

2026-27 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

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DEER	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Expanded Archery	Designated areas only	September 12, 2026	December 12, 2026	Only 1 antlered deer may be harvested annually Exceptions: - For 2026, in WMDs 21-25 and 29 during the firearms and muzzleloader seasons, or statewide during the regular archery and youth hunt seasons, hunters may harvest one deer, either antlered or antlerless, under the authority of their big game hunting license. This deer counts as the hunter's one deer for the year. If a hunter wants to take additional deer, an antlerless deer permit is required. - Additional deer may be harvested by hunters possessing antlerless deer permit(s) or during the expanded archery season with appropriate permits.
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	12-18 and 20-29	December 7, 2026	December 12, 2026	

BEAR	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Youth Bear Hunting with Bait	All	August 28, 2026	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	
Youth Bear Hunting with Dogs	All	September 12, 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
Bull-Only	1-7, 10-13, 15, 18, 19, 27 and 28	September 28, 2026	October 3, 2026	1 Moose Per Year A person may only harvest one moose per year, regardless of how many permits they may be listed on.
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	In order to harvest a moose a person must be either the permittee or sub-permittee.

Permit application period: April - May of each year.

*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.

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 Days		April 30, 2027	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	September 26, 2026	November 17, 2026	3	9
Common Snipe	All	September 1, 2026	January 2, 2027	8	24
Sora & Virginia Rails (and Gallinules)	All	September 1, 2026	November 20, 2026	25	25
Crows	1-6	August 1, 2026 January 30, 2027	September 19, 2026 April 15, 2027	No daily bag or possession limit	
	7-29	August 1, 2026 January 15, 2027	September 19, 2026 March 31, 2027		

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.