

Guidance to the Application Form & Relevant Dates for 2021/2022 Deer Hunting Season

Part 1: Personal Details

Please ensure that your full name, address, email address and date of birth are completed in this part. You should provide a valid email address, not providing one may delay the processing of your application. All applicants must be 16 years or over.

Certificate of Competency

The application form seeks information on whether you have a Certificate of Competency appropriate for the Republic of Ireland such as the 'Hunter Competence Assessment Programme (HCAP)' or equivalent in respect of firearms and matters relating to wild deer.

Part 2: Land Information

Please tick the appropriate box on the application form. You must **fully complete** the schedule with all details in relation to the lands, including County, Townland, number of acres (minimum 100 acres), Landowner Details (in full) and the **correct folio number(s)**. *Please note that **folio numbers should begin with a county code**, which are as follows: Carlow (CW), Cavan (CN), Clare (CE), Cork (CK), Donegal (DL), Dublin (DN), Galway (GY), Kerry (KY), Kildare (KE), Kilkenny (KK), Laois (LS), Leitrim (LM), Limerick (LK), Longford (LD), Louth (LH), Mayo (MY), Meath (MH), Monaghan (MN), Offaly (OY), Roscommon (RN), Sligo (SL), Tipperary (TY), Waterford (WD), Westmeath (WH), Wexford (WX), Wicklow (WW).

Incorrect folio number(s) will delay your application. Correct folio numbers can be obtained by visiting www.landdirect.ie (proceed as guest user) or by contacting the Property Registration Authority at 076 1001610. Please be aware that **100 acres (42 hectares)** is the minimum amount of land required for a deer hunting licence.

If you are applying to hunt deer on your own lands, the 100 acre requirement does not apply.

If you are not the landowner, you will need to seek permission of the landowner/owner of sporting rights to hunt on the land listed in the schedule. By listing the name and address of the landowner and signing the declaration you are stating that you have sought permission. Due to current Covid-19 restrictions applicants are not required to submit a signed landowner permission form at this time but must provide all landowner permission details on the application form.

Note: If you have lands leased from **Coillte** or have any other leasing arrangement you must show written proof that the lease is valid for the 2021/2022 season. Or, if you intend hunting on a Coillte letting which is not in your name, you must provide a permit or letter from Coillte confirming that you are entitled to hunt on those lands. If you are obliged to retain your original Coillte permit, please provide a photocopy. Please ensure the permit is signed, stamped and dated by Coillte.

Part 3: Firearms Details

All details relating to your firearm must be completed. The Regulations governing this, S.I. No. 239/1977 (Wildlife Act, 1976 (Firearms and Ammunition) Regulations, 1977) specify that you can only use a centre-fire rifle of not less than .22 calibre with a muzzle energy of not less than 1,700 foot pounds to hunt deer species and such rifles must use bullets weighing not less than **55 grains**. It is important that you comply with these requirements otherwise your application for a deer hunting licence will be refused. Although the legal requirements are outlined above, a rifle with a minimum calibre of .240 is recommended as a more appropriate firearm for shooting deer. **All non-resident applicants must submit a copy of their current European Firearms Pass with the application form.**

Part 4: Returns

If you previously held a deer hunting licence, this part must be completed for **the season you last held a licence and hunted, even if the return is zero.**

You need to state:

- the County where the deer were shot
- the number of each species shot
- the total number shot in that season.

First time applicants should note that a return will be required at the end of each hunting season.

Part 5: Declaration

The declaration must be signed by yourself and dated. Any person who, for the purposes of obtaining a licence under the Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2018, makes any statement or gives information which they know to be false shall be guilty of an offence. Penalties, on conviction include fines and forfeiture of firearms.

Checklist:

- All personal details filled in, including valid email address
- Land details completed
- Firearm details completed
- Returns for previous seasons completed (if applicable)
- Copy European Firearms Pass attached (if applicable)
- Declaration, signed & dated

When the form and checklist are completed, please return your application to the email address/ address below as soon as possible.

Please note – licences are only valid from 1 August 2021.

Applications will be processed in order of the date of receipt and **incomplete applications will be returned to you** e.g. no signature (typed signed on emailed applications or wet signature on postal applications).

Email: deerlicences@housing.gov.ie Emailed forms must contain the applicant's signature/electronic signature. To avoid duplication, if you email your application forms to us do not send them by post as well.

Post:

Wildlife Licensing Unit
National Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
90 King Street North,
Smithfield
Dublin 7 D07 N7CV