

Social Security Number Requirement

Due to federal law, this system requires all customers to provide their Social Security Number (SSN) in order to obtain hunting licenses, fishing licenses, and associated permits. SSNs are required to be collected to receive a recreational license, regardless of age, for the purpose of child support collection enforcement under Federal Statute 42 and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

U.S. Code 42: Recording of social security numbers in certain family matters.

Procedures require that the social security number of any applicant for a professional license, driver's license, occupational license, recreational license, or marriage license be recorded on the application.

For purposes of subparagraph (A), if a State allows the use of a number other than the social security number to be used on the face of the document while the social security number is kept on file at the agency, the State shall so advise any applicants.

As a recreational license provider, the Division of Wildlife is obligated to comply with these laws, and cannot issue a license or permit without the SSN of the customer. The Division has a proper security system in place to protect SSNs and any databases that contain them.

- Each license buyer must have a Social Security Number recorded in the system. Sportsmen and women who have purchased licenses in the past and who provided an Ohio Driver's License or state ID card will most likely be unaffected.
- Youth hunters and those hunters that have never had a driver's license or state ID swiped during the license buying process must provide their SSN.
- In the rare instance that a U.S. resident does not have a Social Security Number, they are asked to fill out a form that no SSN exists. An application for SSN exemption is available at wildohio.com or by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE. This form needs to be mailed to the Ohio Division of Wildlife prior to purchasing a license and will take a few weeks to process.
- The Division will collect a customer's SSN only once (the first time he or she purchases a license or permit). This primarily affects those who have never used a driver's license to purchase a license and/or permit to fish, hunt or trap.
- The customer will then receive a Customer Account Number that will be used for any future transactions. The number will be printed on the license and/or permit.
- Using this number, customers will have the ability to manage their own account on the Internet using secured access.
- Dedicated technical support is available to answer questions.