

2016 FORT KNOX SPRING TURKEY HUNTING GUIDELINES

Note: Changes to the 2016 Spring Turkey Hunting Guidelines are in italics.

1. The 2016 General Spring Turkey Season will be held 9-10 April and 16 April - 9 May. A special youth only turkey hunt will be held on 2-3 April; youths 15 years of age and under are eligible to participate. Availability of all hunting areas will be contingent upon the training mission. There will be no hunting on Tuesdays; the Hunt Control Office is closed. *Individuals without a military ID or a Common Access Card (CAC) must enter the installation through the Chaffee Gate on Bullion Blvd.*

2. All firearms brought onto Fort Knox must be registered with the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES). The completed registration form and a copy of your driver's license must be submitted at the Weapons Registration Office in Building 298, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, or mailed along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

**Directorate of Emergency Services
Attn: Weapons Registration Office
481 Gold Vault Road
Fort Knox, KY 40121-5182**

A form documenting firearms registration will be provided to the owner and will be valid for three (3) years. **The form and a photo ID must be presented at Installation Access Control Points when bringing a firearm onto the installation and when requested by law enforcement.** All individuals under 18 years of age may only possess firearms when supervised by an adult with a current Fort Knox firearms registration form. For more information, contact the **Physical Security Section of the Directorate of Emergency Services at (502) 624-6118 or 6818** or at: <http://www.knox.army.mil/Garrison/des/powregistration.aspx>.

The following completed documents **must** be in your possession at all times while in the hunting areas:

- a. Kentucky State Hunting License (out-of-state hunters need an annual non-resident license) or Sportsman's License or Senior/Disabled License
- b. Kentucky State Spring Turkey Permit (out-of-state hunters need a non-resident spring turkey permit)
- c. Fort Knox Spring Turkey Permit
- d. State-issued Hunter Education Certificate required for hunters age 12-60. The one-time Kentucky hunter education exemption is acceptable but the hunter must be accompanied by an adult that meets the hunter education requirements above.
- e. Recreational Area Assignment Sheet. Pink copy must be displayed in the lower left corner of windshield.

3. Hunting Area Sign-up will be conducted at the Hunt Control Office by a daily random drawing. Fort Knox hunters are categorized as:

- Tier 1 - Active duty military, members of the Reserve Components, and their family members (see FK Reg. 200-3 for definition of family member)
- Tier 2 - Disabled veterans with $\geq 50\%$ service-connected disability (designated by the VA), retired military (including the Reserve Components), and their family members.
- Tier 3 - Current or retired Department of the Army Civilian Personnel, and their family members.
- Tier 4 - Members of the general public

The drawing for Tier 1 hunters participating in the 2-3 April youth hunt will be held on 1 April at 0900, Tier 2 at 0930, Tier 3 at 1000, and Tier 4 hunters at 1300. The drawing for Tier 1 hunters for the 9-10 and 16-17 April weekends will be held on 8 April and 15 April at 0900, Tier 2 at 0930, Tier 3 at 1000, and Tier 4 at 1300. Hunters arriving after the beginning of the drawing for their Tier will be in line behind the last person drawn. A drawing by tier to fill in behind kill-outs will be held at 1300 Saturday for Sunday hunting.

4. Drawings for area assignments for the 18 April - 9 May general season will be held the day prior to the hunt day at 1300 for Tier 1 hunters, 1330 for Tier 2 hunters, 1400 for Tier 3 hunters, and 1430 for Tier 4 hunters, **except** the Friday drawing will be for both Saturday and Sunday. Example - The drawing for Monday will be held Sunday, drawing for Wednesday will be held Monday, drawing for Thursday will be held Wednesday, etc.

5. You may sign up yourself and 3 other individuals in your tier or a lower numbered tier. Proof of military category must be presented at the time of registration for each member of your group.

6. Sign-up Procedures. One ticket for each hunting group will be given for a random drawing. Write the

name(s) of each person in your group on the back of the ticket. When a hunter's ticket is drawn he/she must be present and show the ticket at the counter when signing into a hunting area. A group, or person, found to have more than one ticket per drawing will be grounds for suspension of hunting privileges. Arriving earlier than the times stated above for each category of hunters will not give you a better chance at a hunting area. It is the hunter's responsibility to get a ticket prior to the drawing and ensure that no one else in that group has a ticket.

7. The spring bag limit on Fort Knox is **2** male turkeys or turkeys with visible beards. Hunters that harvest a turkey may purchase a second spring turkey hunting permit. A hunter will not take, or attempt to take, more than 1 legal turkey per hunting day. Hunting hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise until 1:00 p.m.

8. Turkeys must be tagged with a Fort Knox Spring Turkey Permit. Hunters must sign the permit upon purchase and write the month and day on the back of the permit, in ink, immediately after a bird has been harvested. Permit must be attached to the turkey while transporting by vehicle or if left unattended.

9. Turkeys may be taken with shotguns 10, 12, 16, and 20 gauge (#4 shot or smaller) and archery equipment. Repeating shotguns will be plugged to hold a maximum of three shells. Ten shells maximum in possession per day. Broadheads must be barbless with at least 7/8" cutting diameter.

10. Privately-owned vehicles are not authorized on unimproved roads, trails, or firebreaks in the hunting areas. An improved road is one that has a gravel or paved surface. Do not park in front of gates or block access to buildings and leave gates as you found them. No parking beyond the baseline on Ashley Range (HA 52), Kennedy and Scott Mountain Ranges (HA 54), or McKie Range (HA 59). All rivers within Fort Knox are off limits to turkey hunters. All vehicles will be driven by the most direct, authorized route to and from the assigned hunting area; cruising the training complex is not permitted. Hunters must park in or adjacent to their assigned hunting area; walking through a no-hunting area to access your hunting area is not allowed.

11. Hunters shall not hunt from any type of vehicle or boat, or discharge any firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, or other similar device upon, over, or across any improved roadway. Firearms will not be loaded within 100 yards of an improved road, building, or structure. No hunting within 100 yards of an airstrip (HAs 6, 13, 35, and 89). All firearms **must** be unloaded and fully encased while at or in a vehicle.

12. Each hunter must clear out of their assigned hunting area by 1400 each day. Areas **must** be cleared by phone (502-624-7311) or by coming to the Hunt Control Office in Bldg. 9297 in person and verbally assuring that you are cleared. **Failure to clear assigned hunting area will result in suspension of hunting privileges at Fort Knox.**

13. Turkeys may be taken by the use of hand or mouth operated calls only; electronic calls are prohibited. Calling or attempting to call wild turkeys using any call to mimic the sounds made by a wild turkey is permitted only during legal Fort Knox turkey hunting hours and dates. The use of blinds is permitted. Turkey decoys without electronic devices are permitted.

14. Baiting turkeys, such as placing grains, *minerals, salt, fruits, vegetables, hay*, or any other food materials, whether natural or manufactured, or the possession of such items in the hunting areas is prohibited. Shooting turkeys while they are roosting is prohibited; a roost is defined as the place where a turkey spends the night.

15. All turkeys **must** be checked in at the Hunt Control Office located in Bldg. 9297, Wilson Road, by 1400 hours on the day a turkey is harvested.

16. Hunters may sign into only one area at a time and they must have a Fort Knox 1:36,000 hunting and fishing map in their possession while hunting. Hunters found out of their assigned hunting area will be cited and suspended. A compass and/or GPS are highly recommended.

17. Adults **must** be in a position to take immediate control of a youth's firearm at all times and no more than 2 youth hunters may hunt with 1 adult. A youth hunter and their sponsor will be considered as one hunter.

18. Be courteous of other hunters!! Don't cut-off a person working a bird, this is uncourteous and very unsafe.

19. **Persons that desire to hunt at Fort Knox release the U.S. Government and its agents from liability as identified in the Individual Release of Liability/Hold Harmless Agreement posted in Hunt Control Office.**

HUNTER ORANGE - Hunter orange garments are not required but highly recommended, especially when changing locations or carrying a harvested bird.