

2018 Wisconsin Hunting and Trapping Seasons

Get your regulations faster!

Visit dnr.wi.gov to view and print regulations up to one month before they are available in hard copy. **Some seasons may be subject to change.** Consult the hunting regulation pamphlet(s) or dnr.wi.gov before hunting.



DEER*

Archery & Crossbow	Sept. 15–Jan. 6, 2019
Youth Deer Hunt	Oct. 6 & 7
Gun Deer Hunt for Hunters with Disabilities [▲]	Oct. 6–14
Gun	Nov. 17–25
Muzzleloader	Nov. 26–Dec. 5
Statewide Antlerless Hunt	Dec. 6–9
Antlerless-only Holiday Hunt	Dec. 24–Jan. 1, 2019**

* Please check the *2018 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations* for a complete set of dates and unit designations.
▲ This is not a statewide season. More information is available at dnr.wi.gov, keyword: “disabled deer hunt”.
**Open only in select Farmland (Zone 2) counties; see 2018 regulations for open counties.

ELK*

Clam Lake Elk Management Zone archery, crossbow, firearm	Oct. 13–Nov. 11; Dec. 13 - 21
--	-------------------------------

*Licenses awarded through a drawing. Only bull elk may be harvested. See dnr.wi.gov, keyword “elk” for details.

GAME BIRDS

Pheasant

Statewide	Oct. 20 (9 AM)–Jan. 6, 2019
-----------	-----------------------------

Bobwhite Quail

Statewide	Oct. 20 (9 AM)–Dec. 12
-----------	------------------------

Hungarian Partridge

Statewide*	Oct. 20 (9 AM)–Jan. 6, 2019
------------	-----------------------------

* Closed in Clark, Marathon and Taylor counties

Ruffed Grouse

Zone A	Sept. 15–Jan. 31, 2019
Zone B	Oct. 20–Dec. 8

Sharp-tailed Grouse

Season is under review. Visit dnr.wi.gov for updates.

Crow

Statewide	Sept. 15–Nov. 15 & Jan 18–March 20, 2019
-----------	---

SMALL GAME

Cottontail Rabbit

Northern Zone	Sept. 15–Feb. 28, 2019
Southern Zone	Oct. 20 (9 AM)–Feb. 28, 2019

Squirrels (Gray and Fox)

Statewide	Sept. 15–Jan. 31, 2019
-----------	------------------------

PROTECTED SPECIES

Hunting protected species—such as badger, jackrabbit, moose and flying squirrel—is prohibited. See the *2018 Small Game Regulations* for more details.

TURKEY

Youth Turkey Hunt	Apr. 14 & 15
-------------------	--------------

Open Zones

Spring	Period A	Apr. 18–24
	Period B	Apr. 25–May 1
	Period C	May 2–8
	Period D	May 9–15
	Period E	May 16–22
	Period F	May 23–29
Fall	Zones 1-5	Sept. 15–Jan. 6, 2019
	Zones 6 & 7	Sept. 15–Nov. 16

BEAR

Zone C where dogs **are not** permitted:

- Sept. 5–Oct. 9
 - with aid of bait
 - with all other legal methods **not** using dogs

All other zones where dogs **are** permitted:

- Sept. 5–11
 - with aid of bait
 - with all other legal methods not using dogs
- Sept. 12–Oct. 2
 - with aid of dogs
 - with aid of bait
 - with all other legal methods
- Oct. 3–9
 - with aid of dogs only

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Early Canada Goose

Statewide	Sept. 1–15
-----------	------------

Early Teal Season

Statewide	Sept. 1–7
-----------	-----------

Duck Season

Youth	Sept. 15 & 16
Northern Zone	Sept. 29–Nov. 27
Southern Zone	Sept. 29–Oct. 7; Oct. 13–Dec. 2
Mississippi Zone	Sept. 29–Oct. 5; Oct. 13–Dec. 4

Regular Goose Season

Exterior Zone–North	Sept. 16–Dec. 16
Exterior Zone–South	Sept. 16–Oct. 7; Oct. 13–Dec. 2; Dec. 16 - Jan. 3, 2019
Mississippi Zone	Sept. 29–Oct. 5; Oct. 13–Jan. 3, 2019

Woodcock

Statewide	Sept. 22–Nov. 5
-----------	-----------------

Mourning Dove

Statewide	Sept. 1–Nov. 29
-----------	-----------------

FURBEARERS

Coyote

Hunting Continuous open season.
Trapping Oct. 20–Feb. 15, 2019

Beaver

Trapping Only
 Zone A (Northwest) Nov. 3–Apr. 30, 2019
 Zone B (Northeast) Nov. 3–Apr. 30, 2019
 Zone C (South) Nov. 3–Mar. 31, 2019
 Zone D (Mississippi River) Day after duck season closes to Mar. 15, 2019

Mink and Muskrat

Trapping Only
 Statewide Oct. 27–Mar. 10, 2019
 Mississippi River Zone Nov. 12**–Mar. 10, 2019

**Zone opens either the day after the duck season closes or Nov. 12, whichever occurs first.

Fox (Red and Gray)

Hunting and Trapping Oct. 20–Feb. 15, 2019

Bobcat

Hunting and Trapping - Permits required
 Period 1 Oct. 20–Dec. 25
 Period 2 Dec. 26–Jan. 31, 2019

Fisher

Trapping Only - Permits required
 Various zones Oct. 20–Jan. 6, 2019

Otter

Trapping Only - Permits required
 North Zone Nov. 3–Apr. 30, 2019
 South Zone Nov. 3–Mar. 31, 2019

Raccoon

Hunting and Trapping
 Resident Oct. 20–Feb. 15, 2019
 Non-resident Nov. 3–Feb. 15, 2019

Woodchuck, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel and Snowshoe Hare

No season limits, bag limits, size limits or possession limits, but a license is required.



Find more information on hunting and trapping in Wisconsin!

Visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword “hunt” and “trap” for season dates, regulations, license and permit requirements, finding a place to hunt or trap and more.

GET IN THE GAME!

Mentored Hunting Licenses

Adults and youth who have not completed Hunter Education are eligible to hunt through the Mentored Hunting Program. Visit dnr.wi.gov, keyword: “mentored hunting” for more information.

Reduced License Fees

Youth ages 11 and younger, first-time hunters and those who have not hunted in the preceding 10 years are eligible to purchase hunting licenses at a reduced fee. Resident hunters who recruit three first-time hunters, trappers or anglers are also eligible for reduced fees.

Permit Application Deadlines

Elk	May 31
Sharp-tailed Grouse (if permits are offered)	August 1
Bobcat	August 1
Otter	August 1
Fisher	August 1
Wolf (only if removed from fed. endangered species list)	August 1
Spring Turkey	December 10
Bear	December 10

Timing of Drawings

Elk	Early June
Sharp-tailed Grouse	Mid-September
Bobcat	Mid-September
Otter	Mid-September
Fisher	Mid-September
Spring Turkey	Late January
Bear	Early February

To check your drawing status go to:
dnr.wi.gov



For more information...

Visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword “wildlife.”

For additional questions, contact the DNR Call Center toll-free

1-888-WDNR INFO (1-888-936-7463) • local 608-266-2621

TTY Access via relay - 711

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240. This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, etc.) upon request. Please call 608-266-8204 for more information. Note: If you need technical assistance or more information, call the Accessibility Coordinator at 608-267-7490 / TTY Access via relay - 711.

