

Registration open to hunters for mandatory wild turkey hunting courses



Wild turkeys in mid-Kent County

DOVER – With Delaware’s annual spring wild turkey hunting season approaching, DNREC’s Division of Fish & Wildlife Hunter Education Program reminds both resident and non-resident hunters age 13 and older that they must pass a Division-Approved turkey hunting course before they can legally hunt turkeys in the First State. Also, hunters age 13 and older born after Jan. 1, 1967, must have completed an approved basic hunter education safety course and have a course card/number. These hunter education requirements have collectively helped Delaware turkey hunters achieve an excellent hunting safety record.

Registration is now open for [one-day turkey hunting courses](#) offered from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by the Division of Fish & Wildlife at the following locations in Kent, New Castle, and Sussex counties:

- Kent County – [Saturday, March 7](#), Little Creek Hunter Education Training Center, 3018 Bayside Drive, Dover, DE 19901
- New Castle County – [Saturday, March 14](#), Ommelanden Hunter/Trapper Education Training Center and Range, 1205 River Road, New Castle, DE 19720 and [Saturday, March 28](#), St. Anne’s Episcopal Church, 15 East Green Street, Middletown, DE 19709 (NOTE: 8:30 a.m. start time)
- Sussex County – [Sunday, March 29](#), Lewes Fire Department, Station #2 at Nassau, 32198 Janice Road, Lewes, DE 19958

Delaware's turkey hunter education course teaches turkey hunting safety, as well as the state's current wild turkey hunting laws and regulations. Students also learn about Delaware's wild turkey history, as well wild turkey biology and behavior, and turkey calling that can help improve turkey hunting success. While required for all hunters age 13 and older, youth 10 through 12 years of age can also take the course.

Successful completion of the course enables students to obtain their Delaware Turkey Hunter Safety Card or have the turkey course certification added to their Delaware Hunter Education Card. Proof of both basic hunter education and turkey hunting safety certification must be carried while in the field turkey hunting.

Students planning to attend one of the turkey courses must register in advance. To register for a course, click Hunter Education Online Access. After logging in, click "Sign me up" and select "Mandatory Turkey Ed." Students may also contact the Hunter Education Office at 302-735-3600, ext. 1, to register or for additional information.

Delaware's 2020 wild turkey season will run from Saturday, April 11 through Saturday, May 9, excluding Sundays, with a youth/non-ambulatory disabled turkey hunt on Saturday, April 4. For more information on wild turkey hunting in Delaware, click on 2019-2020 Delaware Hunting and Trapping Guide. The guide is also available in printed form at DNREC's Dover licensing desk in the Richardson & Robbins Building, 89 Kings Highway, Dover, DE 19901, and from license agents throughout the state.

- Follow the Division of Fish & Wildlife on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/DelawareFishWildlife>.

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