Bear shooting/ dog training hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to 20 minutes after sunset. The table below lists these times for Zone A. To determine opening (AM) and closing (PM) times for other zones, add the minutes shown on map at left to the times listed in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>5:41</td>
<td>5:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
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<td>September 16</td>
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<td>5:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>5:41</td>
<td>5:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bear Registration**

- **Registration is mandatory.**
- **Successful applicants who electronically register bears they harvest, in the management zone of kill or in an adjoining management zone, by 5 p.m. after the day of harvest.** Register a bear in one of three ways:
  - Go to gamereg.wi.gov (fastest and easiest method).
  - Call 844-426-3734 (844-GAME-REG).
  - Visit an in-person station or call 800-TIP-WDNR and search “registration stations” to find a list or call
- **On time registration is complete, the GameReg system will issue a confirmation number for the hunter’s record.**

**Submitting Tooth Samples**

- **Submission of a tooth is mandatory.**
- **Successful hunters are required to provide one upper pre-molar tooth from each harvested bear to determine the bear’s age.** Instructions for collection of the teeth will be mailed to hunters who Class A licenses, and is available at dnr.gov, keyword “bear registration.” Hunters will be notified of the bear’s age after samples are analyzed.

- **If hunters do not have DNR-provided materials, they should write their name, customer ID number and registration confirmation number on a piece of paper and affix the tooth to it with tape. Enclose the tooth in a clear plastic bag.**

**Questions?**

**Contact the DNR Call Center**

(800) WDRN INF (888-936-7466) • DNR.WLGV.org

TTY Access — “TDI”

Available 7 days, 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Spanish and Hmong speaking representatives are available.

**Report Natural Resources Violations**

CALL OR TEXT

(800) TIP-WDNR (888-847-9676)

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential

**Wisconsin BEAR HUNTING Regulations**

**2017 Wisconsin BEAR HUNTING Regulations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone A, Zone B, Zone D</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Zone A, Zone B, Zone D | September 6 to September 12 | - With an adult dog or a guide.  
|                         | October 4 to October 10      | - 
|                         |                           | - Under age 10 may not possess a firearm or shoot a bear.  
|                         |                           | - Youth age 10–11 may possess a firearm if they are in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.  
|                         |                           | - Youth age 12–13 who have not yet completed hunter education must be in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.  
|                         |                           | - Youth age 12–13 who have not yet completed hunter education must be in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.  
|                         |                           | - Youth age 12–13 who have not yet completed hunter education must be in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.  

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources

**Register a bear harvest with GameReg**

- Online: gamereg.wi.gov
- By phone: 1-844-426-3734 (1-844-GAME-REG)

**Youth-Specific Information**

**Youth age 10–11 may possess a firearm if they are in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.**

- Under age 12–13 who have not yet completed hunter education must be in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.

**Youth age 12–13 who have not yet completed hunter education must be in compliance with all the Hunting Mentorship Program requirements.**

- Youths age 14–15 who have completed hunter education do not need to be in visual or voice contact with an adult while in possession of a firearm.

**Hunting Mentorship Program**

- Under this program, adults and youth age 10 or older may obtain a Class A hunting license without first completing a hunter education certification. Individuals utilizing this program are required to hunt within arm’s reach of a mentor and may only possess one firearm, crossbow or bow jointly between the mentored hunter and the mentor. A concealed weapon, legally possessed by a permit holder, is counted toward the one weapon limit but a youth age 10-17 is not allowed to hunt with a handgun. Visit dnr.gov keyword “mentored hunting” for more information.

**Finding Land Open to Hunting**

Nearly 7 million acres of land are open to public hunting in Wisconsin. Information on various land types and programs can be found at dnr.gov, search keywords: public lands, public land access to fox land, voluntary public access lands, and wildlife damage abatement programs.
Backup Shooters
Backup shooters must adhere to the following rules: may only shoot for the purpose of killing a bear that was shot, but not killed, by a Class A bear license holder; may only shoot if the Class A bear license holder possesses an unused bear carcass tag valid for the zone being hunted; may only shoot if killing the bear is necessary to protect the safety of the members of the hunting party or others.

Firearm and Archery Restrictions
It is illegal to:

1. Bait may be placed and used for the purpose of hunting bear: * a firearm or ammunition or a firearm loaded with non-expanding type bullets; * use handguns that are not muzzleloading handguns unless they are loaded with centerfire cartridges of .22 caliber or larger. These handguns must have a minimum barrel length of 5½" measured from the muzzle end of the barrel, not including attached muzzle brakes, to the firing pin with the action closed; * use a muzzleloader, unless it is a smoothbore muzzleloading firearm of .45 caliber or larger; * hunt bear with a bow having a pull of less than 30 pounds. To be legal, broadheads must be at least .78" wide and kept sharp.

2. It is illegal to:

   - possess any poisoned, drugged or explosive-tipped arrow while hunting;
   - hunt bear with a crossbow, unless it has a minimum draw of 108 pounds, a workable safety and uses at least 14-inch long bolts or arrows equipped with broadheads. Compound bows equipped with a drawlock mechanism that is capable of holding the bow at full draw are considered crossbows, which are exempt from the 100 pound requirement but must meet the 30-pound minimum;
   - place in a vehicle or transport in or on a moving vehicle any firearm (other than a handgun) or bow unless it is unloaded* or any crossbow unless it is unloaded and decocked or unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case;
   - load a firearm other than a handgun while it is in a vehicle, or discharge a firearm, shoot an arrow from a bow or a bolt from a crossbow from a stationary, non-motorized vehicle which is stationary.** A person may load and discharge a firearm, bow or crossbow from a stationary, non-motorized vehicle which is not attached to a motorized vehicle.

Hunting Near Roadways
It is illegal to:

1. hunt within 50 feet of the roadway’s center;

2. discharge a firearm, shoot an arrow from a bow or a bolt from a crossbow, from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the roadway’s center. This prohibition applies to all public roads which are either paved or indicated on the latest Wisconsin Department of Transportation county highway map.

Note: Class A and certain Class C disabled permit holders are exempt from certain portions of this requirement when hunting from a stationary vehicle. Contact the DNR for more information.

Baiting
1. It is illegal to place and used for the purpose of hunting bear or training bear dogs statewide, except that it is illegal for any person to place, use or hunt over bait placed for bears:

   - beginning the day after the bear season closes and continuing through the following April 14;
   - in excess of 10 gallons of bait at any site;
   - in a bait container that is not encased in a hollow log, a hole in the ground or stump which is capped with logs, rocks, or other naturally occurring and unprocessed substances which prevent deer from accessing the material.

   (Note: Liquid scent used for hunting bear or training bear dogs does not need to be enclosed, but is part of the 10 gallon limit.)

   - on any bait site where a deer is checked or re-baited, all bait that has been uncovered is again enclosed and made inaccessible to deer.

   (Note: There is no limit to the number of bear bait sites a person may establish.)

2. No person may display, use, or hunt over bait or scent that:

   - contains any animal part or animal-by-product. Animal part or product includes, but is not limited to, horns, hooves, fish, meat, solid animal fat, bacon grease, animal carcass, or parts of animal carcasses, but does not include liquid scents or chemicals;

   - is contained in metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood or other material with a food or cosmetic label.

3. No person may hunt over bait material for bear without possessing a valid, unused Class A bear license and carcass tag.

Baiting With Chocolate
Solid blocks of chocolate should not be used. Chocolate can be toxic to lethal to bears and other wildlife, especially young or large bears. Use of chocolate in bear baiting is commonly referred to as “honey burns” or “bacon burns”.

4. No person may place bait material for non-hunting purposes.

   (Note: You may hunt over bait material deposited by natural vegetation or found solely as a result of normal agricultural practices.)

   (Note: No person may hunt or train dogs on a bait site that is in violation of these restrictions unless the area is completely free of bait material at least 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, pursuing animals or dog training.

   (Note: Removal of unlawfully placed bait or feed material does not preclude the issuance of a citation for the original placement of the unlawful baiting or feeding material.)

Validation and Tagging
1. The hunter is responsible for possessing a paper carcass tag while hunting bear.

2. Immediately upon killing a bear, validate the paper carcass tag by.

   - removing the tag inside a zip-top plastic bag.

   - If you leave it, tag it! You may not leave the bear carcass unless the validated carcass tag is attached to it. In other words, attach the tag as soon as you see the bear. Attach the tag with string or other fastener as in the past.

3. Carnivore tags must be kept intact and legible; consider protecting the tag inside a zip-top plastic bag.

4. No person may possess or transport a bear carcass unless in possession of the validated carcass tag.

5. No person may possess, while hunting or afield, a validated bear carcass tag unless that person is in possession of the legally killed bear corresponding to the validated tag.

6. No person may possess, while hunting or afield, more than one copy of a unique carcass tag, nor possess, borrow or loan another’s license, permit or tag.

7. If a backup shooter kills a bear that was shot, but not killed, by the Class A bear license holder, it is still the Class A bear license holder’s responsibility to validate that carcass tag.

Field Dressing
1. Bear may be divided into not more than 5 parts, not including the hide, only to facilitate removal from the field. The head and neck shall remain attached to the rest of the animal, not including the hide. A person who divides the bear while afield:

   - may not allow the bear to be stored or transported with any other bear that has been divided prior registration;

   - may not divide any bear in a manner that does not keep one part of the bear intact to allow it to be measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail to determine it was an adult bear of 42 inches or greater;

   - must remove all parts from the field except the entrails.

Highly Visible Clothing Requirement
Bear hunters afield during the 2-day youth gun deer hunt on Oct. 7 and 8, 2017, must wear blaze orange or fluorescent pink.

Other Restrictions
It is illegal to:

1. use or molest any bear in a den, bear hunt in any den or sanitary landfill or kill a cub or any adult bear accompanied by a cub or cubs. An adult bear is defined as a bear 42 inches or greater in length, as measured in a straight line from the tip of nose to the base of the tail.