



Regular & Bowhunting Deer Seasons

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

Northern Zone	
Early Bowhunting	Sept. 27 - Oct. 24
Crossbow	Oct. 15 - Oct. 24
Regular	Oct. 25 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting (WMUs 5A, 5G, 5J, 6A, 6C, 6G, and 6H only)	Dec. 8 - Dec. 14

Southern Zone	
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
Crossbow (not in 4J or 8C)	Nov. 1 - Nov. 14
Regular	Nov. 15 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16 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. 4 - Jan. 31

Early Antlerless Season	
Sept. 13 - Sept. 21	
Tags: DMP and DMAP Vertical Bow-Only: 1C, 3S, 4J, 8C Firearms, Bow, & Crossbow: 3M, 3R, 6A, 8F, 8G, 8J, 8N, 9A, and 9F	

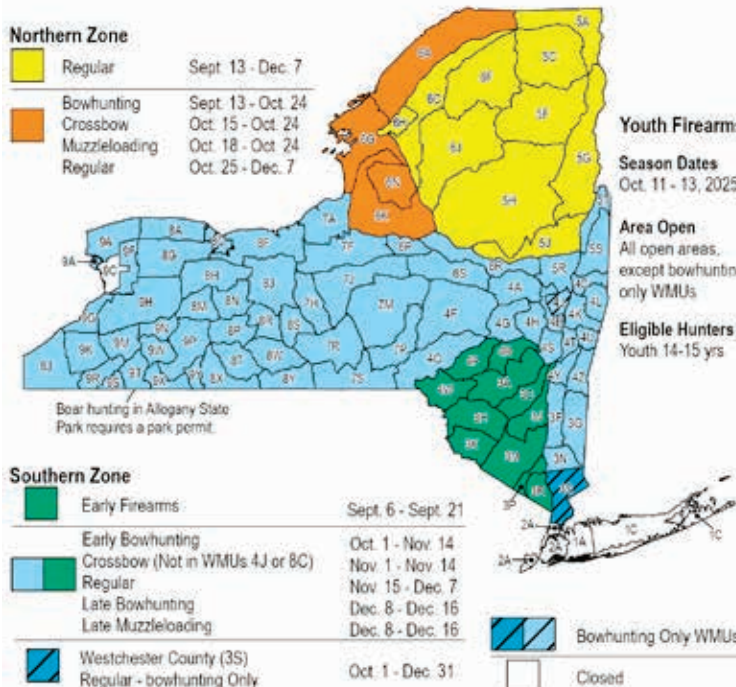
Antler Point Restrictions	
During all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.	
	Closed

Black Bear Hunting

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

Northern Zone	
Regular	Sept. 13 - Dec. 7
Bowhunting	Sept. 13 - Oct. 24
Crossbow	Oct. 15 - Oct. 24
Muzzleloading	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
Regular	Oct. 25 - Dec. 7

Southern Zone	
Early Firearms	Sept. 6 - Sept. 21
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
Crossbow (Not in WMUs 4J or 8C)	Nov. 1 - Nov. 14
Regular	Nov. 15 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Late Muzzleloading	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Westchester County (3S)	
Regular - bowhunting Only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31



Youth Firearms

Season Dates
Oct. 11 - 13

Area Open
All open areas, except bowhunting only WMUs

Eligible Hunters
- Youth 14-15 yrs
- Youths 12-13 yrs (select counties, see dec.ny.gov)

Bag Limit
One deer

Tags
Regular (either sex), DMP and DMAP (antlerless only); Bow/Muzz tags are not valid

Muzzleloading Deer Seasons

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

Northern Zone

Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24 Dec. 8 - Dec. 14
Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
Antlered Deer Only	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24

Southern Zone

Deer of Either Sex	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16 Dec. 26 - Jan. 1
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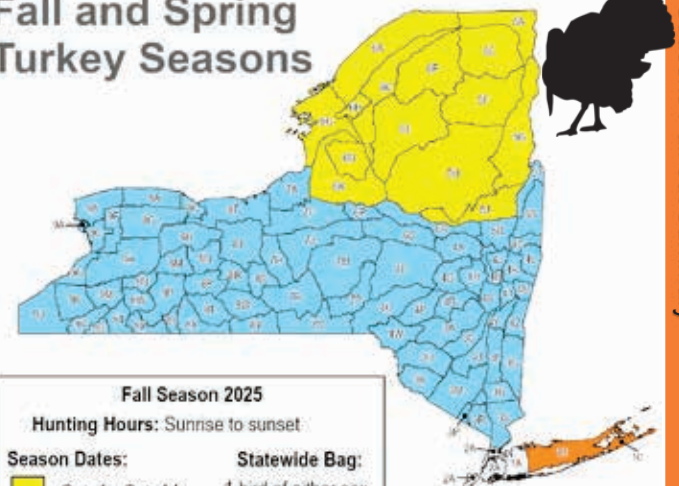
Antler Point Restrictions: during all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.

Closed



Crossbows may be used to hunt deer and bear during their respective firearms seasons (early bear, regular and muzzleloading deer & bear seasons). Crossbows may not be used to hunt deer during the youth firearms season, or anytime in WMUs 1C, 3S, 4J or 8C.

Fall and Spring Turkey Seasons



Fall Season 2025	
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset	
Season Dates:	Statewide Bag:
Oct. 1 - Oct. 14	1 bird of either sex
Oct. 18 - Oct. 31	
Nov. 15 - Nov. 28	
Closed	
Spring Season 2026	
Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon	
Season Dates:	Statewide Bag:
May 1 - May 31	- 2 bearded birds, no more than 1 per day
in all open areas	- No more than 1 in WMU 1C.
Closed	

Youth Turkey Season Spring 2026	
Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon	
Season Dates: April 25 - 26, 2026	
Statewide Bag Limit 1 bearded bird	
Open Areas: Same as regular spring season	



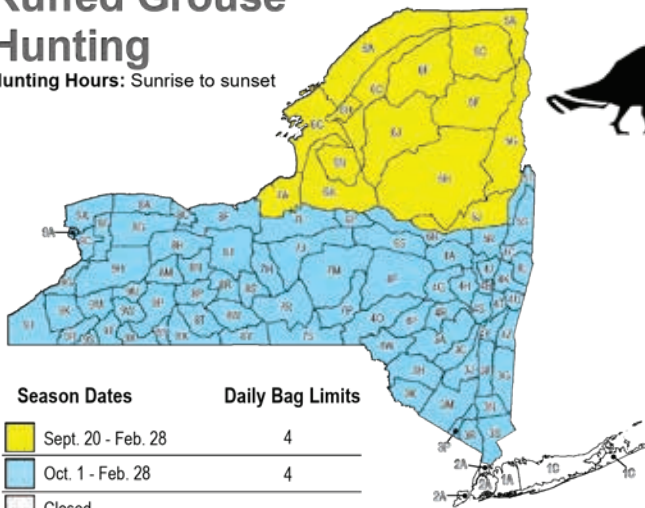
Remember to Report Your Game Harvest

HuntFishNY Mobile App * 1-866-426-3778 * www.dec.ny.gov

Most regulations are in effect Sept. 1, 2025 through Aug. 31, 2026

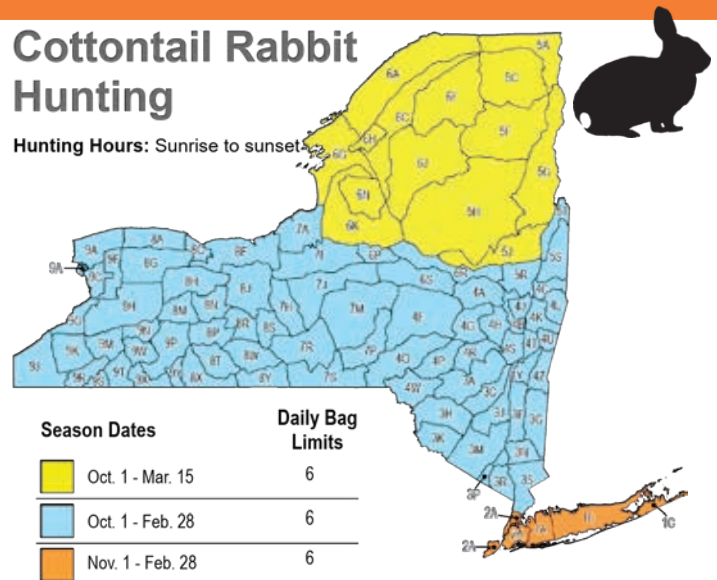
Ruffed Grouse Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



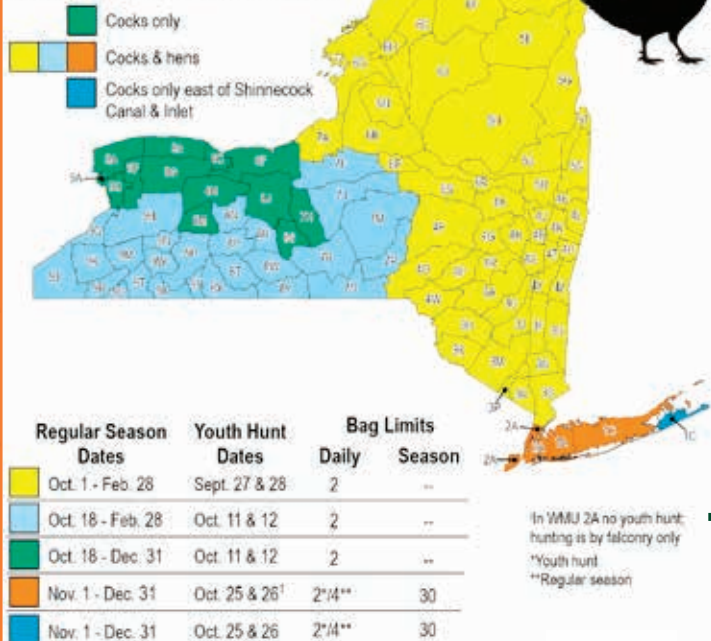
Cottontail Rabbit Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



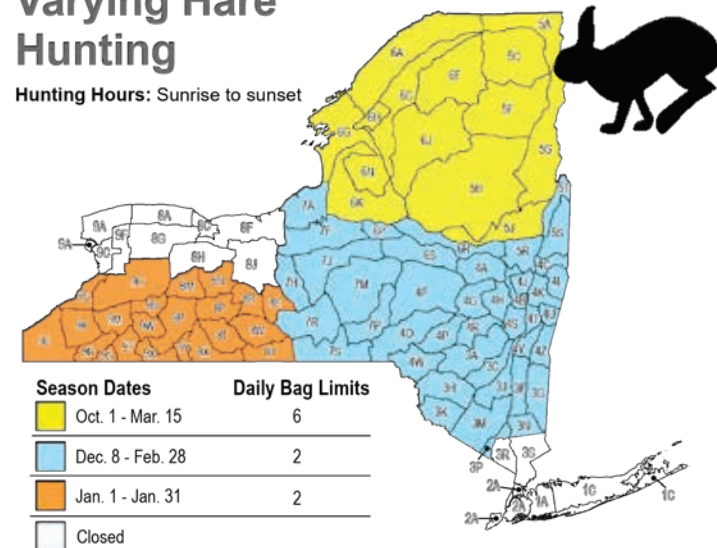
Pheasant Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Varying Hare Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Bobwhite Quail Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



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. 29

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

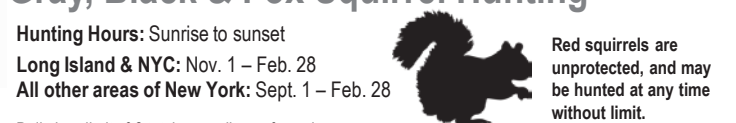
Gray, Black & Fox Squirrel Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Long Island & NYC: Nov. 1 - Feb. 28

All other areas of New York: Sept. 1 - Feb. 28

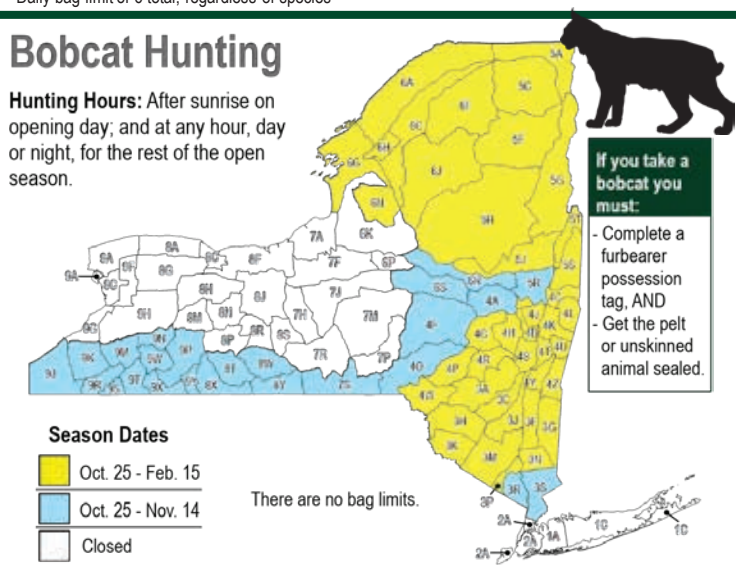
Daily bag limit of 6 total, regardless of species



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

Bobcat Hunting

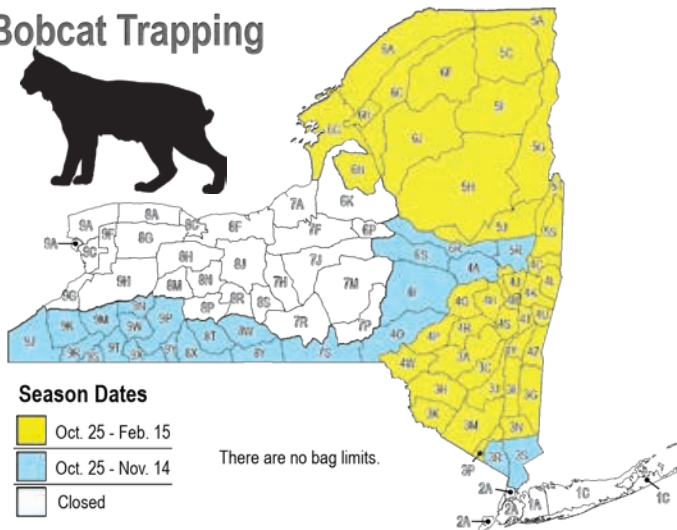
Hunting Hours: After sunrise on opening day; and at any hour, day or night, for the rest of the open season.



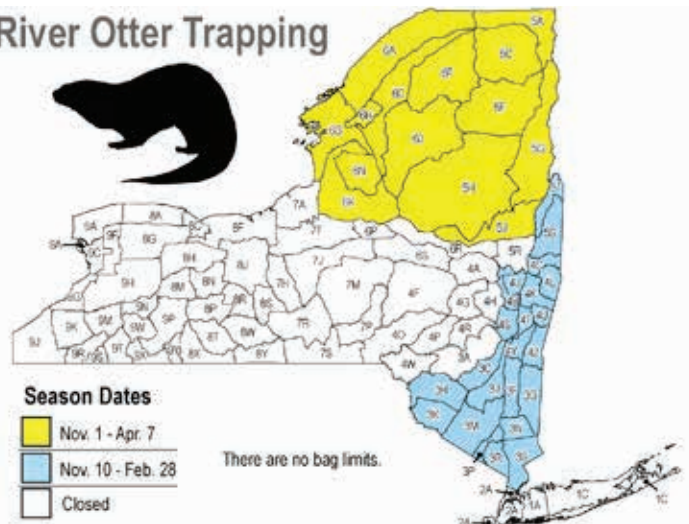
If you take a bobcat you must:

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

Bobcat Trapping



River Otter Trapping

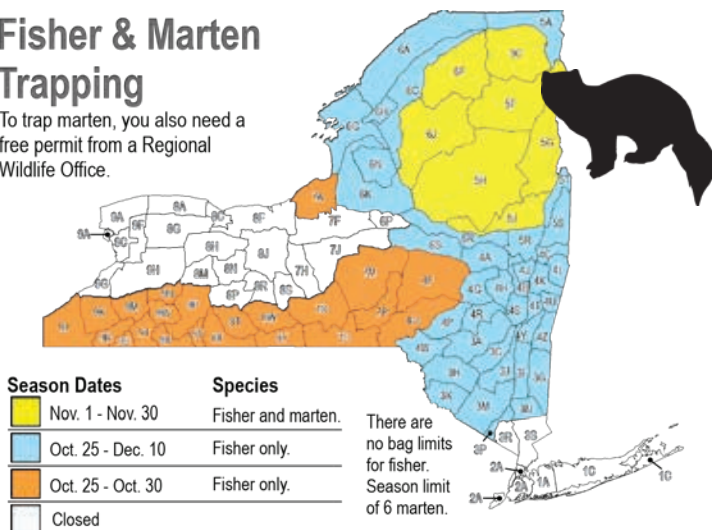


If you take a bobcat, otter, fisher, or marten, you must:

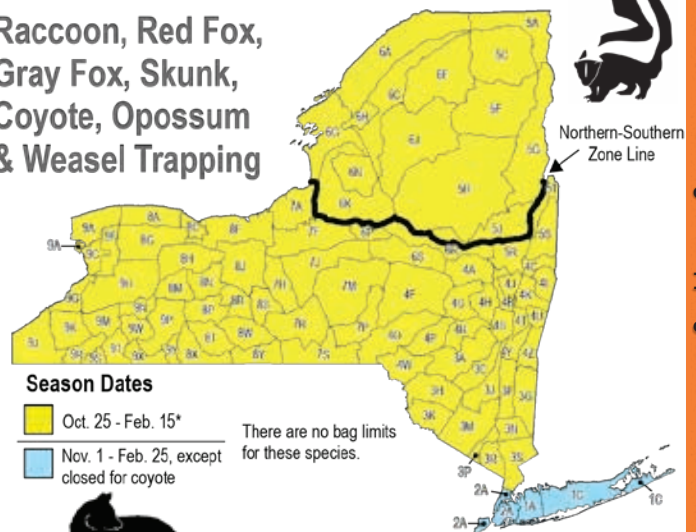
- Complete a furbearer possession tag, AND
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.

Fisher & Marten Trapping

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

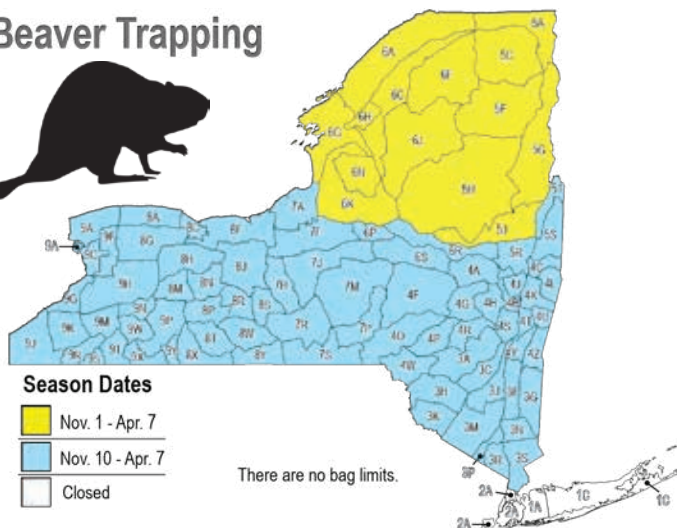


Raccoon, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Skunk, Coyote, Opossum & Weasel Trapping

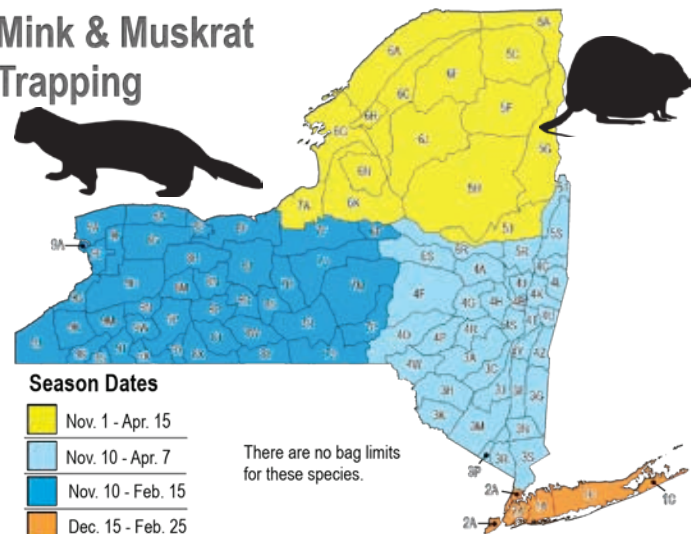


*In the Northern Zone, body-gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure if the fisher and marten season is closed.

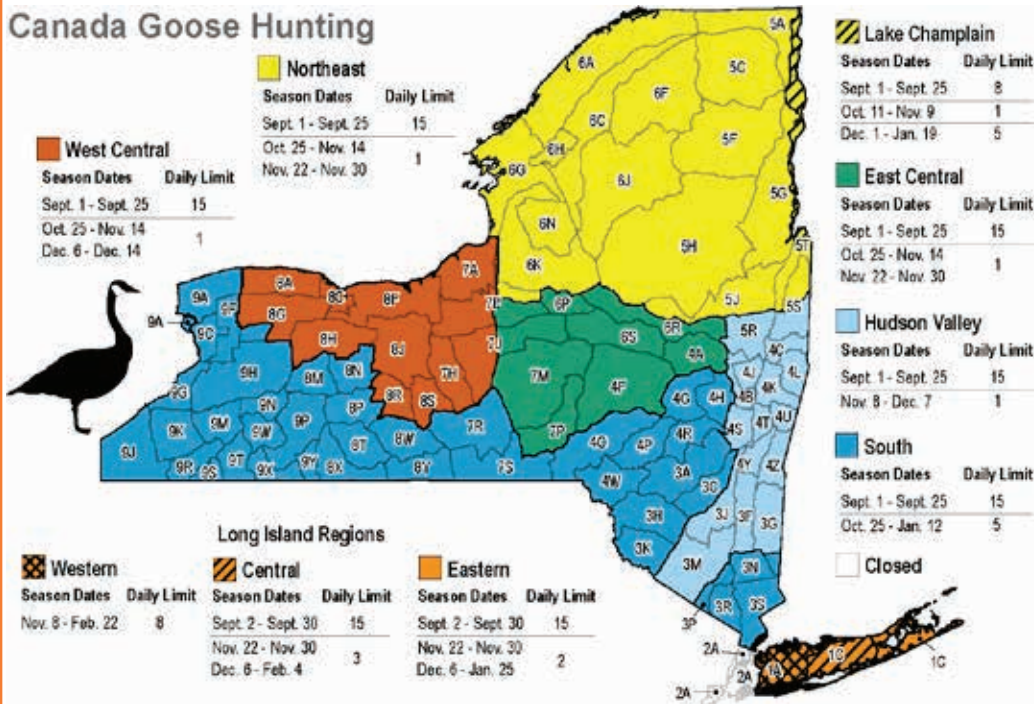
Beaver Trapping



Mink & Muskrat Trapping



Canada Goose Hunting



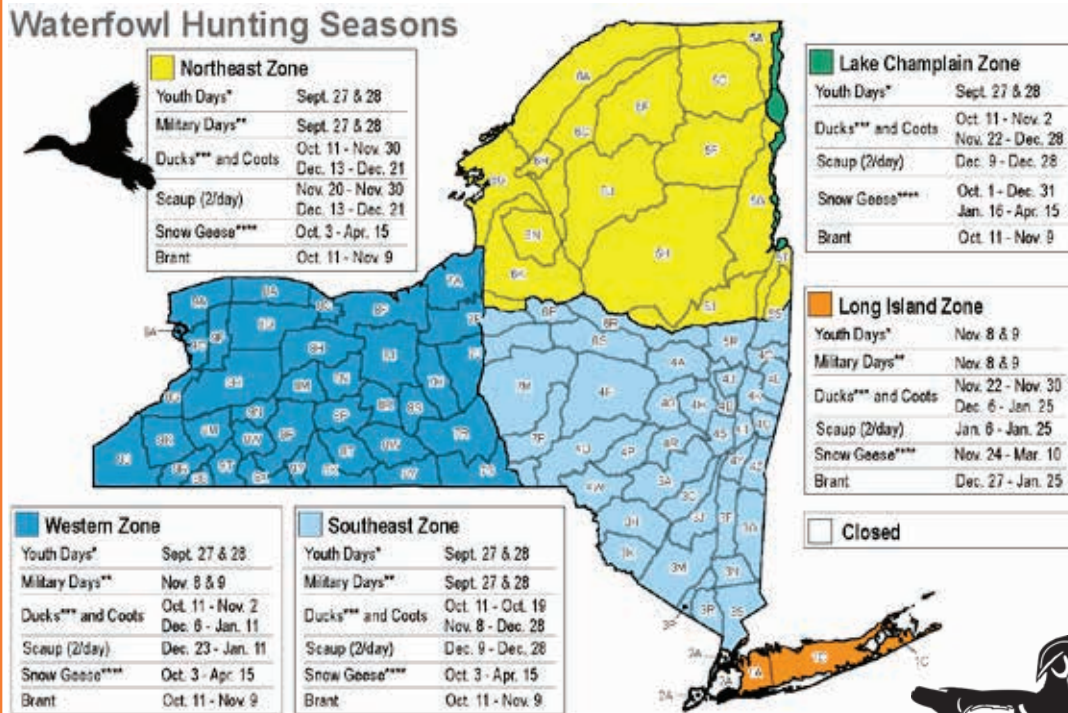
WOODCOCK

- Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
- Closed

CROW

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

Waterfowl Hunting Seasons



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.



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	2	6

- 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 2 mallards (1 of which may be a hen), 3 wood ducks, 2 black ducks, 3 pintail, 1 scaup (2 scaup are allowed during the 20 days specified above for each zone), 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 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.

- * 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.
- **** Snow goose seasons include both the regular hunting season and the [Conservation Order](#) that runs from Jan. 16 - Apr. 15 in all zones (except Long Island).