2023-24 Hunting & Trapping Seasons Summary

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

Remember to Report Your Game Harvest
HuntFishNY Mobile App * 1-866-426-3778 * www.dec.ny.gov
Most regulations are in effect September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024

REGULAR & BOWHUNTING
DEER SEASONS 2023

Youth Firearms Season
Season Dates: Oct. 7 – 9, 2023

Area Open:
Northern and Southern Zones, except bowhunting-only WMUs

Eligible Hunters:
Youth 14-15 years (all open areas)

Tags:
- DMP and DMAP (antlerless only)
- Bow/Muzzle tag are not valid

Fall and Spring Turkey Seasons

Fall Season 2023
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset
Season Dates:
- Oct. 1 - Oct. 14
- Oct. 21 - Nov. 3
- Nov. 18 - Dec. 1

Statewide Bag Limit:
- 1 bird of either sex
- 1 bearded bird in all open areas

Spring Season 2024
Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before Sunrise to Noon
Season Dates:
- May 1 - May 31
- In all open areas

Statewide Bag:
- 2 bearded birds, no more than 1 in WMU 1C

Youth Turkey Season 2024
Hunting Dates:
- April 20 and 21, 2024

Open Areas:
Same as Regular Spring Season

Crossbows:
- May be used to hunt bear during the early bear seasons, muzzleloader seasons, and the regular firearms seasons.
- May not be used to hunt bear anytime in WMUs 3S (Westchester County), 4J or 8C.
### RUFFED GROUSE HUNTING

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset

**Season Dates 2023/24**
- Sept. 20 – Feb. 29
- Oct. 1 – Feb. 29
- Closed

**Daily Bag Limits**
- 4

### COTTONTAIL RABBIT HUNTING

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset

**Season Dates 2023/24**
- Oct. 1 – Mar. 17
- Oct. 1 – Feb. 29
- Nov. 1 – Feb. 29

**Daily Bag Limits**
- 6

### PHEASANT HUNTING

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset

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

### VARYING HARE HUNTING

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset

**Season Dates 2023/24**
- Oct. 28 – Oct. 29

**Daily Bag Limits**
- 2

### BOBWHITE QUAIL HUNTING

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset

**Season Dates 2023/24**
- Oct. 1 – Dec. 31
- Oct. 1 – Feb. 29
- Nov. 1 – Dec. 31

**Daily Bag Limits**
- 2

### Raccoon, Fox, Skunk, Opossum & Weasel Hunting

**Long Island:** Nov. 1 – Feb. 29

**All other areas of New York:** Sept. 1 – Feb. 29

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 and New York City:**
- Oct. 1 – Mar. 31

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

### BOBCAT HUNTING

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

If you take a bobcat you must:
- Complete a furbearer possession tag, AND
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.
BOBCAT TRAPPING
There are no bag limits.

Season Dates 2023/24
- Oct. 25 – Feb. 15
- Oct. 25 – Nov. 17
- Closed

RIVER OTTER TRAPPING
There are no bag limits.

Season Dates 2023/24
- Nov. 1 – Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 – Feb. 28
- Closed

FISHER & MARTEN TRAPPING
To trap marten, you must obtain a special free trapping permit from a Regional Wildlife Office.

Season Dates 2023/4
- Nov. 1 – Nov. 30    Fisher & Marten
- Oct. 25 – Oct. 30     Fisher only
- Oct. 25 – Dec. 10      Fisher only
- Closed

BEAVER TRAPPING
There are no bag limits.

Season Dates 2023/4
- Nov. 1 – Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 – Apr. 7
- Closed

RACCOON, RED FOX, GREY FOX, SKUNK, COYOTE, OPOSSUM & WEASEL TRAPPING
There are no bag limits for these species.

*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.

MINK & MUSKRAT TRAPPING
There are no bag limits.

Season Dates 2023/4
- Nov. 1 – Apr. 15
- Nov. 10 – Feb. 15
- Nov. 10 – Apr. 7
- Dec. 15 – Feb. 25

If you take a bobcat, otter, fisher, or marten, you must:
- Complete a furbearer possession tag, AND
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.
### 2023-2024 CANADA GOOSE SEASONS

**2023-2024 WATERFOWL SEASONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Youth Days</th>
<th>Military Days</th>
<th>Ducks &amp; Coots</th>
<th>Scapu (2/day)</th>
<th>Snow Geese***</th>
<th>Brant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Lake Champlain**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth Days</th>
<th>Sept. 23 &amp; 24</th>
<th>Ducks &amp; Coots</th>
<th>Scapu (2/day)</th>
<th>Snow Geese***</th>
<th>Brant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Woodcock**

- Oct. 1 – Nov. 14
- Closed

**Crow**

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

**Snipe, Rails and Gallinules**

- Sept. 1 – Nov. 9
- Closed

**Bag Limits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Daily Limit</th>
<th>Possession Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ducks</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coot</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The daily bag limit is the maximum number of birds of each species that a 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.

- The daily bag 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, 1 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.

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

* Youth hunters, 12 to 15 years of age, possessing a junior hunting license and HIP registration, may hunt ducks, mergansers, Canada geese, brant, gallinules, and coot on two (2) special days in each zone. Daily bag limits are the same as those allowed during the regular hunting season for all species. 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.

** Crippled sea ducks may be taken under power in the Special Sea Duck area, only. The Special Sea Duck Area is defined as the coastal waters of New York State and all waters of streams and rivers seaward from the first upstream bridge.

*** Snow goose seasons include both the regular hunting season and the Conservation Order that runs from January 16 – April 15 in all zones (except Long Island).