
Wild Animal Possession Permit Application Process

Wild Animal Possession Permits are required for the possession of the species of wild animals listed below that are typically kept as a pet (certain exemptions apply, such as for mammals held under a game breeder's license or USDA exhibitor's license). The animal must be legally obtained with documentation (such as a receipt from a breeder), and there are specific housing requirements for each species. Requirements are set forth in Indiana Administrative Code in 312 IAC 9-11.

Class I

Eastern Cottontail Rabbit
Fox Squirrel
Gray Squirrel
Southern Flying Squirrel
Endangered Species of Mammals

Class III

Bears (all species)
Wild Cats (other than feral cats and Class II species)
Wolves (purebred only)
Venomous Reptiles (includes snakes and lizards)
Crocodilians that are 5 feet in length or more

Class II

Beaver
Coyote
Gray Fox (includes colors)
Red Fox (includes colors like silver, marble, and cross)
Raccoon
Striped Skunk (includes colors)
Muskrat
Long-tailed Weasel
Virginia Opossum
Wild Cats (such as servals and other small cats), other than feral cats and those listed as Class III

Class I and II Wild Animals: Submit the signed, completed application form within five (5) days of taking possession of the animal with the payment of \$20 (made payable to Indiana DNR).

Class III Wild Animals: Submit the signed, completed application form before taking possession of the animal with the payment of \$20. In addition to the primary housing requirements, the cage or enclosure required for a Class III wild animal must also be surrounded by a perimeter chain link fence which is at least 6 feet high (or in a locked room in a house with walls of equal height and strength) and have secondary housing such as a den or transport crate in which the animal can be secured.

All Species:

Mail the application form to Indianapolis with the fee of \$20 where it will be forwarded to the appropriate conservation officer. A conservation officer must do an inspection to ensure that the housing requirements are met (as required in 312 IAC 9-11) and that the animal is/will be legally obtained prior to the issuance of a permit. Documentation is required to verify legal acquisition of the animal (such as a receipt from a breeder).

For new applications, the signature of a veterinarian is not required on the application. The animal will need to be examined by a veterinarian within forty-five (45) days of the issuance of the permit, and a copy of the receipt or a signature from the veterinarian on the application form will be needed by that time. For renewal applications, the signature of a veterinarian is required, attesting that the animal appears to be free of disease and in good health. If a signature cannot be obtained, a health certificate or other proof that the animal was examined by a veterinarian must be submitted. No vaccinations are required by the Indiana DNR for an animal held under a wild animal possession permit.