



# 2016 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

*The following are general dates for the 2016 season.*

*This information is subject to change. Please check the 2016-2017 Hunting & Trapping Summary (Available August 2016).*

*Questions? Call our Info Center at 287-8000*

	FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	BASIC LIMITS	
			DAILY	POSSESSION
DEER Firearms Season .....	Oct. 31	Nov. 26	1 Deer Per Year (see exception below)	
Maine Resident Only Day ** .....	Oct. 29		Only deer with antlers at least three inches long may be taken from Oct. 29 - Dec. 10, except that any deer may be taken in designated wildlife management districts by hunters with any-deer permits.	
Youth Deer Day .....	Oct. 22			
Archery .....	Sept. 29	Oct. 28	<b>Exceptions:</b> Additional deer may be taken by participating in the Expanded Archery Season, or by anyone possessing a bonus antlerless deer permit or superpack antlerless deer permit. <b>Note:</b> In WMD's where no any-deer permits are issued, it is bucks only for youth hunters on youth deer day and also bucks only for archers during the archery season on deer.	
Muzzleloader statewide (all WMD's) .....	Nov. 28	Dec. 3		
Muzzleloader WMD's 12, 13, 15 through 18, 20 through 26, 29 .....	Dec. 5	Dec. 10		
Expanded Archery (designated areas only) .....	Sept. 10	Dec. 10		
BEAR General hunting seasons .....	Aug. 29	Nov. 26	2 Bear Per Year	
Youth Bear Day .....	Aug. 27		1 by hunting, 1 by trapping	
Hunting with dogs .....	Sept. 12	Oct. 28		
Hunting with bait .....	Aug. 29	Sept. 24		
Bait can be placed July 30				
MOOSE (by permit only) WMD's 1 through, 6, 11, 19 .....	Sept. 26	Oct. 1	Permit application period: January through April 1.	
WMD's 1 through 14, 17 through 19, 27, 28 .....	Oct. 10	Oct. 15		
WMD's 15, 16, 23, 25, 26 .....	Oct. 31	Nov. 26		
Maine Resident Only Day - WMD's 15, 16, 23, 25, 26 .....	Oct. 29		1 Moose Per Year, by either permittee or sub-permittee.	
WMD's 1 through 4 & 19 .....	Oct. 24	Oct. 29		
RUFFED GROUSE & BOBWHITE QUAIL .....	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	4	Grouse & Quail 8
PHEASANT .....	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	2	Pheasant 4
SPRING WILD TURKEY (bow & arrow, crossbow or shotgun)			2 bearded Wild Turkeys.	
WMD's: 7, 9 through 29 .....	May 2	June 4		
WMD 8 .....	May 2	June 4		
WMD's: 1 through 6 Season A Week 1 (even year birth) .....	May 2	May 7		
WMD's: 1 through 6 Season A Week 2 (even year birth) .....	May 16	May 21		
WMD's: 1 through 6 Season B Week 3 (odd year birth) .....	May 9	May 14	1 bearded Wild Turkey*	
WMD's: 1 through 6 Season B Week 4 (odd year birth) .....	May 23	May 28		
WMD's: 1 through 6 All Hunters .....	May 30	June 4		
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Day .....	April 30			
FALL WILD TURKEY (bow & arrow or shotgun)			2 Wild Turkeys either sex, any age.	
WMD's: 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 & 28 .....	Oct. 1	Nov. 7		
WMD's: 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 26, & 29 .....	Oct. 1	Nov. 7	1 Wild Turkey either sex, any age.*	
WMD's: 1 through 9, 14, & 27 .....			<b>Closed to hunting.</b>	
WOODCOCK .....	Seasons set in late August/ early September.			
COMMON SNIPE .....	Regulations available mid-September from license agents, game wardens, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Dept. offices, and on the web at <a href="http://www.maine.gov/ifw">www.maine.gov/ifw</a>			
DUCKS, GEESE, SEA DUCKS (scoter, eider, long-tailed duck) .....				
SORA & VIRGINIA RAILS (and GALLINULES) .....				
CROW WMD's 1 through 6 .....	Feb. 6	April 15	-	-
	Aug. 1	Sept. 23	-	-
	Jan. 22	March 31	-	-
WMD's 7 through 29 .....	Aug. 1	Sept. 23	-	-
GRAY SQUIRREL .....	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	4	8
GRAY SQUIRREL (FALCONRY) .....	Oct. 1	Feb. 28	4	8
SNOWSHOE HARE .....	Oct. 1	Mar. 31	4	8
SNOWSHOE HARE (on Vinalhaven Island, Knox County) .....	Oct. 1	Feb. 28	4	8
BOBCAT .....	Dec. 1	Feb. 14	-	-
FOX .....	Oct. 17	Feb. 28	-	-
RACCOON .....	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	-	-
SKUNK, OPOSSUM .....	Oct. 17	Dec. 31	-	-
COYOTE NIGHT HUNT .....	Dec. 16	Aug 31	-	-
COYOTE, WOODCHUCK, PORCUPINE, RED SQUIRREL .....	NO CLOSED SEASON FOR HUNTING			
SPRUCE GROUSE, LYNX, COTTONTAIL RABBIT .....	NO OPEN SEASON FOR HUNTING			
	Note: Except for migratory game birds, there is no hunting season on any species of bird or animal which is not listed above.			

\* May take up to 2 turkeys for the season, but the second turkey must come from a WMD listed as having a two bird limit.

\*\* A nonresident who owns 25 or more acres of land in Maine and leaves land open to hunting, holds a valid hunting license, and is not otherwise prohibited by law, may hunt deer on the Resident only day.

**LICENSES:** Hunting license is required. The archery license allows bow and arrow hunting for all legal game throughout the year (except deer during the muzzleloading season). An archery license is **required** to hunt deer during the regular archery and expanded archery seasons.

A muzzleloading permit is required, in addition to a hunting license, to hunt deer during muzzleloading season on deer.

A bear permit is required in addition to a hunting license from August 29 through October 28, 2016. Nonresident and alien hunters are required to purchase a November (late season) bear hunting permit to hunt bear during the firearm season on deer if they do not already possess a regular bear hunting permit. See hunting law booklet for other recent changes.

**SUNDAY HUNTING:** Illegal in Maine.

**HUNTER ORANGE:** See hunting law book for details.

**STAMPS:** A State waterfowl permit and federal duck stamp are required for waterfowl hunters age 16 and over. Migratory waterfowl permits are not required to hunt Crow, Woodcock, Common Snipe, Sora & Virginia Rails, and Gallinules. A pheasant permit is required to hunt pheasant in York and Cumberland counties.

**LEGAL HUNTING HOURS:**

1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.  
**Exceptions: Migratory game birds, raccoons, and coyote.**



**OPERATION GAME THIEF:**

Call 1-800-ALERT US (253-7887) to report game law violations.

Caller identification protected. Rewards paid.  
Poachers are thieves — help us stop them.

# Ethics are what we do when no one else is watching.

Maine is a very unique place. You can be completely alone in the wild, practicing ethical behavior and no one may be there to notice. However, the landowner, as well as the hunters and anglers that follow you, will appreciate it greatly. Your ethical behavior contributes significantly to Maine's sporting future, and it encourages landowners to keep important habitat property available for all to enjoy. So remember, always respect the rights of landowners and please



## ASK FIRST



We urge all outdoor enthusiasts to join the **Outdoor Partners Landowner Relations Program**. The fee is only \$15.00 and all proceeds fund the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife's vital landowner relations program. The program works to preserve and enhance access, assists landowners with issues involved with access, and promotes responsible, ethical behavior while outdoors. If you have already purchased your license, you may still become an **Outdoor Partner** at anytime.

Ask your local license agent or sport shop about the **Outdoor Partners** program when buying your license or visit our website at: [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com).

As an **Outdoor Partner** you will receive discounts with our numerous retail partners, discounted subscriptions, day passes, Outdoor Partners decals and an entry into a drawing to win 1 of 6 \$500 gift cards. For more info, please visit [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com).