

Falconry Information Contacts

Karen Rowe (Falconry Program Leader)
Non-Game Bird Program Leader
Wildlife Management Division
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Hampton Wildlife Research Center
31 Halowell Ln.
Humphrey, AR 72073
(877)-873-4651

Rusty Scarborough (Falconry Education Liaison)
Education Program Coordinator
Delta Rivers Nature Center
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
1400 Black Dog Rd
Pine Bluff, AR 71601
(870)534-0011

Suggested Literature List

Falconry: Art and Practice by Emma Ford approx \$30.00

Apprenticeship Manual by the California Hawking Club approx \$15.00

Apprentice Study Guide by the California Hawking Club approx \$20.00
(This book has sample questions and sample tests to take)

Hawks In Flight by Dunne, Peter, David Sibley & Clay Sutton approx. \$14.00
(Good for learning Identification)

The Red-Tailed Hawk by McGranaghan approx. \$30.00

American Kestrels in Modern Falconry by Mullenix approx. \$20.00

A Falconry Manual by Beebe approx \$20.00

North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks by Beebe & Webster approx. \$60.00
(Considered “*the*” book by most falconers)

The Complete Falconer by Beebe approx. \$70.00

Arkansas Falconry List

Jack Atchison Panda Lane Omaha, AR 72662	Class: General County: Boone Phone: (870)426-5214	Report '01
JIM BIGGS 21 Creekridge N. Little Rock, AR 72301	Class: Master County: Pulaski Phone: (501)835-3605 or 376-5195	*
Kevin Byrd 332 Cedarglade Rd. Hot Springs, AR 71913	Class: Apprentice County: Garland Phone: (501)321-1111	*
Kevin Clark 1951 Boulder Springdale, AR 72764	Class: General County: Washington Phone: (501)751-7798 or 751-7005	
Richard Criger 906 S. Maple Harrison, AR 72601	Class: Apprentice County: Boone Phone: (870)741-5548 or 546-4464	*
Howard Davis 10260 Gibbs Rd Springdale, AR 72762	Class: Master County: Washington Phone: (501)248-1743 or 751-2618	*
Mark DeWeese 2005 Bob White Dr. Jonesboro, AR 72404	Class: General County: Craighead Phone: (870)932-0138 or 972-4510	*
Mark Floyd 650 Painter Ln. Lamar, AR 72846	Class: Apprentice County: Phone:	
Eddie Fogel	Class: General County: Phone:	
Randall Gabrion 1235 E. Main St.	Class: Apprentice County: Lonoke	

Austin, AR 72007

Phone: (501)843-2326

Richard Gardner
178 Sarattoga
P. O. Box 384
Dover, AR 72837

Class: Apprentice
County: **Pope**
Phone: (479)331-2344

*

Heath Garner
421 Overhill Rd.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Class: Master
County: Craighead
Phone: (870)933-9732

*

Gene Jones
2745 Madison 5430
Elkins, AR 72727

Class: Master
County: **Madison**
Phone: (501)643-2476

*

Charles Lang
501 East Riverside Dr.
Georgetown, AR 72143

Class: General
County: **White**
Phone: (501)742-3993 or 268-4246

*

Zachery McCord
5644 Greene 628 Rd.
Paragould, AR 72450

Class: Apprentice
County: **Green**
Phone: (870)239-2332

*

Dennis W. McPherson
241 Blair Dr.
Marion, AR 72364

Class: General
County: **Crittenden**
Phone: (870)739-2254 or (901)774-8400

Jerry Moore

General

*

Rodney Morgan
1071 Hwy 375 East
Mena, AR 71953

Class: Apprentice
County: **Polk**
Phone:

Harold Parker
13816 Oak bower Rd.
P.O. Box 289
Mulberry, AR 72947

Class: Master
County: **Crawford**
Phone: (501)650-1655

*

Jim Poff

Class: Master

*

245 CR 804
Green forest, AR 72638

County: **Carol**
Phone: (870)423-4828 or 423-6938

Chris Price
160 Jonston Road
Searcy, AR 72143

Class: General *
County: **White**
Phone: (501)279-2480 or 268-4246

Tristan M. Raven
#11 Davac Acres Lane
Cassco, AR 72026

Class: Apprentice *
County: **White**
Phone: (501)673-7201

Joe Rhine
1908 McCracken
Stuttgart, AR 72160

Class: General *
County: **Arkansas**
Phone: (870)673-6121 or 672-8068

Karen Rowe
65 Hearn Lane
DeWitt, AR 72042

Class: General
County: **Arkansas**
Phone: (870)873-4302

Ron Russell
5179 Hwy 301 S
Delight, AR 71940

Class: Apprentice *
County: **Pike**
Phone: (870)379-2696

Russell Scarborough
415 W. Martin Pl.
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Class: Master
County: **Jefferson**
Phone: (870)535-8221 or 534-0011

Robert Starkey
P. O. Box 766
Dover, AR 72837

Class: Apprentice
County: **Pope**
Phone: (501)331-3056 or 858-7441

William Teter
14223 N. Brechen
Mabelvale, AR 72103

Class: Master
County: **Pulaski**
Phone: (501) 455-2995

Carl Wadkins
P.O. Box 99

Class: Master *
County: **White**

Beebe, AR 72012

Phone: (501)882-6524

Jeff Williams

179 CC 378

Bono, AR 72416

Class: General

County: **Craighead**

Phone: (870)933-9732

*

LaVonda Young

3107 Westmoreland

Mena, AR 71953

Class: Apprentice

County: **Polk**

Phone: (501)243-0976

*

Tommy Young

3107 Weltmoreland

Mena, AR 71953

Class: Apprentice

County: **Polk**

Phone: (501)243-0976

*

LeAnn Jensen

2013 South Z St.

fort Smith, AR 72901

Class: Apprentice

County: **Sebastian**

Phone: (501)783-6134 or 441-5660

ARKANSAS GAME AND FISH COMMISSION
CODE BOOK OF REGULATIONS

FALCONRY REGULATIONS

Definition: Raptor is defined as any migratory bird of the Order Falconiformes or the Order Strigiformes except bald or golden eagle.

FALCONRY - PERMIT REQUIRED - Raptors may be taken, transported, possessed or used to take game animals and game birds only by holders of a falconry permit, to be issued to residents qualified by passing with a score of at least eighty percent (80%) a written examination meeting Federal Standards and whose facilities and equipment meet requirements specified herein.

REPORT TO COMMISSION - Permittees shall report to the AGFC by July 31, each year a listing of all raptors possessed on June 30 by species, marker number (if any), sex, age, date and source of acquisition.

FALCONRY PERMIT FEE - The fee for the falconry permit shall be \$25.00. Possession of a valid Arkansas hunting license is a prerequisite for a falconry permit.

PERMIT EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL - Falconry permits expire on July 31 of every third year regardless of date of issue. Permits may be renewed by submitting a check to the Commission for \$25.00 with a falconer's annual report.

PERMIT APPLICATION - Applicants shall state whether they are seeking an original permit or a renewal. Application must be made on a form provided by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

Permits are issued by class as follows:

APPRENTICE CLASS - Permittee shall be at least fourteen (14) years of age and shall have a sponsor for a period of two (2) years. The sponsor of an apprentice must hold a General or Master class falconry permit. A sponsor shall have no more than three (3) apprentices at any one time. An apprentice falconer may possess only one (1) of the following, which must be taken from the wild and may not obtain more than one (1) replacement raptor during any twelve (12) month period:

American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) Red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaciensis)

GENERAL CLASS Permittee shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and shall have at least two (2) years experience in falconry at the apprentice level. A general falconer may possess not more than two (2) raptors and may not obtain more than two (2) raptors for replacement during any twelve (12) month period. A general falconer may not take, transport or possess any golden eagle (Aquila chryseos), or any species listed as threatened or endangered by federal law except when birds of listed species were bred in captivity.

MASTER CLASS - Permittee shall have at least five (5) years experience in falconry at the general class level and shall possess not more than three (3) raptors and may not obtain more than two (2) raptors for replacement birds during any twelve (12) month period. Master falconers may not take, transport, or possess a golden eagle unless authorized in writing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Master falconers may not take, transport, or possess as a part of the three (3) bird limit, more than one raptor listed as threatened in federal regulation, except when birds listed as threatened or endangered were bred in captivity.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT -Applicant's facilities for the keeping of raptors and equipment shall be inspected and certified to meet the following standards. Permittees must keep all facilities and equipment at or above these standards at all times. Facilities and equipment may be re-inspected by Commission personnel at any time and any raptors removed when it is 'judged to be in the best interest of the raptor.

INDOOR FACILITIES (MEWS) - shall be large enough to allow the raptor to fully extend its wings and allow easy access for care of the raptor(s) housed in the facility. Raptors shall be tethered or separated by partitions and there shall be adequate perches, as secure door easily closed and at least one

(1) window protected on the inside by vertical bars spaced narrower than the width of the bird's body.

The floor shall be well drained and permit easy cleaning.

OUTDOOR (WEATHERING) AREA - shall be fenced and covered with netting or wire or roofed except that perches more than six and one half feet (6 1/2') high need not be covered or roofed. The enclosed area should be large enough to insure that birds flying from a perch cannot strike the fence. Raptors shall be provided adequate perches and protection from excessive sun, wind and inclement weather.

EQUIPMENT - Applicants for falconry permits shall possess the following equipment:

Jesses - At least one (1) pair of Alymeri jesses or similar type constructed of pliable leather or suitable synthetic material for use when any raptor is flown free.

Leashes and Swivels - At least one (1) flexible, weather resistant leash and one (1) strong swivel of acceptable falconry design.

Bath container - A suitable container for each raptor two to six (2"-6") inches deep and wider than the length of the raptor.

Outdoor perches - A weathering area perch of acceptable design for each raptor.

Weighing device - A reliable scale or balance suitable for weighing the raptors held and graduated to increments of no more than one fourth (1/4) ounce or five (5) grams.

TRANSPORTATION, TEMPORARY HOLDING - A raptor may be transported or held in temporary facilities for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. Temporary facilities shall be provided with an adequate perch protected from excessive temperature and excessive disturbance.

TAKING FROM WILD - Raptors may be taken from the wild by Permittee for the purpose of falconry only, and then only as follows:

YOUNG BIRDS NOT CAPABLE OF FLIGHT (EYASSES) may be taken only by a General or Master class falconer on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays only, from March 1 through July 31. No more than two (2) eyasses may be taken by a falconer during this period. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (Falconry Coordinator) must be notified in writing of the exact (including a detailed map) location of Cooper's hawk and Sharp-shinned hawk nests no less than 24 hours prior to taking of an eyas. Falconers must leave at least 2 chicks in the nest when taking an eyas of either of these two species. Only eyasses of the following species may be taken: red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, broad-winged hawk, Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, American kestrel, great horned owl.

FIRST YEAR (PASSAGE) BIRDS may be taken on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays only, from September 1 through January 31, except that marked raptors or jessed raptors held under permit may be retrapped at any time.

ONLY AMERICAN KESTRELS AND GREAT HORNED OWLS may be taken when over one (1) year old, except that raptors other than threatened or endangered species taken under a depredation or special purpose federal permits may be used by general and master falconers. No more than two (2) raptors can be taken during any twelve (12) months in the two combined taking periods except for the retrapping of escaped falconry birds.

NONRESIDENT FALCONERS - will be allowed to take one (1) legal raptor per year in Arkansas provided the state of their residence reciprocates such approval for Arkansas falconers. Non-resident falconers must first purchase an Arkansas non-resident hunting license. The taking of a legal raptor by a non-resident must comply with Arkansas regulations.

METHODS OF TAKING RAPTORS - Raptors must be taken only in a humane manner. any device used to take birds of prey shall be labeled with the name, address and phone number of the falconer, and must be attended to continually by the falconer. No eggs may be taken from raptor nests.

REPORTING ACQUIRED/DISPOSED - Permittees must submit a properly completed federal form 3186-A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife regional office within five days of taking, acquiring, purchasing, transferring, receiving, losing or

disposing of any raptor. No raptor may be possessed under a falconry permit unless the Permittee has a properly completed form 3-186-A for each bird possessed.

SALE AND TRADE OF FALCONRY BIRDS - No Permittee shall purchase, offer for sale, sell or barter any native raptor acquired from the wild. Permittees may transfer raptors obtained from the wild to other Permittees within the state when no money or other consideration is involved. Falconers may purchase captive bred raptors that are banded with a numbered seamless, permanent federal leg marker. Such captive bred raptors utilized for falconry shall not be treated as threatened or endangered.

CARE OF FALCONRY BIRDS BY ANOTHER PERSON - Another federally permitted person may care for the birds of a Permittee for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, if written authorization from the Permittee accompanies the birds when they are transferred. If the period of care exceeds fifteen (15) days, the Commission must be informed of this action within three (3) days of this transfer, who is caring for them and approximately how many days they will be in the care of the second person.

LOSS OF FALCONRY BIRDS - Falconry Permittees shall notify the Commission in writing of the death, loss or release of their raptors within fifteen (15) days of occurrence. Each dead bird shall be frozen and surrendered upon request to the Commission along with the band, if any, from that bird. Dead birds may be buried or burned thirty (30) days after written notification of the death to the Commission, provided that the Commission has not requested disposal by other means.

RELEASE OF NON-INDIGENOUS FALCONRY BIRDS - A falconry permit holder must obtain written permission from the Commission before intentionally releasing into the wild any species of raptor not indigenous to Arkansas.

FEATHERS - Feathers from captive falconry raptors may be possessed, retained and exchanged by Permittees for imping purposes only.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS - TAKING OF GAME - Resident falconers may take wildlife only within the specific seasons and bag limits, except that non-migratory game species, with the exception of bobwhite quail, may be taken outside of the specified falconry seasons with a daily limit of one(1) per raptor per day.

ACCIDENTAL KILLS - Except as provided above, the Permittee must leave any accidentally killed animal where it lies, except that the raptor may feed upon the animal prior to leaving the site of the kill.

USE OF RAPTORS BY NON-RESIDENTS - A non-resident falconer with a valid Non-resident Arkansas Hunting License, and holding a valid falconry permit from another state, may use raptors to take wildlife during open seasons. It is also provided that such a properly permitted non-resident falconer, without falconry permit, may enter and use raptors to take wildlife in any regional or national falconry- field trial authorized by letter from the Director of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.