

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES
APPLICATION TO COLLECT SNAPPING TURTLES AND HELLGRAMMITES
FOR SALE (3 - CSTC)

(Under Authority of § 29.1-412, Code of Virginia, 4 VAC 15-360-30)

Permit Period is November 1st through October 31st (or part thereof)

Please allow **30** days for issuing a permit.

Non-refundable Application Fee: \$50.00

Permit (Check One): **NEW** **RENEWAL** Previous VDGIF Permit No. _____

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss.

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____ Email _____

Home Phone Number _____ Business Phone Number _____

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

Business Name _____

Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

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

County _____

Species permitted to collect and sell (check all species applying for):

Snapping turtles (cannot be harvested from 1 October to May 31)

Hellgrammites

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 §1-13.32 AND §2.1-7.4

Make check for non-refundable application fee payable to: **Treasurer of Virginia** and
return to: Permit Section, VDGIF, P O Box 3337, Henrico, Virginia 23228

THIS PERMIT EXPIRES OCTOBER 31st

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING REGULATION AND PERMIT CHANGES
FOR THE COMMERCIAL HARVEST OF SNAPPING TURTLES**

- **Minimum curve-line carapace length shall be 13”**
- **Only Virginia residents shall be eligible to commercially harvest or assist in the harvesting of snapping turtles**
- **Only 25 permits per year shall be issued**
- **No longer will auto renewal be allowed, but permits shall be issued on a “first come, first serve” basis**
- **Permits applications will not be accepted earlier than March 1st. If received before March 1st, applications will be discarded**
- **Only 20 traps shall be operated per harvester/permit**
- **Set poles will no longer be permitted as a method to commercially harvest snapping turtles**
- **Copies of sales receipts should accompany Annual Reports**

Note: There are several changes to the Permit Conditions and it is imperative that all permittees read and understand all of the permit conditions BEFORE exercising the privileges granted by being issued a permit.

CRITERIA FOR THE COLLECTION OF SNAPPING TURTLES
AND HELLGRAMMITES

CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

As provided for in § 29.1-417 of the code of Virginia and 4 VAC 15-360-30, this permit will be required by any person collecting snapping turtles and/or hellgrammites from the wild for commercial purposes. This permit will be revoked for violation of any of the following conditions, restrictions or limitations (4 VAC 15-290-130).

A. PERMITTED SPECIES TO BE COLLECTED AND SOLD:

Snapping Turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*)

Hellgrammites

B. RECORD KEEPING:

Permittee will be required to keep a record of collecting activities and submit an annual report to the Department by **November 1st**. **This report must be received before a new permit will be issued.**

Not submitting an annual report by November 1 will be considered a permit violation and a citable offense under 4 VAC 15-360-30 and denial of future permit applications.

Annual Report (provided by VDGIF) should include:

- date of each collection
- location of collection (county & water)
- number of animals collected
- number or pounds collected
- copies of sale receipts

C. EXCEPTIONS AND RESTRICTIONS:

- **The Chickahominy River and its tributaries from Walkers Dam to the Rt. 5/Dressler bridge will be permanently closed for the commercial harvest of snapping turtles.**
- **The following rivers, streams and tributaries will be closed until the onset of the 2025 collection season:**
 - **Totusky Creek (in Richmond County)**
 - **Mattaponi River (from Walkerton Road bridge to West Point bridge)**
 - **Cat Point Creek (in Richmond County)**
 - **Warwick River (in the City of Newport News)**
 - **College Creek (in James City County)**
 - **Pagan River (in Isle of Wight County)**
- no species listed as threatened or endangered shall be possessed or sold (4 VAC 15-20-130C).
- only 3'x 6' hoop nets or similarly constructed traps shall be allowed and must be checked every 24 hours.

- permit number and/or name and address of permittee shall be clearly marked or labeled on all traps.
- all other species of wildlife, including other species of turtle, shall be released unharmed.
- minimum shell size for snapping turtles shall be 13 inches lengthwise (from front to back) following the curve of the shell.
- snapping turtles may not be collected for commercial purposes from October 1 through May 31.
- snapping turtles may not be taken from the banks or waters of designated stocked trout waters.
- it shall be unlawful to use seines, nets or traps in Lick Creek in Smyth and Bland Counties, in Bear Creek and Hungry Mother Creek above Hungry Mother Lake in Smyth County, and Laurel Creek in Tazewell and Bland Counties. This shall not be construed to prohibit the use of hand-landing nets for the landing of fish legally hooked (4 VAC 15-340-60).
- **PERMITTEE MUST CARRY A COPY OF THIS PERMIT DURING TRAPPING ACTIVITIES**

D. TERM OF PERMIT:

Permits are issued for a one-year period beginning November 1st and expiring October 31st.

E. PERMIT HOLDER TO BE PRESENT WHEN COLLECTING; PERSONS ASSISTING:

The holder of a permit to collect must be present at all times when collecting. Persons assisting in the operation need not obtain permits, but **MUST** also be residents of Virginia.

F. PERMIT RENEWAL PROCEDURES:

Regulation 4 VAC 15-30-7 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. Permit applications for the harvest of snapping turtles will not be accepted before March 1st. If received before March 1st, applications will be discarded.

G. FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL LAWS:

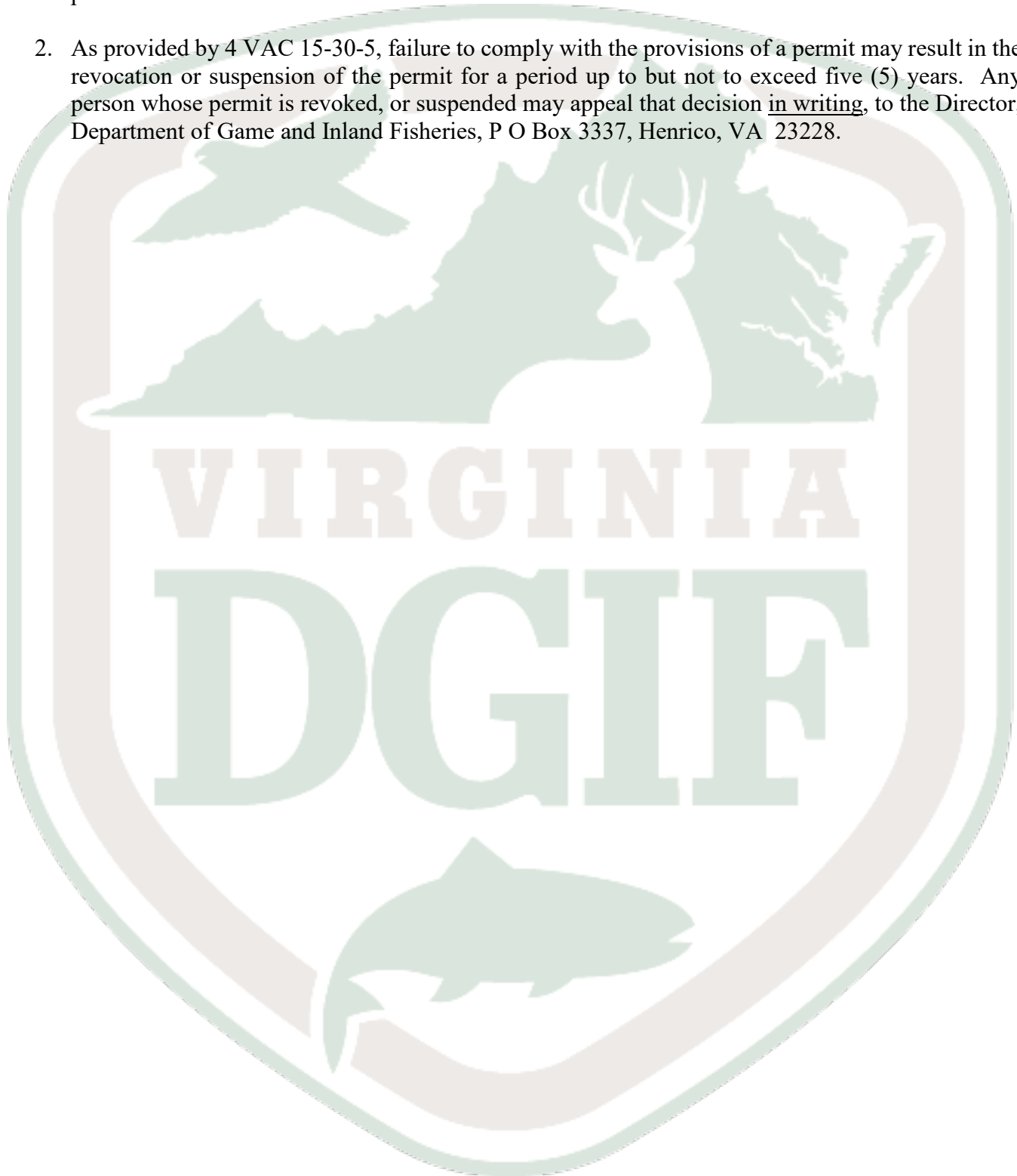
This permit does not absolve the permittee of any responsibilities or conditions of any other Federal, State, or Local laws and regulations, including those that apply to Threatened/Endangered Species.

H. COMPLIANCE/VIOLATION/REVOCAION:

1. Regulation 4 VAC 15-290-130 states that a permit holder shall comply with all terms and conditions of any permit issued by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries 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.

2. As provided by 4 VAC 15-30-5, 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 Director, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, P O Box 3337, Henrico, VA 23228.



**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES
 REQUIRED ANNUAL REPORTING FOR COLLECTION AND SALE OF SNAPPING TURTLES
 AND HELLGRAMMITES**

Report Due By November 1st of Permit Year

NAME: _____

VDGIF PERMIT #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

PAGE 1 of _____

DATE SNAPPING TURTLE OR HELLGRAMMITE COLLECTED	TYPE OF ANIMAL COLLECTED	NEAREST LANDMARK OR LAT/LONG	NAME OF BODY OF WATER AND COUNTY WHERE SNAPPING TURTLE OR HELLGRAMMITES WHERE COLLECTED	NUMBER OF SNAPPING TURTLES OR HELLGRAMMITES COLLECTED TODAY	TOTAL NUMBER OF POUNDS OF SNAPPING TURTLES OR HELLGRAMMITES COLLECTED TODAY	NAME OF DEALER SNAPPING TURTLES OR HELLGRAMMITES SOLD TO

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Providing any false information on this report is a violation of 18.2-168. Forging public records is a Class 4 Felony.

RETURN TO: Permit Section, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. P O Box 3337 Henrico, VA 23228

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES
 REQUIRED ANNUAL REPORTING FOR COLLECTION AND SALE OF SNAPPING TURTLES
 AND HELLGRAMMITES
 CONTINUATION SHEET**

PAGE ___ OF ___

DATE SNAPPING TURTLE OR HELLGRAMMITE COLLECTED	TYPE OF ANIMAL COLLECTED	NEAREST LANDMARK OR LAT/LONG	NAME OF BODY OF WATER AND COUNTY WHERE SNAPPING TURTLE OR HELLGRAMMITES WHERE COLLECTED	NUMBER OF SNAPPING TURTLES OR HELLGRAMMITES COLLECTED TODAY	TOTAL NUMBER OF POUNDS OF SNAPPING TURTLES OR HELLGRAMMITES COLLECTED TODAY	METHOD OF COLLECTION	NAME OF DEALER SNAPPING TURTLES OR HELLGRAMMITES SOLD TO