written notice to the holder thereof.

PA Title 34 Game and Wildlife Code.

§ 2525. Possession of firearm for protection of self or others. (a) GENERAL RULE. — It is lawful for a law enforcement officer or any person who possesses a valid license to carry a firearm issued under 18 Pa.C.S. § 6109 (relating to licenses) to be in possession of a loaded or unloaded firearm while engaged in any activity regulated by this title. (b) CONSTRUCTION. — (1) This section shall supersede any prohibition on the possession of a firearm or ammunition contained in any other provision of this title. (2) This subsection shall not be construed to permit the hunting or harvesting of any wildlife with a firearm or ammunition not otherwise permitted by this title. (c) DEFINITIONS. — As used in this section,

the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection: "Firearm." As defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 6102 (relating to definitions). "Law enforcement officer." As defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 6102 (relating to definitions). Act 2006-162 (H.B. 2563), P.L. 1462, § 1, approved Nov. 29, 2006, eff. in 60 days.

Pennsylvania Game Commission 2012-13 Digest. GENERAL HUNTING REGULATIONS.

Firearms - Handguns: A Sportsman's Firearms permit or a License to Carry Firearms is required to carry a handgun, or have in a motor vehicle. Licenses to Carry Firearms permits are issued by county sheriffs or the Philadelphia Chief of Police. The License to Carry Firearms permit only entitles bowhunters or spotlighters, for instance, to carry firearms that fall within this classification. County treasurers issue Sportsman's Firearms Permits. A person holding a Sportsman's Firearms Permit may not carry a concealed handgun or a loaded handgun in a vehicle, and may not carry a handgun while bowhunting or spotlighting.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF FISH & BOAT COMMISSION-OWNED OR COMMISSION-CONTROLLED PROPERTY.

- The carrying or use of firearms on Fish & Boat Commission properties is prohibited except while lawfully hunting or trapping. This does not apply to those individuals licensed to carry firearms under 18 Pa. C.S. 6109 (licenses) or those individuals authorized to do so in conformance with 18 Pa. C.S. 6106 (firearms not to be carried without a license).

INSTRUCTIONS Please TYPE or PRINT clearly	SP 4-126 (1-2002) PENNSYLVANIA SPORTSMAN'S FIREARM PERMIT	VALID UNTIL EXPIRATION DATE INDICATED UNLESS SOONER REVOKED
1. APPLICANT MUST: A. PRESENT VALID HUNTING, FISHING, FURTAKING LICENSE, OR PERMIT RELATING TO HUNTING DOGS. B. PRESENT ANOTHER VALID FORM OF IDENTIFICATION. C. BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER. 2. FEE: NOT MORE THAN \$6.00 PER PERMIT. 3. DISTRIBUTE: A. ORIGINAL - GIVEN TO LICENSEE. B. FIRST COPY - WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF ISSUE, MAIL TO PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE 1800 ELMERTON AVENUE HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9758. C. SECOND COPY - RETAINED BY COUNTY TREASURER FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS FROM EXPIRATION DATE.	<div>1. NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE, JR., ETC.)</div> <div>2. ADDRESS</div> <div>3. DOB4. RACE5. SEX6. HGT7. WGT</div> <div>8. HAIR COLOR9. EYE COLOR10. COUNTY</div> <div>11. DATE ISSUED12. DATE EXPIRES</div> <div>13. SIGNATURE OF LICENSEE</div> <div>14. SIGNATURE OF COUNTY TREASURER</div>	<div>ATTENTION</div> <div>THIS PERMIT MUST BE CARRIED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A VALID HUNTING, FISHING, FURTAKING LICENSE OR A PERMIT TO TRAIN HUNTING DOGS, WHEN ACTUALLY HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING OR TRAINING HUNTING DOGS, OR GOING TO OR FROM THE PLACE WHERE YOU HUNT, FISH, TRAP, OR TRAIN DOGS. NOT VALID FOR ANY OTHER REASON. YOU MUST PRODUCE BOTH THIS PERMIT AND YOUR APPLICABLE LICENSE UPON LAWFUL DEMAND OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.</div> <div>NO. 000000000</div> <div>LICENSEE</div>

UNIFORM GUIDELINES CONCERNING ISSUANCE OF
SPORTSMAN'S FIREARM PERMIT

1. How old must one be to obtain a Sportsman's Firearm Permit?
 - (a) §6106(c)(1) of the Uniform Firearms Act states "... any person 18 years of age or older licensed to hunt, trap or fish
2. Must a person be a resident of Pennsylvania to receive a Sportsman's Firearm Permit?
 - (a) No, as long as they possess a valid hunting, fishing or trapping license from Pennsylvania and are 18 years of age or older they may receive a Sportsman's Firearm Permit.
3. Is there any restrictions on the individuals who have a valid Sportsman's Firearm Permit?
 - (a) Yes - They must always have in their possession a valid hunting, fishing or furbearer license.
 - (b) They must only carry their firearm going to, coming from or when they are actually hunting, fishing or trapping.
 - (c) They must obey all Game and Fish Laws that apply to firearms, Example: Game Laws prohibit the taking of game with semi-automatics, therefore, if a semi-auto is carried with a Sportsman's Firearm Permit, they may not use it to hunt.
4. Can an individual obtain a Sportsman's Firearm Permit for target shooting?
 - (a) No - Under §6106(b)(4), which is an exception to the "License to Carry a Firearm", persons engaged in target shooting with rifle, pistol or revolver, if such persons are at or are going to or from their places of assembly or target practice and if the cartridges or shells are carried in a separate container and the rifle, pistol or revolver is unloaded they do not need a "Sportsman's Firearm Permit" nor a "License to Carry Firearms". They must also be able to produce satisfactory evidence of this exception also, if stopped by a law enforcement officer. Example: Law Enforcement Officer stops an individual at 2:00am for speeding and there is a firearm on the front seat of vehicle, if the individual does not have a "License to Carry Firearms", claiming the exception, §6106(b)(4) on target practice, it will not hold up in this case.

5. Does an individual need more than one Sportsman's Firearms Permit?

(a) No - The permit is good for any legal firearm as long as they have a valid Hunting, Fishing or Furtakers license.

6. Does a person who has a lifetime fishing license issued under Section 220 of the Fish Law of 1959 need to renew his Sportsman's Firearm Permit?

(a) Yes, once every five (5) years, there is no exception for senior citizens under Section 6106(c).

7. Does the issuing authority have a right to revoke a Sportsman's Firearm Permit?

(a) Yes - §6106(d) gives you this right. If a revocation is necessary, you must also comply with Title 37. Law Section 33.17 Revocations which reads, (a)"A License to Carry Firearms" or a "Sportsman's Firearm Permit" may be revoked by the person who issued the same." (b)"Notice of revocation shall be in writing upon the official letter-head stationary of the issuing authority and shall state the reason for revocation, the full name and date of birth of the licensee as it appears on the license/permit, the number of the license/permit and the date of revocation." (c)"The notice shall be sent by certified mail, and, at that time, a copy shall be forwarded to Department Headquarters; Pennsylvania State Police, Firearm/Traffic Accident Records Unit, 1800 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110.

8. Is there a time frame for the Pennsylvania State Police to receive their copy of the Sportsman's Firearm Permit?

(a) Yes - the Pennsylvania State Police must receive there copy, within seven days from date of issue.

(b) The Pennsylvania State Police copy, must be printed or typewritten, legible, no strikeovers are permitted, copies must be legible for microfilming.