

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO POSSESS, PROPAGATE, BUY, AND SELL
CERTAIN WILDLIFE IN VIRGINIA (FISHERIES) (23 – PRSL)**

Permit Term January 1st through December 31st (or part thereof)

Non-refundable Application Fee: \$12.50 Permit (Check One): **NEW** **RENEWAL**

Previous VDWR Permit #: _____

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss.

Name of Applicant: _____

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Last 4 SSN: _____ Last 4 of Driver's Lic#: _____

Business or Facility Name: _____

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Business Phone: _____

Name and location of facility if different from above, where animal(s) will be propagated:

County: _____

Indicate Species (√) to be Propagated (Captive-bred and raised only):

The following species may only be sold in Virginia to bona fide research or education institutions or processed for human consumption.

[] Bull Frog (*Lithobates catesbeiana* (formerly *Rana catesbeiana*))

[] Green Frog (*Rana clamitans melanota*)

[] Southern Leopard Frog (*Rana utricularia*)

[] Green Tree Frog (*Hyla cinerea*)

[] *Tongueless or Clawed Frog (*Xenopus* spp.)

*Must also obtain a permit to import non-native (exotic) wildlife

The following species may be propagated and sold in Virginia provided that no snakes exceeding the maximum total length may be sold without authorization.

*As of July 1, 2025, morphs of the Red Cornsnake who's pattern and/or color are distinguishable from the native morph do not require a permit to be held and sold.

[] Eastern Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula getula*)

[] Corn Snake (*Elaphe guttata guttata*) *native morph only

The following species may be propagated and sold for stocking private ponds.

[] All Sunfish Family Members

(Including largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, rock bass, bluegill, crappie)

(List specific species in space provided below)

[] Walleye (*Stizostedion vitreum*)

[] White Bass (*Morone chrysops*)

[] Chain Pickerel (*Esox niger*)

[] Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*)

[] Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*)

The following species may be propagated and sold for stocking private ponds, for bait and for commercial sale by individuals with a valid Hold and Sell Permit.

[] Minnows and Chubs (Family Cyprinidae) **(List specific species in space provided below.)**

[] Trout (including all Salmonidae) **(List specific species in space provided below.)**

[] Catfish (Family Ictaluridae except madtoms and blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*) and its hybrids). (4 VAC 15-320-40 and 4 VAC 15-320-60, Virginia Administrative Code). Blue catfish & its hybrids are not legal to stock in any private or public waters in Virginia. **(List specific species in space provided below.)**

[] Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*)

May be propagated and sold for human consumption and for sale to other facilities that possess a valid Hold and Sell or Propagation Permit with a permit to Import and Possess Non-native (Exotic) Wildlife.

[] Mossambique Tilapia (*Tilapia mossambicuss*)

[] Nile Tilapia (*Tilapia nilotica*)

[] Blue Tilapia (*Tilapia aurea*)

[] Zanzibar Tilapia (*Tilapia hornorum*)

Person or facility from whom the Tilapia will be obtained:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Permit No. _____

Hellgrammites may be propagated and sold to individuals for bait, for aquarium use, or for commercial sale by individuals with a valid Hold and Sell Permit. Crayfish may be propagated and sold for human consumption only.

[] Crayfish **(List specific species in space provided below)**

[] Hellgrammites

Common Name

Scientific Name

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Please use an additional sheet of paper for additional species)

Applicant signature _____ **Date** _____

By my signature above, I hereby certify that all entries made on this application are true and complete, and I agree and understand that any falsification of information herein, regardless of time of discovery, may result in denial or revocation of my permit. TYPED SIGNATURE IS AUTHORIZED AND BINDING PER CODE OF VIRGINIA §59.1, CHAPTER 42.1, ET SEQ.

Make check payable to: **Treasurer of Virginia** and return to: Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, Permits Section, P. O. Box 3337, Henrico, VA 23228.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES
PERMIT TO POSSESS, PROPAGATE, BUY AND SELL CERTAIN WILDLIFE
PERMIT CONDITIONS

Pursuant to 4 VAC 15-30-10 of the Virginia Administrative Code it shall be unlawful to import, export, buy, sell, offer for sale, or liberate within the Commonwealth any wild animal unless otherwise specifically permitted by law or regulation. Under authority of § 29.1-103 (11) and § 29.1-412 of the Code of Virginia, the Possess, Propagate, Buy and Sell Permit shall authorize the holder to buy, possess, propagate and sell certain wildlife for commercial use. A permit holder shall comply with all terms and conditions of any permit issued by the Department per 4 VAC 15-290-130 of the Virginia Administrative Code.

PERMIT INFORMATION:

1. **Application:** Application for a permit and an application fee (see subsection of this section) shall be submitted to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, Permits Section, P. O. Box 3337, Henrico, VA 23228. (All checks made payable to the "Treasurer of Virginia".)
2. **Term of Permit:** Propagation permits are issued on a calendar year basis and expire each December 31st and must be renewed annually. All permits will expire December 31st, regardless of date of issuance.
3. **Renewal:** It shall be the responsibility of the permittee to initiate any and all renewals.
4. **Authorized Stocks:** The following species are authorized for possession and sale by this permit:

Amphibians (4 VAC 15-360-50, Virginia Administrative Code)

(The five species of frogs listed below can be sold in Virginia only to bona fide research or education institutions or processed for human consumption.)

Bull Frog (Rana catesbeiana)

Green Frog (Rana clamitans melanota)

Southern Leopard Frog (Rana utricularia)

Green Tree Frog (Hyla cinerea)

* Tongueless or Clawed Frog (Xenopus spp.) (4 VAC 15-30-40, Virginia Administrative Code)

* Must also obtain a permit to import non-native (exotic) wildlife.

Reptiles (4 VAC 15-360-50, Virginia Administrative Code)

Eastern Kingsnake (Lampropeltis getula getula)

Corn Snake (Elaphe guttata guttata) *native morph only

Game Fish

Species Authorized for Propagation: Trout (including all Salmonidae), all of the sunfish family (including largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and spotted bass, rock bass, bluegill and crappie), walleye, white bass, chain pickerel, muskellunge and northern pike (4 VAC 15-320-40, Virginia Administrative Code) (§29.1-100, Code of Virginia).

A. Gamefish can only be propagated and sold for stocking private ponds (without Department stocking authorization) (4 VAC 15-320-60) with the exception of trout (brown trout, brook trout, or rainbow trout) (4 VAC 15-330-190) which can sold for any purpose, with the exception on bait as stated below.

B. Artificially raised rainbow trout may be sold as bait for use in the James and New Rivers, and in impoundments (ponds, lakes and reservoirs), except impoundments listed as designated stocked trout waters, Lake Moomaw, and Philpott Reservoir. Persons possessing purchased rainbow trout for bait must have a valid invoice or bill of sale specifying date of purchase, the number of trout purchased, and name of an individual or business permitted to sell trout. (4 VAC 15 330-190D, Virginia Administrative Code)

C. Propagation and stocking of striped bass or hybrid striped bass are not covered under this permit. A permit must be obtained from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission.

Non-Game Fish

A. Minnows and chubs (family Cyprinidae) (4 VAC 15-360-20, Virginia Administrative Code).

B. Catfish (Family Ictaluridae except madtoms and blue catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*) and its hybrids). (4 VAC 15-320-40 and 4 VAC 15-320-60, Virginia Administrative Code). Blue catfish & its hybrids are not legal to stock in any private or public waters in Virginia.

C. Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*) (4 VAC 15-320-40, Virginia Administrative Code)

D. Tilapia * (4 VAC 15-30-40, Virginia Administrative Code)

Mossambique Tilapia (*Tilapia mossambicuss*)

Nile Tilapia (*Tilapia nilotica*)

Blue Tilapia (*Tilapia aurea*)

Zanzibar Tilapia (*Tilapia hornorum*)

***Must also obtain a permit to import non-native (exotic) wildlife**

Aquatic invertebrates

Hellgrammites may be propagated and sold for bait, aquarium use, human consumption, or for sale by individuals with a valid Hold and Sell permit. Crayfish may be propagated and sold for human consumption only.

5. **Maximum Size Sale Requirement:**

No snakes exceeding the following maximum total lengths may be sold by permittee without prior authorization by the Department (4 VAC 15-360-50, Virginia Administrative Code).

Eastern Kingsnake – Sixteen (16) inches

Corn Snake – Sixteen (16) inches *native morph only

6. **Conditions of Sale:**

A. Any sales of reptiles and/or amphibians authorized by this permit must be accompanied by a numbered bill of sale, and a copy of such bill shall be retained by the permittee.

B. Authorized persons or businesses engaged in the resale of reptiles and amphibians acquired pursuant to this permit must retain all original bills of sale for such animal and would require a Hold and Sell Permit from the Department.

7. **Exceptions and Restrictions**

A. Individuals wishing to commercially operate a fishing pond would require a Hold and Sell Permit from the Department. Further information on this permit type may be received by calling the Permits Section.

B. Possession and sale of goldfish does not require a permit.

C. No species listed as threatened or endangered shall be possessed or sold (4 VAC 15-20-130, 4 VAC-15-20-140, Virginia Administrative Code).

D. It shall be unlawful to sell any species of madtom (*Noturus* sp.) and any species of salamander with the exception of nonnative newts (Salamandridae) (4 VAC 15-360-60, Virginia Administrative Code).

8. **Record Keeping:** Permittee shall maintain detailed records which shall include an account of sales by date, purchaser, species and number or poundage sold. Records and receipts shall be retained by permittee for a period of one year.

Any person who shall artificially raise brown trout, brook trout or rainbow trout for sale shall keep a record of the number and species, the number raised or, if imported, from whom purchased (4 VAC 15-330-190B, Virginia Administrative Code).

9. **Annual Report Requirement:** Propagators of permitted Tilapia shall submit an annual report containing certain information required by subsection 8 above to the Department by the date designated on the permit. Failure to submit the annual report may be grounds for non-renewal or revocation of an individual's permit.

10. Prohibitions on Release of Stocks and Offspring to the Wild:

It shall be unlawful to stock any species of fish into any inland waters of the Commonwealth, without first obtaining written approval to do so from the Department (need Department stocking authorization form). Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting the use of native and naturalized species of fish in privately-owned ponds and lakes (4 VAC 15-320-60, Virginia Administrative Code). The permittee is expressly prohibited from releasing all other stocks or offspring to the wild.

11. Inspections: Authorized representatives of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources may make periodic inspections of the facility and stocks of each operation, and permittee shall allow such inspections at any reasonable time.

12. Other Laws and Regulations: This permit does not absolve the permittee of any responsibilities or conditions of any other federal, state, or local laws and regulations, including those that apply to threatened or endangered species.

13. Compliance/Violation/Revocation

A. 4 VAC 15-290-130 of the Virginia Administrative Code requires that a permit holder shall comply with all terms and conditions of any permit issued by the Department of Wildlife Resources pursuant to Title 29.1 of the Code of Virginia and the regulations of the board pertaining to hunting, fishing, trapping, attempting to take, possession, sale, offering for sale, transporting or causing to be transported, importing or exporting, propagating, exhibiting, and rehabilitating of any wild bird, wild animal or fish. The penalty for violation of this section is a Class 3 misdemeanor unless another penalty is specified. Further, any violation of state or federal wildlife laws related to the permitted activities by the permittee, his/her agents or employees, or guests will constitute a violation of the conditions of the permit.

B. As provided by 4 VAC 15-30-5 of the Virginia Administrative Code, failure to comply with the provisions of a permit may result in the revocation or suspension of the permit for a period up to but not to exceed five (5) years. Any person whose permit is revoked, or suspended may appeal that decision in writing, to the Executive Director, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, P. O. Box 3337 Henrico, VA 23228-0778.

C. In accordance with VAC 15-30-10 out-of-state internet sales are not allowed.

14. Continuation of Permitted Activity: 4 VAC 15-30-7 of the Virginia Administrative Code states that provided that the issuance of a permit renewal has been delayed past the expiration date of the permittee's previous permit at no fault of the applicant, the permittee may continue the specific activities authorized by the expired permit until the Department has acted on such person's application for renewal. To qualify for this allowance, applicants must submit a completed renewal application to the Department at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the permit. The Department may deny renewal of a permit to any applicant who fails to meet the issuance criteria set forth by the Department.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

ANNUAL REPORTING FORM FOR PROPAGATING AND SELLING OF TILAPIA

(Report not needed for other species.)

Return Report by Date Designated on the Permit

NAME: _____ VDWL PERMIT # _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE # _____

SALES OF OFFSPRING OR BROODSTOCK

SPECIES	NUMBER	SOLD OR POUNDS
Mossambique Tilapia		
Nile Tilapia		
Blue Tilapia		
Zanzibar Tilapia		

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

RETURN TO: **Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources**
Permits Section
P O Box 3337
Henrico, VA 23228