

# Spring Turkey Hunting Season Opens in April

## STRONG POPULATION OF 2-YEAR-OLD BIRDS ANTICIPATED

After a frigid winter filled with snow and ice, Kentucky's 2026 spring turkey hunting season arrives with excitement for both hunters and biologists.

Higher-than-usual turkey brood surveys – summertime observations of young turkey poults hatched that year - signal healthy populations of gobblers for hunters to pursue in the commonwealth this season.

"All evidence suggests turkey numbers have improved over the past five years," said Zak Danks, turkey-grouse program coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "We share many hunters' concerns about the turkey population, but the more we learn about our flock, the more excited we can be about the future."

The spring hunting season kicks off with a youth-only weekend, April 4-5, followed by the 23-day general season starting April 18. Hunters with proper permits can harvest two birds during the season but only one a day. Legal birds are male or have a beard.

In 2025, hunters telechecked 30,661 birds, less than in 2024 and 2023 but more than in 2022 and 2021. Biologists say this year's season has the potential for another high harvest, given numbers related to reproductive success two years ago:

- Brood surveys from 2024 showed 70 percent of hens with poults, compared to 62 percent in 2023. Male poults hatched in 2024 will be vocal 2-year-olds this spring.

- The average number of poults per hen increased between 2023 and 2024 not only statewide (from 2.3 to 2.7) but also in all three regions of the state. The increases in poults per hen were most significant in the east (from 1.78 to 2.28) and west (from 2.62 to 3.11).

- Last summer's brood survey showed 3.5 poults per hen statewide. Production was greatest in the east (3.8) and in central Kentucky (3.6). Hunters should see an uptick in jakes this spring.

Danks said the optimistic brood survey data was backed up by a three-year study of nests, brood habitat use and hen behavior in three counties in western Kentucky that used transmitters resembling backpacks to track movement of more than 230 turkeys.

Preliminary estimates from that study showed the survival rate for adult hens was 70 percent to 74 percent and greater than 75 percent for



juvenile hens – better than biologists predicted.

In addition, the higher-than-usual number of successful nests and higher poult survival rates in those three counties in 2024 showed the tremendous impact of the emergence of the 13-year Brood XIX cicadas in western Kentucky that year.

A separate four-year research study that involved capturing and leg banding nearly 1,300 male birds showed Kentucky's annual harvest rate was 29 percent for mature gobblers and 6 percent for juveniles (jakes). The average year-to-year survival rate was 56 percent for gobblers and 78 percent for jakes.

"Harvest rates did not exceed the 30 percent to 35 percent threshold that past research indicated could be unsustainable, so we're right where we want to be providing opportunities to hunters while protecting the flock long term," Danks said. "We haven't had such comprehensive numbers in decades."

Hunters should familiarize themselves with the regulations before going afield. Basics include:

- Dates: General season, April 18-May 10. Youth season for hunters ages 15 and younger is April 4-5.

- xShooting hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

- Requirements: Annual hunting license and spring turkey permit (or all-in-one Sportsman's License). Hunters 12 to 15 years old need a youth hunting license and youth turkey permit (or

a Youth Sportsman's License). Hunters 11 and under are license-exempt. Hunters under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

- Legal birds: Turkeys that are male or have visible beard.

- Bag Limits: Two per spring season, but only one per day. A limit of one bird per wildlife management area per season applies. A youth turkey permit allows hunters 12 to 15 years old to take one bird in either the spring or fall seasons.

- Clothing: Hunter orange not required; recommended if carrying a harvested bird.

- Tagging, recording: Fill out the Harvest Log before moving harvested bird and telecheck it by phone or online by midnight of the day it is recovered. Birds dropped off to a taxidermist or butcher must have a handmade tag with hunter's name, phone and Telecheck confirmation number.

- Leg bands: Harvested turkeys with leg bands should be reported to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife on the Turkey Band reporting webpage.

- Baiting/feeding: Illegal to hunt turkey over bait.

- Callers/Assistants: Callers and assistants who are not hunting do not need licenses or permits.

For all regulations, general information and videos on turkey hunting and processing, see the Spring Turkey Hunting page or the Kentucky Spring Hunting Guide, both online at the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website ([fw.ky.gov](http://fw.ky.gov)).

**HART COUNTY MASTER COMMISSIONER  
NOTICE OF SALE**

By virtue of Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Hart Circuit Court in the case listed below, the following property located in Hart County, Kentucky, shall be sold at the Hart County Judicial Center in Munfordville, Hart County, Kentucky, on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 9:00 A.M., (Central Time), and being more particularly described as follows:

**699 Chestnut Grove Cemetery Road, Bonnieville, KY. 42713**  
Deed Book 352, Page 655, PVA #053-00-00-040.00  
*Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC vs. Gary B. Meredith, et al.*  
Civil Action No. 23-CI-00079

**7011 Roy Cann Road, Horse Cave, KY. 42749**  
Deed Book 232, Page 345 - PVA Map Code #086-00-00-006.00  
*South Central Bank, Inc. vs. Diana Gagne, Administratrix of the Estate of Gerald Coleman Judd, Brian Ragune, Christina Grimes, David Grimes, Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Revenue, United States of America Department of the Treasury*  
Civil Action No.: 25-CI-00203

**210 McFerran Street, Horse Cave, KY 42749**  
Deed Book 337, Page 352, PVA Map Code #401-00-13-007.00  
*JLB Advisors, LLC vs. Tyrone Garnett vs. Unknown Spouse of Tyrone Garnett, Commonwealth of Kentucky Division of Unemployment, DOT Capital Investments, LLC, Hart County*  
Civil Action No.: 25-CI-006

At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay full cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price. If, as the successful bidder, you only pay 10% down, you must have a Kentucky Bank to act as unconditional surety on the remaining 90% of the purchase price, plus interest pursuant to the terms of the judgment, which must be paid within 30 days of the Sale date. (The necessary surety form can be obtained at the Master Commissioner's office). The Surety MUST BE PRE-APPROVED by the Master Commissioner's office no later than 12:00 noon on the Friday immediately preceding the sale date to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price. A Loan Officer from the preapproved Kentucky Bank must sign the surety bond at the sale. In the event the successful bidder is the Plaintiff, then in lieu of the deposit, that Plaintiff shall be allowed to bid on credit up to the judgment amount. NO FAXED OR EMAILED BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

The buyer will be responsible for taxes for the year of the sale. The property shall be sold free and clear of all parties named in the above-styled action, but subject to the following: any lien not included in the suit, recorded easements, rights of way, any facts which an inspection or accurate survey might reveal, and the planning and zoning regulations of Hart County, Kentucky. The Master Commissioner does not obtain title inspections or investigate for further liens on the property. The purchaser is responsible for title inspection and/or any additional liens not named in the Judgment and Order of Sale. **It is recommended that a title search be done prior to the sale.**

The purchaser may take possession of the property pursuant to the terms of the judgment. If the judgment does not make provision for possession, the buyer may seek possession of the property through the court system after payment of the full purchase price. The Master Commissioner does not have ability to grant access or possession of the property. The Plaintiff, the Court, and the Master Commissioner shall not be deemed to have warranted title to any purchaser. Said property is sold subject to the Judgment and Order of Sale in these cases which shall be reviewed carefully prior to purchase.

Bidders shall be prepared to promptly comply with the above terms. For updates and information on sale cancellations, please refer to the Master Commissioner information located at [www.hartcountykymastercommissioner.com](http://www.hartcountykymastercommissioner.com).

This the 27th day of March, 2026.

/s/ Patrick A. Ross  
Patrick A. Ross, Attorney-at-Law  
Master Commissioner, Hart Circuit Court  
207 E. Main Street  
P.O. Box 350  
Horse Cave, KY 42749  
T: (270) 786-2155  
F: (270) 786-2118  
[hrh@scrtc.com](http://hrh@scrtc.com)

04/02/26 **Super Crossword** LANGUAGE GROUP

**ACROSS**

1 Knee, elbow or shoulder problem  
9 Pop's Easton  
15 Koranic faith  
20 Make hostile  
21 "Omoo" writer  
22 Cheese, in Chihuahua  
23 Instruments such as maracas and gongas  
25 Slow-moving mollusk  
26 "Little" girl in "Hairspray"  
27 Comment just after waking  
28 Certain Fed  
30 "Nuts!"  
31 Angry rock subgenre  
33 Loose-skinned citrus fruit  
38 Upper-left PC key  
41 Anxious condition, for short  
43 Tranquility  
44 City in Ohio  
45 Famed ethnic fighters  
49 Uncool character  
51 Big meles  
52 Pop's Celine  
53 See 130-Across  
54 Gas brand in Canada  
58 Speller's clarifying words  
59 Mrs., in Essen  
60 Rembrandt, Vermeer or Hals  
64 Hush-hush  
66 Horse father  
67 Like galaxies  
68 "Well now!"  
70 Alternative to Kool-Aid or Hi-C  
74 One or more  
75 Israelites' Promised Land  
77 Makes illegal  
78 To a great degree  
80 The Bollywood film industry  
83 "Ask — questions ..."  
84 Self-motivation mantra  
87 Snow vehicle  
88 Bumped into  
89 "Je t'—" ("I love you," in Paris)  
90 Tranquility  
91 Skip off to the altar  
94 Adar, Nisan and Tishri  
97 Flax-colored  
100 Precious  
101 Pine — (disinfectant)  
102 Match unit  
103 5 and 10, but not V and X  
108 Rejections  
110 Short note  
111 Bandleader  
112 LAX listings  
114 Gp. for people 50 and up  
118 Intermingle  
120 Apt directive for solvers of this puzzle  
125 Debate topic  
126 "Pata Pata" singer  
127 Frat party dispensers  
128 Make fun of  
129 Mystery  
130 With  
53-Across, section of the northern Atlantic  
**DOWN**  
1 Indonesian island  
2 Mongolia's — Bator  
3 Baptism or matrimony  
4 Expropriate  
5 Rustic hotel  
6 Pudding thickener  
7 Bullet point  
8 Blood fluid  
9 Mu — shrimp  
10 "— So Fine"  
11 Lifesaving sites, in brief  
12 Political exile  
13 2020 U.S. Open winner  
14 Former U.N. chief  
15 Mensa stats  
16 Most fancy duds  
17 Found out, to Brits  
18 Italian cheese  
19 Liquefied by heat  
24 IRS hiree  
29 Central point  
32 Cuts, as a lawn  
34 Sign gas  
35 — es  
36 Pack-carrying equine  
37 Actress Issa or Charlotte  
38 Blogger  
39 "Je —" ("I am," in Paris)  
40 Decorative enamelware  
42 "Celebrity Rehab" host  
46 — Reader (magazine)  
47 Rodeo lasso  
48 Debt note  
49 Jan. preceder  
50 Infant's cry  
53 Stair part  
55 Lost tabbies  
56 Oscar winner  
57 Paris airport  
59 Swiss money  
60 Entertainer  
61 Banquet  
62 PC shortcut  
63 Tennis'  
65 Indian tea  
66 Old Thailand  
68 Folkie Phil  
69 Hard rain  
71 "Likely story!"  
72 "I volunteer!"  
73 "I haven't gotten word yet"  
76 Extra benefit  
79 Legal claim on property  
81 Little demon  
82 Originally named  
83 Former space station  
85 Nagging pain  
86 Bird's refuge  
89 "— -Ca-Dabra" (1974 hit song)  
90 Sport played on horseback  
92 Maui gift  
93 Like much music of the '90s  
94 Bit of a giggle  
95 Corn serving  
96 Godzilla or Grendel  
97 Stratagem  
98 Ultimatum ending  
99 City near San Diego  
100 Mendeleev who created the periodic table  
104 Self-description after a lifestyle change  
105 Runner Bolt  
106 Zodiac lion  
107 Ticket ends  
109 Decaf brand  
113 General site  
115 A long time  
116 Floor decor  
117 Mexican money  
119 Inferior grade  
121 Smoked thing, for short  
122 Omelet meat  
123 Sumac of song  
124 Assoc.

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