

Permits

- [Fishing and Boating](#)
- [Hunting and Wildlife](#)
  - [Request for Technical Guidance](#)
  - [Aerial Wildlife Management Permits](#)
  - [Annual Public Hunt Permit \(APH\)](#)
  - [Deer Permits](#)
    - [General Season Antlerless Mule Deer Permits](#)
    - [Antlerless Deer and Spike Control Permits \(ADCP\)](#)
    - [Deer Breeder Program](#)
    - [Deer Management Permits](#)
    - [Landowner Assisted Management Permitting System \(LAMPS\)](#)
    - [Managed Lands Deer Permits \(MLDP\)](#)
    - [Trap, Transport & Transplant \(TTT\) & Trap, Transport & Process \(TTP\) Programs](#)
  - [Special Drawing Permits for Hunting Opportunities on TPWD Hunting Areas](#)
  - [Wildlife Management Plan](#)
    - [Wildlife Permits](#)
- [Land and Water](#)

Related Links

- [Hunting and Fishing Licenses](#)
  - [Recreational Hunting and Fishing Licenses](#)
  - [Lifetime Licenses](#)

## Controlled Exotic Snake Permit (a.k.a. Nonindigenous Snake Permit)

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Relating to the Possession, Purchase, Sale, or Transportation of Certain Snakes

- Q. What statute regulates the possession of certain species of non-indigenous constrictor and venomous snakes?  
 A. Parks and Wildlife (PWC) Code, Chapter 43, Subchapter V.
- Q. What snakes are regulated by PWC, Chapter 43, Subchapter V?  
 A. All non-indigenous (species not native to Texas) venomous snakes and the following constrictors: African rock python (*Python sebae*), Asiatic rock python (*Python molurus*), green anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*), reticulated python (*python reticulates*), and southern African python (*Python natalensis*).
- Q. When does the new statute take effect?  
 A. Effective September 01, 2007, no person may intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence release or allow the release from captivity of a snake covered by the statute. The statute also requires the department to implement a permit for the possession and transport of non-indigenous venomous snakes and constrictors by April 1, 2008. After that time, a permit will be required for the possession or transport of any regulated snake.
- Q. Has the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) adopted new regulations under the authority of PWC, Chapter 43, Subchapter V?  
 A. Yes. TPWD has adopted new regulations ([31 TAC §§55.651-65.656](#)) governing the possession, transportation, release and permitting.
- Q. Where can I get a permit?  
 A. Permits will be available directly from the department and wherever licenses are sold. The permits will be available on April 01, 2008.
- Q. Will I be allowed to breed or sell snakes regulated by the department?  
 A. Yes. TPWD has established a commercial permit for breeding and/or sale of regulated snakes.
- Q. What permits are available?  
 A. Permits available are:

**Commercial Licenses**

- [General License Information](#)
- [Where to Buy Your License](#)

\$20.00 – Recreational Controlled Exotic Snakes (RCES)

Permit (Item 580):

- Allows possession and/or transportation of an unlimited number of snakes, but does not allow sale.
- Sales receipt for purchase of affected snake serves as a 21-day temporary RCES permit for purchaser.

• \$60.00 – Commercial Controlled Exotic Snakes (CCES)

Permit (Item 581):

- Allows possession, transportation, and/or sale of an unlimited number of snakes.
- CCES permit required and must be maintained on premises for each permanent place of business.
- Legible copy of CCES permit required on permittee's person if regulated activity occurs off-site.
- Daily activity log for purchases and sales must be maintained and available for inspections - [Commercial Controlled Exotic Snake Permit Report \(PWD 1195\)](#) ↓ ([Word 105.5 KB](#)).

Q. Are hybrids species governed by the statute?

A. Yes. Anyone who possesses, buys, or sells hybrids of a listed species must obtain an appropriate permit.

Q. Are there exceptions that allow individuals to be exempt from obtaining the permit?

A. Yes. State or county officials performing official duties; licensed zoos and research facilities; and individuals assisting a TPWD employee in handling or transporting regulated snakes are exempt from obtaining a permit.

Q. Can I release a regulated snake into the wild?

A. No. A person who intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence releases a regulated snake from captivity commits a Class A Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$4,000; and/or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed one year.

Q. What are the penalties for violating the rules?

A. A person convicted of a violation of this subchapter or a rule adopted under this subchapter may not obtain a permit before the fifth anniversary of the date of the conviction [§43.851(e)].  
A violation of Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 43, Subchapter V, or a rule adopted by the commission under authority of Chapter 43, Subchapter V is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of between \$25 and \$500.  
The release of a controlled exotic snake, is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of between \$500 and \$4,000, imprisonment for up to one year, or both.

Q. Where can I obtain a copy of the statutes and regulations?

A. Please visit [www.capitol.state.tx.us](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us) to review statutes and regulations.  
[Statutes – \(Parks and Wildlife Code\) Chapter 43, Subchapter V §43.851 - §43.856](#)  
[Regulations – \(Administrative Code\) Chapter 55 Subchapter J §55.652 - §55.657](#)

[Top of Page^](#)

[About TPWD](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site Policies](#) | [Complaints](#) | [Intranet](#) | [TRAILS Search](#) | [TexasOnline](#) | [Compact with Texans](#) | [Report Fraud](#)



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744

Toll Free: (800) 792-1112, Austin: (512) 389-4800

Content of this site © Texas Parks and Wildlife Department unless otherwise noted.

Last modified: July 24, 2008, 2:48 pm