



Connecticut Department of
Energy and Environmental Protection
Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division

APPLICATION FOR BLACK BEAR AGRICULTURAL DAMAGE PERMITS

(Note: Applicants must have already attempted the best practices for non-lethal methods that DEEP has outlined on the [bear agricultural damage webpage](#) and must have consulted with a DEEP wildlife biologist before applying for a permit.)

[Section 26-47\(e\)](#) of the General Statutes allows the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to issue permits for the take of bears that threaten to cause or are causing damage to agricultural crops, livestock, or apiaries, under certain conditions.

Bear agricultural damage permits will only be issued if the application meets all requirements, including proof that the owner or lessee of the subject property has made reasonable, non-lethal efforts to protect crops, livestock, or apiaries. DEEP personnel will conduct an investigation to determine if a permit is necessary to protect crops, livestock, or apiaries from damage and if reasonable, non-lethal efforts to protect such crops, livestock, or apiaries have not been, or are not likely to be, successful in preventing damage. Any permits issued will specify the permissible means, methods, and times of take. Any bears taken shall be disposed of as directed by DEEP officials.

To apply for a bear agricultural damage permit, all landowners listed on the subject property deed(s) must complete and sign the application.

All landowners and lessees must be the same for all properties identified in the application. A single application may cover multiple properties owned/operated by the same landowner(s) and lessee(s). Separate applications must be submitted for multiple properties owned/operated by separate landowner(s) and/or separate lessee(s), even where there's partial overlap among owners/lessees. A permit may be issued to the landowner, an agent of such owner, or the lessee of the subject property, provided such agent or lessee has written permission from such owner to take wildlife.

You must answer all of the following questions accurately and completely in order for us to process your application. Incomplete applications will not be processed. All landowners, and/or lessees listed will be emailed when an application has been processed and has been either approved or denied. If landowners and/or lessee cannot provide an email address, they will be notified by phone.

Part I: Applicant Information

Permit Application Year: _____

Applicant is the (check the box that applies):

☐ Owner ☐ Lessee ☐ Agent of owner

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

Email: _____

Note: Applicant will serve as the primary point of contact and, if the application is approved, as the permit holder. By providing an email address you are agreeing to receive official correspondence from DEEP, at this electronic address, concerning the subject application. Please remember to check your security settings to be sure you can receive emails from "ct.gov" addresses. Also, please notify DEEP if your email address changes.

Part II: Landowner Information

List names of ALL landowners on the deed(s) (Last, First, M.I.)

1. Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

2. Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

3. Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

4. Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

*By providing an email address you are agreeing to receive official correspondence from DEEP, at this electronic address, concerning the subject application. Please remember to check your security settings to be sure you can receive emails from "ct.gov" addresses. Also, please notify DEEP if your email address changes.

- ☐ Check here if there are additional landowners. If so, attach additional sheet(s) with the required information as requested above.

Part III: Lessee Information (if applicable)

1. Name of Lessee (Last, First, M.I.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

2. Name of Lessee (Last, First, M.I.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

3. Name of Lessee (Last, First, M.I.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

ext.: _____

*Email: _____

*By providing an email address you are agreeing to receive official correspondence from DEEP, at this electronic address, concerning the subject application. Please remember to check your security settings to be sure you can receive emails from "ct.gov" addresses. Also, please notify DEEP if your email address changes.

Part IV: Property(ies) for which Permits Are Being Requested

1a. Street Address or Location Description: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

1b. Property as described in the land records:

Town: _____ Volume: _____ Page: _____ Acreage: _____

1c. Please indicate which firearms will be used to take bears on the property. Only rifles or shotguns may be used to take bears. A rifle may only be used if a property is at least 10 contiguous acres; shotguns are required if less than 10 contiguous acres. However, a landowner or lessee may restrict the use of a rifle regardless of property size.

☐ Rifle

☐ Shotgun (with single soft slugs only)

2a. Street Address or Location Description: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

2b. Property as described in the land records:

Town: _____ Volume: _____ Page: _____ Acreage: _____

2c. Please indicate which firearms will be used to take bears on the property. Only rifles or shotguns may be used to take bears. A rifle may only be used if a property is at least 10 contiguous acres; shotguns are required if less than 10 contiguous acres. However, a landowner or lessee may restrict the use of a rifle regardless of property size.

☐ Rifle

☐ Shotgun (with single soft slugs only)

3a. Street Address or Location Description: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

3b. Property as described in the land records:

Town: _____ Volume: _____ Page: _____ Acreage: _____

3c. Please indicate which firearms will be used to take bears on the property. Only rifles or shotguns may be used to take bears. A rifle may only be used if a property is at least 10 contiguous acres; shotguns are required if less than 10 contiguous acres. However, a landowner or lessee may restrict the use of a rifle regardless of property size.

☐ Rifle

☐ Shotgun (with single soft slugs only)

4a. Street Address or Location Description: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

4b. Property as described in the land records:

Town: _____ Volume: _____ Page: _____ Acreage: _____

4c. Please indicate which firearms will be used to take bears on the property. Only rifles or shotguns may be used to take bears. A rifle may only be used if a property is at least 10 contiguous acres; shotguns are required if less than 10 contiguous acres. However, a landowner or lessee may restrict the use of a rifle regardless of property size.

☐ Rifle

☐ Shotgun (with single soft slugs only)

5a. Street Address or Location Description: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

5b. Property as described in the land records:

Town: _____ Volume: _____ Page: _____ Acreage: _____

5c. Please indicate which firearms will be used to take bears on the property. Only rifles or shotguns may be used to take bears. A rifle may only be used if a property is at least 10 contiguous acres; shotguns are required if less than 10 contiguous acres. However, a landowner or lessee may restrict the use of a rifle regardless of property size.

☐ Rifle

☐ Shotgun (with single soft slugs only)

☐ Check here if there are additional properties. If so, attach additional sheet(s) with the required information as requested above.

Part V: Damage Information

To qualify for a permit, the applicant must prove that damage is actively occurring.

Part A: Time(s) and location(s) of damage

Select Damage Categories	For each category selected, provide the <u>dates</u> on which damage occurred.	For each category selected, provide a detailed description of the <u>locations</u> of the damage. The next section requires a description of the extent and type of the damage; do not include that information here.
<input type="checkbox"/> Grain		
<input type="checkbox"/> Forage		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fruit		
<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable		
<input type="checkbox"/> Flower		
<input type="checkbox"/> Nursery		
<input type="checkbox"/> Trees		

<input type="checkbox"/> Horses		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pigs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle		
<input type="checkbox"/> Goats		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sheep		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bees		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)		

Part B: Extent of physical and economic damage

Select Damage Categories	For each category selected, provide a detailed description of the extent of the damage that is actively occurring as relevant to the type: as appropriate, the estimated acreage of crops damaged, number of trees damaged, number of animals harassed/injured/killed, number of beehives damaged, etc. Please also estimate the economic or financial loss resulting from damage.
<input type="checkbox"/> Grain	
<input type="checkbox"/> Forage	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fruit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flower	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nursery	
<input type="checkbox"/> Trees	

<input type="checkbox"/> Horses	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pigs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle	
<input type="checkbox"/> Goats	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sheep	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bees	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	

Part VI: Non-Lethal Efforts Utilized

Note: To qualify for a permit, the applicant must first engage in reasonable non-lethal efforts to prevent bear damage of crops, livestock, or apiaries.

Have you engaged in reasonable non-lethal efforts to prevent bear damage of crops, livestock, or apiaries?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No (*If no, permit denied*)

Select non-lethal efforts utilized	Provide a description of the non-lethal efforts utilized and describe how those efforts have been ineffective in preventing damage. Please also specify which type of agricultural product you were attempting to protect for each of the types of efforts utilized.
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Fencing	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reinforced Beehives	
<input type="checkbox"/> Secure Feed Storage	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fortified Structures	
<input type="checkbox"/> Harassment Techniques	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Bear Cover Near Crops	

<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Guardians	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	

Part VII: Consultation with DEEP wildlife biologist

Note: To qualify for a permit, the applicant must first consult with a DEEP wildlife biologist.

Have you consulted with a DEEP wildlife biologist?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No (*If no, permit denied*)

Part VIII: Supporting Documentation

You must include photos or other documentation of all agricultural damage with your application. If applying for multiple properties, submit proof of damage for each property. Please attach electronic files to e-mail with permit application (preferred) or provide hardcopies to a DEEP Wildlife biologist.

Part IX: Authorized Shooter Information

Black bear damage permits may list no more than 3 persons, including the landowner, lessee, or agent of the owner, at any one time as authorized shooters. Approved shooters must not have any hunting and trapping violations in the past three years. While executing the objectives of the damage permit, **all authorized shooters listed on this form must have relevant landowner permission and a valid [CT Conservation Identification Number](#) and either**

1. **show proof of successfully completing a Connecticut Conservation Education Firearms Safety Course or its equivalent OR**
2. **have a valid CT Hunting License,**

If you have questions regarding your conservation ID#, please contact the Bear Damage Permit Program at DEEP.BearDamage@ct.gov.

It is very important that the landowner, authorized lessee, and/or agent have a valid email address, as notification of application approval will be emailed. Once notification is sent and received, all agricultural damage permits will be provided by email or can be picked up in person from Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington, CT. An authorized shooter must carry a physical copy of a permit whenever engaging in permitted activities.

Conservation ID #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ ext.: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

☐ Landowner ☐ Lessee ☐ Relationship to Landowner (specify): _____

Conservation ID #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ ext.: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

☐ Landowner ☐ Lessee ☐ Relationship to Landowner (specify): _____

Conservation ID #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ ext.: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

☐ Landowner ☐ Lessee ☐ Relationship to Landowner (specify): _____

Part X: Applicant Certification

Signatures are required for the applicant and ALL owners listed on the deed who apply for agricultural damage permits.

“I, the undersigned, declare that the statements herein made by me are true and correct. I have read and understand the summary of laws, regulations, and policies governing the issuance and use of agricultural damage permits.”	
Signature of Agent (If applicable)	Date
Signature of Lessee (If applicable)	Date
Signature of Landowner	Date
Signature of Landowner	Date
Signature of Landowner	Date
<div><input type="checkbox"/> Check here if additional landowner signatures are required. If so, please reproduce this sheet and attach signed copies to this sheet.</div>	

Original, signed applications may be submitted via email or mail provided the following directions are followed carefully:

Email:

Submit this completed application form and all supporting documentation by email to: DEEP.BearDamage@ct.gov

Mail:

Please submit this completed signed Application Form and all supporting documentation by mail to:

Sessions Woods WMA
Bear Damage Permit Program
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
P. O. Box 1550
Burlington, CT 06013

Questions regarding the completion of this application may be directed to the Bear Damage Permit Program by email to: DEEP.BearDamage@ct.gov

THE CT DEEP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO INSPECT THE PROPERTY AT ANY TIME TO VERIFY THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BEAR DAMAGE PERMIT PROGRAM AND LAWS GOVERNING THE ISSUANCE AND USE OF BEAR DAMAGE PERMITS ARE BEING MET.

Part XI: DEEP Record of Investigation (to be completed by DEEP Personnel)

DEEP staff verification for all shooters listed on the application:

- ☐ CT Conservation ID Number
- ☐ CT Conservation Education Firearms Safety Course completion or valid CT Hunting License
- ☐ No hunting or trapping violations in past three years:

☐ Verification completed by: _____

Date of verification: _____

Has the applicant previously consulted with DEEP staff concerning damage to agricultural crops, livestock, or apiaries at the property listed on the application? If yes, describe consultation and any recommendations made by DEEP staff: (If not, the application must be denied.)

Site Inspection Report

1. Date of Site Visit(s): _____

2. DEEP staff present at inspection: _____

3. Individuals accompanying DEEP staff on site visit: _____

4. Address(es) visited: _____

5. Agriculture Type(s) damaged or threatened:

- ☐ Crop
- ☐ Livestock
- ☐ Apiaries

6. Description of active damage to agricultural crops, livestock, or apiaries damaged by bears (separate description for each address/parcel if multiple):

7. Reasonable Non-Lethal Efforts Utilized:

<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Fencing
<input type="checkbox"/> Reinforced Beehives
<input type="checkbox"/> Secure Feed Storage
<input type="checkbox"/> Fortified Structures
<input type="checkbox"/> Harassment Techniques
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Bear Cover Near Crops
<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Guardians
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Reasonable efforts not utilized (permit denied)

8. Description of non-lethal efforts utilized at each address/parcel listed on the application, including how long non-lethal efforts have been employed, and whether such efforts have been employed properly:

9. Description of extent of damage and applicant's assessment of resulting financial loss at each parcel.

10. Evidence of Threat or Damage Demonstrated By:

- ☐ Photos or Videos
- ☐ Visual Inspection
- ☐ Other: _____

11. A description of which evidence was submitted in the application itself and which evidence was collected by DEEP staff.

12. If application is recommended for approval:

a. Description of why take of bears is necessary to prevent further damage:

b. Recommendation for take limits: _____.

c. Recommendation for any conditions beyond standard permit conditions:

13. If application is recommended for denial:

a. Provide rationale:

b. Describe any additional non-lethal efforts recommended to applicant to prevent further damage:

14. Additional Comments:

Name, Signature, and Date of DEEP Personnel Conducting Investigation