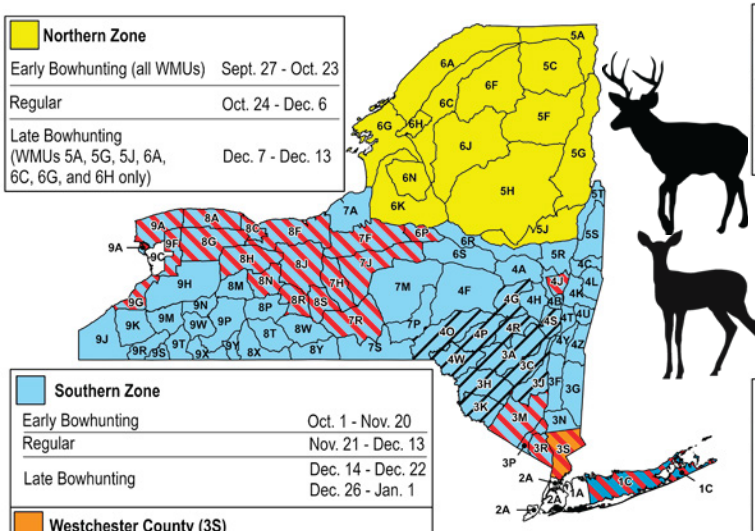
NEW YORK STATE | Department of Environmental Conservation

2026-27 Hunting & Trapping Seasons Summary

For complete rules and regulations see Official New York Hunting and Trapping Regulations Guide

Regular & Bowhunting Deer Hunting

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset



Northern Zone

Early Bowhunting (all WMUs)	Sept. 27 - Oct. 23
Regular	Oct. 24 - Dec. 6
Late Bowhunting (WMUs 5A, 5G, 5J, 6A, 6C, 6G, and 6H only)	Dec. 7 - Dec. 13

Southern Zone

Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20
Regular	Nov. 21 - Dec. 13
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 14 - Dec. 22 Dec. 26 - Jan. 1

Westchester County (3S)

Regular - bowhunting only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31

Suffolk County (1C)

Regular - Bowhunting Only	Oct. 1 - Jan. 31
Special Firearms (Permit Req.)	Jan. 3 - Jan. 31

Early Antlerless Season Sept. 12 - Sept. 20

Eligible Tags: DMP and DMAP
Bow-Only: 1C, 3S, 4J, 8C
Firearms and Bows: 3M, 3P, 3R, 6P, 7F, 7H, 7J, 7R, 8A, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8J, 8N, 8R, 8S, 9A, 9F, and 9G

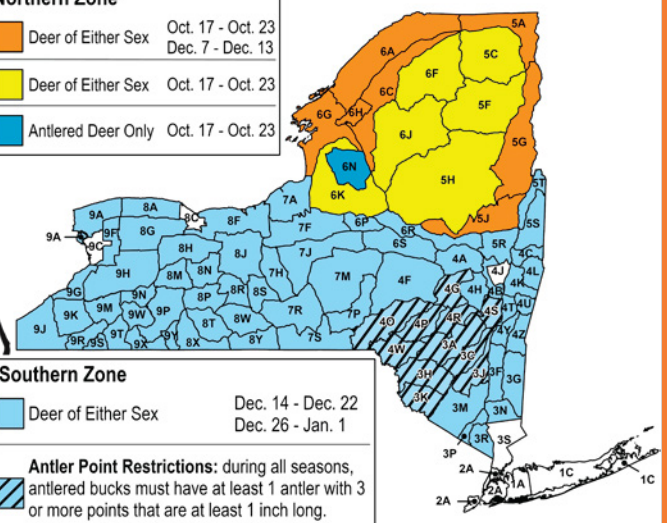
Youth Firearms Season Oct. 10 - 12
See page 45 for details

Antler Point Restrictions
During all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.

Closed

Muzzleloading Deer Hunting

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset



Northern Zone

Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 17 - Oct. 23 Dec. 7 - Dec. 13
Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 17 - Oct. 23
Antlered Deer Only	Oct. 17 - Oct. 23

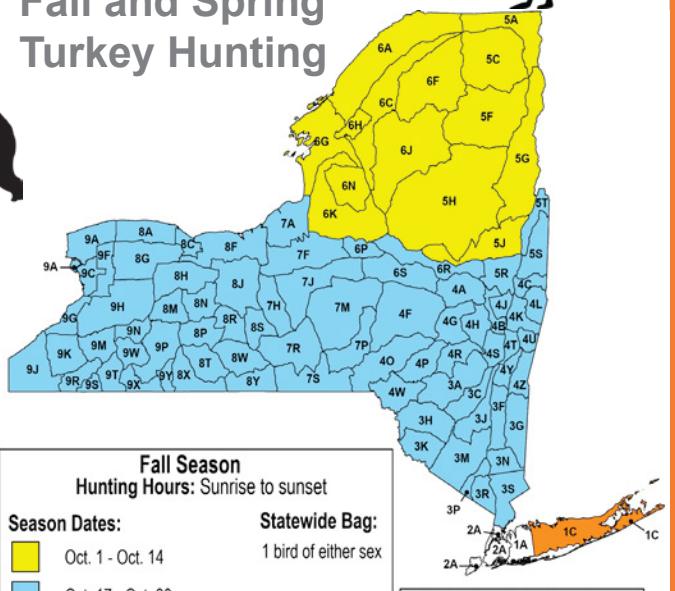
Southern Zone

Deer of Either Sex	Dec. 14 - Dec. 22 Dec. 26 - Jan. 1

Antler Point Restrictions: during all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.

Closed

Fall and Spring Turkey Hunting



Fall Season
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Season Dates:	Statewide Bag:
Oct. 1 - Oct. 14	1 bird of either sex
Oct. 17 - Oct. 30	
Nov. 21 - Dec. 4	
Closed	

Spring Season
Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon

Season Dates:	Statewide Bag:
May 1 - May 31 in all open areas	- 2 bearded birds, no more than 1 per day. - No more than 1 in WMU 1C.
Closed	

Spring Youth Turkey Season

Hunting Hours:
1/2 hour before sunrise to noon

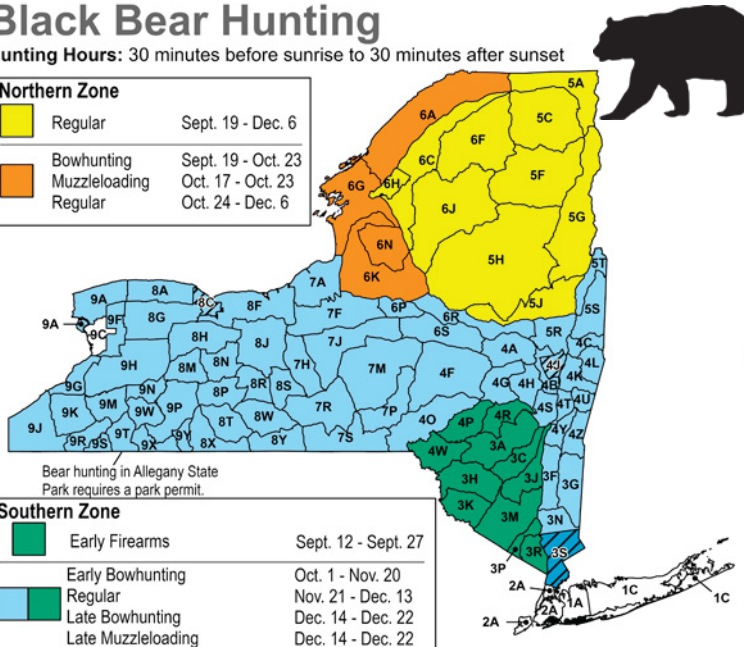
Season Dates:
April 24-25, 2027

Statewide Bag Limit:
1 bearded bird

Open Areas:
Same as regular spring season

Black Bear Hunting

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset



Bear hunting in Allegany State Park requires a park permit.

Northern Zone

Regular	Sept. 19 - Dec. 6
Bowhunting	Sept. 19 - Oct. 23
Muzzleloading	Oct. 17 - Oct. 23
Regular	Oct. 24 - Dec. 6

Southern Zone

Early Firearms	Sept. 12 - Sept. 27
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 20
Regular	Nov. 21 - Dec. 13
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 14 - Dec. 22
Late Muzzleloading	Dec. 14 - Dec. 22
Westchester County (3S) Regular - bowhunting Only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31
Bowhunting Only WMUs	
Closed	

Youth Firearms Oct. 10 - 12
See page 45 for details

2026-2027 Hunting & Trapping Seasons Pull-out Summary

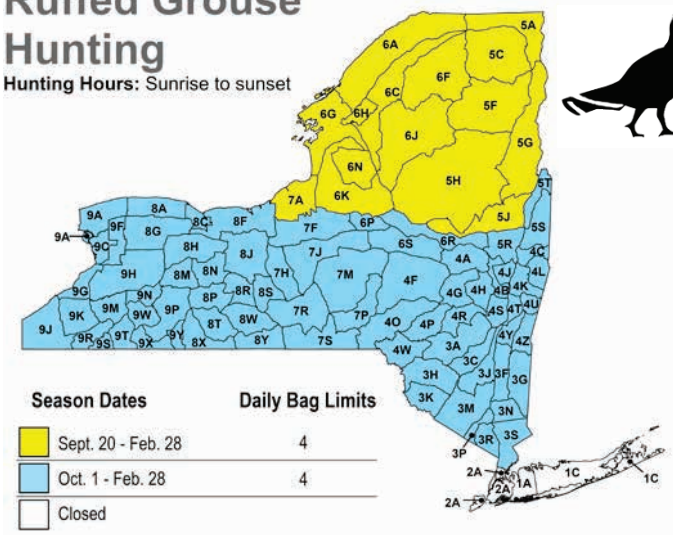
Remember to Report Your Game Harvest
HuntFishNY Mobile App * 1-866-426-3778 * www.dec.ny.gov

Most regulations are in effect Sept. 1, 2026 through Aug. 31, 2027

2026-2027 Hunting & Trapping Seasons Pull-out Summary

Ruffed Grouse Hunting

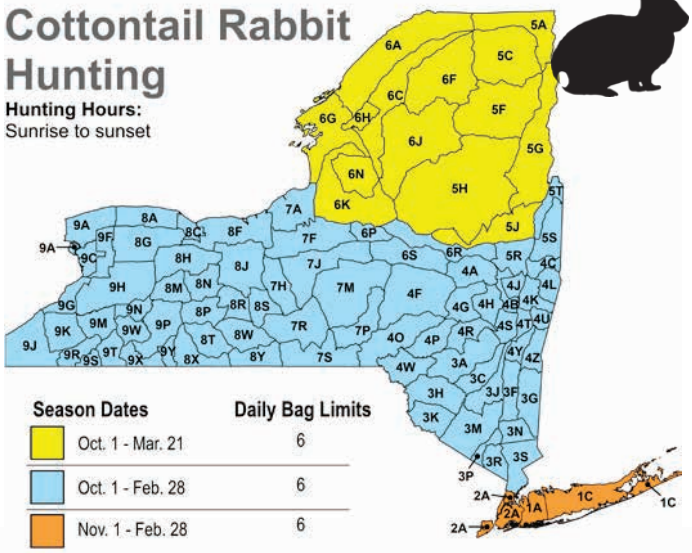
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Sept. 20 - Feb. 28	4
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	4
Closed	

Cottontail Rabbit Hunting

Hunting Hours:
Sunrise to sunset

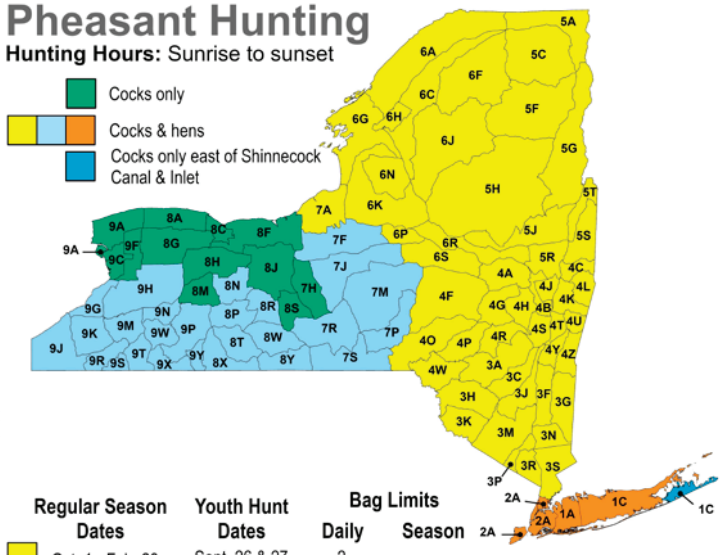


Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Mar. 21	6
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	6
Nov. 1 - Feb. 28	6

Pheasant Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Cocks only
Cocks & hens
Cocks only east of Shinnecock Canal & Inlet

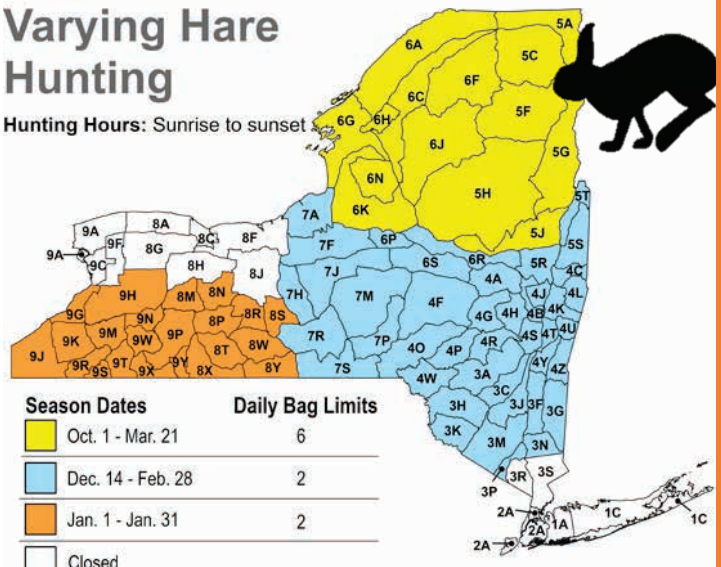


Regular Season Dates	Youth Hunt Dates	Bag Limits Daily	Bag Limits Season
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	Sept. 26 & 27	2	--
Oct. 17 - Feb. 28	Oct. 10 & 11	2	--
Oct. 17 - Dec. 31	Oct. 10 & 11	2	--
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31[1]	Oct. 24 & 25[1]	2*/4**	30
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Oct. 24 & 25	2*/4**	30

[1]In WMU 2A no youth hunt; hunting is by falconry only
*Youth hunt
**Regular season

Varying Hare Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Mar. 21	6
Dec. 14 - Feb. 28	2
Jan. 1 - Jan. 31	2
Closed	

Gray, Black & Fox Squirrel Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset
Long Island & NYC*: Nov. 1 Feb. 28
All other areas of New York: Sept. 1 Feb. 28
Daily bag limit of 6 total, regardless of species
*In WMU 2A hunting is by falconry only

Red squirrels are unprotected, and may be hunted at any time without limit.

Bobwhite Quail Hunting

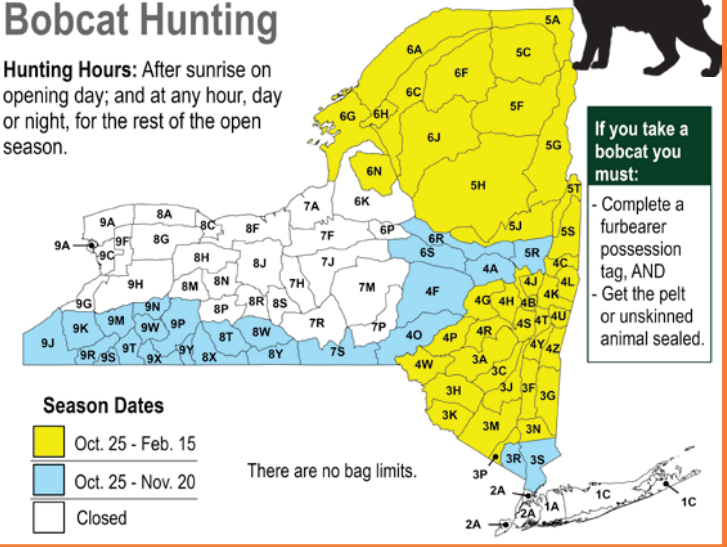
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Season Dates	Bag Limits Daily	Bag Limits Season
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	4	10
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	6	40
Closed		

Bobcat Hunting

Hunting Hours: After sunrise on opening day; and at any hour, day or night, for the rest of the open season.

If you take a bobcat you must:
- Complete a furbearer possession tag, AND
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.



Season Dates
Oct. 25 - Feb. 15
Oct. 25 - Nov. 20
Closed

There are no bag limits.

Raccoon, Fox, Skunk, Opossum & Weasel Hunting

Long Island & NYC: Nov. 1 Feb. 25
All other areas of New York: Oct. 25 Feb. 15

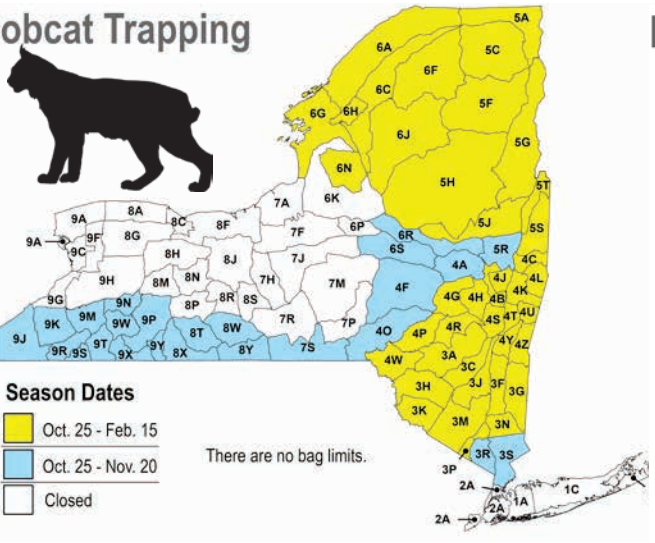
There are no bag limits for these species. They may be hunted during the day or night, except weasel, which may only be hunted from sunrise to sunset.

Coyote Hunting

Statewide except Long Island & NYC: Oct. 1 Mar. 28

There are no bag limits for coyotes. They may be hunted during the day or night.

Bobcat Trapping

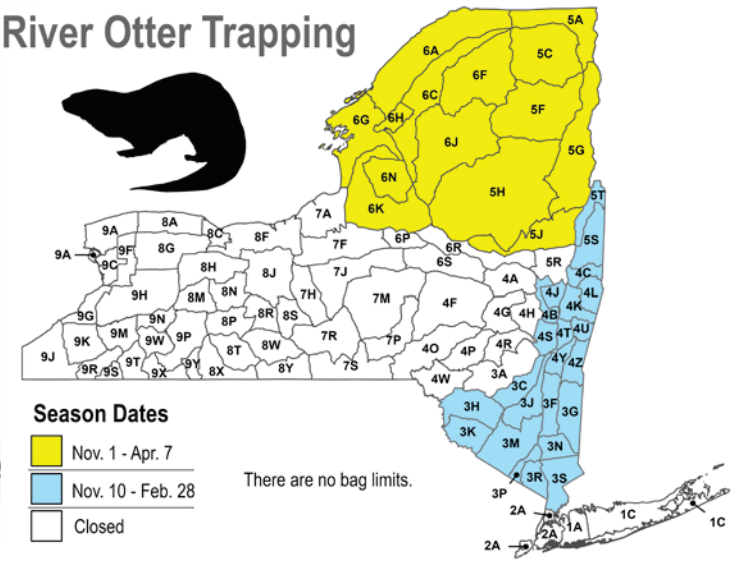


Season Dates

- Oct. 25 - Feb. 15
- Oct. 25 - Nov. 20
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

River Otter Trapping



Season Dates

- Nov. 1 - Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 - Feb. 28
- Closed

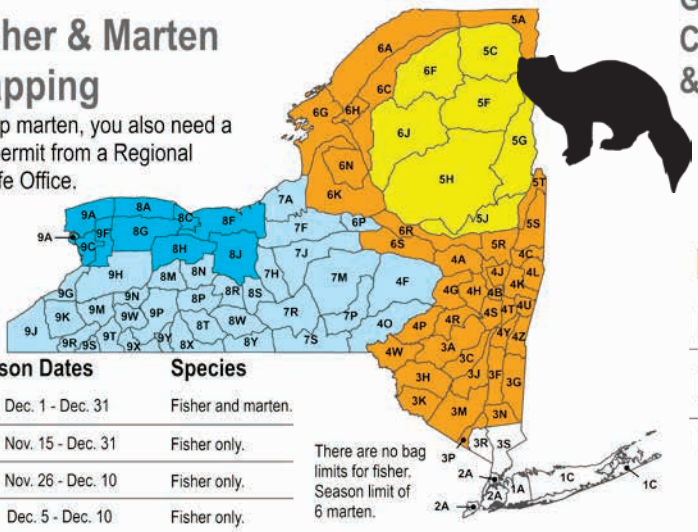
There are no bag limits.

If you take a bobcat, otter, fisher, or marten, you must:

- Complete a furbearer possession tag, **AND**
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.

Fisher & Marten Trapping

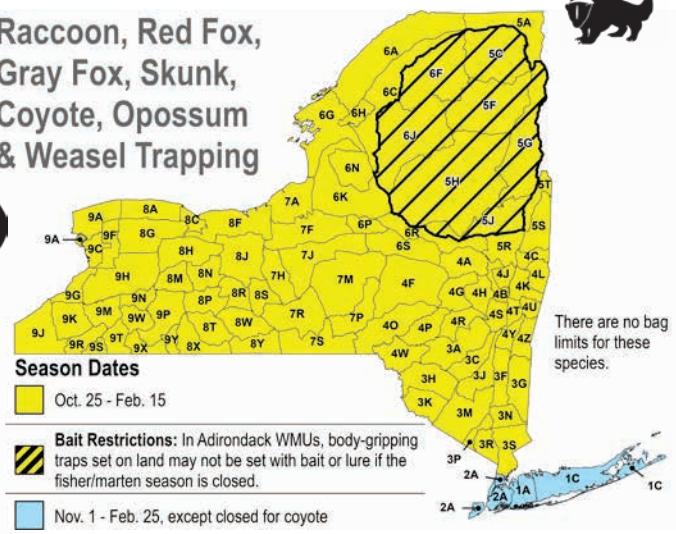
To trap marten, you also need a free permit from a Regional Wildlife Office.



Season Dates	Species
Dec. 1 - Dec. 31	Fisher and marten.
Nov. 15 - Dec. 31	Fisher only.
Nov. 26 - Dec. 10	Fisher only.
Dec. 5 - Dec. 10	Fisher only.
Closed	Fisher and marten.

There are no bag limits for fisher. Season limit of 6 marten.

Raccoon, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Skunk, Coyote, Opossum & Weasel Trapping



Season Dates

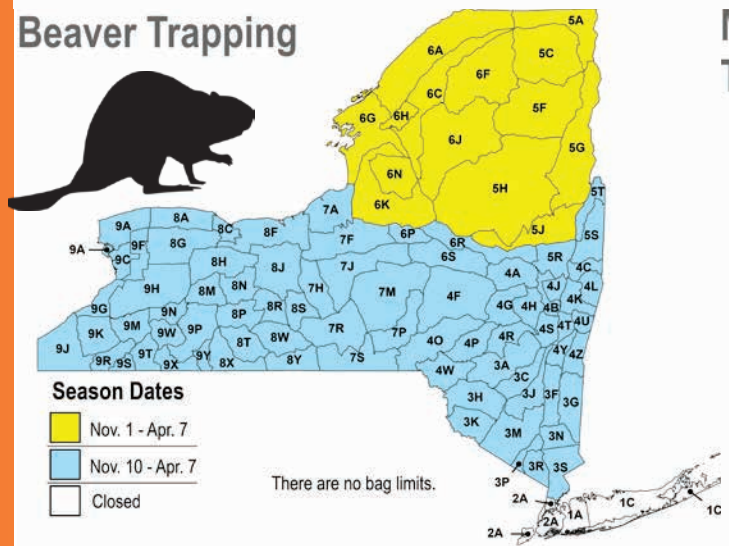
- Oct. 25 - Feb. 15

Bait Restrictions: In Adirondack WMUs, body-gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure if the fisher/marten season is closed.

- Nov. 1 - Feb. 25, except closed for coyote

There are no bag limits for these species.

Beaver Trapping

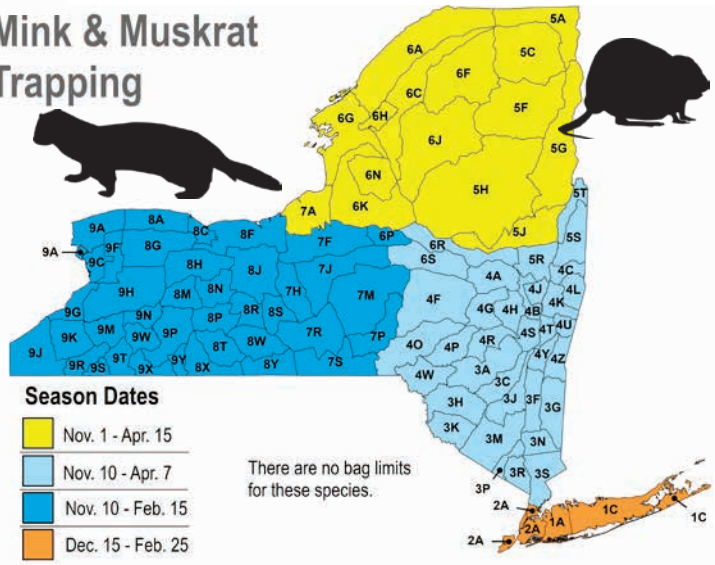


Season Dates

- Nov. 1 - Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 - Apr. 7
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

Mink & Muskrat Trapping

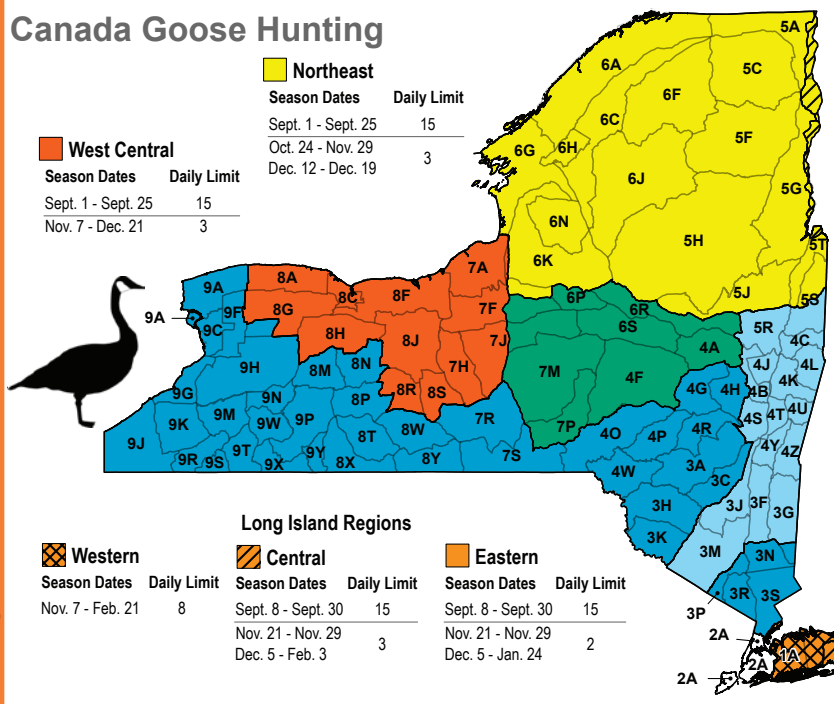


Season Dates

- Nov. 1 - Apr. 15
- Nov. 10 - Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 - Feb. 15
- Dec. 15 - Feb. 25

There are no bag limits for these species.

Canada Goose Hunting



Northeast

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 24 - Nov. 29 Dec. 12 - Dec. 19	3

West Central

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Nov. 7 - Dec. 21	3

Lake Champlain

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	8
Oct. 10 - Nov. 23	3
Dec. 1 - Jan. 4	5

East Central

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 24 - Nov. 20 Dec. 5 - Dec. 21	3

Hudson Valley

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Nov. 7 - Dec. 21	3

South

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 24 - Jan. 11	5

New York City

Closed

Long Island Regions

Western

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Nov. 7 - Feb. 21	8

Central

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 8 - Sept. 30	15
Nov. 21 - Nov. 29 Dec. 5 - Feb. 3	3

Eastern

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 8 - Sept. 30	15
Nov. 21 - Nov. 29 Dec. 5 - Jan. 24	2

WOODCOCK

Oct. 1 Nov. 14

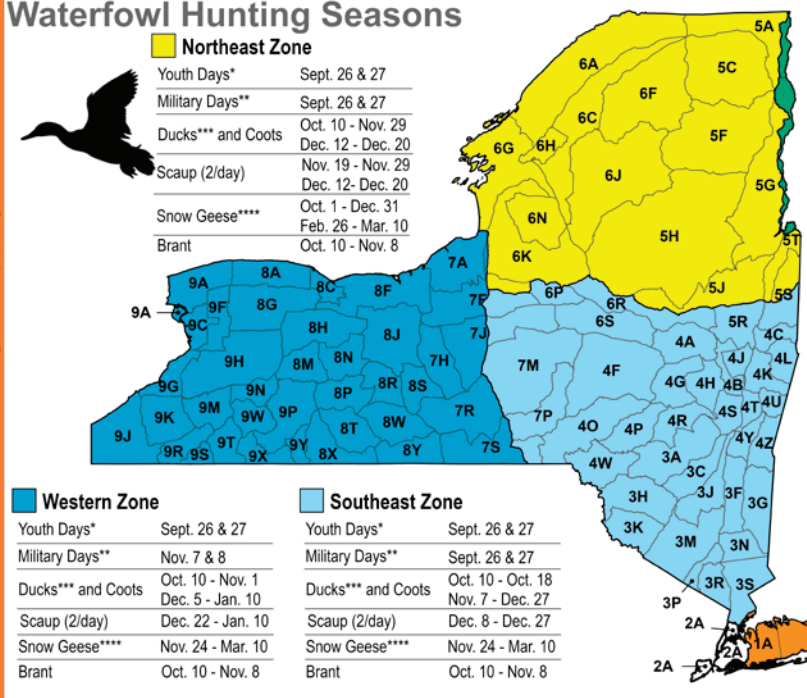
Closed

CROW

Sept. 1 Mar. 31
(Fridays, Saturday, Sundays & Mondays Only)

Closed

Waterfowl Hunting Seasons



Northeast Zone

Youth Days*	Sept. 26 & 27
Military Days**	Sept. 26 & 27
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 10 - Nov. 29 Dec. 12 - Dec. 20
Scaup (2/day)	Nov. 19 - Nov. 29 Dec. 12- Dec. 20
Snow Geese****	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31 Feb. 26 - Mar. 10
Brant	Oct. 10 - Nov. 8

Lake Champlain Zone

Youth Days*	Sept. 26 & 27
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 10 - Nov. 1 Nov. 21 - Dec. 27
Scaup (2/day)	Dec. 8 - Dec. 27
Snow Geese****	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31 Feb. 26 - Mar. 10
Brant	Oct. 10 - Nov. 8

Long Island Zone

Youth Days*	Nov. 7 & 8
Military Days**	Nov. 7 & 8
Ducks*** and Coots	Nov. 21 - Nov. 29 Dec. 12 - Jan. 31
Scaup (2/day)	Jan. 12 - Jan. 31
Snow Geese****	Nov. 24 - Mar. 10
Brant	Jan. 2 - Jan. 31

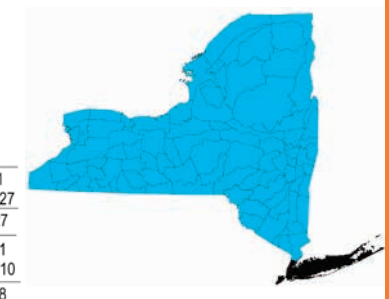
Western Zone

Youth Days*	Sept. 26 & 27
Military Days**	Nov. 7 & 8
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 10 - Nov. 1 Dec. 5 - Jan. 10
Scaup (2/day)	Dec. 22 - Jan. 10
Snow Geese****	Nov. 24 - Mar. 10
Brant	Oct. 10 - Nov. 8

Southeast Zone

Youth Days*	Sept. 26 & 27
Military Days**	Sept. 26 & 27
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 10 - Oct. 18 Nov. 7 - Dec. 27
Scaup (2/day)	Dec. 8 - Dec. 27
Snow Geese****	Nov. 24 - Mar. 10
Brant	Oct. 10 - Nov. 8

Closed



SNIPE, RAILS AND GALLINULES

Sept. 1 Nov. 9

Closed

A migratory duck stamp is not required to hunt these three groups of birds.

HIP registration is required for each of these species except crow.

* Youth days are additional days for junior hunters only. Young hunters, 12 to 15 years of age, possessing a junior hunting license may hunt ducks, coots, mergansers, Canada geese, and brant on 2 special days in each zone. Daily bag limits for all species are the same as those allowed during the regular season for all species (excludes September Canada goose bag limits). Youth hunters must be accompanied by a licensed (including current HIP registration and duck stamp) adult hunter, and the mentor may not carry a firearm. This prohibition does not apply to other hunters in the party that are not mentoring the youth.

** Any person who meets the definition of active military or veteran (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) can participate. Daily bag limits for all species during the military hunting days are the same as those allowed during the regular season for all species.

*** Crippled sea ducks may be taken under power in the special sea duck area, only.

**** Pending regulatory changes to the Spring Conservation Order. For more information on the status of snow geese and the conservation order, please visit: Waterfowl Season Setting.

Bag Limits

The daily bag limit is the maximum number of birds of each species that any person may take or possess in the field during any one day. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit for all migratory game birds except snow geese.

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Ducks[a]	6	18
Coot	15	45
Canada Geese[b]	See Map	3 times the daily limit
Snow Geese[b]	25	No Limit
Brant	1	3

a. The daily limit of 6 ducks includes all mergansers and sea ducks (scoters, eiders and long-tailed ducks) and may include no harlequin ducks and no more than 4 mallards (2 of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 black ducks, 3 pintails, 1 scaup (2 scaup are allowed during the 20 days specified above for each zone), 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, or 4 sea ducks (including no more than 3 scoters, 3 long-tailed ducks, or 3 eiders and no more than 1 female eider). For all other duck species, the daily limit is no more than 6.

b. Cackling geese and white-fronted geese may be taken as part of the Canada goose daily and possession limits. Snow geese and Ross' geese may be taken as part of the snow goose limits.