

*VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES*  
APPLICATION  
**TO COLLECT SNAPPING TURTLES AND HELLGRAMMITES FOR SALE**  
(Under Authority of § 29.1-412, Code of Virginia, 4 VAC 15-360-30)  
Permit Period is November 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> (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 \_\_\_\_\_

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 collected commercially from 1 October to May 31)
- Hellgrammites

Have you been convicted of violating any federal or state wildlife laws or wildlife-related regulations within the past 5 years?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If "yes", year and nature of offense \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

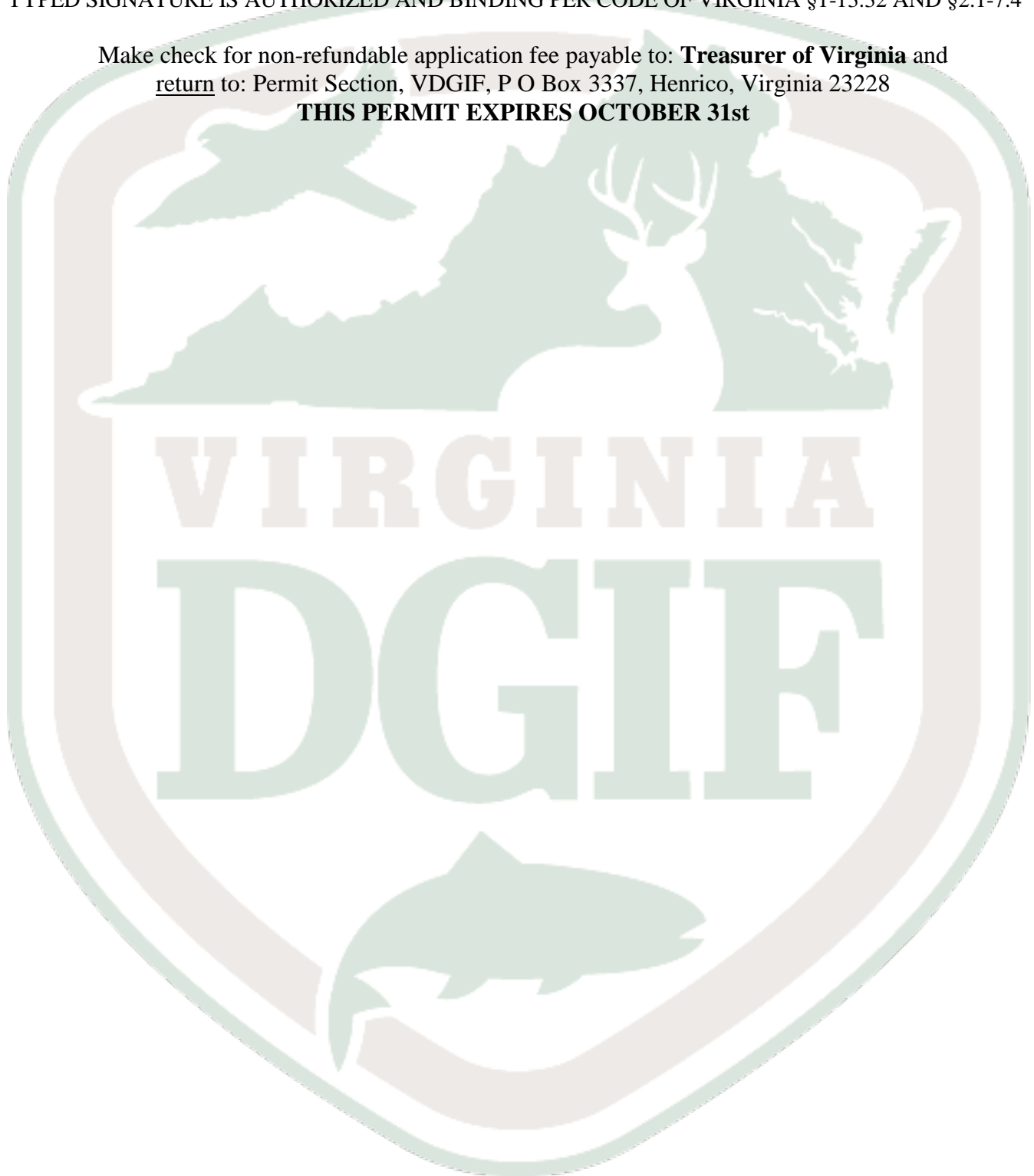
Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**



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 1<sup>st</sup>**. **This report must be received before a new permit will be issued.**

**Regardless if a permit renewal is requested, 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.**

Report (provided by VDGIF) should include:

- date of each collection
- location of collection (county & water)
- number of animals collected
- method of collection (e.g., hand, seine)
- number or pounds collected

**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).
- set poles, nets and traps shall be checked every 24 hours.

- permit number and/or name and address of permittee shall be clearly marked or labeled on all set poles and traps.
- all other species of wildlife, including other species of turtle, shall be released unharmed.
- minimum shell size for snapping turtles shall be 11 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 1<sup>st</sup> and expiring October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**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.

**F. SET POLES:**

Set poles shall not be baited with live bait; however, worms are permissible except in waters stocked with trout and within 600 feet of any dam. Any person setting or possessing a set pole shall have it clearly marked by permanent means with his or her name, address, and telephone number, and is required to check all lines and remove all fish and animals caught each day (4 VAC 15-350-60).

**G. 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. Renewal applications will be mailed approximately two months in advance of the permit's expiration date.

**H. 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.

## I. COMPLIANCE/VIOLATION/REVOCATION:

- A. 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.
- B. 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 1<sup>st</sup> of Permit Year**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

VDGIF PERMIT #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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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

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     

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