

# 2023-24 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

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DEER	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Expanded Archery	Designated areas only	September 9, 2023	December 9, 2023	<b>1 Antlered Deer Per Year*</b> See exceptions on page 20
Regular Archery	All	September 30, 2023	October 27, 2023	
Youth Deer Hunt	All	October 20, 2023	October 21, 2023	
Maine Resident Only Day**	All	October 28, 2023		
Firearms Season	All	October 30, 2023	November 25, 2023	
Muzzleloader Statewide	All	November 27, 2023	December 2, 2023	
Muzzleloader	12, 13, 15-18, 20-26, 29	December 4, 2023	December 9, 2023	

BEAR	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Youth Bear Hunting Day	All	August 26, 2023		<b>2 Bears Per Year</b> 1 by hunting, 1 by trapping
General Hunting Season	All	August 28, 2023	November 25, 2023	
Hunting with Bait <i>Bait can be placed July 29, 2023</i>	All	August 28, 2023	September 23, 2023	
Bear Trapping	All	September 1, 2023	October 31, 2023	
Hunting with Dogs	All	September 11, 2023	October 27, 2023	

MOOSE BY PERMIT ONLY	WMDs***	SEASONS***		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Antlerless-Only	4A (Adaptive Unit Hunt)	October 16, 2023	October 21, 2023	<b>1 Moose Per Year</b> by either permittee or sub-permittee, a person may only harvest one moose regardless of how many permits they may be listed on.
		October 23, 2023	October 28, 2023	
		October 30, 2023	November 4, 2023	
		November 6, 2023	November 11, 2023****	
Bull-Only	1- 6, 10, 11, 18, 19, 27, 28	September 25, 2023	September 30, 2023	
Bull-Only	1-15, 17-19, 27, 28	October 9, 2023	October 14, 2023	
Antlerless-Only	1-6, 8	October 23, 2023	October 28, 2023	

Permit application period: February - May of each year.

\*Only deer with antlers at least 3 inches long may be taken from October 28, 2023-December 9, 2023, except that antlerless deer may be taken in designated WMDs/subunits by hunters with Antlerless Deer Permits and expanded archery hunters with appropriate permits. Please see page 20 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.

\*\*\*\*Hunters that are issued a moose permit for the Adaptive Unit/WMD 4A moose hunt who do not harvest a moose during the first week listed on their permit may hunt in their respective zone 11/6/2023-11/11/2023.

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	April 29, 2024	June 1, 2024	2 bearded Wild Turkeys*	
	1-6 and 8	April 29, 2024	June 1, 2024	1 bearded Wild Turkey*	
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Day		April 27, 2024		May take up to 2 bearded Wild Turkeys from WMDs that have a 2 bird limit.	

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

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 18, 2023	November 7, 2023	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 18, 2023	November 7, 2023	3 Wild Turkeys**	
	28	September 18, 2023	November 7, 2023	2 Wild Turkeys**	
	6-8, 10-14, 18, 19, 27 & 29	September 18, 2023	November 7, 2023	1 Wild Turkey**	
	1-5, 9				
Youth Fall Wild Turkey Day		September 16, 2023			

\*\*May take up to five wild turkeys for the fall season, but cannot exceed an individual WMD bag limit, the order in which they are taken 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 30, 2023	December 30, 2023	4	8
Pheasant	All	September 30, 2023	December 30, 2023	2	4
Woodcock	All				
Common Snipe	All				
Ducks, Geese, Sea Ducks (Scoter, Eider, Long-Tailed Duck)		<b>More detailed season info on page 36.</b>			
Sora & Virginia Rails (and Gallinules)	All				
Crows	1-6	August 1, 2023 February 5, 2024	September 23, 2023 April 15, 2024	No Limit	
	7-29	August 1, 2023 January 22, 2024	September 23, 2023 March 30, 2024		

OTHER SPECIES	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Gray Squirrel	All	September 30, 2023	December 30, 2023	4	8
Gray Squirrel (Falconry)	All	September 30, 2023	February 28, 2024	4	8
	All	September 30, 2023	March 30, 2024		
Snowshoe Hare	Season on Island of Vinalhaven	September 30, 2023	February 28, 2024	4	8
Bobcat	All	December 1, 2023	February 21, 2024	No Limit	
Fox	All	October 16, 2023	February 28, 2024	No Limit	
Raccoon	All	October 2, 2023	December 30, 2023	No Limit	
Skunk, Opossum	All	October 16, 2023	December 30, 2023	No Limit	
Coyote	All	<b>During daylight hunting hours</b> No Closed Season for Hunting		No Limit	
		<b>Night hunting</b> December 16, 2023 - August 31, 2024			
Woodchuck, Porcupine, Red Squirrel	All	No Closed Season			
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.