

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
284 State Street, 41 SHS Augusta, ME 04333
Phone 207-287-5232 / Fax 207-287-8094

Permit to Release Wild Birds and Use Firearms for Dog Training

New Applicant or Renewal Applicant 1959

Moses ID: _____

In accordance with the provisions of the Revised Statutes, Title 12, Section 12051 and Section 12156. I hereby apply for a permit that allows me to release game birds and use firearms for dog training on game birds.

Two Year Permit Fee: \$12

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number (Daytime): _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____
(P.O. Box/Street) (City/Town) (Zip Code)

Physical Address: _____
(P.O. Box/Street) (City/Town) (Zip Code)

County or Counties in which you will most likely release birds during the duration of this permit:

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

This permit authorizes a person to:

1. Release birds into the wild for any reason;
2. Shoot at released birds while dog training on Sunday (unless you have a field trial permit).
3. Shoot at released birds while dog training outside the open season on them (unless you have a field trial permit); and
4. Shoot at released birds while dog training if you don't have a hunting license (unless you have a field trial permit).
5. The person may only shoot at birds during daylight hours.

Special Permit Instructions: This is a 2-year permit that authorizes unlimited release of birds during the time the permit is valid. The permittee may shoot at the released birds during daylight hours only, for the circumstances described above.

If a person or entity releases pheasants or quail for hunting purposes during the State's season on partridge, quail or pheasant the bag limit applies. Note: when hunting pheasant in York and Cumberland Counties during the state's pheasant season a pheasant stamp is required. When outside of the pheasant hunting season in York and Cumberland Counties a person may hunt pheasant during the season timeframe without a pheasant stamp.

The following upland game birds are now on the unrestricted list:

1. Chukar partridge
2. Quail, (Button, Northern Bobwhite, Common, Japanese)
3. Hungarian partridge
4. Pheasants
5. Pigeons

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Application Instructions:

Make checks payable to: **Treasurer State of Maine**

Mail check and application to address above.

Or call and apply over the phone and pay via credit card.

Here is the link to IFW web page related to **captive wildlife**:

<https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/captivity.html>

Here is the link to the IFW **unrestricted species list**:

<https://www.maine.gov/ifw/docs/unrestrictedspecies.pdf> The top of Pg. 11 speaks to specific requirements to possess birds and pheasant is at the bottom of the page.

Chapter 16 Rule:

Provides hunting seasons and bag limits for pheasant & bobwhite quail:

Season: Last Saturday in September – December 31 and Daily Bag limit of 4 with a possession limit of 8

Title 12 Statute specific to hunting/releasing pen-raised birds:

§12051. TRAINING

B. A person may train sporting dogs on wild birds at any time, including Sundays. A person may not train sporting dogs on wild birds unless they possess a valid hunting license, except on Sundays. A person may train dogs on pen-raised birds at any time without a hunting license but must have a "Permit to Release Wild Birds and Use Firearms for Dog Training" when training dogs in the circumstances described above.

§12102. IMPORTATION PERMIT FOR MALLARD DUCKS, QUAIL, CHUKAR PARTRIDGE AND HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE

1. Issuance. The commissioner may grant permits to import live mallard ducks, quail, Chukar partridge and Hungarian partridge to operators of commercial shooting areas.

2. Application. When requesting permission to import these birds, an importer shall:

A. Provide the commissioner with information on the number of the birds to be imported and the name and address of the seller; and

B. Furnish the commissioner with a statement from an approved veterinarian or from the Department of Agriculture or from the conservation department of the state from which the birds are imported certifying that they are from flocks that have been tested for infectious or contagious disease and have not been exposed to that disease during the 6 months prior to importation.

§12156. RELEASE OF WILDLIFE INTO WILD

1. Permit required. Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this Part, a person may not release into the wild captive, raised or imported wildlife unless that person has a valid permit issued under this section. Each day a person violates this subsection that person commits a Class E crime for which a minimum fine of \$50 and an amount equal to twice the applicable license fee must be imposed.

2. Issuance. The commissioner may issue a written permit to any person permitting that person to release into the wild captive, raised or imported wildlife.

§12158. IMPORTATION PERMIT FOR PHEASANTS (REPEALED)