

Offshore Blind Stake Site License Application

This application for an offshore blind stake site* license must be presented to the Clerk of the Circuit Court or the singularly assigned License Agent in the County or City in which the blind stake is to be located. **Separate applications must be completed for each individual offshore blind stake.** There shall be a limit of four offshore blind stake site licenses per license applicant at a cost of \$5.00 for each stake site license.

**Offshore blind stake site means a specific location in the public waters where a stake is licensed for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl from a floating blind in the counties of Caroline, King George, Essex, Westmorland and Richmond in any of the public marshes, guts, streams, branches, creeks, or bays including among other Green Bay and Port Tobago Bay, flowing into the Rappahannock River or into any of its tributaries, or in Buckner's Creek, Nomini Creek, and Nomini Bay, flowing into the Potomac River or into any of its tributaries.*

Applicant's Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Phone:
Hunting License #
ID *#

**Last 4 digits of SSN preferred. May use driver's license or military ID #.*

Geographic (GPS) Coordinates (requested). See back for additional information.

Lat. – Degrees:	Minutes (seconds):	Body of Water/Shoreline:
Long. – Degrees:	Minutes (seconds):	
Example: Lat. – Degrees: 37 Minutes (seconds): 18.523 Long. – Degrees: 76 Minutes (seconds): 23.202		Location Description:
County Where Located (please Circle):	Caroline	Essex
	Richmond	King George
		Westmoreland

Certification: Non-Riparian Owner Without a Prior Stationary Blind License

I certify that: (Check)

I am a Non-Riparian owner who has not licensed a stationary blind for the year in the counties and areas listed above.

This offshore blind stake site license may be obtained from November 1 through November 10 each year for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl from a floating blind and license and be affixed to a stake by November 10.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Certification: Riparian Owner or a Person with a Licensed Stationary Blind Site.

I certify that: (Check)

I am a Riparian owner or a person who has licensed a stationary blind for the year in the counties and areas listed above.

This offshore blind stake site license may be obtained from November 11 through 15 each year for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl from a floating blind and license shall be affixed to a stake by November 15.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

CODE OF VIRGINIA

Chapter 39 of the Acts of Assembly of 1942 as amended by Chapter 29 of the Acts of Assembly of 1959, extra session Chapter 305 of the Acts of Assembly of 1964, and Chapter 841 of the Acts of Assembly of 2005.

§ 1. It shall be unlawful to hunt any migratory waterfowl from floating blinds, as defined in §29.1-342 of the Code of Virginia in the Counties of Caroline, King George, Essex, Westmoreland, and Richmond in any of the public marshes, guts, streams, branches, creeks, or bays including among other Green Bay and Port Tobago Bay, flowing into the Rappahannock River or into any of its tributaries, or in Buckner's Creek, Nomini Creek, and Nomini Bay, flowing into the Potomac River or into any of its tributaries, except from a licensed offshore blind stake site. For the purposes of this act, an "offshore blind stake site" means a specific location in the public waters where a stake is licensed for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl from a floating blind.

§ 2. Unless a license for a stationary blind, as defined in §29.1-341 of the Code of Virginia, has been obtained pursuant to §29.1-344 or 29.1-345 of the Code of Virginia and a stationary blind has been erected by the required time, a non-riparian owner who has not already licensed and erected a stationary blind for the year in the areas enumerated in §1 and who holds a valid hunting license may apply to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which an offshore blind stake site is to be located for a license for an offshore blind stake site.

§ 3. Except as provided in §4, the license for an offshore blind stake site may be obtained from November 1 through November 10 of each year. Once obtained, a stake shall be erected on the site and a license plate supplied with license for that season shall be affixed thereto by November 10.

§ 4. From November 11 through November 15 of each year, any riparian owner and any other person who has already licensed and erected a stationary blind for the year in the areas enumerated in §1 and who holds a valid hunting license may apply to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which an offshore blind stake site is to be located for a license for any remaining offshore blind stake sites. Once obtained, a stake shall be erected on the site, and a license plate supplied with the license for that season shall be affixed thereto by November 15.

§ 5. The clerk or local license agent shall be paid the fees charged for issuing hunting licenses. With each license, the clerk or local license agent shall deliver a license plate bearing the number of the license, which shall be affixed to the offshore blind site stake where it may be easily observed. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries shall furnish the licenses and license plates provided for in this act. The proceeds from the sale of offshore blind stake site licenses shall be paid into the Game Protection Fund established pursuant to 629.1-101 of the Code of Virginia.

§ 6. No offshore blind stake site shall be located closer than 500 yards to another licensed stationary blind or offshore blind stake site without the written consent of the affected stationary blind or blind stake site owner.

§ 7. The licensee shall hunt from a floating blind that is tied to or anchored within 25 yards of the offshore blind stake site.

§ 8. There shall be a limit of four offshore blind stake site licenses per license applicant. The fee for an offshore blind stake site license shall be \$5 for each such license. The purchase of an offshore blind stake site license shall be in addition of the requirement of obtaining a floating blind license under §29.1-340 of the Code of Virginia.

§ 9. If any properly licensed offshore blind stake site is destroyed or removed in any manner, it may be replaced within 30 days without losing the position that it formerly occupied.

§ 10. It is unlawful for any person to destroy or remove another's properly licensed offshore blind site stake.

§ 11. Within 15 days of the close of the waterfowl season, blind stake site licensees shall remove from the public waters each licensed stake.

§ 12. Any person who violates this act is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor and, in addition to any penalties allowed by law; the court may revoke any license to hunt waterfowl in the areas described by this act.

GPS Information

Licensees are requested to provide geographic coordinates of the location of their Stationary or Offshore waterfowl blind included in this application. Coordinates are typically recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS), but can also be obtained from a topographic map. Coordinates are to be reported as latitude and longitude, in degrees and decimal minutes. For example,

Latitude (Lat) Degrees = 37 Minutes = 18.523
Longitude (Long) Degrees = 76 Minutes = 23.202

Latitude/Longitude is sometimes presented as degrees/minutes/seconds, as 3 separate numbers. To convert a Lat/Long coordinate in degrees/minutes/seconds to degrees/decimal minutes, divide the seconds (last number) value by 60 and add the decimal number to the minutes value (middle number). For example 37, 18, 31.38 (degrees, minutes, seconds) is the same as 37 18.523 (degrees decimal minutes). Since there are 60 seconds in a minute, 31.38 becomes 0.523 (31.38/60) which is added to the minutes value (18) to make 18.523.