

# Get The Facts About Gopher Tortoises:

## Online Permit System



The online permit system is a web-based tool the public can use to apply for and obtain gopher tortoise permits. It can perform searches for permit records, and help the user locate authorized agents and monitor permit status. Online permitting is reducing the processing time and paperwork and enhancing the communication between applicants and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

### What services are offered?

#### Apply for a Permit

Web-based permitting allows for complete online management of gopher tortoise permits. Applications can be filled out and submitted online.

#### Track Permit Status

Once a permit application is submitted, its status can be tracked through the system. If an application is incomplete, the FWC will notify the landowner and/or agent to specify what additional information must be provided. "Requests for Additional Information" are sent via email to both the applicant and agent. Applicants must provide their email address to electronically receive such notifications, as well as the permit when issued.

#### Permit Search

The online permit system also can search for pending applications or issued permits. Searching is easy and only requires a user ID to access the permitting database. Whether permits are pending or issued, the application is a public record, accessible to anyone checking on the status of a gopher tortoise permit for a specific property.

### Accessing the online permit system

#### Create a User Account

- The online permit system is easily accessed by creating a user account and logging into the system.
- Providing an email address is not required but strongly encouraged if the user plans to apply for permits, since it facilitates communications between the applicant and the FWC. While the registration form

provides space for a Social Security number and a driver's license number, these are not required.

- The user-ID and password are needed to access the system and should be kept in a safe place to avoid forgetting log-in credentials and creating duplicate accounts.
- A user account must be registered to an individual, indicating it is associated with an individual or landowner, or a non-individual, indicating it is for a company, government organization or nonprofit organization.

### Gopher Tortoise E-Learning

E-Learning is an online course providing basic information for homeowners to become authorized to humanely capture and relocate gopher tortoises on their property. The course is required in order to apply for a "10 or Fewer Burrows" permit when an Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent is not being used. Once E-Learning instruction is completed, the applicant must pass an online quiz to proceed with the application process for a "10 or Fewer Burrows" permit.



To access the online permit system, visit [MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise/Permitting](http://MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise/Permitting).

For more information, contact the gopher tortoise permit coordinator at 850-921-1031 or go to [MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise](http://MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise).



Florida Fish and Wildlife  
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[MyFWC.com](http://MyFWC.com)