



NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Captive Game Permits  
1 Eldridge Road  
Robbinsville, NJ 08691-3476

## **SEMI-WILD SHOOTING PRESERVE INFORMATION SHEET**

### **AUTHORITY**

N.J.S.A 23:3-29 provides the authority to the Division of Fish and Wildlife to issue a license to operate semi-wild shooting preserves for pheasant, quail, and partridge. The applicant must be the owner or bona-fide lessee to the property to be licensed. Only one contiguous tract of land may be covered under one license.

At least one pheasant, quail, and/or partridge must be stocked for each acre of land licensed, if the preserve is less than 200 acres in size. A minimum of 200 birds must be stocked on semi-wild preserves over 200 acres in size.

A semi-wild preserve must be posted as a semi-wild preserve with signs that include the club name at intervals of no more than 500 feet along all boundary lines.

### **SEASON AND BAG LIMIT**

Under the semi-wild pheasant, quail, and partridge shooting preserve license, birds stocked may be taken by shooting on lands described in the application and license without regard to sex and daily bag limit by a properly licensed hunter between the first day of small game season and the following March 15, both days inclusive. The Director, with the approval of the Council, may extend the season on licensed semi-wild preserves for a period of up to 20 days.

Hunting hours are the same as regular small game season: 8:00 a.m. on opening day, otherwise sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

Species not covered by the license may be hunted in accordance with current hunting regulations.

### **FEES**

The annual fee for a semi-wild shooting preserve is \$75.00, plus an additional \$2.00 application fee. The cost of tags is \$0.15 each.

### **APPLICATION AND PROCEDURES**

New applicants for a semi-wild preserve license must submit a completed application, proof of purchase or raising of birds, and **two photocopies** (8.5" x 11") of a current **tax assessor's maps**. Maps must show the block, lot, and acreage. The boundaries of the preserve are to be outlined in RED. Maps should indicate all buildings/dwellings on the property and all buildings/dwellings on each adjacent property, which might affect the amount of land hunted because of the safety zones. Safety zones should be indicated in RED.

Maps should list the name of club and permit number. **ONE photocopy of a tax assessor's map must be forwarded each year along with renewal applications.** Prior to issuing a license to first time applicants, a field inspection of the proposed preserve may be conducted.

A license will not be issued until the applicant has produced satisfactory evidence that the required number of birds will be purchased for liberation during the forthcoming season. The person applying for the semi-wild license will be the contact person. That applicant is responsible for maintaining the necessary records and for completing the annual report at the end of the permit season.

The applicant must provide a Verification of Lease Agreement, signed by both parties and effective through the entire season if the semi-wild land is leased.

Incomplete applications and reports may be returned for incomplete information.

Applications for Semi-Wild Shooting Preserves received prior to October 1 will be issued by the beginning of the small game season. Applications received after the date are processed on a first come, first serve basis, with no guarantee that they will be issued by the beginning of the season. All applications must be accompanied by the required tax maps, lease agreement verification form (if property is leased), written evidence of birds purchased, and an application to import live game birds (if applicable).

### **TAGGING BIRDS**

All harvested game birds covered under the license must be tagged, regardless of sex, including birds from the freezer and/or meat sales being transported or sold. Tags will be issued on an annual basis. Tags are numbered and dated; they are for the current season only. Tags are assigned to individual preserves. Not tagging birds is a violation and may result in a fine and loss of the semi-wild license. Sufficient tags should be purchased to cover the anticipated number of birds expected to be harvested. Tags are \$0.15 each and no refunds will be issued for unused tags. More tags may be purchased as necessary. You may not purchase more tags than the number of birds stocked. Tags remaining at the end of the season should be destroyed.

Applicants applying for renewal licenses may forward the application fee and tag order when submitting their application.

No pheasant, quail, partridge, or their carcasses shall be taken, possessed, or transported unless each bird is tagged. Tags must be available to all members and guests. A constant daily record must be kept of the birds shot and tagged by each hunter. Each record should include date, hunter's name, species, and the quantity of birds tagged.

In addition, a daily record of birds released must be kept, indicating the type and quantity of birds released. Records must be available for inspection for up to THREE (3) years after the close of a season.

No pheasant, quail, or partridge may be trapped on semi-wild preserves without the written permission of the Division, and no game bird propagated thereon may be sold.

Any organization or person **intending to hold birds** for periodic release or to raise birds for release on the semi-wild preserve **must also possess a Captive Game Permit.**

## **IMPORTATION OF BIRDS**

All game birds transported or otherwise moved into the state shall be accompanied by an official health certificate and importation permit, which must be attached to the waybill or shall be in the possession of the driver of the vehicle or person in charge of the game birds. No game birds may be imported without prior written approval from the Division. Importation applications are available on the Division website at [http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/game\\_import-bird.pdf](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/game_import-bird.pdf). Allow 20 working days for approval and issuance of an importation permit. There is no fee for this permit.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

Annual reports must be completed by each semi-wild preserve at the close of the season. Annual report forms are available at [http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/semi-wild\\_annrpt.pdf](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/semi-wild_annrpt.pdf). These forms should be completed and submitted to the Division within 30 days of the close of the season. Annual report forms must be filed with a copy of your receipt(s) for the birds stocked. The receipts should indicate the quantity and type of birds stocked and indicate "Paid in Full."

If you hold more than one permit, separate paperwork must be filed for each individual permit and filed separately. If you are a propagation & Sales permit holder, you must account for the birds on your Captive Game permit annual report form and show written transfer to your Semi-Wild Preserve permit.

Anyone failing to submit the annual report and the required documentation of records may be issued a summons and possible loss of permits.

## **REFUNDS/TRANSFERS**

No refunds or transfers of licenses or tags will be issued for loss of acreage resulting from township closures, lease cancellations, etc.

## **INFORMATION**

If you have any questions regarding semi-wild preserves or with completing the application, please call (609) 223-6055.