

2018-19 MAINE MIGRATORY GAME BIRD QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Please reference the *Maine 2018-19 Summary of Hunting Laws* for more details, available at mefishwildlife.com/huntinglaws.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

For the purpose of this section, migratory game birds include and are limited to species in the following families: 1. Anatidae (wild ducks, geese, and brant); 2. Rallidae (rails, coots, moorhens and gallinules); and 3. Scolopacidae (woodcock and snipe). Except as expressly provided in the regulations, it is unlawful to hunt, capture, kill, take, possess, transport, buy or sell any migratory game bird or part thereof.

LICENSES

To hunt in Maine, you need to have one of the 30+ hunting licenses available. These vary by category of game, equipment used, resident status, age, and other factors. Go to mefishwildlife.com to see which license type is right for you, and to read what the license allows, when it allows it, and what permits are included or need to be purchased separately.

STAMPS

Waterfowl hunters age 16 and up must purchase state waterfowl permits and federal duck stamps. 16-year-olds still hunting on a junior license may hunt on a youth day, but need a Federal duck stamp.

Migratory waterfowl permits are not required to hunt Crow, Woodcock, Common Snipe, Sora & Virginia Rails, or Gallinules. A pheasant permit is required to hunt pheasant in York and Cumberland counties.



OPERATION GAME THIEF

Call 1-800-ALERT US (253-7887) to report game law violations. Caller identification protected. Rewards paid. Poachers are thieves — help us stop them.

SUNDAY HUNTING IS ILLEGAL IN MAINE

LEGAL HUNTING HOURS FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS:

½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

BAND RECOVERY REPORTS

Anyone finding a band or recovering one while hunting should log onto:

reportband.gov

Results will provide better estimates of survival and harvest rates and will reduce high costs associated with banding studies.

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM

If you plan to hunt woodcock, ducks, geese, snipe, rails, or coots, you are required to indicate on your license your intention of doing so at the time you purchase your license. The information will be used by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.).



ETHICS ARE WHAT WE DO WHEN NO ONE ELSE IS WATCHING

In the Maine woods, rarely will anyone be there to notice your ethical behavior, but the landowner and the hunters that follow will greatly appreciate it. Ethical behavior is vital to Maine's sporting future, and it encourages landowners to keep their property open for all to enjoy. So remember: always respect the rights of landowners, and please **ask first**.

Outdoor Partners Landowner Relations Program

For \$15.00, you can become an Outdoor Partner and support the MDIFW landowner relations program, which works to preserve and enhance access, helps landowners with access issues, and promotes responsible, ethical sporting behavior.

Members also receive discounts from retail partners, discounted subscriptions, and day passes, as well as an Outdoor Partners decal and entry into a drawing to win one of six \$500 gift cards. You can join at any time – either as an add-on to your license purchase or at mefishwildlife.com.



2018-19 MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTER'S TIME & TIDE TABLE

	LEGAL HUNTING HOURS		TIDE*			LEGAL HUNTING HOURS		TIDE*	
DATE	OPEN	CLOSE	HIGH	LOW	DATE	OPEN	CLOSE	HIGH	LOW
9/1/18	05:27 AM	07:12 PM	03:46 PM	09:31 AM	11/17/18	06:05 AM	04:05 PM	06:13 AM	12:17 PM
9/3/18	05:30 AM	07:08 PM	05:09 AM	11:13 AM	11/19/18	06:08 AM	04:03 PM	07:47 AM	01:59 PM
9/4/18	05:31 AM	07:06 PM	06:11 AM	12:14 PM	11/20/18	06:09 AM	04:02 PM	08:30 AM	02:44 PM
9/5/18	05:32 AM	07:05 PM	07:18 AM	01:18 PM	11/21/18	06:10 AM	04:01 PM	09:10 AM	03:27 PM
9/6/18	05:33 AM	07:03 PM	08:24 AM	02:24 PM	11/22/18	06:12 AM	04:01 PM	09:50 AM	04:10 PM
9/7/18	05:34 AM	07:01 PM	09:26 AM	03:26 PM	11/23/18	06:13 AM	04:00 PM	10:31 AM	04:53 PM
9/8/18	05:36 AM	06:59 PM	10:24 AM	04:25 PM	11/24/18	06:14 AM	03:59 PM	11:14 AM	05:02 AM
9/10/18	05:38 AM	06:55 PM	12:08 PM	05:54 AM	11/26/18	06:17 AM	03:58 PM	12:50 PM	06:37 AM
9/11/18	05:39 AM	06:53 PM	12:57 PM	06:43 AM	11/27/18	06:18 AM	03:58 PM	01:44 PM	07:30 AM
9/12/18	05:40 AM	06:52 PM	01:45 PM	07:31 AM	11/28/18	06:19 AM	03:57 PM	02:43 PM	08:28 AM
9/13/18	05:42 AM	06:50 PM	02:34 PM	08:19 AM	11/29/18	06:20 AM	03:57 PM	03:47 PM	09:32 AM
9/14/18	05:43 AM	06:48 PM	03:23 PM	09:08 AM	11/30/18	06:21 AM	03:56 PM	04:55 PM	10:40 AM
9/15/18	05:44 AM	06:46 PM	04:15 PM	09:59 AM	12/1/18	06:23 AM	03:56 PM	05:41 AM	11:49 AM
9/17/18	05:46 AM	06:42 PM	05:51 AM	11:50 AM	12/3/18	06:25 AM	03:55 PM	07:41 AM	01:58 PM
9/18/18	05:47 AM	06:40 PM	06:52 AM	12:50 PM	12/4/18	06:26 AM	03:55 PM	08:35 AM	02:53 PM
9/19/18	05:49 AM	06:38 PM	07:51 AM	01:49 PM	12/5/18	06:27 AM	03:55 PM	09:23 AM	03:44 PM
9/20/18	05:50 AM	06:36 PM	08:45 AM	02:43 PM	12/6/18	06:28 AM	03:54 PM	10:08 AM	04:30 PM
9/21/18	05:51 AM	06:35 PM	09:34 AM	03:32 PM	12/7/18	06:29 AM	03:54 PM	10:50 AM	05:13 PM
9/22/18	05:52 AM	06:33 PM	10:16 AM	04:15 PM	12/8/18	06:30 AM	03:54 PM	11:29 AM	05:18 AM
9/24/18	05:55 AM	06:29 PM	11:29 AM	05:19 AM	12/10/18	06:32 AM	03:54 PM	12:47 PM	06:38 AM
9/25/18	05:56 AM	06:27 PM	12:03 PM	05:52 AM	12/11/18	06:33 AM	03:54 PM	01:28 PM	07:19 AM
9/26/18	05:57 AM	06:25 PM	12:36 PM	06:25 AM	12/12/18	06:33 AM	03:54 PM	02:11 PM	08:01 AM
9/27/18	05:58 AM	06:23 PM	01:11 PM	07:00 AM	12/13/18	06:34 AM	03:54 PM	02:57 PM	08:47 AM
9/28/18	05:59 AM	06:21 PM	01:49 PM	07:38 AM	12/14/18	06:35 AM	03:55 PM	03:46 PM	09:36 AM
9/29/18	06:01 AM	06:19 PM	02:31 PM	08:19 AM	12/15/18	06:36 AM	03:55 PM	04:39 PM	10:29 AM
10/1/18	06:03 AM	06:16 PM	04:12 PM	09:57 AM	12/17/18	06:37 AM	03:55 PM	06:07 AM	12:21 PM
10/2/18	06:04 AM	06:14 PM	05:12 PM	10:55 AM	12/18/18	06:38 AM	03:56 PM	06:56 AM	01:15 PM
10/3/18	06:06 AM	06:12 PM	05:59 AM	12:00 PM	12/19/18	06:39 AM	03:56 PM	07:45 AM	02:06 PM
10/4/18	06:07 AM	06:10 PM	07:07 AM	01:08 PM	12/20/18	06:39 AM	03:57 PM	08:32 AM	02:55 PM
10/5/18	06:08 AM	06:08 PM	08:13 AM	02:15 PM	12/21/18	06:40 AM	03:57 PM	09:18 AM	03:43 PM
10/6/18	06:09 AM	06:06 PM	09:13 AM	03:18 PM	12/22/18	06:40 AM	03:58 PM	10:06 AM	04:32 PM
10/8/18	06:12 AM	06:03 PM	10:59 AM	05:08 PM	12/24/18	06:41 AM	03:59 PM	11:44 AM	05:30 AM
10/9/18	06:13 AM	06:01 PM	11:47 AM	05:33 AM	12/25/18	06:41 AM	03:59 PM	12:37 PM	06:22 AM
10/10/18	06:14 AM	05:59 PM	12:33 PM	06:19 AM	12/26/18	06:42 AM	04:00 PM	01:32 PM	07:17 AM
10/11/18	06:16 AM	05:57 PM	01:17 PM	07:05 AM	12/27/18	06:42 AM	04:01 PM	02:31 PM	08:16 AM
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10/16/18	06:22 AM	05:49 PM	05:14 AM	11:10 AM	1/1/19	06:43 AM	04:05 PM	07:20 AM	01:42 PM
10/17/18	06:23 AM	05:47 PM	06:12 AM	12:09 PM	1/2/19	06:43 AM	04:06 PM	08:14 AM	02:38 PM
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10/24/18	06:32 AM	05:36 PM	11:26 AM	05:14 AM	1/9/19	06:42 AM	04:13 PM	01:00 PM	06:50 AM
10/25/18	06:34 AM	05:34 PM	12:02 PM	05:50 AM	1/10/19	06:42 AM	04:14 PM	01:39 PM	07:29 AM
10/26/18	06:35 AM	05:32 PM	12:40 PM	06:29 AM	1/11/19	06:41 AM	04:15 PM	02:20 PM	08:10 AM
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11/12/18	05:58 AM	04:10 PM	01:59 PM	07:49 AM	1/28/19	06:29 AM	04:38 PM	05:23 PM	11:09 AM
11/13/18	06:00 AM	04:09 PM	02:47 PM	08:36 AM	1/29/19	06:28 AM	04:39 PM	05:51 AM	12:16 PM
11/14/18	06:01 AM	04:08 PM	03:38 PM	09:27 AM	1/30/19	06:27 AM	04:40 PM	06:52 AM	01:20 PM
11/15/18	06:02 AM	04:07 PM	04:33 PM	10:23 AM	1/31/19	06:26 AM	04:42 PM	07:50 AM	02:18 PM
11/16/18	06:04 AM	04:06 PM	05:20 AM	11:20 AM					

*Tide information listed is estimated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Although these are estimates, they are expected to be useful for planning purposes.
Tide Conversions: Tide information listed is for Portland. For Merrymeeting Bay (Richmond), add 2 hrs. 48 minutes for high tide; for Jonesport, subtract 23 minutes; for Bath, add 1 hr. 1 minute; for Rockland, subtract 16 minutes; for Waldoboro, subtract 16 minutes.
All times listed through October 31 are Eastern Daylight Time; after that date, they are Eastern Standard Time (for Bangor).

The following are general dates for the 2018-2019 season. Please reference the *Maine 2018-19 Summary of Hunting Laws*, available at mefishwildlife.com/huntinglaws.

2018-19 MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SPECIES AND AREA		SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Crows* Wildlife Management Districts 1 - 6		August 1, 2018	September 22, 2018	No Limit <i>Closed season on Ravens in all WMDs</i>	
		February 2, 2019	April 15, 2019		
		August 1, 2018	September 20, 2019		
Crows* Wildlife Management Districts 7 - 29		August 1, 2018	September 22, 2018		
		January 17, 2019	March 30, 2019		
		August 1, 2019	September 20, 2019		
Common Snipe**		September 1, 2018	December 15, 2018	8	24
Woodcock**		October 1, 2018	November 21, 2018	3	9
Rails (Sora And Virginia)***		September 1, 2018	November 9, 2018	25 <i>Singly or in aggregate</i>	25
Canada Goose (Early)	North Zone	September 1, 2018	September 25, 2018	6	18
	South Zone	September 1, 2018	September 25, 2018	10	30
	Coastal Zone	September 1, 2018	September 25, 2018	10	30
Canada Goose Regular <i>Including Greater White-Fronted Geese</i>	North Zone	October 1, 2018	December 8, 2018	2	6
	South Zone	October 1, 2018	October 13, 2018		
		November 1, 2018	December 26, 2018		
	Coastal Zone	October 1, 2018	October 13, 2018		
		November 12, 2018	January 5, 2019		
Snow Geese <i>Including Blue Geese</i>		October 1, 2018	January 31, 2019	25	No Limit
Sea Ducks <i>Scoter, Eider, and Long-Tailed Duck</i>		November 12, 2018	January 19, 2019	5 No more than 4 Scoters or 4 Eiders or 4 Long-Tailed Ducks singly or in aggregate	15 No more than 12 Scoters or 12 Eiders or 12 Long-Tailed Ducks singly or in aggregate
Regular Ducks <i>Including Black Ducks, Scaup, Pintails, Mergansers and American coots</i>	North Zone	September 24, 2018	December 1, 2018	6*	18*
	South Zone	October 1, 2018	October 13, 2018	No more than 4 of any one species	No more than 12 of any one species
		November 1, 2018	December 26, 2018		
	Coastal Zone	October 1, 2018	October 13, 2018	<i>Singly or in aggregate Exceptions to these limits listed below</i>	
		November 12, 2018	January 5, 2019		
Brant	North Zone	September 24, 2018	December 1, 2018	2	6
	South Zone	October 1, 2018	October 13, 2018		
		November 1, 2018	December 26, 2018		
	Coastal Zone	October 1, 2018	October 13, 2018		
		November 12, 2018	January 5, 2019		

All dates are inclusive except that hunting is prohibited on Sunday.

*Crows are neither migratory waterfowl or migratory game birds. The use of lead shot and the use of a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells is permitted. A migratory waterfowl stamp is not required. Use of electronic calls is permitted.

**Woodcock & Snipe are considered migratory game birds, not migratory waterfowl. The use of lead shot is permitted. The use of a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells is prohibited. A migratory waterfowl stamp is not required.

***Rails are considered migratory game birds not migratory waterfowl. The use of lead shot and a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells is prohibited. A migratory waterfowl stamp is not required.

2018-19 MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SPECIES AND AREA	SEASONS		LIMITS		
	FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION	
Special Falconry Season <i>In addition to the regular migratory bird season (on Ducks, Geese, Mergansers, American Coots.)</i>	North Zone	December 22, 2018	February 12, 2019	3	9
	South Zone	January 7, 2019	February 27, 2019	<i>Respectively, singly or in aggregate Species Restrictions Apply</i>	
	Coastal Zone	January 7, 2019	February 27, 2019		
Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts <i>All duck species except Harlequins, Barrow's Goldeneye, and Moorhens and Gallinules – may be hunted on these days, including geese. For the October 20, November 3, December 8 youth days, the goose limit is under the Regular Season limit. On September 15, September 22, October 20, November 3, December 8, scoters, eiders, and long-tailed ducks may be taken as part of the 6 bird daily limit on regular ducks. Also on these dates, 2 Black Ducks may be taken.</i>	North Zone	September 15, 2018 & December 8, 2018		<i>Special regulations apply to youth and accompanying adult. Please see Junior Hunters section.</i>	
	South Zone	September 22, 2018 & October 20, 2018			
	Coastal Zone	September 22, 2018 & November 3, 2018			

EXCEPTIONS

Harlequin Ducks, Barrow's Goldeneye, Moorhens & Gallinules

Closed Season

American Coots

It is unlawful to take more than 5 American Coots in any one day or possess more than 15 at any time

Mottled Ducks, Fulvous Whistling Ducks

The daily limit on these species is 1 bird; possession limit is 3.

Hen Mallards, Redheads, Black Ducks, Scaup, Canvasbacks, Northern Pintails

The daily limit on these species is 2 birds; possession limit is 6.

Mergansers

Hunters may take five mergansers in addition to the limits on other regular ducks (not in aggregate); however, only 2 may be hooded mergansers. It is unlawful to possess more than 15 mergansers at any time (only 6 of which may be hooded mergansers).

Sea Ducks

Within the Sea Duck Hunting Area defined below, hunters may take 5 sea ducks in addition to the limits on regular ducks (but not more than 4 scoters or 4 eiders or 4 long-tailed ducks).

Wood Ducks

It is unlawful to take more than 3 wood ducks in one day or to possess more than 9 wood ducks at any time.