

2026-27 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

2026-27 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

DEER	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Expanded Archery	Designated areas only	September 12, 2026	December 12, 2026	1 Antlered Deer Per Year* See exceptions on page 20
Regular Archery	All	October 3, 2026	October 30, 2026	
Youth Deer Hunt	All	October 23, 2026	October 24, 2026	
Maine Resident Only Day**	All	October 31, 2026		
Firearms Season	All	November 2, 2026	November 28, 2026	
Muzzleloader Statewide	All	November 30, 2026	December 5, 2026	
Muzzleloader	12, 13, 15-18, 20-26, 29	December 7, 2026	December 12, 2026	

BEAR	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Youth Bear Hunting Day	All	August 29, 2026		2 Bears Per Year 1 by hunting, 1 by trapping
General Hunting Season	All	August 31, 2026	November 28, 2026	
Hunting with Bait <i>Bait can be placed Aug 1, 2026</i>	All	August 31, 2026	September 26, 2026	
Bear Trapping	All	September 1, 2026	October 31, 2026	
Hunting with Dogs <i>Bear dog training season is July 1 - August 27, 2026</i>	All	September 14, 2026	October 30, 2026	

MOOSE*** BY PERMIT ONLY	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Antlerless-Only	4A (Adaptive Unit Hunt)	TBD	TBD	1 Moose Per Year A person may only harvest one moose per year, regardless of how many permits they may be listed on. In order to harvest a moose a person must be either the permittee or sub-permittee.
		TBD	TBD	
		TBD	TBD	
Bull-Only	1- 6, 10, 11, 18, 19, 27, 28	September 28, 2026	October 3, 2026	
Bull-Only	1-15, 17-19, 27, 28	October 12, 2026	October 17, 2026	
Antlerless-Only	1-6, 8	October 26, 2026	October 31, 2026	

Permit application period: April - May of each year.

*Only deer with antlers at least 3 inches long may be harvested, except that antlerless deer may be harvested in designated WMDs/subunits during designated seasons, by hunters with antlerless deer permits, and by expanded archery hunters with appropriate permits. Please see page 20 of the Hunting Law Book for more information on Antlerless Deer Permits.

**A non-resident 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, anywhere in the state. A verification form must be completed and can be located on our website.

*** Moose hunting season dates and WMDs subject to change.

FALL WILD TURKEY <i>Archery equipment or shotgun</i>	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	SEASONAL BAG & POSSESSION	
General Hunting Season	15-17, 20-25	September 14, 2026	November 7, 2026	5 Wild Turkeys*	No more than two wild turkeys (either-sex, any age) may be harvested per permit holder per day, but cannot exceed the WMD bag limit.
	26	September 14, 2026	November 7, 2026	3 Wild Turkeys*	
	28	September 14, 2026	November 7, 2026	2 Wild Turkeys*	
	3, 6-8, 10-14, 18, 19, 27 & 29	September 14, 2026	November 7, 2026	1 Wild Turkey**	
	1, 2, 4, 5, & 9	Closed to taking of Wild Turkeys			
Youth Fall Wild Turkey Day	September 12, 2026				

*May harvest up to 5 turkeys for the fall season, but an individual WMD bag limit cannot be exceeded. The order in which they are harvested from a WMD does not matter.

SPRING WILD TURKEY <i>Archery equipment or shotgun</i>	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	SEASONAL BAG & POSSESSION	
All Hunters	7 and 9-29	May 3, 2027	June 5, 2027	2 bearded Wild Turkeys**	
	1-6 and 8	May 3, 2027	June 5, 2027	1 bearded Wild Turkey**	
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Day		May 1, 2027		May harvest up to 2 bearded Wild Turkeys from WMDs that have a 2 bird limit.	

**May harvest up to 2 turkeys for the spring season, but an individual WMD bag limit cannot be exceeded. The order in which they are harvested from a WMD does not matter.

UPLAND AND MIGRATORY BIRDS	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Ruffed Grouse & Bobwhite Quail	All	September 26, 2026	December 31, 2026	4	8
Pheasant	All	September 26, 2026	December 31, 2026	2	4
Woodcock	All	TBD	TBD	3	9
Common Snipe	All	TBD	TBD	8	24
Ducks, Geese, Sea Ducks (Scoter, Eider, Long-Tailed Duck)		See pg. 36			
Sora & Virginia Rails (and Gallinules)	All	TBD	TBD	25	25
Crows	1-6	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	No daily bag or possession limit	
	7-29	TBD TBD	TBD TBD		

OTHER SPECIES	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Gray Squirrel	All	September 26, 2026	January 30, 2027	4	8
Gray Squirrel (Falconry)	All	September 26, 2026	February 27, 2027	4	8
Snowshoe Hare	All	September 26, 2026	March 31, 2027	4	8
	Season on Island of Vinalhaven	September 26, 2026	February 27, 2027		
Bobcat	All	December 1, 2026	February 20, 2027	No Limit	
Fox	All	October 19, 2026	February 27, 2027	No Limit	
Raccoon	All	October 1, 2026	December 31, 2026	No Limit	
Skunk, Opossum	All	October 19, 2026	December 31, 2026	No Limit	
Coyote	All	During daylight hunting hours No Closed Season for Hunting		No Limit	
		Night hunting December 16, 2026 - August 31, 2027			
Woodchuck, Porcupine, Red Squirrel	All	No Closed Season		No Limit	
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. All dates are inclusive except that hunting is prohibited on Sunday.