



DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
VOLUNTEER SERVICES FORM

I. Volunteer Contact Information

Name of Volunteer: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone No.: _____

Cell Phone No: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship to Volunteer: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone No: _____

Cell Phone No.: _____

II. Description of Volunteer Services or Activities

The Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program of the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (“DFW”) and the Department of Transportation (“DOT”) require field assistance with monitoring of turtle and other wildlife mortality associated with roads. Activities include data gathering and the majority of the work is field based although there may be some data entry and other office responsibilities. All volunteers must have read and understood the attached MassDOT Volunteer Safety Tips handout. While conducting data gathering or monitoring, all volunteers must wear a safety vest and hardhat issued by MassDOT, the local Department of Public Works, or obtained independently by the volunteer.

III. Written Permission is Required for any Volunteer Less than 18 Years of Age and All Volunteers Under the Age of 18 Must be accompanied by an Adult at All Times

A volunteer who is less than 18 years of age shall have the written permission of a parent or legal guardian in order to provide the volunteer services or to participate in the activities described above in paragraph II. Moreover, all volunteers under the age of 18 shall be accompanied by an Adult at all times while providing volunteer services or engaging in volunteer activities.

IV. Volunteer’s Execution of the Release and Discharge of DFW and MassDOT from Liability Form

The volunteer has executed the *Release and Discharge of Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and Department of Transportation from Liability* form included as Attachment A.

V. Signature of Volunteer

I attest that I have provided complete and accurate information as required by this form, including signing the required *Release and Discharge of Department of Fish and Game from Liability* form. I understand and voluntarily agree to provide the services or to participate in the activities described in Section II above, and shall comply with any and all direction given and requirements imposed by the host DFW and/or DOT in connection with my volunteer services or volunteer activities.

Name of Volunteer (print or type): _____

_____ Date: _____
Signature of Volunteer

The Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian is required below if the volunteer is a minor:

I hereby grant permission for my child, _____, to participate in this volunteer opportunity.

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian (print or type): _____

_____ Date: _____
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian



Attachment A
Volunteer Release & Discharge of the
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and Department of Transportation
from Liability

In consideration for the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (“DFW”) and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (“MassDOT”) granting me the opportunity to provide volunteer service or to participate in volunteer activities for or on behalf of DFW and/or MassDOT, I, _____, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, voluntarily assume all risks of accident, injury or death and release and forever discharge the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, DFW, MassDOT, and their divisions, programs, officers, agents, employees, and assigns (“the Commonwealth”) of and from any and all claims, debts, demands, actions, causes of actions, suits, dues, sum and sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, specialties, agreements, promises, doings, omissions, damages, executions and liabilities of whatsoever kind and nature, including but not limited to, any and all liability for personal injury or property damage of any kind, both at law and in equity, and any that have been or may be claimed before any governmental agency, which have arisen or may arise as a result of or in association with my volunteer service or participation in volunteer activities for or on behalf of DFW and/or MassDOT.

I hereby further covenant and agree that I shall save the Commonwealth harmless and shall indemnify the Commonwealth from and against all injury or death to any person or loss of or damage to any property providing volunteer services or participating

in volunteer activities for or on behalf of DFW and/or MassDOT or arising directly or indirectly out of or in connection with my volunteer services or participation in volunteer activities for or on behalf of DFW and/or MassDOT, and from and against all injury or death to any person or loss of or damage to any property anywhere occasioned, or claimed to have been occasioned, by any act, neglect or default of the undersigned, its agents, employees, guests, licensees or contractors. This hold harmless and indemnity agreement shall include indemnity against all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any such injury, loss or damage or in defense of any claim or claims on account thereof, including reasonable attorney's fees.

I have read and fully understood the foregoing and intend to be bound by it.

Dated and signed this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Signed: _____ Name (print or type): _____

_____ Name (print or type): _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian if the Volunteer is under the age of 18, and by said signature, on my behalf, release all claims that both the minor and I have against the Commonwealth and agree to be bound by this *Release and Discharge of the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and Department of Transportation from Liability*.

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian (print or type): _____

_____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian



MassDOT Volunteer Safety Tips

Information for Wildlife Roadway Mortality Surveys

- Wear a florescent colored safety vest and a hardhat; wear other highly visible clothing.
- If the site you are volunteering at seems dangerous and/or you do not feel comfortable conducting the survey, abandon the site.
- Park in a safe place; ensure you can safely leave and enter your vehicle; ensure your vehicle is not parked where it can be an obstruction to other vehicles.
- Conduct roadway surveys from 10 AM to 2 PM to avoid rush hour traffic.
- No surveys should be conducted in low visibility conditions/rain events.
- If you are not comfortable getting out of the car and surveying your site, then don't.
- Survey in adult pairs (no volunteers under the age of 18, without permission granted by parent/legal guardian on the liability release form).
- Walk behind the guardrail, curb, or shoulder, and always face oncoming traffic.
- Visually inspect edge of roadway and shoulder for turtle and other wildlife carcasses.
- Feel free to call your local Highway Department to let them know you'll be on that stretch of road (they should also be able to lend you an extra safety vest and helmet if needed).
- Beware of poison ivy, and check yourself for ticks at the end of the day.
- No open-toe shoes, boots are recommended.
- Do not pick up roadside paraphernalia.
- Wear gloves when handling any carcass.

General Pedestrian Safety Information

- If there is no sidewalk, walk along the shoulder, facing the traffic.
- Watch for vehicles that are backing up or pulling out of parking lots and driveways--and when walking between parked cars. Drivers may not see you in their rear view mirror.
- Cross streets at marked crosswalks or intersections, if possible.
- Look left, right, and left again before crossing a street; don't rely solely on pedestrian signals.
- Ensure drivers can see you; stand clear of buses, hedges, parked cars or other obstacles before crossing.
- Be focused; don't wear headphones or talk on a cell phone while crossing.
- Don't assume vehicles will stop; make eye contact with drivers; don't just look at the vehicle. Drivers on cell phones may not be paying enough attention to drive safely.
- Watch for turning vehicles; make sure the driver sees you and will stop for you.
- Look across ALL lanes you must cross and visually clear each lane before proceeding. Just because one motorist stops, do not presume drivers in other lanes can see you and will stop for you.
- As a pedestrian, you are at a major disadvantage when crossing streets, intersections and standing on corners. You are not always visible to drivers, especially for large truck and bus drivers; and all vehicles can cause serious injury or death to pedestrians. Pedestrians need to be careful of all vehicles and never take chances when they are sharing the road with large vehicles, like trucks and buses. Watch out for wide loads.
- When crossing at a signalized intersection, pedestrians must follow the rules too. In the absence of pedestrian signals, cross with the green light – watching for turning vehicles. In the presence of pedestrian signals, start crossing with the WALK light – after looking both ways – the driver may also have a green light.