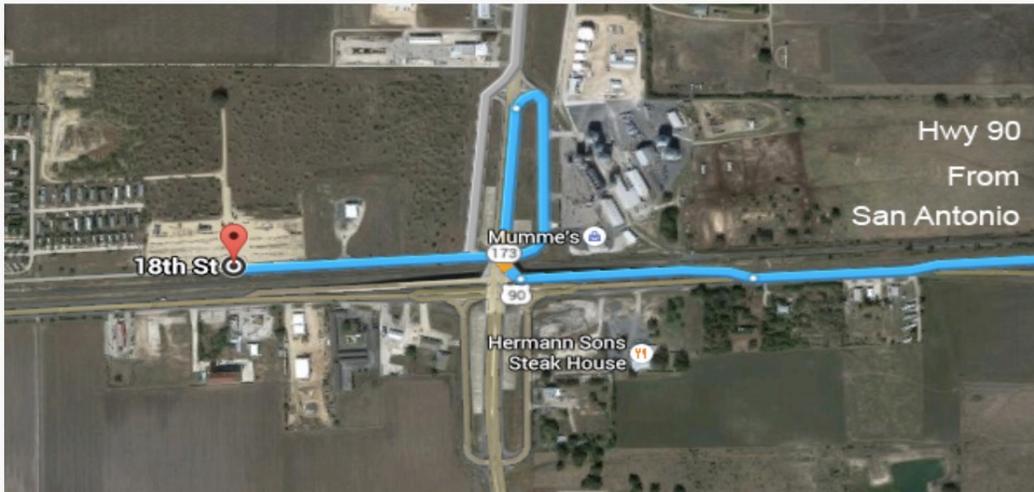


# STONE YARD DOVE HUNT GENERAL INFORMATION

## Location/Map:



**484 18th Street East**

**Hondo, TX 78861**

**Located at the Northwest corner of Hwy 90 and Hwy 173 in Hondo, Texas.**

**Enter through Dryden Stone Company 484 18th Street East.**

## **PROPERTY/HUNT AREA:**

Stone Yard Dove Hunt is located adjacent to the City of Hondo.

We are a “flyway zone”, ”we don’t have crops”.

Stone Yard in the first “flyway zone” for Doves flying out from their roosting spots in the City of Hondo to feed at the sunflower fields to the East.

We hunt on 50 acres with gravel covered, all weather roads, all weather parking and all weather hunting areas.

The field is shredded, with some residue, but is clean, without weeds or stubble, to allow easy retrieval of birds.

We have mesquite trees to provide cool shade and camouflage for the hunters and a designated hunting spot.

We have benches and picnic tables located under the trees to provide seating for hunters, that will also serve as the “designated hunting spot” and to store gear/birds off the ground.

Hunters have been shooting doves on the property for over 20 years.

Doves have always been plentiful and fly throughout the year each and every year.

They fly low, high, during the rain, in the wind, when cold or hot.

Most hunters are able to limit throughout the season, return numerous times during the season and year after year. With migratory birds and hunting in general, there is no guarantee given or implied as to your ability to get your limit, the number of doves, or if doves will be flying the day of your hunt.

## **2021 Stone Yard Dove Hunt Rates:**

*The number of Hunters will be limited each hunt.*

*Experienced hunters only during opening week.*

### **HUNTING TIMES LISTED BELOW ARE FULL FOR 2021**

SEPT 1 to SEPT 5

AM or PM ~~~~~\$150

SEPT 6-OCT 31

AM or PM-----\$125

WINTER SEASON:

All Day Hunt ~~~\$100

### **DEPOSITS:**

Individuals to 9 in group:

\$ 50 per hunter for each hunt

10 plus hunters in group:

1/2 the full price for each hunt.

Deposits are non refundable and not transferable.

Hunt dates can be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances.

### **CORPORATE GROUPS:**

Reserve private areas or the whole property to hunt doves.

Large all weather parking

Covered porch with restrooms.

Barn pavilions with facilities for most any size group.

Seating and serving tables.

Catering available.

### **ADULT HUNTERS:**

Non hunters: NO CHARGE

Experienced: FULL PRICE

Inexperienced: contact us to determine pricing and dates to hunt.

We cannot accommodate inexperienced hunters opening week of the regular season

### **CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES**

First time hunter: No Charge

Novice hunter: 1/2 price

Able to limit: full price

Separated areas are available for hunters with young children.

**REDUCED RATES:**

We try to be fair and reasonable with all hunters.

Reduced Rates are offered at our discretion.

Please ask if you have special circumstances.

When birds thin out, become more unpredictable, fly very high, when their flight paths, their numbers change dramatically from one day to the other and it becomes difficult for good hunters to limit, we work with the rates.

We will do an all day hunt at a reduced rates, or will made deals to charge 1/2 the regular rate for a minimum charge, then hunters pay the balance, if it was a good hunt or you got close to your the limit.

**PAYMENTS:**

Check or cash- we do not take credit cards at this time.

**REFUNDS:**

Group deposits are not refundable.

Individual deposits are not refundable, except for very rare circumstances.

Canceled hunts are not refundable.

Unsuccessful hunts,( arrive late, you ran out of ammo, couldn't hit any birds, or any others reason),are not refundable.

Hunts having rain, heat, wind, high birds, or any other reasons are not refundable.

**RESCHEDULED HUNTS:**

Due to the nature of hunting, unpredictable weather and life's circumstances, hunts can be rescheduled at our discretion.

**HUNT TIME PERIODS:**

Flying times vary according to the heat, wind, rain and the very nature of *migratory birds*.

(Previous years schedules)

Morning

Sign-in begins at 6:30 a.m.

Outbound flight 7:45 am. Return flight 9-11 am.

Afternoon

Sign-in anytime after 1 pm

Outbound flight 2:30-3:00

Return flight 4-6:30

**NUMBER OF HUNTERS IN THE FIELD:**

Number of hunters in the field will be limited each hunt time period.

Opening 2 days generally get full.

Weekday mornings always have the least hunters.

Weekday afternoons have less then weekends.

Late September, October, November and the Winter Season, rarely have the numbers of hunters as opening week.

For someone concerned, with the number of hunters in the field at one time, the best time to hunt

is after the first week. Those days have much lower numbers compared to opening week. Every year birds have been flying, each and every day, with few to "0" hunters in the field. Those are great days to come.

### **PLACEMENT OF HUNTERS:**

We integrate hunters amongst the mesquite trees on the property.

Picnic tables, timber and stone benches are set out at safe distances apart to provide designated spots for hunters and groups, to provide a place to sit, place your gear, a base to return after retrieving your birds and keep everything off the ground.

*Hunters must stay in their designated area.*

### **DAILY BIRD LIMIT**

15 Dove per day

When birds are plentiful, only one period will be allowed for getting a limit, since you can get your limit in either time period.

Later in season, as birds thin out, morning hunters can finish their limit the same afternoon.

**Finishing a limit does not extend to the next day.**

### **FLIGHT PATH & ALTITUDE**

*Each day is different but very similar to previous days:*

Doves fly over all parts of the property each year, months before and months after the season, 4 times a day, from June through March.

Doves fly all across the property in all directions throughout the season. Generally, they fly similar paths from one day to the other, but will vary with the weather, the feed they are going to, and how fast they learn to avoid getting shot.

They cross the property at various heights and paths during the season.

Doves fly at the tops of the mesquite trees (15-20') and between the trees before the season opens, between the seasons and often during the season as they did during the 2019 Winter Season.

Most will fly at "tall" tree top levels (40-60') easy attainable heights.

They do drop down when shooting starts for cover amounts the trees. But, generally, they get higher after being shot at, but not all of them and not always. Each day is different, and each year is different.

Some groups start out flying higher than others and continue the same height throughout the season.

To knock down the highest birds, you have to be a good shot or lucky.

Hunters consistently getting the highest birds, shoot with a 12 gauge, high brass, 6's, or bigger, using a full or modified choke.

You won't get close to the highest birds using regular bird shot, skeet shot, or smaller guns unless you are very good, or *very lucky!*

The highest birds will certainly challenge your abilities and shooting skills. Seldom, they are all totally out of range, but it has happened.

# SHOTGUNS & AMMUNITION

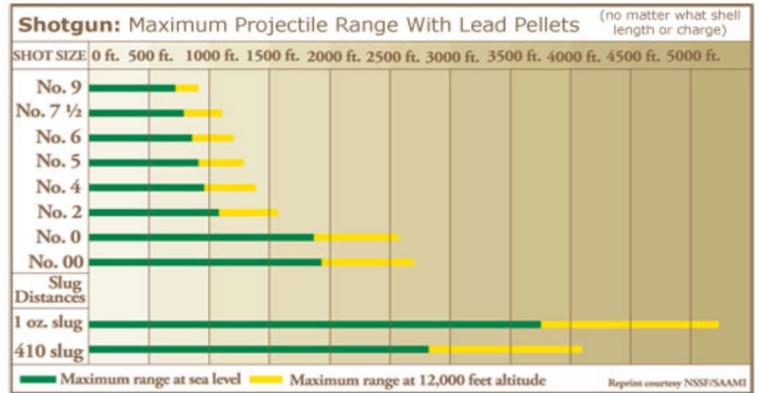
We do not have guns to rent.

Hunters must provide you own guns and ammunition.



## Maximum Projectile Range—Shotgun

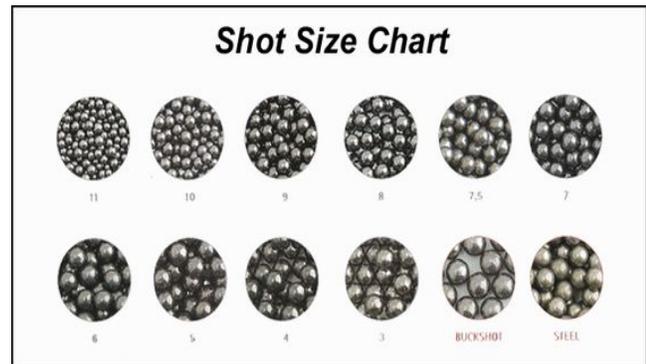
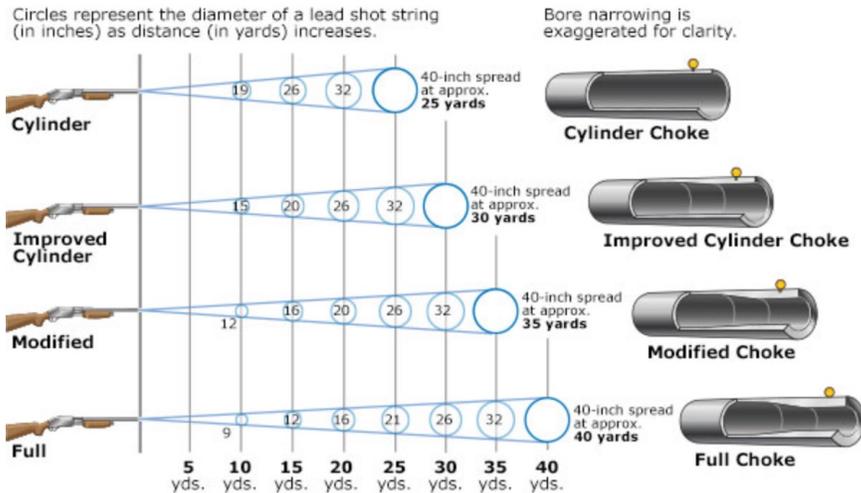
The following chart shows the maximum projectile range when you use lead pellets in your shotgun. Notice how altitude affects this range.



## Shot String at Various Distances

Click on the image below to see a detailed diagram (PDF format) showing the effects of choke on shot string at various distances.

### Effect of Choke on Shot String at Various Distances



## **VEHICLES & SUVS**

Vehicles in the hunting area are not allowed, except certain areas, or to unload gear and return vehicle to parking area.

UTV's are not really necessary, but can be used. All areas can be walked to easily or you can be taken to the hunting spots by our UTV.

## **BIRD CLEANING, SHELLS & TRASH**

Trashcans and a dumpster are available for trash, shell casing and bird remains.

Please remove any trash and shells from your hunting area.

Shell buckets & trashcans are provided as well as magnets to assist hunters to clean up in the field.

Cleaning birds is not allowed in hunt area. Cleaning tables with water are available outside of the field.

## **BIRD DOGS:**

Trained birds dogs are welcome as long as they do not interfere with other hunters.

Untrained dogs can be trained in areas away from other hunters or during weekdays and other times when there are fewer hunters.

## **FACILITIES**

### RESTROOMS

Restrooms are available as well as portable facilities in the hunting area.

### PAVILLIONS/PARTY BARNES

Pavilions/ Barns are available for serving meals and group events.

Many tree-covered areas can be used for individual or groups to gather for your own cook out.

## **LOCAL ACCOMODATIONS**

**We do not have accommodations on the property.**

Best Western-Hondo

830-426-4468

Hondo Executive Inn-Hondo

830-426-2536

Regency Inn-Hondo

830-426-3031

Hillside Boutique Hotel-Castroville

830-538-3200

Koch Hotel Bed & Breakfast-D'Hanis

830-363-7500

Ranchito in Historic Quihi-Hondo

KWI Adventures@gmail.com

830-426-8820

Countryside RV Park-Hondo

830-426-5666

Quiet RV Park-Hondo

830-931-5777

Flying L Ranch Resort-Bandera

830-292-5134

Antler Oaks Lodge & RV-BANDERA

830-796-8111

River Oak Inn -Bandera

830-796-7751

## LICENSE/HUNTER SAFETY CERTIFICATE REQUIRED:

You must have the state required licenses, stamps, and training.

Refer to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for guidelines regarding licensing & will dove hunting.

## TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

4200 Smith School Road,

Austin, TX 78744

(512) 389-4800

(800) 792-1112

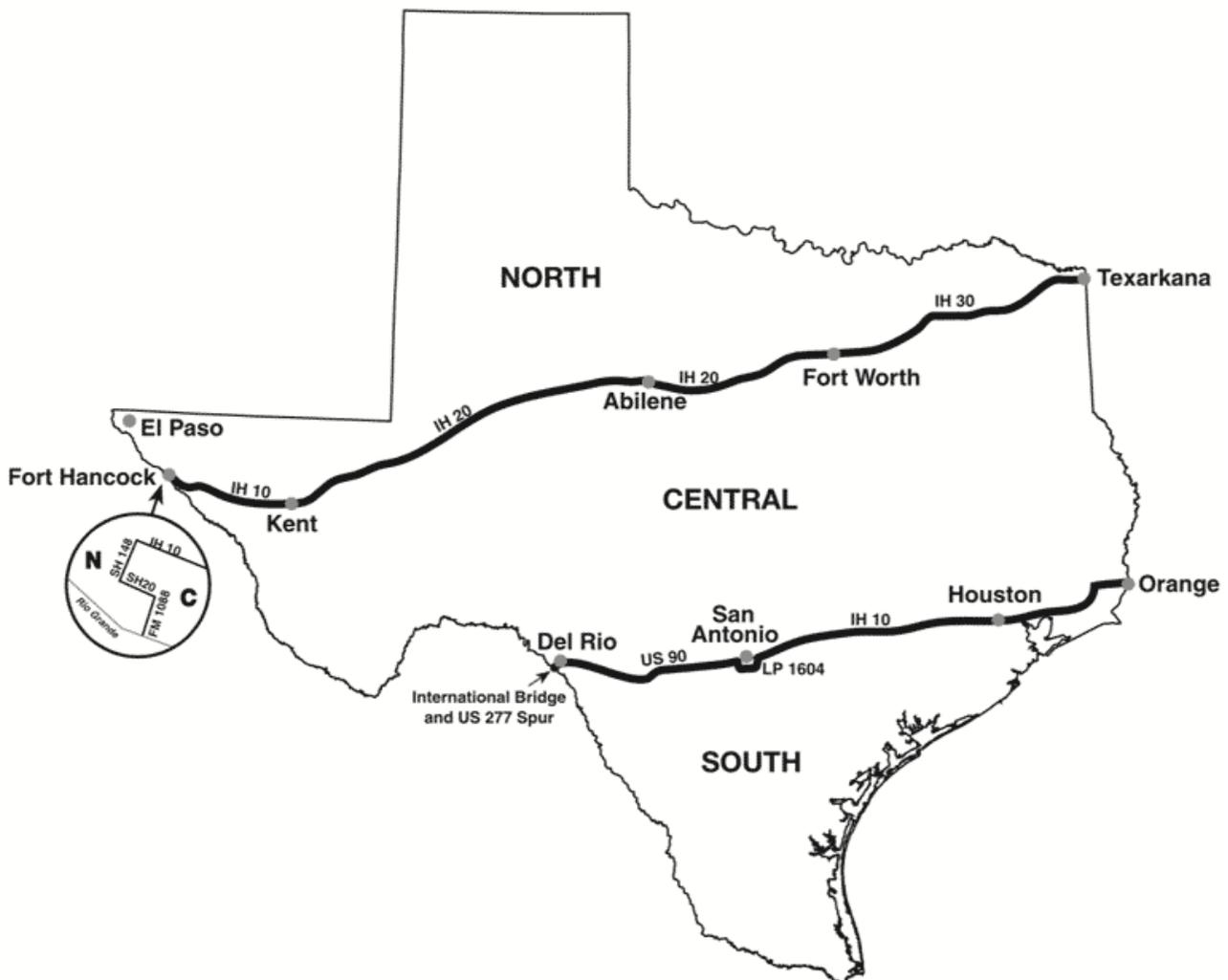
Operation Game Thief:

(800) 792-GAME

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/hunting/migratory-game-bird-regulations/stamps-permits-and-certification>

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/regs/animals/dove>

## Dove Hunting Zones



## **North Zone**

That portion of the state north of a line beginning at the International Bridge south of Fort Hancock; thence north along FM 1088 to State Highway 20; thence west along State Highway 20 to State Highway 148; thence north along State Highway 148 to Interstate Highway 10 at Fort Hancock; thence east along Interstate Highway 10 to Interstate Highway 20; thence northeast along Interstate Highway 20 to Interstate Highway 30 at Fort Worth; thence northeast along Interstate Highway 30 to the Texas-Arkansas state line.

## **Central Zone**

That portion of the state between the North Zone and the South Zone.

## **South Zone**

That portion of the state south of a line beginning at the International Toll Bridge in Del Rio; thence northeast along U.S. Highway 277 Spur to U.S. Highway 90 in Del Rio; thence east along U.S. Highway 90 to State Loop 1604; thence following Loop 1604 south and east, then north, to Interstate Highway 10; thence east along Interstate Highway 10 to the Texas-Louisiana Line.

## **LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

All migratory game bird hunters must have a valid hunting license. Non-residents under 17 years of age are designated as residents and may hunt with a resident license. Hunters 17 years of age or older must have a driver's license or personal identification certificate (issued by the Department of Public Safety) on their person while hunting. Non-residents must have similar documents issued by the agency in the state or country of which the person is a resident that is authorized to issue driver's licenses or personal identification certificates.

## **ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

A person 17 years of age or older must possess a migratory game bird endorsement receipt to hunt any migratory game bird in this state. Federal law also requires waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and over to have a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (commonly called a Duck Stamp; available at most post offices and TPWD offices).

- A **migratory game bird endorsements** required to hunt any migratory game bird, including mourning doves.
- A **Federal Sandhill Crane Hunting Permit** is required to hunt sandhill cranes.
- An **upland game bird endorsement** is required to hunt turkey, quail, pheasant, or chachalacas.

## BANDED BIRDS

Please check doves you shoot for leg bands and report them. The bands are very small and easy to overlook. Previous studies indicated two-thirds of banded doves taken by hunters were never reported. High reporting rates maximize return on hunting license dollars spent for needed management information.

Please report bands to [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov).

See the [Know Your Doves](#) brochure for species identification.

LEGAL GAME BIRDS AVES DE CAZA LEGAL	UNPROTECTED SPECIES ESPECIES NO PROTEGIDAS	PROTECTED, NOT HUNTED PROTEGIDAS, NO CAZADAS
 <p><b>Mourning Dove</b> <i>Paloma huilota</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brown with black spots on wing <i>Marrón con manchas negras en el ala</i></li> <li>• Long, pointed tail <i>Cola larga y puntiaguda</i></li> <li>• All of Texas <i>En todo el estado</i></li> </ul>	 <p><b>Eurasian Collared Dove</b> <i>Paloma exótica de collar</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow black collar on nape of neck <i>Collar negro y angosto en la base del cuello</i></li> <li>• White, squared tail underside <i>Inferior de la cola es blanco y cuadrado</i></li> <li>• Pale gray body, black bill, red irises <i>Cuerpo gris pálido, pico negro, ojos rojos</i></li> </ul>	 <p><b>Band-tailed Pigeon</b> <i>Paloma torcaza</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellow bill <i>Pico amarillo</i></li> <li>• White band on neck <i>Franja blanca en el cuello</i></li> <li>• Wooded mountain areas <i>Bosques de montaña</i></li> </ul>
 <p><b>White-winged Dove</b> <i>Paloma ala blanca</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White bar on wing <i>Franja blanca en el ala</i></li> <li>• Long, rounded tail <i>Cola larga y redondeada</i></li> <li>• South Texas, increasing statewide <i>Sur de Texas, propagándose en todo el estado</i></li> </ul>	 <p><b>Rock Dove (Rock Pigeon)</b> <i>Paloma doméstica (Paloma bravía)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large plump body, small head <i>Cuerpo grande y gordo, cabeza pequeña</i></li> <li>• Gray, brown or white <i>Gris, marrón o blanco</i></li> <li>• Common in cities and ranches <i>Común en ciudades y ranchos</i></li> </ul>	 <p><b>Inca Dove</b> <i>Tortolita mexicana (tortola cola larga, conguita, coquita)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scaly looking <i>Aspecto escamoso</i></li> <li>• Small, brown body <i>Cuerpo pequeño y marrón</i></li> <li>• Urban and suburban areas, woodland edges, savannahs, thickets <i>Áreas urbanas y suburbanas, bordes del bosque, sabanas, matorrales</i></li> </ul>
 <p><b>White-tipped Dove (White-fronted)</b> <i>Paloma arroyera (frente blanco)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large, rounded tail <i>Cola grande y redondeada</i></li> <li>• Rust-colored wing linings <i>Revestimiento color canela del ala</i></li> <li>• South Texas <i>Sur del estado</i></li> </ul>		 <p><b>Common Ground Dove</b> <i>Tortolita azul (cocochoa, columbита común)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sandy brown color <i>Color café arenoso</i></li> <li>• Dark spots on wings <i>Manchas oscuras en las alas</i></li> <li>• Short, round tail <i>Cola corta y redonda</i></li> <li>• Small body, short thin bill <i>Cuerpo pequeño, pico corto y delgado</i></li> </ul>

## **HIP-HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM**

No person shall hunt migratory game birds in this state unless that person is certified in the Harvest Information Program (HIP) in Texas. When you purchase a hunting license, indicate to the license clerk that you intend to hunt migratory game birds and need to be HIP certified by answering a few simple questions.

***The letters "HIP" should appear on your license to indicate that you have been HIP certified.***

The Harvest Information Program (HIP) is a federally mandated program to improve information about the harvest of all migratory game birds. Anyone who purchases a hunting license or any migratory bird hunting endorsements will be asked a few simple questions about their migratory bird hunting activities. For additional information about HIP, you may consult the TPWD Outdoor Annual, the [Web page for H I P](#) or call (512) 389-4505.

Licenses, permits and endorsement receipts (or replacements if they are lost or stolen) are available at TPWD offices, many sporting goods stores, bait shops and other retailers, or by calling [1-800-TX-LIC-4-U](tel:1-800-TX-LIC-4-U).