

U.S. State Policies on Snake Relocation

State	Is relocation of snakes allowed?	Maximum distance that snakes can be relocated	Reason for snake relocation	Type of permit(s) required for given reasons for snake relocation	Fee(s) of permit(s) necessary for snake relocation	Where to obtain said permit(s) for snake relocation	Is training required/provided for snake relocation? If so, where can it be found?
Kansas	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
Kentucky	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
Louisiana	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
Maine	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of protected species	Permission from Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	N/A	Information currently unavailable	No training required
Maryland	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable
Massachusetts	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of any kind	Special authorization from Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife for venomous species	No fee	michael.t.jones@mass.gov	Yes, only qualified people are permitted to conduct relocations.
Michigan	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of non-protected species for oneself	Recreational Fishing License	No fee	https://www.mdnr-elicense.com/	No training required
			Relocation business or relocation of species of special concern	Scientific Collector's Permit	No fee	www.michigan.gov/scientificcollectorspermit	No training required
			Relocation of threatened or endangered species	Threatened and Endangered Species Permit	No fee	reitzc@michigan.gov	No training required
Minnesota	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of non-protected species	Non-game Removal Permit	No fee	https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/permits/animals/index.html	No training required
			Relocation of threatened or endangered species	Threatened and Endangered Species Permit	No fee	https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/nhrnp/endangered_permits.html#:~:text=A%20permit%20is%20required%20to,assessment%20of%20all%20relevant%20information.	Training required for Timber Rattlesnake relocation only
Mississippi	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable	Information currently unavailable
Missouri	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of any kind	No permit required, but snakes must be relocated in accordance with the instructions of an agent of the Missouri Department of Conservation. In the majority of cases, the agent will grant permission for short distance relocation	N/A	Local agents for the Missouri Department of Conservation are involved; https://mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage/local-mdc-contacts	No training required
Montana	No	N/A	Relocation of any kind	Requires approval from the Fish and Wildlife Commission (lengthy process that they consider impractical for snake management)	N/A	https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/contact-us	N/A
Nebraska	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
Nevada	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of any kind	Permit for the release of live wildlife	No fee	https://www.ndow.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Instructions-Permit-for-the-Release-of-Live-Wildlife-ADA.pdf	No training required, can be provided through contact with jjones@ndow.org
New Hampshire	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of a Species of Greatest Conservation Need	Scientific Collection Permit	\$25 fee	brendan.clifford@wildlife.nh.gov	No training required
New Jersey	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of protected species	Endangered Species permit	\$7 fee	https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/xotic_endapp.pdf	N/A
			Relocation of venomous species	State-authorized venomous snake responders receive an authorization letter from Fish and Wildlife's Endangered & Nongame Species Program	No fee	https://nj.gov/dep/fgw/contact.htm	Training is provided by F&W's Endangered & Nongame Species Program only as participants of our volunteer Venomous Snake Response Team. The team consists of government workers, town-contracted animal control officers, and select citizens/residents.
			Relocation on construction site	Scientific Collecting Permit	\$22 fee	https://nj.gov/dep/fgw/scicolperm.htm	No training required
New Mexico	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	DGF.permits@state.nm.us; https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/enforcement/special-use-permits/	No training required

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New York	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of non-protected, non-venomous species	Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator License	\$50 for general, no fee for municipal license (valid for one year)	https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/28635.html ; SpecialLicenses@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8985	Certification exam required, training provided through https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/28635.html
			Relocation of non-protected, non-venomous species	General Permit for the Collection and Possession of Amphibians and Reptiles for Educational and Scientific Purposes (General)	No fee	https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/28633.html ; SpecialLicenses@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8985	No training required
			Relocation of endangered or threatened species	Wildlife Rehabilitator	No fee	https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/25027.html ; SpecialLicenses@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8985	No training required
			Relocation of venomous species	Endangered/Threatened Species-Scientific License	No fee	https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/25012.html ; SpecialLicenses@dec.ny.gov; 518-402-8985	No training required
North Carolina	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of non-protected species	Depredation permit	No fee	https://www.ncwildlife.org/Licensing/Regulations/Nongame-and-Other-Regulations/Wildlife-Depredation/#5836327-wildlife-taken-with-a-depredation-permit	Training provided but not required; https://www.ncwildlife.org/Problem-Wildlife/Wildlife-Control
			Relocation of endangered or threatened species	Endangered Species permit	\$10	https://www.ncwildlife.org/Licensing/Other-Licenses-and-Permits/Endangered-Species-Permit#:~:text=A%20permit%20may%20be%20issued%20to%20a%20person%20who%20lawfully%20described%20in%2015A%20NCAC%2010H%20	Training provided but not required; https://www.ncwildlife.org/Problem-Wildlife/Wildlife-Control
North Dakota	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
Ohio	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation business	Commercial Nuisance Wild Animal Control Operator Permit	\$40 (valid for one year)	https://ohiodnr.gov/buy-and-apply/regulatory-permits/commercial-wildlife-permits/nuisance-wild-animal-control-operator	Certification exam required
			Relocation of endangered or threatened species or "collectable" reptiles	Scientific Collection Permit/State Approved Herpetologist	\$25 per year	https://ohiodnr.gov/buy-and-apply/special-use-permits/collecting-research/scientific-collecting-wild-animals	No training required, but relevant experience must be provided
			Relocation of endangered species	Chief's Letter Permit	No fee	https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/wildlife/documents-publications/permits	No training required, but relevant experience must be provided
Oklahoma	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation on one's own property	Annual or Five-Day Hunting license	\$25 for Oklahoma residents and \$142 for non-residents	https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/licensing/other-permits-and-licenses ; (405) 521-3852	No training required
			Relocation business/removal from others' properties	Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator's Permit	\$75 annually	https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/licensing/other-permits-and-licenses ; (405) 521-3852	Certification exam required; training provided at http://wildlifecontroltraining.com
Oregon	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required

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Pennsylvania	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of non-venomous, non-protected species	Fishing License	\$22.97	https://www.fishandboat.com/Fish/FishingLicense/Pages/BuyAFishingLicense.aspx	No training required
			Relocation of venomous species (from second Saturday of June through July 31)	Venomous Snake Permit	\$30	a PA venomous snake permit can be purchased with a fishing license at cooperating vendors in PA	training in Pennsylvania usually comes through apprenticing with "qualified surveyors"; https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/AmphibiansandReptiles/Documents/timber-conserve/TR-Surveyors.pdf
			Relocation of venomous species (from August 1 to second Saturday of June)	Scientific Collectors' Permit (research/education)	\$40	https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/Pages/ScientificCollector.aspx	training in Pennsylvania usually comes through apprenticing with "qualified surveyors"; https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/AmphibiansandReptiles/Documents/timber-conserve/TR-Surveyors.pdf
			Relocation of venomous species (from August 1 to second Saturday of June)	Scientific Collectors' Permit (government employees)	No fee	https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/Pages/ScientificCollector.aspx	training in Pennsylvania usually comes through apprenticing with "qualified surveyors"; https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/AmphibiansandReptiles/Documents/timber-conserve/TR-Surveyors.pdf
			Relocation of venomous species (from August 1 to second Saturday of June)	Scientific Collectors' Permit (consulting)	\$180	https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/Pages/ScientificCollector.aspx	training in Pennsylvania usually comes through apprenticing with "qualified surveyors"; https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/AmphibiansandReptiles/Documents/timber-conserve/TR-Surveyors.pdf
Rhode Island	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required, but it must be performed by a licensed nuisance wildlife professional and ideally in coordination with a DFW wildlife biologist who can make recommendations on where to bring snakes	N/A	N/A	No training required
South Carolina	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of non-protected species; relocation of protected species not allowed.	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
South Dakota	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	No permit required	N/A	N/A	No training required
Tennessee	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of non-venomous species to specific relocation sites only; venomous species must be euthanized on site.	Nuisance Animal Damage Control Permit	No fee	https://www.tn.gov/twra/law-enforcement/wildlife-damage-control.html	Training or apprenticeship required; https://www.tn.gov/twra/law-enforcement/wildlife-damage-control.html
Texas	Yes	No distance requirement	Information currently unavailable	Hunting License	\$25 (residents)	https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/licenses/hunting-licenses-and-permits/hunting-licenses	No training required
			Information currently unavailable	Non-Game Dealer Permit could be required depending on the species type and number of snakes being relocated at a time	\$63	wpoffice@tpwd.texas.gov	No training required
Utah	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of any kind	Certificate of Registration	\$10 application fee	https://wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/certificates-of-registration.html	No training required
Vermont	Yes	Short distance relocation only	Relocation of rattlesnakes or Eastern Ratsnakes	Rattlesnakes and Eastern Ratsnakes may be relocated by volunteers of Vermont's Rattlesnake Response Program	No fee	luke.groff@vermont.gov	Yes; Training is done on an individual basis. Rattlesnake Response Program volunteers train new volunteers as needed.
			Relocation of threatened or endangered species	Threatened and Endangered Species Takings Permit	\$50	https://vtfishandwildlife.com/conservation/conservation-planning/endangered-and-threatened-species/threatened-endangered-species-takings-permit	No training required

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Virginia	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of species within the same city/county or an adjoining city/county	A Commercial Nuisance Animal Provider (CNAP) Permit	\$75 annually	https://dwr.virginia.gov/forms-download/PERM/PERM-nuisance.pdf	Yes; https://dwr.virginia.gov/forms-download/PERM/PERM-nuisance.pdf
Washington	No	N/A	Relocation of any kind not allowed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
West Virginia	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation business	Wildlife Damage Control Agent License	\$10	wvdnr.gov OR contacting local WVDNR District Office	Yes, General Wildlife Damage Control Agent training as part of receiving license; wvdnr.gov
			Relocation for research purposes	Scientific Collecting Permit	Consultants: \$200 Out-of-state academics/researchers/students: \$25 In-state academics/researchers/students: No charge Government agencies: No charge Non-profit groups: No charge	https://wvdnr.gov/plants-animals/scientific-collecting-permit/	No training required
Wisconsin	Yes	No distance requirement	Relocation of endangered or threatened species	Endangered/Threatened Species Permit	\$100 (valid for 5 years)	https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/endangeredresources/permits.html	No training required
			Long distance relocation or long holding times for non-listed species	Scientific Research License	\$25 annually	https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/endangeredresources/permits.html	No training required
Wyoming	Yes	No distance requirement	Information currently unavailable	Scientific research, educational, or special purpose permit depending on species and circumstances	No fee	https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/Final%20Regs/Chapter-33-Application-form-rev-11-24-2021.pdf	No training required

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