

Youth Waterfowl Hunt

The Youth Waterfowl Hunt provides young waterfowl hunters the opportunity to spend time afield with an experienced adult hunter pursuing waterfowl and allowing them to develop their skills without the pressures of the regular season.

When is it?

The Youth hunt has been traditionally scheduled on the Saturday nearest Sept 17. However, dates are not finalized each year until after a period of public input and a final ruling on the waterfowl season by the Natural Resources Board in mid-August. Dates are posted on the following webpage as soon as they are available:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/hunt/regulations.html>

Who is eligible?

Only persons age 15 and younger may hunt waterfowl (i.e., ducks, geese, coots, moorhens and mergansers) during the youth waterfowl hunt. All hunters must be accompanied by an adult chaperone age 18 years or older. The adult may not accompany more than one youth hunter, except that an adult may accompany two youth hunters if at least one of the youth hunters is age 12 –15 and has completed a Hunter Education Safety Course. The mentor may not hunt ducks, coots, moorhens or mergansers, but may hunt geese if the goose season is open and he or she possesses a Canada Goose Permit appropriate for the zone being hunted. (for more information on the mentored hunt law please refer to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/education/outdoorSkills/mentor.html>)



What type of license is needed?

Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration is required. Youth not participating in a "mentored" hunt must have completed a Wisconsin Hunter Education Course (or similar course from another state, province or country). All license and stamp requirements are waived for eligible youth waterfowl hunters, except a Canada goose hunting permit.

What other rules apply?

All other regulations including hunting hours and daily bag limits, listed in the regulations pamphlet will apply.

Does this youth hunt include goose hunting?

Yes. The daily bag limit for all zones is 3 geese. In the Exterior Zone, a youth must purchase and possess an Exterior goose permit.

Good luck, enjoy the special weekend, and have a safe hunt!

For information about this topic, contact: [Assistant Migratory Game Bird Ecologist](#).