# New York HUNTING &TRAPPING

2016–2017 Official Guide to Laws & Regulations

Volume 10, Issue No. 1, September 2016

## Want Older Bucks in NY? It's Your Choice!

Page 22

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY | Department of Environmental Conservation

**Remember to Report Your Game Harvest**

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Most regulations are in effect September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017

# Message from the Governor

## Hunting in New York – Safe, Enjoyable, Rewarding

The 2015 hunting season in New York proved to be one of the safest on record and yielded the first year without a hunting-related shooting fatality since the 1950s. I commend and thank all of you and our strong network of volunteer hunter education instructors for instilling a strong safety ethic with the hunters of New York. To further our hunter education efforts, we recently adopted new procedures where hunter education class participants must complete home study and homework prior to their class to better prepare themselves for the instructor-led training.

With this year's historic increase to the Environmental Protection Fund to $300 million, and ongoing investments in the New York Works program, we will continue our strong efforts to protect more land and promote increased access opportunities for public recreation. In the spring we completed the largest Adirondack land acquisition in the past 100 years with the purchase of the Boreas Ponds Tract. These lands will provide unparalleled opportunities for hunting, hiking, and wildlife observation. This past year we also added several parcels to New York's network of Wildlife Management Areas which are specifically managed for wildlife, their habitats, and wildlife-dependent recreation.

In addition to acquiring and opening up more land for wildlife recreation, we are also making great strides to improve management of this amazing areas. Following through on our commitment of enhanced habitat management on our public lands, DEC's Young Forest Initiative is leading to the creation of Habitat Management Plans for New York's Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). These plans provide the roadmap for management of all wildlife habitats which is essential to ensuring strong populations of popular game species. DEC staff have established an aggressive timeline for completion of these plans so we can quickly begin the necessary on-the-ground habitat management.

When you go afield this fall, you will find new, accessible trails, improved parking areas, recently-constructed observation blinds, and better-quality information at our access sites. Continuing with the NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative, this year's budget, coupled with the budgets from the two previous years, provides $17 million for projects to improve recreation access to state forests, wildlife areas and unique areas. More than 50 projects have been completed to date from Suffolk County on Long Island to St. Lawrence County in northern New York to Chautauqua County in the western part of the State.

The 2016-17 Hunting and Trapping Guide has a wealth of information about wildlife and wildlife management in New York. DEC staff go to great lengths to provide you with all the information you need to have a safe and enjoyable time outside. In addition to understanding and following the rules and regulations outlined within, I encourage you to read the updates and articles in this guide to keep apprised of the latest information and help us manage New York's outstanding natural resources.

I wish you all a safe and successful season with many enjoyable days spent afield with family and friends,

**Andrew M. Cuomo**
Governor, State of New York

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## State of New York


**Andrew M. Cuomo**, Governor

**NYS Department of Environmental Conservation**
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**How to contact us:**
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Game Management Section
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4754
Website: *www.dec.ny.gov*


**Division of Fish and Wildlife's Mission:**
The mission of DEC's Division of Fish and Wildlife is to serve the interests of current and future generations of New Yorkers by using our collective skills, in partnership with the public, to describe, understand, manage and perpetuate a healthy and diverse assemblage of fish, wildlife and ecosystems.

This guide is a summary that is intended for convenience only — for complete references, consult the New York State Environmental Conservation Law and Volume 6 of the Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York. These are available at:
*www.dec.ny.gov/regs/2494.html*
*www.assembly.state.ny.us/leg/* (Environmental Conservation Law)


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## Highlights of Changes for 2016–2017

### Revisions to Fisher Trapping Season

Regulations were recently adopted that will:

- Reduce the fisher trapping season from 46 days to 30 days in selected Adirondack Wildlife Management Units (WMUs);
- Establish a limited 6-day open trapping season (no bag limit) in selected WMUs in Central/Western New York to provide new opportunities for sustainable use of this natural resource;
- Require licensed trappers who pursue fisher to obtain a free permit from their regional wildlife office;

For more details, see information on page 52.

### Rifles in Albany and Livingston Counties

Legislation has passed that will allow the use of rifles to hunt big game in Albany County for two more years, and to allow rifles to hunt big game in Livingston County permanently.

### PENDING Updates to Deer and Bear Hunting Seasons

At the time of press, regulations are pending that would:

- Allow junior hunters to take bear as well as deer during the youth firearms hunt;
- Rescind an antlerless-only requirement established in 2015 during portions of the bow and muzzleloader season in some Wildlife Management Units (WMUs);
- Reduce the take of antlerless deer in WMUs 6F and 6J by allowing hunters to only take antlered deer during the early muzzleloader season;
- Clarify that bow/mz either-sex and antlerless-only deer tags may both be used during either bow or muzzleloader seasons by properly licensed hunters.

Check DEC's website for the latest regulation changes before heading afield this fall.

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* Attention Teachers *

For more information:
www.dec.ny.gov/education/81939.html
Melissa Bailey at 315-793-2515 or
Email mrb323@cornell.edu

### Attention Boaters!

**New regulations are now in effect for all DEC boat launch facilities. Before you launch your boat or leave a site, you are required to:**

**Clean all visible plant and animal material from your boat, trailer and associated equipment.**

**Drain your boat's bilge, livewell, baitwell, and other water-holding compartments.**

## About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation through its unique partnership with J.F. Griffin Publishing, LLC.

J.F. Griffin is an award winning publishing house that specializes in producing state fish & wildlife regulation books. J.F. Griffin supports the DEC's staff in the design, layout and editing of the guides. They also manage the marketing and sales of advertising to appropriate businesses within the book.

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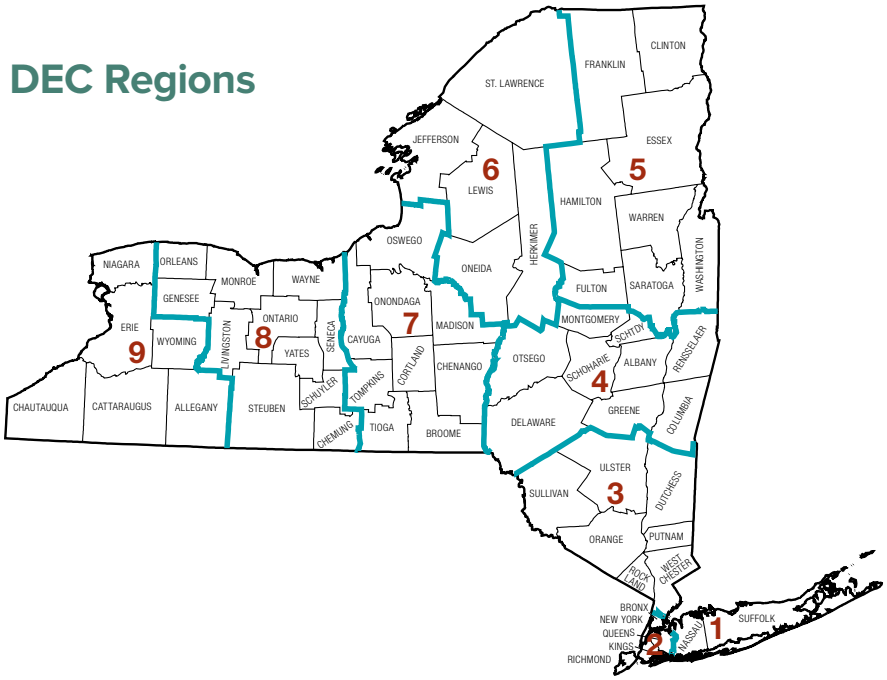
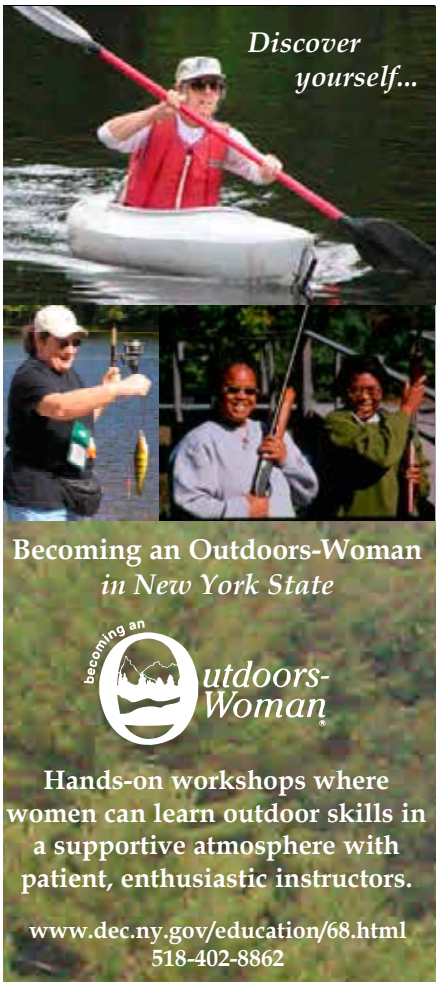
# Important Numbers

## DEC Regions




### Important Numbers

| Region | Offices | Wildlife | LawEnforcement | Sportsman Ed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Stony Brook University<br>50 Circle Rd.<br>Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409 | (631) 444-0310 | (631) 444-0250 | (631) 444-0255 |
| 2 | 1 Hunters Pt. Plaza<br>4740 21st St.<br>Long Island City, NY 11101-5407 | (718) 482-4922 | (718) 482-4885 | (631) 444-0255 |
| 3 | 21 South Putt Corners Rd.<br>New Paltz, NY 12561 | (845) 256-3098 | (845) 256-3013 | (845) 256-3063 |
| 4 | 1130 North Westcott Rd.<br>Schenectady, NY 12306-2014 | (518) 357-2355 | (518) 357-2047 | (518) 357-2355 |
| | 65561 State Hwy 10, Suite 1 Stamford, NY 12167-9503 | (607) 652-7367 | — | — |
| 5 | 1115 Route 86, PO Box 296<br>Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296 | (518) 897-1291 | (518) 897-1326 | — |
| | 232 Golf Course Rd.<br>Warrensburg, NY 12885 | (518) 623-1240 | — | (518) 623-1240 |
| 6 | 317 Washington St.<br>Watertown, NY 13601-3787 | (315) 785-2263 | (315) 785-2231 | (315) 785-2533 |
| | 225 North Main Street<br>Herkimer NY 13350 | (315) 866-6330 | — | — |
| | 6739 US Highway 11<br>Potsdam, NY 13676 | (315) 265-3090 | — | — |
| | 17893 Game Farm Rd.<br>Dexter, NY 13634 | (315) 639-6122 | — | — |
| 7 | 615 Erie Blvd. West<br>Syracuse, NY 13204-2400 | — | (315) 426-7431 | — |
| | 1285 Fisher Avenue<br>Cortland, NY 13045 | (607) 753-3095<br>ext. 247 | — | (607) 753-3095<br>ext. 242 or 247 |
| 8 | 6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd.<br>Avon, NY 14414-9519 | (585) 226-5380 | (585) 226-6706 | (585) 226-5463 |
| | 7291 Coon Rd.<br>Bath, NY 14810-9728 | (607) 776-2165 | — | — |
| 9 | 270 Michigan Ave.<br>Buffalo, NY 14203-2999 | (716) 851-7010 | (716) 851-7050 | — |
| | 182 East Union St., Suite 3<br>Allegany, NY 14706 | (716) 372-0645 | | (716) 372-0645 |

### Other Important Numbers

| | |
|---|---|
| DEC Automated Licensing System | 1-86-NY-DECALS<br>(1-866-933-2257)M–F,<br>8:30 AM–4:30 PM |
| NYC Watershed Hunting Permits | 1-800-575-5263 |
| Deer Management Hotline | 1-866-472-4332 |
| Report Game Take via DECALS | 1-866-GAME-RPT<br>(1-866-426-3778) |
| Report Poachers and Polluters Hotline | 1-844-DEC-ECOS<br>(1-844-332-3267) |
| Lifetime License Information | (518) 402-8843 |
| Sportsman Education | 1-888-HUNT ED2 |
| Reporting Banded Waterfowl | 1-800-327-2263<br>www.reportband.gov |
| Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) | 1-888-427-5447<br>www.NY-HIP.com |
| Information on NY SAFE Act | 1-855-LAW-GUNS |
| Law Enforcement (ECOs) | 1-877-457-5680 |

# The 10 Commandments of Firearm Safety

1. **Watch that muzzle!** Keep it pointed in a safe direction at all times.
2. **Treat every firearm with the respect due a loaded gun.** It might be loaded, even if you think it isn't.
3. **Be sure of your target and what is in front of it and beyond it.** Know the identifying features of the game you hunt. Make sure you have an adequate backstop—don't shoot at a flat, hard surface or water.
4. **Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot.** This is the best way to prevent an accidental discharge.
5. **Check your barrel and ammunition.** Make sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions, and carry only the proper ammunition for your firearm.
6. **Unload firearms when not in use.** Leave actions open, and carry firearms in cases and unloaded to and from the shooting area.
7. **Point a firearm only at something you intend to shoot.** Avoid all horseplay with a gun.
8. **Don't run, jump, or climb with a loaded firearm.** Unload a firearm before you climb a fence or tree, or jump a ditch. Pull a firearm toward you by the butt, not the muzzle.
9. **Store firearms and ammunition separately and safely.** Store each in a secured location beyond the reach of children and careless adults.
10. **Do not consume alcoholic beverages before or during shooting.** Also avoid mind- or behavior-altering medicines or drugs.

# Message from the Commissioner

**Enjoy Your Time Afield and Report Your Harvest**

Dear Fellow Conservationist:

As you venture afield this hunting season, take a few minutes to stop, look around, take a deep breath, and soak it all in. New York's natural resources abound, and we all know that hunting is not just about the hunt - it's about ritual, history, and the experience in the natural world.

Time spent outside in New York's fields, wetlands, and forests is time exceptionally well-spent. Fostering these traditions is at the heart of our conservation efforts in the state. Shared hunting experiences are some of the best ways to introduce a new generation of hunting enthusiasts to the sport, and I encourage you to take a friend, family member, neighbor, or acquaintance with you the next time you go hunting in the season ahead.

Whether you enjoy wildlife from the ground, a blind, tree stand, canoe, or kayak, DEC is working to make those experiences more enjoyable and accessible through sound wildlife management, habitat enhancement, and improved public access to our state lands and waters.

NY Works funding coupled with Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration funds are being used to enhance your access opportunities. We've recently completed several new projects including: new parking and trailhead on Saratoga State Forest; new parking area and road improvements at Saddles State Forest; accessible parking, trail and hunting blind at Upper and Lower Lakes Wildlife Management Area (WMA); and a new bridge over Bone Dry Creek at Allegheny Reservoir WMA. These are just a few examples of the many projects we completed in the last two years, and we have many more coming up in the year ahead!

Please visit DEC's website for information on where to go to enjoy New York's great outdoors: *http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/82098.html*.

As a hunter, one of the best ways you can assist in our management efforts is to ensure that you and any members of your hunting party report your harvest. All hunters who successfully take a deer, bear or turkey are required to report their harvest within seven days of taking the animal. DEC's dedicated and skilled staff use your harvest information to manage New York's wildlife populations. Hunters can also participate in DEC's grouse and woodcock hunting log, bow hunter sighting log, and summer turkey brood count programs. The more people we have contributing data, the easier it is for us to make accurate management decisions, so please remember to report your harvest.

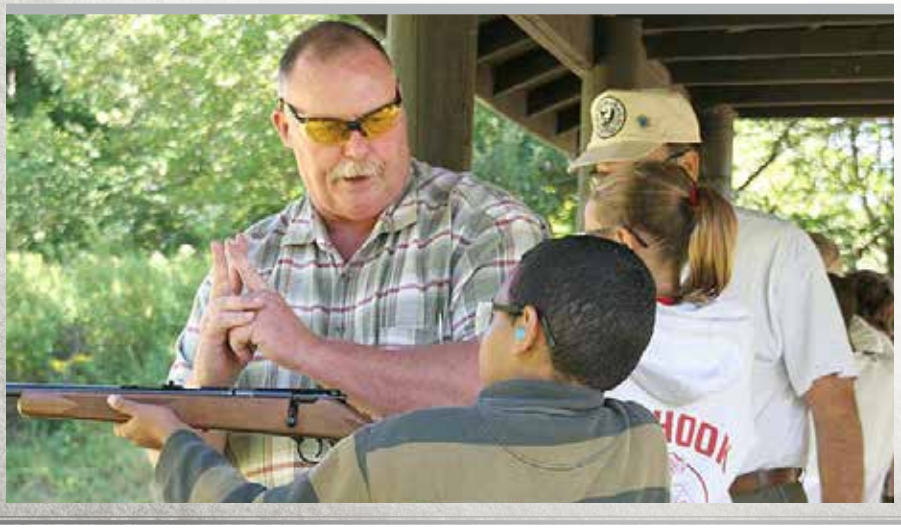
Best of luck to you in the upcoming season, and I hope to see you out and about enjoying the wilds of New York.

**Basil Seggos**
Commissioner
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation

# Sportsman Education Program... Aiming for the Future

Quite a bit has been going on behind the scenes with the DEC Sportsman Education Program this past year. In April of 2015, a peer review of our program was conducted by an outside team consisting of staff from the US Fish & Wildlife Service and other state wildlife agencies. We requested this review process to identify current strengths and weaknesses and ways to guide our program into the future to better meet the demands of today's sportsman education student.

One of the suggestions from the review was to simplify our menu of course types and delivery options. Our team of regional sportsman education coordinators explored this over the last few months and firmly believe that a combination of homework prior to the course followed by a field day with more hands-on training will better meet today's educational demand and at the same time maintain New York's outstanding safety record.



Beginning in 2016, the menu of course options for the instructor and the student was simplified. There are now four: Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, Trapper Education, and Waterfowl Hunter Education. All courses will now have mandatory homework, accessible either online or from provided manual/worksheet materials. Students are now required to review the same course materials and complete the same associated homework sheet prior to attending the classroom and field session, all to enhance their understanding of the subject material. Instructors will be accepting either options (voucher from a completed on-line homework or a completed homework worksheet) as an "entrance ticket" to the field day.

Access to the homework materials and acceptable on-line homework options can be found on the DEC website at: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7860.html* or follow the guidelines listed in the various course announcements when you register for a particular class. Actual course manuals and worksheets will be made available by DEC and sportsman education instructors.

Working within the philosophy of "*Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand*," several courses have been conducted around the state using the new requirements. Both the instructor and the student find it a more positive experience when taking a course. The student comes better prepared, asking more detailed questions, and the instructors are beginning to utilize more hands-on course work for the student.

# Crossbow Hunting Qualifications and Safety Information

Crossbows may be used by any person age 14 or older to hunt deer, bear, unprotected wildlife and **most** small game species except waterfowl and other migratory game birds. Crossbows may not be used to take carp or any other fish.

**Hunters who plan to hunt with a crossbow must have in their possession while afield either their completed Hunter Education Certificate of Qualification card dated on or after April 1, 2014 OR the completed Crossbow Certificate of Qualification located below.**

## Crossbow safety information

- Before shooting your crossbow, read and thoroughly understand your crossbow owner's manual.
- Make sure your fingers are well AWAY (below rail) from the path of the bow string and cables.
- Never dry-fire a crossbow (cock and fire without an arrow placed on the rail).
- Make sure the crossbow limbs are free of obstructions before shooting.
- Never carry a cocked crossbow with an arrow in it while walking.
- If hunting from a tree stand, always cock (but do not load) the crossbow on the ground before climbing into the stand.
- Once seated and secured in the tree stand, pull up your unloaded crossbow with a haul line.
- Do not place an arrow on the crossbow until you are safely secured in your stand.
- Never use a cocking device to uncock a crossbow.
- To uncock a crossbow, shoot an arrow tipped with a field point into the soft ground or a target.
- Always identify your target and the area beyond it before shooting.
- To prevent wounding game, practice often and do not take shots at game that are beyond your effective range, generally less than 30–40 yards, similar to a modern compound bow.
- To better understand how an arrow functions and the skill required for hunting with an arrow, DEC recommends all crossbow hunters take a bowhunter education course.

**Practice safely, practice often, and learn the capabilities and limitations of the crossbow and the arrow it shoots.**

## Suggested references to review

NYSDEC Crossbow Hunting Qualifications: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/98061.html*

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

**Crossbow Certificate of Qualification**

I certify that I have read and understand the safety recommendations, license requirements and legal specifications for crossbow use in New York.

_____

Print Name

_____

Signature

_____ _____

DEC ID# (this is your back-tag number) Date

Fill in, cut out, and carry afield with your hunting license while hunting with a crossbow.

# Access to Hunting Areas

For information about places to hunt in New York, go to *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7844.html*.

## Private Lands

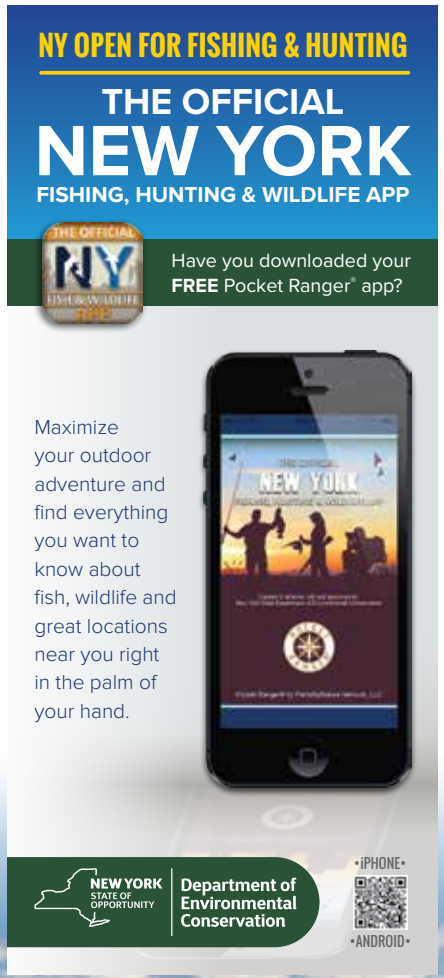
Always ASK the landowner permission to hunt on private land. If it were your land, how would you want a visitor to act?

- Be courteous — ASK permission well in advance.
- ASK what is permitted. What species can be hunted? Are tree stands allowed?
- ASK if friends can join you.
- Exercise safety—always!
- Thank the landowner.

Many landowners use "ASK permission" stickers (see page 16) on their signs which show the landowners' willingness to allow access to their lands. Stickers are available for free from your local regional wildlife office (see page 6) or from DEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754. For more information on hunting on private lands, visit our website: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7844.html.*

**Remember:** Damaging bark or cutting trees, branches or plants is illegal without permission of the landowner.

Rights of way that cross private property, such as for power lines and railroads, are NOT public land. Trespassing on these areas without permission from the landowner is illegal.



### FWMA cooperative areas

Through cooperative agreements under New York's Fish and Wildlife Management Act (FWMA), Cooperative Hunting Areas provide access and management services to privately owned lands in order to increase public hunting opportunities. When using these areas, remember that you are a guest on private property. Littering and other abuses will only result in closure of many excellent hunting areas.

### A word about liability

Whether or not the land is posted, New York State General Obligations Law protects landowners from liability for non-paying recreationists engaged in hunting, trapping and fishing on their property. Because of this protection, recreational liability lawsuits against rural landowners are uncommon. This protection does not apply in cases of willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against dangers.

## State Lands

For information on hunting and trapping opportunities and rules governing the use of state land, contact the regional office for the county where you would like to hunt or trap (see page 6). Wildlife staff can provide information on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Cooperative Hunting Areas. Forestry staff and NYS Forest Rangers can provide details on state forest lands and the forest preserve. In some instances, written permission or permits are required to use state areas. These are available from DEC regional offices during normal business hours.

### Motorized access to state lands

DEC has designated routes on state forests, wildlife management areas, and in the forest preserve for motor vehicle use by people with a qualifying mobility disability. The list of these opportunities, along with information on how to obtain a statewide permit for this purpose, is available by writing to the Regional Land Manager at DEC regional offices (see page 6) or *at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/2574.html.*

### Wildlife management areas

The Division of Fish and Wildlife manages about 187,000 acres of wildlife management areas. These areas are located throughout the state and contain a variety of different types of habitat and wildlife. They are managed primarily for wildlife and wildlife-related public use.

WMAs have specific use regulations in addition to the general use regulations for state land. Hunting, trapping, and fishing are permitted, except as specifically restricted by posted notice.

On wildlife management areas, it is unlawful to:

- Camp without written permission
- Travel off-road by use of motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, trail bikes, snowmobiles or any other motorized vehicle, except as specifically allowed by a permit or posted notice
- Remove, cut or willfully damage or destroy living vegetation of any kind
- Construct or place a permanent structure, blind, stand or platform (including placement of nails or other hardware into trees)
- Leave any personal property when leaving the area, including leaving tree stands overnight.
- Enter property posted with No Trespassing signs, except with written permission from DEC

### Lands and forests

The Division of Lands and Forests manages nearly 4,000,000 acres of land, located in almost every county of the state. From the remote locations of the Adirondack and Catskill mountains to the rolling hills of the western parts of the state and the forested areas on Long Island, a wide range of hunting and trapping opportunities await the outdoor recreationist.

### Forest preserve

Hunting and trapping are permitted in the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves. State-owned lands located within these preserves are designated "Forever Wild." All state land rules and camping requirements apply to the preserves, as well as additional rules specific to certain areas. Contact the regional DEC office (see page 6) or nearest NYS Forest Ranger for further information.

### Conservation easements

Conservation easements are tracts of privately owned property on which the State of New York has acquired certain public rights, which are outlined in the easement document as well as in a Recreation Management Plan jointly developed by the state and the landowner. Public hunting and trapping is allowed on many conservation

easements, but **due to the individual nature of each conservation easement, members of the public wishing to hunt or trap on a given easement property are strongly encouraged to contact a local DEC office** (see page 6) for details on how to properly access the property and the hunting and trapping regulations unique to the easement.

### State forest (reforestation land)

Outside the Adirondacks and Catskills, reforestation areas are the most common type of state lands. Many recreational activities can be pursued on reforestation areas, including hunting and trapping. Reforestation areas are marked with signs saying "State Forest."

In some instances, permits are required to camp overnight on undeveloped state forest lands. Unless specifically prohibited, groups of less than 10 people may camp on state forest lands (other than developed campgrounds and wildlife management areas) for three consecutive nights without a permit. To camp for four consecutive nights or more, a permit must be obtained. Groups of 10 or more people need a permit to camp on such lands for one night. Further information may be obtained from DEC regional offices for the county you want to camp in or from local NYS Forest Rangers (see page 6).

**Remember, it is unlawful to:**

- Cut or injure trees (including construction of permanent tree stands, construction of natural blinds, clearing of shooting lanes around portable stands, placement of nails or other hardware into trees, or use of live trees as targets while sighting-in firearms).
- Tree stands or hunting blinds that do not injure a tree, are properly marked or tagged with the owner's name and address or valid hunting license number may be placed during the appropriate hunting season, but must be removed within 30 days of the end of the season.
- Erect, use or maintain a building or structure.
- Store personal property.
- Deposit or leave any litter or rubbish.
- Operate a motor vehicle, including an all-terrain vehicle, off maintained roads except where specifically allowed.
- Camp without a permit when a permit is required.

## State Parks

Many State Parks offer waterfowl, small game and big game hunting. For more information, contact the appropriate DEC regional office or visit the State Parks website (*http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/*). Call each state park to find out specific hunting and access regulations. For a listing of State Parks that allow deer hunting, visit the DEC website: *http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7844.html*

## Other Areas to Hunt

- **Whitney Point Reservoir Recreation Area (federal):** Located on State Route 26 several miles north of the Village of Whitney Point in Broome and Cortland counties. Offers big and small game hunting opportunities. No special hunting permits are needed.
- **Moose River Plains Wild Forest (state):** Located in Hamilton County. Hunting and trapping opportunities in a 64,500-acre wilderness setting. Register at the gates. Over 100 drive-in primitive camping sites. Extensive seasonal road network.
- **Finger Lakes National Forest (federal):** Located east of Seneca Lake in Schuyler and Seneca counties. Small and big game hunting opportunities. No special hunting permits are needed.
- **Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (federal):** Located at the north end of Cayuga Lake in Seneca County. Offers big game and waterfowl hunting opportunities. This area is also open for deer hunting on a controlled basis during both the bowhunting and regular seasons. Permits are required. When deer management permit use is allowed, WMU 8J permits are valid. For current information on seasons, permits, maps and regulations, write:
  » Refuge Manager
  Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge
  3395 Route 5/20 East
  Seneca Falls, NY 13148
  Telephone (315) 568-5987
- **Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge (federal):** Located east of Lockport in Genesee and Orleans counties. Offers small game and waterfowl hunting opportunities. This area is also open for deer hunting during both the bowhunting and regular seasons. Detailed information available from:
  » Refuge Manager
  Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge
  1101 Casey Road
  Basom, NY 14013
  Telephone (585) 948-5445
- **Long Island:** For a brochure on areas to hunt and for access permits, write to
  » Hunting Opportunities, NYS DEC
  SUNY Stony Brook
  50 Circle Rd.
  Stony Brook, NY 11790-3404
- **Fort Drum Military Installation (federal):** Wildlife Management Unit 6H, located in Jefferson and Lewis counties. Over half of the 107,000-acre installation is open to the public for hunting and trapping. See the Fort Drum Fish and Wildlife Management Program website for more information: *www.FortDrum.iSportsman.net* (search for "wildlife") or call (315) 772-9636.
- **New York City Watershed Lands:** The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) allows trapping, as well as deer, bear, turkey, and small game hunting on specially designated city water supply lands. Hunters and trappers must possess the appropriate, valid New York State sporting license and a valid access permit to hunt or trap on designated hunting and trapping areas on city water supply lands. For more information, including maps, go to *http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/recreation/hunting_and_trapping.shtml*.

## DEC Public Campgrounds

Camping is sometimes available during the big game season. Reservations for DEC campgrounds can be made by calling 1-800-456-CAMP or online at *reserveamerica.com*.

## Licensed Guides

For information on licensed professional guides in New York, contact NYS DEC, 625 Broadway, NY 12233-2560 or phone (518) 402-8838.

**Remember**: It is a crime to possess a rifle, shotgun or firearm in or upon buildings or grounds used for educational purposes (see Penal Law Section 265.01-a).

### Native American Tribal Lands

**Some tribal governments have made provisions for limited public hunting, trapping, fishing and snagging access, while others do not permit non-tribal members to hunt, trap, fish or snag on their land. Check with the governing tribal office to determine the requirements for hunting, trapping, fishing and snagging within the reservation boundaries. A special permit is required.**

**Use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-road vehicles (ORVs) is restricted on most state land.**

## Mandatory Hunter Education

A hunter education course is required for persons who cannot provide proof that they have ever possessed a hunting license. You must be at least 11 years of age to take this class. The general course is a minimum seven hours in length. Once the course is complete, the individual must have the completed education certificate added to their sportsman profile. This can be done anywhere licenses are sold or by calling 1-866-933-2257. DEC honors hunter education certificates and sporting licenses from all other states and countries.

## Mandatory Bowhunter Education

Hunters wishing to bowhunt for big game must present either:

1. Proof that he or she successfully completed an approved bowhunter education course; (Note: Approved courses are International Bowhunter Education Program Courses or an equivalent course. If in doubt, call toll free — 1-888-HUNT-ED2) OR
2. Proof that he or she previously held a NYS bowhunting license or stamp issued in 1980 or later; if proof is from prior to 1980, he/she must take an additional 7-hour minimum bowhunter education course.

## Mandatory Crossbow Requirement

Hunters wishing to use a crossbow must complete qualifications in the safe use of hunting with a crossbow and responsible crossbow hunting practices. See page 9 for details.

## Residency

To qualify for a resident license, a person must live in New York State for more than 30 days immediately preceding the date of application. Land ownership in New York does not make you a resident. Residency is that place where a person maintains a fixed, permanent and principal home (regardless of where temporarily located), such as where a person is registered to vote. If under 18, the residence of parents or legal guardian shall be deemed such person's residence.

Active members of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in New York and full-time college students in residence in the state during the school year (proof required) qualify for annual resident licenses.

*Continued on page 14*

### Licenses, Privileges and Permits

| Type | Age or Special Qualifier | Price |
|---|---|---|
| Hunting (Ages 16+)<br>Privileges: Hunt small game species with gun, bow or crossbow (see page 9). Hunt deer or bear with gun, muzzleloader, bow (with proof of bow education or a bow privilege), or crossbow (see page 9) during the regular season, or hunt with shotgun or muzzleloader during the January firearms season (permit required — see page 18) in Suffolk County (WMU 1C). You may hunt frogs with a valid Hunting or Fishing license.<br>Qualifications: Hunter Education Certificate OR previous hunting license. Certificates to possess firearms do not qualify.<br>Note: Those less than 18 years of age who are hunting big game for the first time as a holder of a hunting license must be accompanied for the entire season by a parent or legal guardian, or a person 18 years of age or older designated in writing (see permission form on page 37) with at least one year's experience hunting bear or deer. Accompanist must have a current hunting license and meet all requirements as specified on page 37. | 16–69 (NYS Resident) | $22 |
| | 70+ (NYS Resident) | $5 |
| | Military Disabled[1] | $5 |
| | Patriot[2] | FREE |
| | Native American[3] | FREE |
| | 16+ (Non-Resident) | $100 |
| Junior Hunting (Ages 12–15) | 12–15 (NYS Resident) | $5 |
| | 12–15 (Non-Resident) | $5 |
| Privileges:<br>• Ages 12–13: Hunt small game species with gun or bow during appropriate seasons when accompanied* by a parent, legal guardian, or person 21 years of age or older with written permission from parent or guardian (see permission form on page 37).<br>• Ages 14–15: Hunt small game with gun, bow, or crossbow (see page 9) when accompanied* by a parent, legal guardian or person 18 years of age or older with written permission from parent/guardian. Hunt deer or bear with a gun, bow (with proof of bow education or a bow privilege) or crossbow (see page 9) when accompanied* by a parent, legal guardian or "youth mentor" 21 years of age or older designated in writing (see permission form on page 37).<br>* Accompanist must have a current hunting license and meet all requirements as specified on page 37.<br>Qualifications: Hunter Education Certificate OR previous hunting license (certificates to possess firearms do not qualify). Must be accompanied by parent/legal guardian to purchase. First-time applicants must show proof of age (birth certificate or passport). Junior hunters do not need a Federal Duck Stamp but are required to register in NY's Harvest Information Program (www.NY-HIP.com) to hunt migratory game birds. | | |
| Bowhunting Privilege (Ages 16+)<br>Privileges: Hunt deer and bear with a bow during bowhunting seasons.<br>Qualifications: Current year NYS hunting license, PLUS acceptable Bowhunter Education Certificate, OR NYS Bowhunting Stamp issued in 1980 or later, OR NYS Junior Bowhunting License issued 1980 or later.<br>Note: To hunt deer or bear with a bow during the regular season, hunter must possess both a valid hunting license and either a current bowhunting privilege or a valid Bowhunter Education Certificate. This includes Westchester and Suffolk counties. | 16–69 (NYS Resident) | $15 |
| | 70+ (NYS Resident) | FREE |
| | Military Disabled[1] | FREE |
| | Patriot[2] | $15 |
| | Native American[3] | FREE |
| | 16+ (Non-Resident) | $30 |

## Licenses, Privileges and Permits

| Type | Age or Special Qualifier | Price |
|---|---|---|
| Junior Bowhunting (Ages 12–15) | 12–15 (NYS Resident) | $4 |
| | 12–15 (Non-Resident) | $4 |
| Privileges:<br>• Ages 12–13: Hunt deer and bear with a bow during the bowhunting season or the regular season when accompanied* by a parent, legal guardian, or a "youth mentor" 21 years or older and designated in writing (see permission form on page 37).<br>• Ages 14–15: Hunt deer and bear with a bow during the bowhunting season and the regular season when accompanied* by a parent, legal guardian or "youth mentor" 18 years of age or older designated in writing (see permission form on page 37). Youth hunter will receive a deer of either sex tag for use in the regular season, instead of a Regular season buck tag.<br>* Accompanist must have a current hunting license and meet all requirements as specified on page 36 & 37.<br>Qualifications: Current year NYS hunting license, PLUS acceptable Bowhunter Education OR previous Junior Bowhunting License. Must be accompanied by parent/legal guardian to purchase. | | |
| Muzzleloader Privilege (Ages 14+)<br>Privileges: Hunt deer and bear with a muzzleloading firearm during muzzleloading season, and the January special firearms season in Suffolk County (WMU 1C). Hunt deer and bear with a crossbow (see page 9).<br>Qualifications: You must possess a current year NYS hunting license. | 14–69 (NYS Resident) | $15 |
| | 70+ (NYS Resident) | FREE |
| | Military Disabled[1] | FREE |
| | Patriot[2] | $15 |
| | Native American[3] | FREE |
| | 14+ (Non-Resident) | $30 |
| Deer Management Permit Application (Ages 12+)<br>Privileges: Application for up to two antlerless deer tags issued through a random computer selection process. Tags are valid for hunting antlerless deer only (both antlers less than 3" long) in a specified Wildlife Management Unit. See DMP information on pages 28–29. Application deadline is October 1 annually.<br>Qualifications: Must hold a current year NYS hunting license to apply and pay a non-refundable $10 application fee. Fee is waived for hunters 12–15 years of age and holders of Lifetime (Sportsman) Licenses purchased prior to October 1, 2009. | 12–15 (NYS Resident) | FREE |
| | 16+ (NYS Resident) | $10 |
| | Military Disabled[1] | $10 |
| | Patriot[2] | $10 |
| | Native American[3] | $10 |
| | 12–15 (Non-Resident) | FREE |
| | 16+ (Non-Resident) | $10 |
| Turkey Permit (Ages 12+)<br>Privileges: Hunt turkey during fall and spring turkey seasons (see page 46). To hunt turkey, all hunters must possess a turkey permit. There are no exceptions.<br>Qualifications: Current year NYS hunting license. Turkey tags are included with a Lifetime License (formerly Lifetime Sportsman). | 12+ (NYS Resident) | $10 |
| | Military Disabled[1] | $10 |
| | Patriot[2] | $10 |
| | Native American[3] | $10 |
| | 12+ (Non-Resident) | $20 |
| Trapping<br>Privileges: Set traps for species during their appropriate seasons (see page 54 for detailed information).<br>Qualifications: Trapper Education Certificate or previous trapping license. See page 37 for additional information on the mentoring program for trappers under 12 years of age. | 12–15 (NYS Resident) | $5 |
| | 16–69 (NYS Resident) | $20 |
| | 70+ (NYS Resident) | $5 |
| | Military Disabled[1] | $5 |
| | Patriot[2] | FREE |
| | Native American[3] | FREE |
| | 12–15 (Non-Resident) | $5 |
| | 16+ (Non-Resident) | $275 |

Residency: To receive NYS resident pricing on annual licenses, a person must live in New York State for more than 30 days immediately preceding the date of application. Proof is required (e.g., NYS Driver License, NYS Non-Driver ID, Voter Registration card. Proof must contain a valid NYS address). Land ownership alone does not qualify. Residency is that place where a person maintains a fixed, permanent and principal home, such as where a person is registered to vote. If less than 18 years of age, the residence of parent or legal guardian shall be deemed such person's residence. Active members of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in New York and full-time college students in residence in the state during the school year (proof required) qualify for annual resident licenses.

[1] Military Disabled: Permanent status — must provide a letter from the Department of Veterans' Affairs stating the disability is "permanent" and rated at a 40% or greater service-connected disability. Once permanent eligibility is determined, it will stay in your customer profile. Annual Status — must provide a letter ANNUALLY from the Department of Veterans' Affairs stating the disability is service connected and rated at 40% or more. The letter must be dated in the current year. Note: The first purchase of either a Hunting, Fishing or Trapping license within a calendar year will cost $5. Subsequent purchases of these license types will be free for qualifying customers.

[2] Patriot: Free hunting, fishing and trapping licenses are available to NYS residents who have the appropriate hunting or trapping education and are active members of the NYS National Guard, US Reserve Forces or certain members of the US Armed Forces. For more detailed information, visit our website or call (518) 402-8843.

[3] Native American: Free hunting, fishing and trapping licenses are available to members of the Shinnecock and Poospatuck tribes and members of the Six Nations residing on reservations whole or partially in New York State. Licenses must be obtained from participating tribal councils or DEC headquarters in Albany (518) 402-8843.

## Lifetime Sporting Licenses

The following Lifetime Licenses are available to New York State residents only and may be purchased at all license-issuing outlets throughout New York State. Applicants must prove NYS residency for one year prior to application (proofs are the same as annual licenses with the exception of the one-year requirement). For additional information and clarification on Lifetime License sales, contact our License Sales Unit, NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4790, call 518-402-8843, or visit our website www.dec.ny.gov. Lifetime License Holders should expect to receive their annual carcass tags in the mail by no later than Sept. 15 annually. License Issuing Agents will replace it free of charge until Nov. 1 annually. After Nov. 1, there will be a charge up to $15. If you hold your permanent ID card, you will only have to replace your carcass tags at a fee of $10.

| Lifetime License (Sportsman) (combined hunting and fishing privileges, also includes turkey permits): | |
|---|---|
| For a person age 0–4 | $380 |
| For a person age 5–11 | $535 |
| For a person age 12–69 | $765 |
| For a person age 70 or older | $65 |
| **Other Lifetime Licenses/Privileges** | |
| Hunting License | $535 |
| Fishing License (age 0–69) | $460 |
| Fishing License (age 70 and older) | $65 |
| Trapping License | $395 |
| Bowhunting | $235 |
| Muzzleloading | $235 |

## Lifetime Licenses and Tags for Young Hunters

**Young hunters who hold a lifetime hunting license and wish to receive their tags must first take the appropriate hunter safety training course. A copy of the certificate(s) must be sent to the DEC License Sales Unit (see address above) before their tags can be fulfilled. Young hunters should take the appropriate training course well in advance of the season to allow adequate time for their tags to be mailed. Tags cannot be obtained by contacting your local license-issuing agent.**

**When purchasing a lifetime license for a child, the purchaser must bring proof of the child's age (e.g., birth certificate or passport) and a copy of the parent's proof of residency.**

## Remember to Report Your Game Harvest...

**Visit *http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8316.html* for details.**

**It's the law!**

**See page 17.**

# General License Information

## Minimum Hunting Age

Minors under the age of 12 may not obtain a hunting license or hunt wildlife.

## License Year

Licenses and permits are valid from September 1 through August 31.

## License Responsibilities

- A license or tag is not transferable and may be used only by the person to whom issued (except for Deer Management Permits—see page 30–31).
- It is not legal to possess another person's license while hunting.
- A license to hunt, trap or fish does not give the holder any right to go on private property without permission of the landowner.
- You can legally purchase and possess only one hunting license per year.
- Your license must be carried on your person when hunting or trapping.
- It is illegal to refuse to show your license on demand to a law enforcement officer or the owner, lessee or person in control of the lands (or their designees) while on their property.
- Make sure that your license has all the correct information. Carefully check it immediately after receipt. If you discover an error, have it corrected as soon as possible.
- Do NOT heat laminate your license. High temperatures will destroy the tags and turn them black. If tags are destroyed, there is a fee for replacement.

## Back Tags

Must be visibly displayed on the middle of your back while hunting, except in the Northern Zone and Catskill Park.

| Stamps / Donations | | |
|---|---|---|
| Type | Age or Special Qualifier | Price |
| Habitat & Access Stamp<br>Donations are used to create or improve fish and wildlife habitat or improve access to those resources for recreation or educational activities. | Any | $5 |
| Venison Donation<br>Help feed the hungry by supporting NY's venison donation program. | Any | $1 or more |
| Federal Duck Stamp<br>Available at most post offices and some sporting goods stores. | 16+ | $25 |
| Privileges: Hunt migratory waterfowl. It is not needed for gallinules, coot, crows, rails, woodcock or snipe. All migratory game bird hunters, including junior hunters, must register with the Harvest Information Program by calling toll free 1-888-427-5447 or registering online at: www.NY-HIP.com<br>Qualifications: Validated by holder's signature on the face of the stamp. Hunter must also possess a current year NYS hunting license. | | |

## Hunting License Exceptions

All residents must have a valid hunting license in their possession except:

- Resident owners primarily engaged in farming, lessees and members of their immediate families do not need a hunting license when hunting small game on farm lands they are occupying and cultivating.
- Native Americans living on a reservation do not need a hunting license while hunting on reservation lands.

## Free Licenses/ Patriot Licenses

Free hunting, fishing and trapping licenses are available to members of the Shinnecock and Poospatuck tribes and members of the Six Nations residing on reservations in the state. They must be obtained from some tribal councils or DEC headquarters in Albany (518) 402-8843.

Free hunting, fishing and trapping licenses are also available to NYS residents who have the appropriate Sportsman Education and are active service members of the NYS Guard, US Reserve Forces or certain members of the US Armed Forces. For more detailed information, visit our website or call (518) 402-8843.

## Lost Licenses

A current year lost license may be replaced at any license-issuing outlet at a cost of $5 for a license panel. Big game carcass tag sets or turkey carcass tag sets may be replaced at a cost of $10. There is no charge to replace a lost backtag.

## Deer Hunting Privileges and Tags

### Resident hunter licenses

3. **Hunting:** You will receive a Regular Season Deer Tag.
4. **Muzzleloading privilege:*** You will receive a Bow/Mz Season Either Sex Tag.
5. **Junior bowhunting or bowhunting privilege:*** You will receive a Bow/Mz Season Either Sex Tag.

### Non-resident hunters

1. **Non-resident hunting:** You will receive a Regular Season Deer Tag.
2. **Non-resident bowhunting or non-resident junior bowhunting:*** You will receive a Bow/Mz Season Either Sex Tag.
3. **Non-resident muzzleloading:*** You will receive a Bow/Mz Season Either Sex Tag.

* Residents and Non-residents must purchase a hunting license to be eligible for Bowhunting and Muzzleloading privileges. **If you purchase both bowhunting and muzzleloading privileges, you will receive one Bow/Mz Either Sex Deer Tag and one Bow/Mz Antlerless Deer Tag.** Both tags may be used in either season.

## Special Licenses for Hunters with Disabilities

### Non-ambulatory hunter permit

This permit allows qualified hunters to shoot a firearm from a motorized vehicle (including an off-road vehicle) that has the motor turned off and that is completely off the highway right-of-way.

To qualify for a Non-Ambulatory Hunter Permit, a person must be physically unable to move about except with the use of a mechanized aid such as a wheelchair.

### Modified archer permit

This permit allows qualified people to hunt big or small game with a legal bow that is equipped with a device to hold it in a drawn and cocked position. This permit does not allow the use of a crossbow.

**Please remember that safe storage of rifles, shotguns and other firearms is good practice. New York law states that for increased safety, firearms must be stored unloaded and locked where they are both separate from ammunition and inaccessible to children and any other unauthorized person.**

**Visit ProjectChildSafe.org for more information on how to ensure that your firearms are being stored safely.**

OWN IT?
RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.®
ProjectChildSafe.org

To qualify for a Modified Archer Permit, a person must be permanently physically unable to draw and hold a legal bow.

## Modified Crossbow Permit

This permit allows qualified people to hunt big or small game during bowhunting season with a crossbow that has been specifically modified with a device that only allows it to be discharged (fired) by means of a breath tube. This permit does not allow the use of an unmodified crossbow.

To qualify for a Modified Crossbow Permit, a person must be permanently physically unable to hold or draw a legal bow or to fire a legal bow that has been modified to hold and release the string.

If a person can pull the trigger on a gun, he or she will not qualify for a Modified Crossbow Permit.

For more information on these permits, write the NYS DEC Special Licenses Unit, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4752, email *speciallicenses@dec.ny.gov* or call (518) 402-8985. The application process takes time; write or call well before you intend to hunt.

Feral Swine Cause Damage!

Manage the Damage
Stop Feral Swine

Feral Swine damage agriculture, natural resources, property, people, and cultural sites.

**For more information:**
Call 1-866-4-USDA-WS or
Your state wildlife agency

USDA

## Sportsman Education

**All first-time hunters, bowhunters and trappers must pass one or more courses before they can purchase a license in New York. Trained volunteer instructors certified by DEC teach safe and responsible outdoor practices and the important role of hunters and trappers in conservation.**

**Beginning in 2016, all Sportsman Education Courses require the completion of homework prior to attending the course. Proof of the completed homework must be brought to the course led by an instructor. The homework may take several hours to complete, so one should not begin the work the night before the course.**

**There are a few simple ways to obtain the study materials to complete the homework requirement:**

- **Download the free manual and worksheet OR**
- **Obtain the manual and worksheet through the guidelines of the course announcement OR**
- **Complete the online homework (fee) and print the voucher to bring to the course.**

**Visit *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7860.html* for more information on materials, including a list of courses.**

**There are NO "online-only" courses. All courses have an in-person field day. All courses are free of charge, but space may be limited. As hunting seasons approach, many classes fill quickly. SIGN UP EARLY!**


# New York State Conservation Council, Inc.

*A non-profit organization tax exempt under IRS Section 501(c)(3)*

The New York State Conservation Council (NYSCC) is sportsmen working for sportsmen. The NYSCC is the oldest statewide conservation organization in New York, started in 1933 by sportsmen/conservationists to help secure and manage our natural resources for future generations, and to protect the rights of sportsmen and sportswomen to hunt, fish, trap, and own firearms. The NYSCC represents over 300,000 sportsmen and women from county federations, sportsmen's clubs, and various other organizations across New York. Sportsmen's interests in conservation and outdoor activities in New York State are coordinated through the NYSCC. NYSCC was the lead organization in the successful change of EnCon Law to allow 14–15 year olds to hunt big game with a rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader, allow 12–13 year olds to hunt small game with a mentor and create a trapper mentor program for youth under 12. The NYSCC sponsors a nationwide Sportsmen's and Conservation Club Liability Insurance Program that offers extremely competitive rates for NYSCC member clubs and shooting preserves. The plan is administered through the United Insurance Agency, Inc.
For information about the Club Liability Insurance Program contact John Long, Jr. or Colleen Jackson at 1-800-728-4522.

For info, membership, or to donate to the NYSCC, contact **315-894-3302**, or email **nyscc@nyscc.com**. Visit our website: **www.nyscc.com**

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Enclose check or money order payable to NYSCC or Charge $ to my (*circle one*) Visa or MasterCard
Account # _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____
Check one: Guardian $25 ___ Defender $60 ___ Life $250 ___ ***Send application to NYSCC, 8 East Main Street, Ilion NY 13357.***

# General Hunting Regulations

The following are general hunting regulations. Specific regulations for various game species are in the Small Game, Big Game and Trapping sections of this booklet.

## Definitions

**Air gun**—a firearm that uses spring or compressed air (not gunpowder) to propel a single projectile that is .17 caliber or larger and produces a muzzle velocity of at least 600 feet per second. You may use a smooth or rifled bore.

**Bow**—includes long (stick), compound, or recurve bow.

**Crossbow**—consists of a bow, a string, and either compound or recurve limbs with minimum width of 17 inches (tip of limbs, uncocked), mounted on a stock. The stock shall have a trigger with a working safety that holds the string and limbs under tension until released. It shall have a minimum overall length from the butt of the stock to the front of the limbs of 24 inches and be able to launch a minimum 14-inch arrow/bolt, not including the legal arrowhead. It shall have a draw weight of 100 to 200 pounds. Optical sights are allowed on crossbows.

**Firearm**—all guns, including handguns, rifles, shotguns, muzzleloaders and BB and pellet guns.

**Handgun**—is any pistol or revolver intended to be aimed and fired with one hand and having a barrel length not exceeding 16 inches.

**To hunt**—means to pursue, shoot, kill or capture (other than trap) wildlife and includes all lesser acts that disturb or worry wildlife, whether or not they result in taking. Hunting also includes all acts to assist another person in taking wildlife.

**Motor vehicle**—means every vehicle or device operated by any power other than muscle power including but not limited to automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, tractors, trailers, motorboats, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, whether operated on or off public highways.

**Muzzleloading firearm**—is a firearm loaded through the muzzle, shooting a single projectile and having a minimum bore of .44 inch.

### ASK Permission

**"ASK Permission" stickers, a brochure explaining the program, Landowner Permission forms, and information about fish and wildlife conservation are available free from DEC regional wildlife offices or by writing:**

**NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754**

**OR ONLINE at *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8371.html***

**Public highway**—means any road maintained by a state, county or town. A private road is one maintained by a person or corporation.

**Rifle**—is a firearm with a barrel length of 16 inches or more with rifling in the barrel that uses metallic cartridges.

**Shotgun**—is a firearm with a barrel length of 18 inches or more that uses shells that are nonmetallic except for the base.

**To take**—means to pursue, shoot, hunt, kill, capture, trap, snare or net wildlife and game—and all lesser acts that disturb or worry wildlife—or to place or use any net or other device commonly used to take wildlife.

**To trap**—means to take, kill or capture wildlife with traps, deadfalls and other devices commonly used to take wildlife, including the shooting or killing of lawfully trapped animals. It also includes all related activities such as placing, setting, staking or checking traps or assisting another person with these activities.

## Manner of Taking

It is illegal to take or hunt wildlife:

- While in or on a motor vehicle (except by special permit—see page 14)
- With the aid of a vehicle's lights
- On or from any public road
- With any firearm equipped with a silencer
- With any firearm which continues to fire as long as the trigger is held back (an automatic firearm)
- With any semi-automatic firearm with a capacity to hold more than 6 rounds, **except**:
  1. Firearms using .22 or .17 caliber rimfire ammunition, or
  2. Firearms altered to reduce their capacity to no more than 6 shells at one time in the magazine and chamber combined, or
  3. Autoloading pistols with a barrel length of less than eight inches
- With a spear
- With a bow equipped with any mechanical device which is attached to the bow (other than the bowstring) for drawing, holding or releasing the bowstring except for a person with a physical disability in possession of a Modified Longbow Authorization (compound bows are legal)
- With a spear gun or modified crossbow except for a person with a physical disability in possession of a Modified Crossbow Permit
- With an arrow with an explosive head or shaft.
- With any device designed or intended to deliver drugs to an animal
- With a crossbow if you are under 14 years old

**Baiting**—It is illegal to hunt with the aid of bait or over any baited area when hunting big game, upland game birds, turkey or waterfowl.

**Fish**—Crossbows may not be used to take carp or any other fish.

**Artificial lights**—It is illegal to hunt deer or bear with the aid of any artificial light including laser sights.

## Spotlighting

You may use lights to observe wildlife under the following conditions:

- You are not within 500 feet of a home or farm building, unless you have permission from the owner or lessee (when looking for deer or bear)
- While in or on a motor vehicle and operating a light and no person has a firearm, bow, or crossbow unless:
  - » the implement is taken down, or
  - » the implement is securely fastened in a case, or
  - » the implement is locked in the trunk of the vehicle, or
  - » the implement is a handgun

For information on hunting furbearers at night, see page 53.

## Possession of Firearms and Crossbows

During the open season for deer, it is illegal to:

- Possess shotgun shells loaded with slug or ball, unless holding a valid license (including carcass tags) or permit to take deer or bear, or
- Possess a rifle larger than a .22-caliber rimfire in areas where rifles are banned for taking deer **(Centerfire rifles less than .22-caliber and muzzleloading rifles are legal)**

In Westchester County and on Long Island, it is illegal to use any rifle for hunting or to carry one afield. In Suffolk, Nassau and Westchester counties, it is illegal to use a crossbow to hunt wildlife.

In the Northern Zone, it is illegal to carry a rifle larger than . 22 rimfire or a shotgun loaded with slug, ball or buckshot afield if accompanied by a dog, except when coyote hunting.

Possession of handguns in New York requires a NYS Pistol Permit. New York does not recognize permits issued by other states.

## Transportation of Firearms

A person may not transport or possess a shotgun, rifle or crossbow in or on a **motor vehicle** unless the firearm is unloaded in both chamber and magazine or the crossbow is unloaded or taken down. While legally hunting migratory game birds, a loaded firearm may be possessed in a motorboat not under power OR in a motorboat under power only while retrieving dead/crippled birds.

A muzzleloader is considered unloaded when the cap is off the nipple, the primer is removed, the primer powder is removed from the flintlock pan, or the battery is removed from an electric-fired muzzleloader.

A crossbow is considered unloaded when the arrow/bolt is removed and the crossbow is uncocked.

## Discharge of Firearms, Crossbows and Bows

It is illegal to discharge a firearm, crossbow or bow:

- So that the load or arrow/bolt passes over any part of a public highway
- Within 500 feet for a firearm, 250 feet for a crossbow or 150 feet for a bow of any school, playground, or an occupied factory or church
- Within 500 feet for a firearm, 250 feet for a crossbow or 150 feet for a bow of a dwelling, farm building or structure in occupation or use unless you own it, lease it, are an immediate member of the family, an employee, or have the owner's consent

You may hunt waterfowl over water within 500 feet of a dwelling or public structure as long as neither are within 500 feet in the direction you are shooting.

## Protected and Unprotected Wildlife

In New York State, nearly all species of wildlife are protected. Most species, including endangered species, songbirds, hawks and owls are fully protected and may not be taken. The few unprotected species include porcupine, red squirrel, woodchuck, chipmunk, English sparrow, starling, rock pigeon and monk parakeet. Unprotected species may be taken at any time without limit. However, a hunting license is required to hunt unprotected wildlife with a bow, crossbow or firearm.

Game species may be taken only during their open seasons and as summarized in this guide. Persons taking wildlife on licensed shooting preserves must comply with regulations governing those shooting preserves.

## Reporting Your Game Harvest

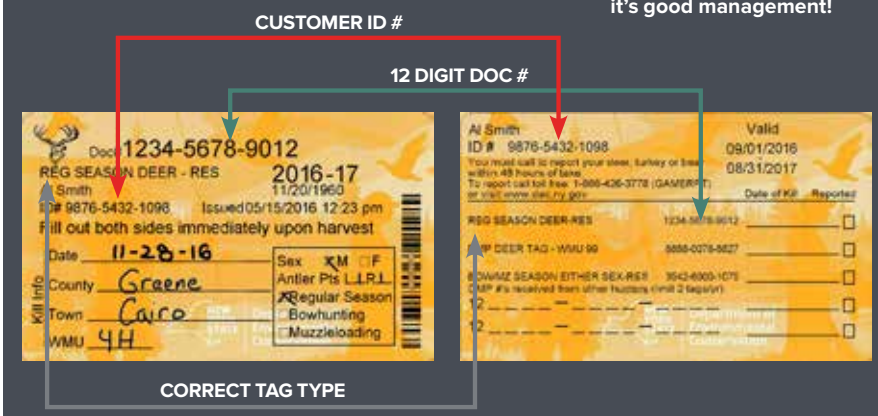
- **Deer, Bear, and Turkey harvests must be reported within seven days.**
- **Remember to save the bear's skull so DEC can collect a tooth to age the bear.**
- **You can report your harvest either by telephone or through the web. Reporting on the web is fast and convenient!**

**Phone: 1-866-426-3778**
**Web: *http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8316.html***

**It's the LAW—
it's good management!**

### Information You Will Need When Reporting

- **Carcass Tag or Reporting Panel:**




- **For Spring Turkey:**
  - » **Spur length (none, less than ½", ½" or longer)**
  - » **Beard length (less than 3", 3" but less than 7½", 7½" or longer.**
  - » **Estimated weight**
- **For Fall Turkey:**
  - » **Remember to save a leg. We may request it to determine age and sex.**

**Please read General Hunting Regulations first. See page 16.**

## Maps Showing Season Dates

- **Legal Implements:** see page 24
- **Deer:** see page 25
- **Bear:** see page 39

## Hunting Hours

Big game hunting hours are sunrise to sunset (see page 77). Sunday hunting is allowed in all areas of New York. For hunting on Wildlife Management Areas or in state parks, confirm regulations for the area before hunting.

## Legally Antlered Deer

A legally antlered deer must have at least one antler that is three inches or longer. Special regulations apply in the Antler Restriction areas. See page 33 for details.

## Defining "Early" and "Late" Seasons for Deer and Bear

When you see the term "early" muzzleloader or bowhunting season, it means before the regular season for that particular zone. "Late" means after the regular season for that zone.

### Boning Out Deer

**Some hunters who take a deer in remote areas may wish to bone out the deer and pack out the meat. This is lawful but you must retain the carcass tag with the boned out meat.**

### Would You Like to Receive Information About Hunting and Trapping in New York?

**You are invited to join DEC's e-mail service for information on hunting and trapping in New York State. Subscribers to this e-mail list will periodically receive information from DEC about wildlife biology, management, research, regulations and hunting.**

**To subscribe, visit our website at: *https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/NYSDEC/subscriber/new* and elect to receive updates on any of the listed topics.**

**Join today and become a more informed hunter.**

## Manner of Taking

You may use decoys, calls and attractant scents to hunt big game. It is unlawful to:

- Take big game while the deer or bear is in water
- Possess a firearm of any description when bowhunting or accompanying a person bowhunting during special bowhunting seasons
- Make, set or use salt licks or other attractants, whether block, liquid or powder that contains ANY amount of salt, upon lands inhabited by deer or bear at any time of year

It is unlawful to hunt big game with:

- Dogs or aircraft of any kind, including drones
- The aid of a pre-established bait pile

## Long Island Opportunities

Deer hunting from October through December is bowhunting only. All hunting on state land requires a DEC permit. During the January firearms season, shotgun, muzzleloading firearms and longbows are the only legal hunting implements, and a special permit is required. For exact dates and permit information, send a self-addressed envelope to Deer Info, NYS DEC, SUNY, 50 Circle Rd., Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409 or visit our website, *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8373.html*.

## Prohibited Sale of Deer or Bear Meat

It is unlawful to sell deer or bear meat. Other than meat, the parts (e.g., hides, skulls, claws, antlers, and taxidermy mounts or rugs) from legally taken and reported deer and bear may be sold. Bear gallbladders and bile shall not be possessed or sold unless a valid bear tag (original or copy) is attached.

## Tagging, Transporting and Reporting

Deer and bear are in legal possession only when tagged with the appropriate portion of the hunting license, deer management permit or other license provided for that purpose.

## Tagging

After killing a deer or bear:

1. Ensure that you select the proper tag for the harvested deer or bear.
2. **Immediately** fill in all information and sign the carcass tag with ink that won't erase.
3. **Immediately** cut or mark the month and date of kill on the tag reverse.
4. Write the date of kill on the Report Panel. This will help you when reporting a harvest.
5. **Attach the tag** to the carcass upon arrival at your camp, home or vehicle. You do not need to attach the tag while it is being dragged or physically carried from the place of kill to a camp or point where transportation is available.
6. **Keep the tag with the meat** once the carcass is cut up and prepared for consumption. Portions stored in separate locations require carcass tag copies as described in the "Transporting" section below.
7. **Report your harvest**, online or by phone, within 7 days as required by law.

After you have used your last deer tag, you may help others hunt deer. You may not carry a firearm, crossbow or bow, and you must have your hunting license with you.

## Transporting

Deer and bear may be transported either inside or outside the vehicle.

- A deer carcass with head and deer carcass tag attached may be transported with the taker in attendance.
- If someone other than the taker is transporting the deer or bear, the taker must attach an additional tag to the carcass and include the names and addresses of both the taker and the transporter. The tag may be handwritten in ink or typed on any paper.
- All portions of deer or bear meat being transported by the taker shall be individually tagged and the tags shall include the name, address, big game DOC #, the date that the portions were cut, and the signature of the taker. Packaged or boxed portions of venison need only one tag and must be labeled "venison" on the outside of the box. If someone other than the taker is transporting the portions, an additional tag signed by the taker with the names and addresses of the consignee and taker are required for each portion.
- Non-resident hunters: If your home state prohibits the importation of whole deer carcasses from New York, you will need to follow the above guidelines for transportation of individual or packaged portions of deer meat while in New York State.
- A deer carcass minus the head may be transported as above, but evidence of the sex of the deer must be intact. The deer carcass tag must be affixed to the carcass, and a tag supplied by the taker must also be attached showing the name and address of the taxidermist where the head was sent.
- Heads of male deer may be transported to a taxidermist only if a tag supplied by the taker is attached bearing the taker's signature, address, big game DOC #, number of points on each antler and the name and address of the taxidermist.
- The head of a doe with antlers that are 3 inches or more can be removed for mounting. Follow the same procedure that you would use for a buck you are having mounted (see above).

*Continued on page 22*

# Want Older Bucks in New York?

## It's Your Choice!

Every year, tens of thousands of New York hunters enjoy the opportunity to bring home a handsome 2.5-year or older buck, while approximately half of the antlered bucks taken in the state annually are 1.5-years old (yearlings). Yearling bucks generally weigh about 20% less and have 50% smaller antlers than they would as 2.5-year-olds. The primary reason New York doesn't have more older, larger-antlered bucks in the harvest is because many bucks are taken as yearlings. New York hunters can increase the likelihood of harvesting a 2.5-year-old or older buck simply by choosing to pass up shots at young bucks.

**Photos of the same buck as a yearling (1.5-years old), as a 2.5-year-old and a 3.5-year-old. Note that spike bucks will grow into larger antlered bucks when given the chance. Photos by Charles Alsheimer.**

## You Can Change Your Deer Hunting Experience

- For NY bucks to grow bigger bodies and larger antlers, they simply need to age.
- Older bucks are more challenging to hunt and yield more meat. These bucks create more rubs and scrapes and vocalize more—all things that enhance the deer-hunting experience.
- As more hunters choose to pass up young bucks, all hunters will enjoy the opportunity to see and take more older bucks.
- Many NY hunters are already choosing to pass up young bucks; you can too!

## What Can You Do to See More Older Bucks?

- Choose not to harvest young bucks.
- Improve the habitat by creating young forest and enhancing natural forage and cover for deer. See *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/104218.html#YFprivate*
- In many areas, take an antlerless deer instead of a young buck, which can help meet overall management goals and bring the deer population into better balance with the habitat, which, in turn, improves deer condition.
- Work with your neighbors and hunting partners to cooperatively reduce harvest of young bucks, meet your antlerless harvest goals, and improve habitat conditions.

### Yearling Portion of NYS Buck Take (by Voluntary Restraint)

**Reducing harvest of young bucks is an unmistakable trend in New York and nationally. In 2015, about 48% of adult bucks harvested in NY (excluding areas with mandatory antler restrictions) were 2.5 years old or older.**

**These bucks from Washington County, NY demonstrate typical body size and antler differences among yearlings and 2.5 and 3.5-year-old bucks. Photos courtesy of QDMA.**

## Learn the Differences between Young and Older Bucks

Nearly all bucks in New York with 4 total points or less are 1.5-years old. In central and western New York and other high-quality habitat areas, about 30% of yearlings can have 5–6 total antler points and 15% can have 7–8 total points. However, throughout New York, the overall size of yearling antlers is small, with antler spreads generally less than 12 inches — well inside the ear tips when the ears are in a relaxed or semi-alert position.

### Yearling Buck

- Body size similar to an adult doe
- Legs look long and skinny
- Often lacks clear muscle definition
- Slender neck and body
- Narrow, small-framed antlers, narrower than ear tips

### Older Buck

- Body larger than an adult doe
- Thicker chest makes legs appear stockier
- Well-defined shoulder and thigh muscles
- Belly appears flat and sags a bit
- Antlers on a 2.5-year-old are generally almost as wide as the ear tips, while a 3.5-year-old buck's antlers may be wider than the ear tips

*Note: There is considerable variation in antler growth within age classes of bucks, depending on local habitat quality.*

After your shot, check the teeth of your deer to see whether it is a yearling or older buck. Visit *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27663.html* for a guide to aging deer by tooth replacement and wear.

This information is provided to depict differences in age classes of bucks and guide hunters about harvest choices that best reflect their hunting interests.

## Evaluating Buck Management Options

**In recent years, there has been strong interest among some hunters in increasing the number of older, larger-antlered bucks in our deer population.**

**This could be accomplished through a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches. However, New York hunters have divided opinions about deer hunting and many greatly value having the freedom to choose what type of buck to harvest. So, DEC worked with experts at Cornell University to evaluate various buck hunting strategies (e.g., mandatory antler point restrictions, one-buck bag limit, shorter regular season) in a way that accounted for regional variation in hunter values and the impacts on harvest, population management, and hunter satisfaction. The study indicated that regulatory changes are not appropriate or most compatible with hunter values at this time (please see: www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27663.html for more information). Thus, DEC concluded that the best approach is simply to encourage hunters to voluntarily pass up shots at young bucks.**

## Muzzleloading

- **Deer** may only be taken as shown on the map on page 25
- **Bear** may only be taken as shown on the map on page 39

### All areas

All hunters participating in the muzzleloading season must follow these requirements in addition to the other regulations in this guide.

- Each resident hunter must have purchased a current-year muzzleloading privilege with his/her hunting license
- Each non-resident hunter must have a current-year Muzzleloading License
- Hunters shall not have in their possession, or be accompanied by a person who has in his or her possession, a bow or firearm other than the legal muzzleloading firearm or crossbow

## Bowhunting

Bowhunting opportunities include both the regular and bowhunting seasons. Residents may use a bow to take legally antlered deer and bear during the regular season provided the taker possesses both a valid hunting license and either a current bowhunting privilege or a valid bowhunter education certificate. Residents may take deer of either sex during the bowhunting season provided the taker possesses a hunting license and bowhunting privilege, or a Junior Bowhunting License. Non-residents should refer to page 13 for information on hunting with a bow during regular and bowhunting seasons.

A bow may also be used to fill a deer management permit during any season in which bows may be used. In WMUs 4J and 8C, only bows may be used to take deer (either sex) during the regular and bowhunting seasons. Suffolk (WMU 1C) and Westchester counties (WMU 3S) have separate regular seasons restricted to bows for taking deer (either sex).

## Crossbow Use

- Crossbows may be used to take deer during:
  - » Early and late muzzleloader season in the Northern Zone and late muzzleloader season in the Southern Zone using Bow/Muzz tags, DMPs, DMAP tags, or an unfilled Regular Big Game tag (late season only);
  - » Regular firearms seasons using a Regular Big Game tag, DMPs, or DMAP tags.
- Crossbows may also be used to take deer or bear during a portion of the early bow seasons (see map on page 25), provided the hunter possesses the muzzleloading privilege
  - » only bow/muzz tags, DMPs or DMAP tags may be used.
- Crossbows may be used to take bear during early bear season, early muzzleloader season in the Northern Zone, regular firearms seasons in the Northern and Southern Zones, and the late muzzleloader season in the Southern Zone

## Barbed Broadheads

Barbed broadheads are illegal for hunting big game. A barbed broadhead is one in which the angle formed between the trailing or rear edge of any blade and the shaft is less than 90 degrees. Broadheads with mechanical blades are legal if the blades DO NOT form a barb or hook when the arrow is pulled from the flesh of a deer or bear. (See graphic below).

**Broadheads**

| Type | Legal | Illegal |
|---|---|---|
| Fixed Blade | | |
| Mechanical Blade (shown in position of being withdrawn from an animal) | Blades pivot forward (no longer barbed) | Blades do not pivot (remain barbed) |

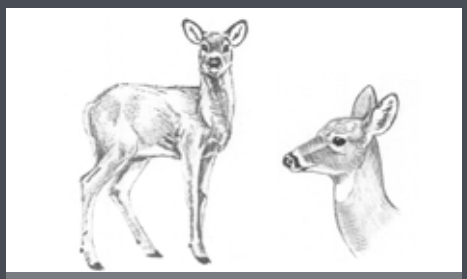
| Future Big Game Season Dates | |
|---|---|
| Northern Zone | Early Bear (some WMUs, see page 39)<br>The first Saturday after the second Monday in September through the Friday immediately preceding the early muzzleloading season |
| | Early Bowhunting—Bear<br>The first Saturday after the second Monday in September through the Friday immediately preceding the regular season |
| | Early Bowhunting—Deer<br>September 27 through the Friday immediately preceding the regular season |
| | Early Muzzleloading—Deer and Bear<br>7 consecutive days beginning on the first Saturday after Columbus Day |
| | Regular—Deer and Bear<br>44 consecutive days beginning on the second Saturday after Columbus Day |
| | Late Bow and Muzzleloading—Deer<br>7 consecutive days immediately following the regular season |
| Southern Zone | Early Bear (some WMUs, see page 39)<br>16 consecutive days beginning on the first Saturday after Labor Day |
| | Early Bowhunting—Deer and Bear<br>October 1 through the Friday immediately preceding the regular season |
| | Regular—Deer and Bear<br>23 days beginning the third Saturday of November |
| | Late Bow and Muzzleloading—Deer and Bear<br>9 consecutive days immediately following the regular season |
| Westchester County (WMU 3S) | Regular—Deer and Bear (bowhunting only)<br>October 1 through December 31 |
| Suffolk County (WMU 1C) | Regular—Deer (bowhunting only)<br>October 1 through December 31 |
| | Special Firearms Season—Deer<br>The first Monday following the first Saturday in January, through January 31 |

## Doe or Fawn?

**During the fall, it can often be difficult to distinguish adult does and fawn deer, particularly if seen alone. In recent years, about 30% of the total antlerless deer harvest has been fawns (5–7 months old), split roughly as 13% doe fawns and 17% buck fawns. Though fawns provide excellent table fare, some hunters prefer to target adult deer. Taking adult female deer contributes to management objectives, and passing buck fawns may allow some of them to be available later as antlered bucks. By learning the differences between antlerless deer, hunters can make more informed harvest choices.**

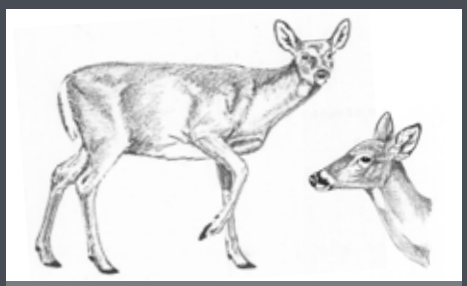
### Hunting Tips

- **Button bucks often travel alone, but adult does rarely do. Wait until several antlerless deer are present before making a harvest decision.**
- **It is easier to identify sex and age when animals are standing still or moving slowly.**
- **Harvest antlerless deer early in the season when differences between fawns and adult does are most noticeable.**



**Fawn**

- **Body about as long as tall (square)**
- **Short neck and compact nose/head**
- **Eyes look large for head**
- **Doe fawns have a more rounded head shape between their ears**
- **Buck fawns' heads appear flattened and may have visible antler nubs or "buttons"**



**Adult Doe**

- **Body longer than tall (rectangle)**
- **Long neck and elongated nose**

# Big Game Boundary Descriptions/Legal Implements

**Complete descriptions of all wildlife management units are available on DEC's website www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8302.html**

## Northern-Southern Zone Line

A line commencing at a point at the north shore of the Salmon River and its junction with Lake Ontario and extending easterly along the north shore of that river to the Village of Pulaski, thence southerly along Route 11 to its intersection with Route 49 in the Village of Central Square, thence easterly along Route 49 to its junction with Route 365 in the City of Rome, thence easterly along Route 365 to its junction with Route 28 in the Village of Trenton, thence easterly along Route 28 to its junction with Route 29 in the Village of Middleville, thence easterly along Route 29 to its junction with Route 4, thence northerly along Route 4 to its junction with Route 22, thence northerly and westerly along Route 22 to the eastern shore of South Bay on Lake Champlain in the Village of Whitehall, thence northerly along the eastern shore of South Bay to the New York-Vermont boundary.

## Closed Areas

The following closed areas are specific portions of the state where the taking of deer and bear is prohibited by the Environmental Conservation Law. This section does not include areas covered by town laws, local ordinances or posting by landowners.

### Albany County

Area around Alcove Reservoir: bounded by Albany County Rt. 111 from Rt. 143 to Albany-Greene County line to Albany County Rt. 411 to Rt. 143 to point of beginning. Closed except to landowners and lessees of lands in the area actually occupying and cultivating such lands.

### Erie County

Area around Buffalo: bounded by Tonawanda Creek from East Branch Niagara River to Rt. 78 to Greiner Rd. to Rt. 268 to Rt. 5 to Ransom Rd. to Rt. 33 to Rt. 78 to Rt. 20 to Rt. 20A to Lake Erie.

### Herkimer County

Area along Big Moose Lake: bounded by Judson Rd. from Herkimer-Hamilton County line to Higby Rd. to Big Moose Rd. to Martin Rd. and along it to its eastern end and then to the lake shore and back (starting westerly) along the shore to Herkimer-Hamilton County line and along it to Judson Rd.

### Herkimer and Hamilton Counties

Area bounded by Rt. 28 from Old Forge to Inlet and by South Shore Rd. from Inlet to Old Forge.

### Nassau County

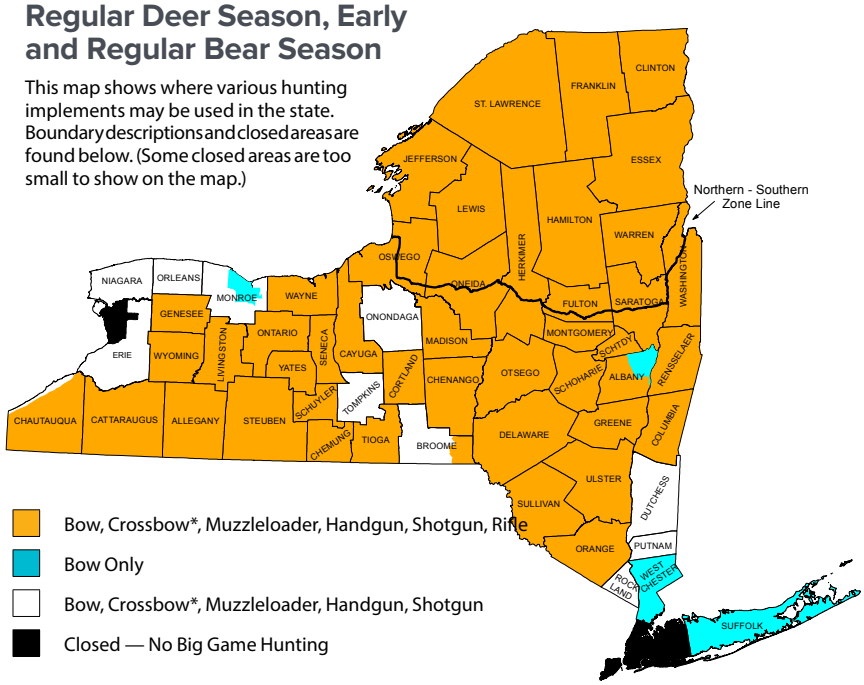
All of Nassau County.

### New York City

All of the city.

## Legal Implements for the Regular Deer Season, Early and Regular Bear Season

This map shows where various hunting implements may be used in the state. Boundary descriptions and closed areas are found below. (Some closed areas are too small to show on the map.)




* See page 9

## Implement Descriptions for Big Game Hunting

**The following describes implement requirements for big game hunting. See map above to determine where each can be used.**

**Bow—Long (stick), recurve or compound bow with a draw weight greater than 35 lbs. A legal arrowhead is non-barbed, has 2 or more cutting edges and is at least 7/8-inches wide.**

**Crossbow—Consists of a bow, a string, and either compound or recurve limbs with minimum width of 17 inches (tip of limbs, uncocked), mounted on a stock. The stock shall have a trigger with a working safety that holds the string and limbs under tension until released. It shall have a minimum overall length from the butt of the stock to the front of the limbs of 24 inches and be able to launch a minimum 14-inch arrow/bolt, not including the legal arrowhead. It shall have a draw weight of 100 to 200 pounds. Optical sights are allowed on crossbows.**

**Muzzleloader—Firearm loaded through the muzzle, a minimum bore of .44 inches and shooting a single projectile. Scopes or fiber-optic sights may be used at any time. Double-barreled muzzleloaders and percussion cap revolvers are not legal during the special muzzleloading season. If you hunt with a single-shot muzzleloading pistol, you must have a New York State pistol permit.**

**Handgun—Any centerfire pistol or revolver. Barrel length may not exceed 16 inches. Note: Non-residents may not use handguns to hunt in New York.**

**Shotgun—Must be 20 gauge or larger and fire a single projectile. Rifling in the barrel or choke is allowed.**

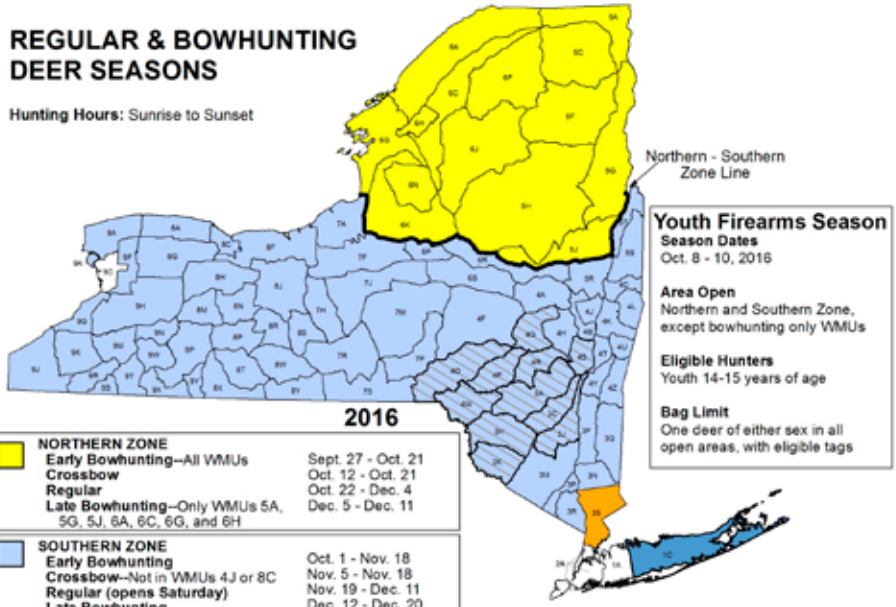
**Rifle—Any centerfire rifle.**

### It is illegal to hunt big game with:

- **A fully automatic firearm**
- **A semi-autoloading firearm that holds more than 6 shells (except an autoloading pistol with a barrel length under 8 inches)**
- **Any firearm equipped with a silencer**
- **Any rifle using rimfire ammunition**
- **A firearm or bow aided by any artificial light or a laser that projects a beam toward the target (use of illuminated reticle scopes, red dot scopes, or illuminated sight pins is allowed, provided no light is projected toward the target)**
- **An air gun**

## REGULAR & BOWHUNTING DEER SEASONS

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset




### Youth Firearms Season

**Season Dates**
Oct. 8 - 10, 2016

**Area Open**
Northern and Southern Zone, except bowhunting only WMUs

**Eligible Hunters**
Youth 14-15 years of age

**Bag Limit**
One deer of either sex in all open areas, with eligible tags

### 2016

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **NORTHERN ZONE** | | |
| | **Early Bowhunting**--All WMUs | Sept. 27 - Oct. 21 |
| | **Crossbow** | Oct. 12 - Oct. 21 |
| | **Regular** | Oct. 22 - Dec. 4 |
| | **Late Bowhunting**--Only WMUs 5A, 5G, 5J, 6A, 6C, 6G, and 6H | Dec. 5 - Dec. 11 |
| **SOUTHERN ZONE** | | |
| | **Early Bowhunting** | Oct. 1 - Nov. 18 |
| | **Crossbow**--Not in WMUs 4J or 8C | Nov. 5 - Nov. 18 |
| | **Regular (opens Saturday)** | Nov. 19 - Dec. 11 |
| | **Late Bowhunting** | Dec. 12 - Dec. 20 |
| **WESTCHESTER COUNTY (3S)** | | |
| | **Regular**--Bowhunting Only | Oct. 1 - Dec. 31 |
| **SUFFOLK COUNTY (1C)** | | |
| | **Regular**--Bowhunting Only | Oct. 1, 2016 - Jan. 31, 2017 |
| | **Special Firearms**-(Permit Req.) | Jan. 1 - Jan. 31, 2017 |

**Antler Point Restrictions**
During all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least one antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.

**No Deer Hunting**

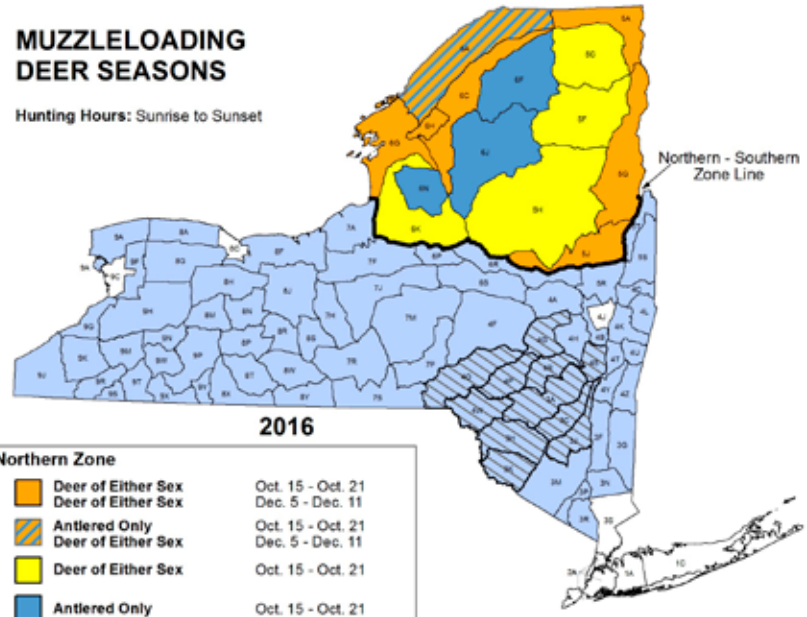
### Crossbows

May be used to hunt deer during the Northern and Southern Zone Regular Seasons.

May not be used to hunt deer:
- during the Youth Firearms Season; or
- anytime in WMUs 1C (Suffolk County), 3S (Westchester County), 4J or 8C.

## MUZZLELOADING DEER SEASONS

**Hunting Hours:** Sunrise to Sunset




### 2016

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Northern Zone** | | |
| | **Deer of Either Sex** | Oct. 15 - Oct. 21 |
| | **Deer of Either Sex** | Dec. 5 - Dec. 11 |
| | **Antlered Only** | Oct. 15 - Oct. 21 |
| | **Deer of Either Sex** | Dec. 5 - Dec. 11 |
| | **Deer of Either Sex** | Oct. 15 - Oct. 21 |
| | **Antlered Only** | Oct. 15 - Oct. 21 |
| **Southern Zone** | | |
| | **Deer of Either Sex** | Dec. 12 - Dec. 20 |

**Antler Point Restrictions**
During all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least one antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.

**No Muzzleloading Season**

### Crossbows

May be used to hunt deer during the Northern and Southern Zone Muzzleloader Seasons.

May not be used to hunt deer anytime in WMUs1 C (Suffolk County), 3S (Westchester County), 4J or 8C.

## Deer Tag Descriptions

For all season dates, see page 25. See page 14 for privilege information.

| Tag Name | Tag Can Be Used In | Tag Is Valid For |
|---|---|---|
| Regular Season Deer Tag<br>Only you may hunt with this tag. No transferring tag to another hunter. | Regular Season<br>• Northern Zone<br>• Southern Zone<br>Westchester County<br>• Regular (bowhunting only)<br>Suffolk County<br>• Regular (bowhunting only)<br>• Special Firearms (special permit, see page 18)<br>Late Season Bowhunting (privilege required)<br>• Northern Zone<br>• Southern Zone<br>Late Season Muzzleloading (privilege required)<br>• Northern Zone<br>(check open areas and dates on map on page 25)<br>• Southern Zone<br>Youth Deer Season | Antlered Deer Only<br>Except: May be used for Antlered or Antlerless Deer as follows:<br>• In Westchester County (WMU 3S)<br>• In Suffolk County (WMU 1C)<br>• In areas restricted to bowhunting only. (WMUs 4J and 8C)<br>• In late seasons (with bowhunting or muzzleloading privilege)<br>• By Junior Hunters during the Youth Deer Hunt<br> |
| Bow/Mz Season Either Sex Tag<br>Only you may hunt with this tag. No transferring tag to another hunter. | Bowhunting Season (privilege required)<br>• Northern Zone<br>• Southern Zone<br>Muzzleloading Season (privilege required)<br>• Northern Zone<br>(check open areas and dates on map on page 25)<br>• Southern Zone<br>Westchester County<br>• Regular (bowhunting only)<br>Suffolk County<br>• Regular (bowhunting only)<br>• Special Firearms (special permit; see page 18) | Antlered or Antlerless Deer<br>Bowhunting OR Muzzleloading seasons only (including the regular season in Westchester County and any season in Suffolk County)<br>Junior Bowhunters will receive this tag, which will be valid in the special bowhunting seasons and during the regular season.<br>Except:<br>• May be used for antlered deer only during muzzleloading seasons in certain Northern Zone WMUs (see map page 25).<br> |
| Bow/Mz Season Antlerless Tag<br>Only you may hunt with this tag. No transferring tag to another hunter. | Bowhunting Season (privilege required)<br>• Northern Zone<br>• Southern Zone<br>Muzzleloading Season (privilege required)<br>• Northern Zone<br>(check open areas and dates on map, page 25)<br>• Southern Zone<br>Westchester County<br>• Regular (bowhunting only)<br>Suffolk County<br>• Regular (bowhunting only)<br>• Special Firearms (special permit; see page 18)<br>! Not valid during the Northern or Southern Zone Regular Seasons. | Antlerless Deer Only<br>Bowhunting OR Muzzleloading seasons only (including the regular season in Westchester County and any season in Suffolk County)<br>Except:<br>• May not be used during muzzleloading seasons in certain Northern Zone WMUs that are Antlered Deer Only areas (see map page 25).<br> |
| Deer Management Permit Deer Tag | Any Open Deer Season | Antlerless Deer Only<br>Valid ONLY for the WMU specified and printed on the DMP Deer Tag (Deer Management Permit) See page 30.<br>! This is the only tag that can be transferred to another hunter (see page 31 for How to Transfer a DMP Deer Carcass Tag).<br> |

**For information on which tags may be used when hunting with a crossbow, see page 9.**

## Moose In New York

**Moose are protected in New York and cannot be hunted. DEC and its research partners are currently conducting a multi-year research project to obtain information on the status of New York State's moose population, health of the moose, and the factors that influence moose survival and reproductive rate. The goal of the moose study is to gather data that will be used to create a moose management plan for New York State. See www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6964.html#Research for more information.**

### Report your Moose Sightings

**If you have seen a moose, DEC wants to know about it. Your observations help DEC track moose distribution in New York. To report a moose sighting, go to *www.dec.ny.gov/animals/6964.html#Sightings*.**

## Meat Unfit for Consumption

**If a deer, bear or turkey is found to be unfit for human consumption, a special permit may be issued that allows the hunter to take another deer, turkey, or bear, provided the season is still open. The entire animal must be forfeited to get a permit. A permit will not be issued if meat is unfit due to hunter neglect. Call a wildlife or law enforcement office listed on page 6.**

## Deer Management Permits (DMPs)

Hunters possessing a DMP may take one antlerless deer per permit in addition to any deer that may be taken with a regular hunting license or bowhunting and muzzleloading privileges.

- DMPs may not be used for legally antlered deer (at least one antler 3" or longer).
- DMPs may only be used in the WMU for which they are issued.
- Hunters may transfer or receive up to 2 DMPs from other hunters (see page 31).
- Refer to chart on page 26 for information on when DMPs may be used.

### Applying for a deer management permit (DMP)

- **DMP Application Deadline: Close of business on October 1, 2016**
- You may apply for DMPs at all license-issuing outlets, by phone, mail or online beginning on August 1, 2016.
- DMPs are available to all hunters age 14 years or older who purchase or possess a regular hunting license (12 years old for Junior Bowhunting license holders).
- There is a $10 non-refundable application fee for all applicants, except for holders of Lifetime Sportsman licenses purchased prior to 9/30/2009, and Junior Hunters and Junior Bowhunters.
- **Know your Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) before you apply**. If you are unsure of your unit, see the WMU maps on pages 64–71 of this guide or visit *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/8302.html* for written boundary descriptions. You may also call the DMP Hotline for additional information at 1-866-472-4332.
- You may apply for up to two DMPs. Both must be applied for at the same time. Application can be for DMPs in the same WMU or different WMUs.
- **Chances of selection** for first and second DMPs for Residents and Non-residents can be viewed at *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/30409.html*. They are also posted at all license-issuing outlets or you may call the DMP Hotline at 1-866-472-4332. Chances of DMP selection remain the same throughout the entire DMP application period.
- **Disabled veterans** with a service-connected disability rated at 40% or greater (who are residents of New York) will receive preference on DMPs. Annually, you must bring a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs, dated in the current year, with your case number and your disability percentage. If you are claiming permanent disabled status, the letter must clearly state that the service-related disability is permanent.
- **Landowners**: If you own 50 or more contiguous acres of land within the WMU you will be hunting in, you will receive preference on DMP selection. Annually, you must bring your tax map identification number and SWIS code (found on your tax bill) with you when you apply. Be sure to tell the license-issuing agent PRIOR to applying that you are a landowner. Lessees do not qualify as landowners. A spouse of a landowner may receive landowner preference, but both husband and wife may not apply as a landowner for the same parcel of land. Corporate ownership: only one person may be designated by a corporation as the landowner each year no matter how many 50-acre parcels are owned. The corporation must submit an original letter or certified copy of a resolution, dated in the current year, designating the individual and must include the tax map ID and SWIS code information.
- **Group ownership:** regardless of how many co-owners, only one person may apply per 50+ acre parcel. Additional 50+ acre parcels in the same WMU require separate tax IDs.
- **Preference points:**
  - » Preference points are won and lost on first permit selection only.
  - » If you do not receive a DMP in your first choice WMU, you will receive a preference point for the following year.
  - » If you were rejected for a first permit in 2015 and have a preference point for the 2016 hunting season, this information is stored in DECALS and will be available to all license-issuing agents.
  - » Preference points do not guarantee selection. Any preference points contained in your file are automatically applied to your first-choice WMU selection. If you do NOT receive your first choice, the points are applied to your second choice but will remain in your file for the following year, regardless of your second choice selection results.

### DMP selection order

During the instant issuance, an applicant's chances of selection are determined by an applicant's category. The categories, in priority order, are as follows.

1. Landowners (50 or more acres of land within a WMU) and Disabled Veterans (40% or more service-related disability). All applicants in this category will receive their first-choice DMP.
2. NYS Residents and Non-residents with 3 Preference Points
3. NYS Residents with 1–2 Preference Points
4. NYS Residents without Preference Points
5. Non-residents with 1–2 Preference Points
6. Non-residents without Preference Points

### Chances of Selection

**Your chances of selection for first and second DMPs by Wildlife Management Unit are available online at *http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/30409.html*, posted at all License Issuing Outlets or by calling our Deer Management Permit hotline at 1-866-472-4332.**

## Additional opportunities for DMPs

**Bonus DMPs:** If you fill a DMP in bowhunting-only WMUs 1C, 3S, 4J and 8C, you can apply for a bonus permit for another anterless deer. Bonus permits may only be obtained from regional wildlife staff at predetermined locations. For complete information, visit our website or call a DEC regional wildlife office as follows:

- **WMU 1C:** 1-631-444-0310
- **WMU 3S:** 1-845-256-3098
- **WMU 4J:** 1-518-357-2153
- **WMU 8C:** 1-585-226-5380

**Leftover DMPs:** If there are still permits remaining after the initial DMP instant-issuance period closes on October 1 and the back-end correction selections have occurred, the remaining DMPs may be available on a first-come/first-served basis, beginning on or around November 1. These DMPs are only available in person at license-issuing agents. Leftover DMPs will not be available by phone or by mail. The Wildlife Management Units with permits available will be announced by news release and on our website (www.dec.ny.gov). If you already applied for a Deer Management Permit during the initial application period, there is no additional application fee. If you are applying for the first time this hunting season, you will have to pay a $10 application fee. Fee is waived for Resident and Non-resident Junior Hunters and Junior Bowhunters, and for Lifetime Sportsman licenses purchased prior to October 1, 2009. You will be allowed up to two DMPs during the first-come/first-served application period in addition to any you may have received during the initial application period.

## Deer Management Assistance Program

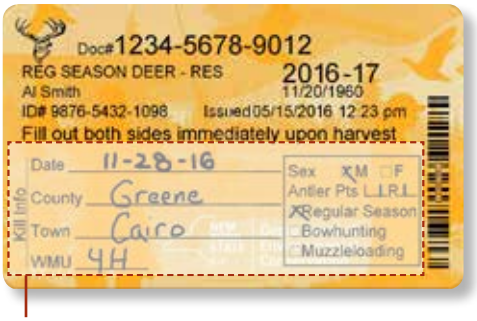
The Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) enables wildlife biologists to help landowners and resource managers implement site-specific deer management on their lands. In doing so, DEC issues a special permit for use only during the open deer hunting seasons and a determined number of antlerless deer tags to landowners or resource managers whose property is in need of site-specific deer management efforts. For more information on the program, refer to http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/33973.html.

## DMAP Tags

**The DEC Office in Sherburne, Chenango County, will have DMAP tags available for use only on Beaver Meadow State Forest in Chenango County this hunting season for interested hunters with a valid license. Tags are valid only for antlerless deer and will be loaned out on a weekly basis, determined by lottery drawing, depending on demand. Hunters may apply in person at the Sherburne Lands and Forests office. Find the application on the DEC website, *http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/66900.html*, contact *Info.R7@dec.ny.gov* or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the DEC Lands and Forests office in Sherburne requesting an application: NYS DEC, Division of Lands and Forests, 2715 State Hwy 80, Sherburne, NY 13460. A limited number of DMAP tags will be available for the Delaware County portion of The Treaty Line State Forest including Steam Mill, Arctic, China, Barbour Brook, Pine Hill, Michigan Hill and Beach Hill State Forest parcels. Tags must be picked up in person at the Stamford DEC Office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please call ahead at 607-652-7367 or 607-652-7365.**

## How To Properly Fill Out Your Carcass Tag

### Carcass Tag




- Fill in Date, County, Town and WMU info.
- Fill in antler point, sex of game and season taken info.

Check once reported

Date of kill

Flip tag over

**It is against the law to improperly or incompletely fill out your carcass tag.**

**Use pen or permanent marker.**

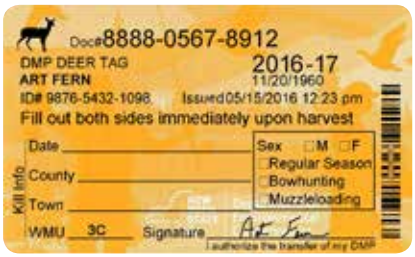
Mark or cut out Month and Day

Sign your tag

Hole for attaching to your game

## How to Transfer a DMP Deer Carcass Tag

- Hunter Art Fern of this DMP carcass tag must sign bottom.
- The DMP carcass tag is given to Pete Moss.
- Hunter Pete Moss must record the DOC# on his reporting panel. This allows this DMP carcass tag to be transferred.
- Hunter Pete Moss is allowed only two transferred DMPs per year whether he uses the tag(s) or not.
- If hunter Pete Moss does not use the DMP Deer Tag, he can give it back to Art Fern or give it to another hunter. The other hunter must then record the DOC# from the DMP carcass tag on his/her reporting panel.




**DMP carcass tag of hunter Art Fern**

**Reporting panel of hunter Pete Moss**

**Kara Schmid, Age 15, Youth Deer Hunt 2015, Tioga County**

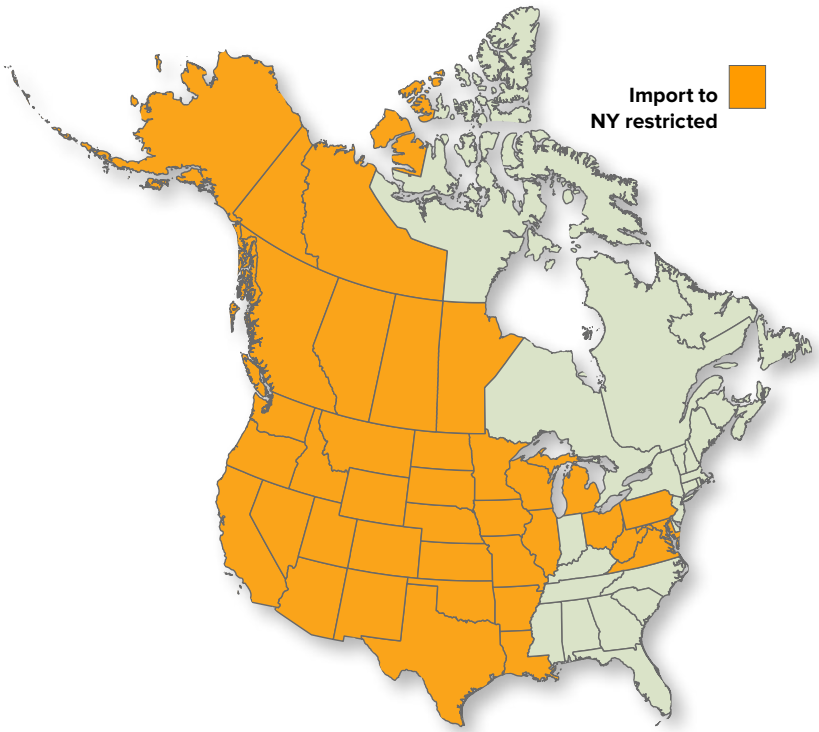
**Remember:** Hunting licenses are not transferable. Only DMP carcass tags can be used by another hunter. A hunter must be in physical possession of a DMP when taking antlerless deer pursuant to a DMP. It cannot be "shared" by a group afield.

**Note:** To report a deer taken on a transferred DMP, the hunter who took the deer must call the automated reporting system (1-866-426-3778) or report online at *www.dec.ny.gov* using the transferred DMP carcass tag DOC# and his/her own date of birth, along with other required information (see page 17).

**It is NOT legal to buy, sell, or offer to sell a DMP!**

# Prevent Chronic Wasting Disease: How Hunters Can Help

**CWD has not been detected in NY since 2005. DEC tests over 2,000 deer annually and over 35,000 wild deer have tested negative since 2005. Let's keep New York CWD-Free!**




Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a neurologic disease that is always fatal to deer, elk, and moose. It is a serious threat to New York's white-tailed deer population and the tradition of deer hunting in New York. Regulations have been put in place to protect New York's deer herd, and hunters can take extra steps to safeguard deer now and for future generations. Prevent CWD by:

- **Do not use deer urine-based cover scents and lures.** CWD is caused by a *prion* that is shed in saliva, urine, and feces. There is no test to see if urine products are contaminated. CWD binds to soil and can remain infectious to deer for many years.
- **Debone or quarter your deer before bringing your out-of-state harvest back to New York.** This practice removes "high-risk" parts (brain, spinal cord and others) that could potentially spread CWD. If you bring a whole intact carcass from a prohibited state or province, you will be ticketed and your entire animal (including trophy heads) will be confiscated and destroyed. *Meat, hide and cape, antlers, cleaned skull cap with antlers attached, finished taxidermy mounts, tanned hides, and clean upper canine teeth are permitted.*
- **If you harvested an animal from another state that tested positive for CWD, you must report test results to DEC within 24 hours.** Many other states have carcass import and urine use restrictions. Check hunting guidelines before planning your hunt.
- **Dispose of all carcass waste in a landfill.** Deer parts can transmit CWD to healthy deer and scavengers can spread prions in feces. Remember to ask your meat processor or taxidermist if they are disposing of carcass waste properly.
- **Do not feed wild deer.** Feeding is illegal and can spread disease to other deer at a feeding site by deer-to-deer contact or from body fluids left behind by an infected deer.
- **Report any deer that appears sick or acts abnormally to the nearest DEC Regional Wildlife Office.** Infected deer may not appear sick and can still spread disease.
- **Hunt wild deer and support fair chase hunting principles.** CWD continues to spread in the U.S. and disease rates are increasing in infected herds. Transmission rates are higher in areas overpopulated with deer.

**There are no documented cases of CWD in humans, but the Centers for Disease Control recommends people do not consume CWD-infected venison.**

**For the latest information on DEC's efforts and current regulations, visit *www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7191.html.***

# Antler Restriction Program

An antler point restriction remains in place in WMUs 3A, 3C, 3H, 3J, 3K, 4G, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, and 4W in Southeastern New York. See the deer hunting season maps on page 25 for the WMUs with antler restrictions in 2015. Over time, as more and more hunters in the broader region opt to pass on young bucks voluntarily, hunters in the units with mandatory restrictions may be interested in seeing the restrictions lifted.

## Voluntary protection of young bucks — an idea to consider

In areas without antler restrictions, consider voluntary protection of young bucks. Hunters interested in protecting young bucks and seeing older, larger bucks are encouraged to work with local hunting clubs and neighboring landowners to develop cooperative voluntary antler restriction programs.

- Many hunters are already participating in successful cooperative programs to voluntarily protect young bucks through an antler restriction of some form.
- Cooperative programs build community among hunters and landowners and actively engage participants in the deer management decisions for their hunting lands.
- Voluntary efforts provide the greatest program flexibility for landowners and hunting cooperatives.
- Protecting young bucks allows for more bucks to survive into older age classes.
- Having more bucks, including older bucks, in the population may increase marking behavior (rubs and scrapes) during the breeding season.
- By choosing not to harvest young bucks, your annual buck harvest rate will be reduced, but you may see these deer the following year as larger, older bucks.
- Having realistic expectations of what an antler restriction can accomplish is important for developing a successful program. To learn more, please see *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/27663.html* or contact your regional DEC wildlife office.

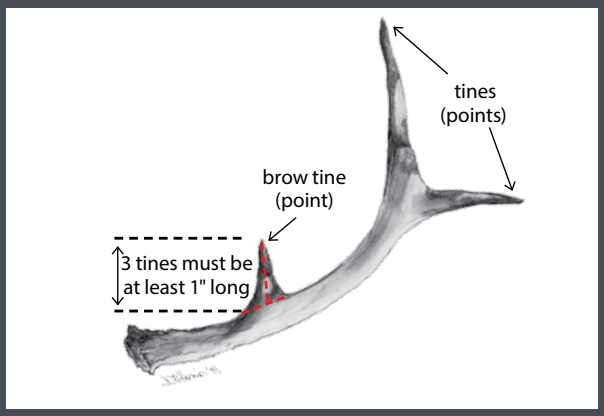
## Antler Identification

### Antler Point Restriction

- **At least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1" long**
- **Applies to all public and private land and all seasons**
- **Hunters aged 12-16 are exempt and may take any buck with antlers 3" or longer**

### Antlerless Deer

- **Adult does, doe fawns, buck fawns (button bucks), adult bucks without antlers, or with antlers less than 3" long**
- **May be taken with appropriate antlerless-only or either-sex tags**



# Eurasian Boar Eradication

Hunting or Trapping Eurasian Boars is Illegal in New York State

Eurasian boars are a destructive invasive species that damage habitat and crops, and threaten native wildlife and domestic livestock. DEC is working with the USDA to eradicate these animals from the state's landscape. To ensure maximum effectiveness of Eurasian boar eradication efforts, the Eurasian Boar Law and Regulation have resulted in the following changes in New York:

- It is illegal to hunt, trap or take free-ranging Eurasian boars.
- It is illegal to import, breed or release Eurasian boars.
- It is illegal to disturb, destroy, open, obstruct or interfere with any DEC/USDA Eurasian boar trap.
- It is illegal to release or remove any Eurasian boar caught in a DEC/USDA trap.
- As of September 1, 2015, it is illegal to possess, sell, distribute, trade or transport Eurasian boars.

Although DEC's eradication efforts have been very successful to date, we must remain vigilant. Anyone who sees a Eurasian boar should report it to DEC as soon as possible.

## Q. If I see a Eurasian boar while I am deer hunting, can I shoot it?

A. No, it is illegal to hunt or trap free-ranging Eurasian boars in New York. Report any animal that you think might be a Eurasian boar to the nearest DEC regional wildlife office (see page 6) or e-mail us (*wildlife@dec.ny.gov*). Try to get a picture of the animal and include it with your report. Include a description of the animal, how many you saw and the exact location (county, town, distance and direction from an intersection, nearest landmark, etc.).

## Q. Can I hunt Eurasian boars at a fenced hunting preserve in New York?

A. No, as of September 1, 2015, it is illegal for anyone to possess live Eurasian boar in NY. Fenced hunting preserves, also called canned hunts or enclosed shooting facilities, cannot have Eurasian boar and cannot offer Eurasian boar hunts.

## Q. I own a farm and some wild pigs are destroying my crops. I think they might be Eurasian boars. Can I shoot them?

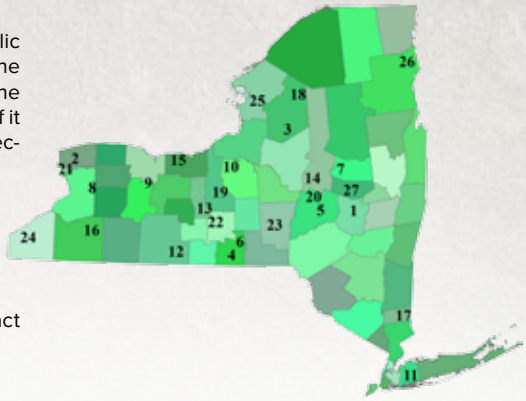
A. Maybe. If they are domestic pigs that likely escaped from a nearby farm, do not shoot them and try to find the owner. If they are Eurasian boars, there are provisions in the regulation that would allow you to shoot these animals if they are damaging property you own or occupy. Contact a DEC Regional Office to determine if a permit is needed to shoot nuisance or destructive Eurasian boars on your property.

# Shooting Range Small Grants Program

Over the past several years, DEC's Shooting Range Small Grants Program has continued to assist non-profit organizations with improvement projects for shooting ranges while at the same time improving public access to numerous ranges across New York.

This federally funded program assisted non-profit organizations with improvement projects for shooting ranges during the 2013–2015 grant period. During these three years, the program awarded over $396,000 to 27 organizations for various projects including improvements to archery, shotgun, and rifle ranges. One of the requirements of the grant is to provide public access on the project site for five years after the project is completed. It is now time to take the next steps in evaluating the program to see if it is meeting the programs initial goals and objectives for public demand and use.

With many of the program's projects near completion, sportsmen and women will find public access days available for sighting-in their firearms this fall. Check with the facility for public access availability. For any questions related to the program, contact Melissa Bailey at (315) 793-2515.




| | Club | Town | County |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Middleburgh Rod and Gun Club | Middleburgh | Schoharie |
| 2 | Tonawanda Sportsmen's Club | NorthTonawanda | Niagara |
| 3 | Constableville Fish and Game Club | Constableville | Lewis |
| 4 | Tioga County Sportsmen's Association | Owego | Tioga |
| 5 | Milford Fish and Game Club | Middlefield | Otsego |
| 6 | Newark Valley Historical Society | Newark Valley | Tioga |
| 7 | Sprite Club | Dolgeville | Fulton |
| 8 | Hawkeye Bowmen | Marilla | Erie |
| 9 | Lima Gun Club | Honeoye Falls | Livingston |
| 10 | Baldwinsville Rod and Gun Club | Baldwinsville | Onondaga |
| 11 | Freeport Revolver and Rifle Association | Freeport | Nassau |
| 12 | Painted Post Field and Stream | Painted Post | Steuben |
| 13 | Seneca Waterways Council (Boy Scouts) | Ovid | Seneca |
| 14 | Ilion Fish and Game Club | Ilion | Herkimer |

| | Club | Town | County |
|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | Williamson Rod and Gun Club | Williamson | Wayne |
| 16 | Franklinville Conservation Club | Franklinville | Cattaraugus |
| 17 | Hilltop Sport Conservation Club | Brewster | Putnam |
| 18 | NY FFA Leadership Training Foundation | Croghan | Lewis |
| 19 | Cayuga County Sportsmen's Association | Auburn | Cayuga |
| 20 | Richfield Sportsmen's Club | Richfield Springs | Otsego |
| 21 | Sheridan Transit Rod and Gun Club | Grand Island | Erie |
| 22 | Trumansburg Fish and Game Club | Trumansburg | Tompkins |
| 23 | Oxford Rod and Gun Club | Oxford | Chenango |
| 24 | Westfield Fish and Game Club | Westfield | Chautauqua |
| 25 | Sackets Harbor Sportsmen's Club | Watertown | Jefferson |
| 26 | Chesterfield Fish and Game Club | Clintonville | Essex |
| 27 | Sprout Brook Rod and Gun Club | Canajoharie | Montgomery |

# Special Seasons Designated for Young Hunters

## Share Your Knowledge...Reconnect To Nature... Take a Junior Hunter Afield During These Special Seasons!

**Brianna Palumbo, Age 15 (left) with her brother Marco Palumbo, Age 13 (right). September 12, 2015 Early Canada Goose Season, Onondaga County.**

**PJ Doran, Age 14, mentored by father Pete Doran. October 10, 2015 Youth Deer Hunt, Greene County.**

Once again, DEC is providing a special youth deer season over the three-day Columbus Day weekend. Junior hunters (ages 14–15) will be eligible to take one deer of either sex with a firearm during this season and may use a Deer Management Permit, Deer Management Assistance Program tag, or a regular season tag. Junior hunters may not use a crossbow to take a deer during this hunt. Rules of the Junior Hunter Mentoring Program (page 37) also apply.

DEC also offers special opportunities for junior hunters (ages 12–15) for waterfowl, wild turkey, and pheasants.

For all youth hunts, junior hunters must be accompanied by an adult hunter. Both the junior and adult hunters are required to have a hunting license for the youth deer season, a hunting license and a turkey permit for the turkey hunt, and a hunting license and current HIP registration for the waterfowl hunt. Adults are not allowed to possess a firearm, crossbow or bow or to harvest an animal while accompanying a junior hunter during the special seasons.

Crossbows may only be used by licensees who are 14 years of age or older.

| Youth Hunts | |
|---|---|
| **Youth Pheasant Hunt** | |
| Northern and Eastern New York | September 24–25, 2016 |
| Western New York | October 8–9, 2016 |
| Long Island | October 29–30, 2016 |
| **Youth Waterfowl Hunt** | |
| Waterfowl Hunting Zone | Tentative Dates |
| Northeastern | September 17–18, 2016 |
| Southeastern | September 17–18, 2016 |
| Lake Champlain | September 24–25, 2016 |
| Western | October 1–2, 2016 |
| Long Island | November 12–13, 2016 |
| **Youth Wild Turkey Hunt** | |
| Upstate NY (north of Bronx-Westchester Co. boundary) and Suffolk County | April 22–23, 2017 |
| **Youth Firearms Deer Hunt*** | |
| Upstate NY (north of Bronx-Westchester Co. boundary; excluding bowhunting-only WMUs) | Columbus Day Weekend; October 8–10, 2016 |

* At the time of publication, regulations were still pending that would allow youth to take bear during the youth firearms season. Be sure to check DEC's website for the latest regulation changes before heading afield this fall.

## Junior Hunter Mentoring Program

### 12 and 13-year-old junior bowhunters can hunt deer and bear with a bow if they meet the following requirements:

- Have completed a course in both Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education
- Purchase a Junior Bowhunting License
- Be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or a "youth mentor" who is 21 years or older and designated in writing by the junior hunter's parent or legal guardian (use the form below)
- The adult accompanist needs to have at least 3 years of experience in hunting deer or bear by longbow AND have a license to hunt big game in the same seasons.
- The parent, guardian or youth mentor must maintain physical control over the minor at all times while hunting.

### 14 and 15-year-old junior hunting license holders can hunt deer and bear with a gun if they meet the following requirements:

- Have completed a course in Hunter Education
- Purchase a Junior Hunting License
- Be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or a "youth mentor" who is 21 years or older designated in writing (use the form below)
- The adult accompanist needs to have at least 3 years of hunting experience AND have a license to hunt big game in the same seasons.
- The parent, guardian or youth mentor must maintain physical control over the minor at all times while hunting.
- The Junior Hunter must stay on the ground and cannot use an elevated (tree) stand.
- Both junior hunter and adult accompanist must wear hunter orange: Shirt or jacket with 250 sq. inches of solid/patterned orange (the pattern must be at least 50% orange) OR a hat with at least 50% orange visible in all directions.

### 14 and 15-year-old junior bowhunters and first-time 16 and 17-year-old big game hunters must:

- Be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or person 18 years or older designated in writing (use form below)
- The adult accompanist needs to have at least 1 year of hunting experience AND have a license to hunt big game in the same seasons.

## Trapping Mentoring Program

### Trappers under 12 years of age:

- May accompany and assist a licensed trapper who has at least 3 years of trapping experience
- May assist the licensed trapper in all aspects of trapping without possessing a trapping license
- The licensed trapper may be a parent or legal guardian, or someone 18 years or older designated in writing (use the form below).
- If trapping on your own and you are under 12 years, you will need to successfully complete New York's Trapper Education Program.
- To continue trapping once you are 12 years, you need to take the class.

## Share Your Hunting and Trapping Photos With Us!

**Help us celebrate the successes of young and first-time hunters and trappers by submitting photographs to DEC's Hunting and Trapping Photo Gallery. Instructions for submitting photographs are included on the photo gallery webpage.**

***www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/54055.html***

**David J. Rodak, Age 14, mentored by father David N. Rodak. April 23, 2016 Youth Turkey Hunt, Saratoga County. David's turkey weighed 22 lbs 8 oz with a 10-inch beard. ▶**

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

# Mentored Youth Hunter and Trapper Permission Form

*Use this form to designate a licensed adult hunter or trapper to accompany young hunters or trappers.*

I, _____ am the parent/legal guardian
(Print name of parent or legal guardian above.) (Please circle one.)

of _____, and I hereby give permission for him or her
(Print name of young hunter/trapper above.)

to be accompanied by _____ whom I acknowledge meets
(Print name of adult hunter/trapper above.)

the legal age, experience, and licensing requirements to function as a mentor during hunting and trapping seasons.

Signature: _____
(Parent or legal guardian sign above.)

Date _____ Telephone Number _____
(Print today's date above.) (Print phone number above.)

*Attention Young Hunter or Trapper: carry this form with you while afield.*

# High-Tech Bullets and Slugs

## Non-Lead Ammunition: A Better Choice

Soft, easily molded and heavy, lead has long been the most common type of ammunition. With early firearms such as muzzleloaders, lead bullets retained their shape, but modern, higher-velocity centerfire rifles often cause lead bullets (even those sheathed in copper) to fragment upon impact.

Fortunately, today's harder copper and other copper alloy bullets and slugs typically remain intact on impact, transferring more energy to the target by folding downward into "petals" that greatly expand the surface area. The result is a very effective, quick, humane kill and more edible, uncontaminated meat.

## Lead's Risk for People and Wildlife

When lead and lead-core bullets fragment on impact, hundreds of tiny lead particles scatter throughout the tissue— up to 18 inches from the wound. Some of these fragments are too small to be seen, felt, tasted, or removed. These lead particles can ruin the quality and yield of game meat and pose a risk to people and scavenging animals.

Lead damages the organs, particularly the central nervous system, including the brain. People and wildlife who eat lead-tainted game meat are at risk. Scavenging wildlife may feed on lead-contaminated gut piles or unrecovered carcasses. Clear evidence of lead poisoning has been found in bald eagles in New York State. Non-lead ammunition helps eliminate these risks.

## Pros and Cons

### Performance:

Copper ammunition is accurate. Technology is improving the ballistic qualities of solid copper and other monolithic bullets, and they often surpass those of lead bullets. To get the best results from non-lead ammunition, try different brands, as every firearm handles ammunition differently. It is important to note that copper bullets of the same grain weight as lead bullets are longer. This longer bullet will react differently in the gun barrel and to its rifling, yielding different ballistics. Reducing the grain weight of the copper bullet will give you similar ballistics to the higher grain weight of the lead bullet. The benefit to the shooter will be lighter recoil and thus more accurate shots. However, re-sighting one's firearm for copper bullets and slugs is necessary as this ammunition will shoot slightly differently than lead.

### Cost:

Non-lead ammunition is similar in cost and quality to premium-grade lead ammunition. Although high-quality ammunition may seem expensive, it is one of the most important pieces of equipment purchased for a hunt and often represents only a small portion of the total cost of hunting.

### Meat Quality:

Little or no fragmentation of non-lead bullets means that more high-quality meat can be taken home from a harvest, and this source of exposure to lead in people, wildlife and the environment is reduced.

### Product Availability:

Non-lead ammunition for specific calibers may not be as easy to find as lead-based ammunition. With demand for such ammunition increasing, however, more caliber options are becoming available. A wide range of non-lead bullets and cartridges is available from major manufacturers. Ask your local gun store to check on availability.

### Non-Lead Ammunition for...

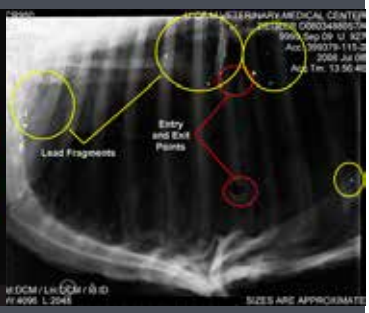
- Good Hunting
- Improved Conservation
- High-Quality Meat
- Safer Consumption

## Fragmentation vs. Mushrooming

Comparison of two .270-caliber bullets shot into a modified rain barrel for collection to simulate performance on game. The copper jacket lead-core bullet (left) is heavily fragmented compared to the solid copper bullet (right) that retained its original shape upon impact.

Shotgun slugs made of copper fold into "petals," expanding the slug's surface area better than slugs made of lead.

CT-scan showing lead fragments (appearing white) in 20 one-pound packages of ground venison.




Radiograph of a deer's chest illustrating fragmentation of a lead ballistic tip rifle bullet.

## Bag Limits

Resident and non-resident hunters may take one bear by gun or bow each license year. In the Southern Zone, you may not shoot a cub or a bear that should be known to be a cub, shoot any bear from a group of bears, or shoot or take a bear from its den.

### Northern zone bear

Hunters who harvest a bear in the Northern Zone will be asked to submit part of the lower jaw or a tooth of the bear to determine the age of the bear. A collection packet including a postage-paid return jaw envelope and information explaining collection will be mailed to each hunter that reports a bear. There are many cooperating taxidermists within New York that can remove and submit teeth, so check with your taxidermist. Generally, taxidermists do not use teeth or the lower jaw for their mounts.

### Southern zone bear

DEC wildlife staff would like to examine bears harvested in the Southern Zone before they are skinned or butchered and will make every attempt to contact hunters to check their bear. When reporting a bear, hunters will be asked to provide name, phone number, and location or address where the bear can be examined. If wildlife staff are not available, bears can be examined by cooperating taxidermists and meat cutters.

## New York State Bear Management Cooperator Program

**The Bureau of Wildlife is requesting the assistance of successful black bear hunters in New York State.**

**Hunters who harvest a bear in New York are required to report their harvest through the DECALS telephone system at 1-866-426-3778 (1-866-GAMERPT) or use the new online Harvest Reporting System at *www.dec.ny.gov*. Northern Zone hunters will be sent a tooth collection packet with premolar removal and submission instructions. Southern Zone hunters may be contacted by a DEC wildlife biologist to examine your bear and extract a premolar tooth for aging.**

**Report your bear and return a bear tooth to receive a commemorative 2016 NYS Black Bear Cooperator Patch. Samples will be aged in the summer of 2017. Cooperators will receive patches and letters indicating the age of their bear in early fall 2017.**

## Changes in Bear Hunting Regulations

**At the time of publication, regulations were still pending that would affect bear hunting. See page 4 for more details, and be sure to check DEC's website for the latest regulation changes before heading afield this fall.**

## Attention Bear Hunters and Taxidermists

**Bear gallbladders and bile shall not be possessed or sold unless a valid bear tag (original or copy of bear carcass tag) is attached. A new law now also requires taxidermists to keep records of all bear gallbladders and bile received or sold.**

## Know of Any Active Bear Dens?

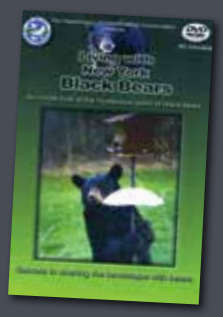
**DEC wants to know about occupied dens. Please call the nearest wildlife office. See page 6.**

## "Living with New York Black Bears"

**(Great Outdoors Multimedia 2007).**

**Take an inside look at the mysterious world of black bears and learn some secrets to sharing the landscape with bears. This video will explore the history of black bears, the challenges that face New York black bear biologists, and how landowners can responsibly and safely share their neighborhood with bears.**

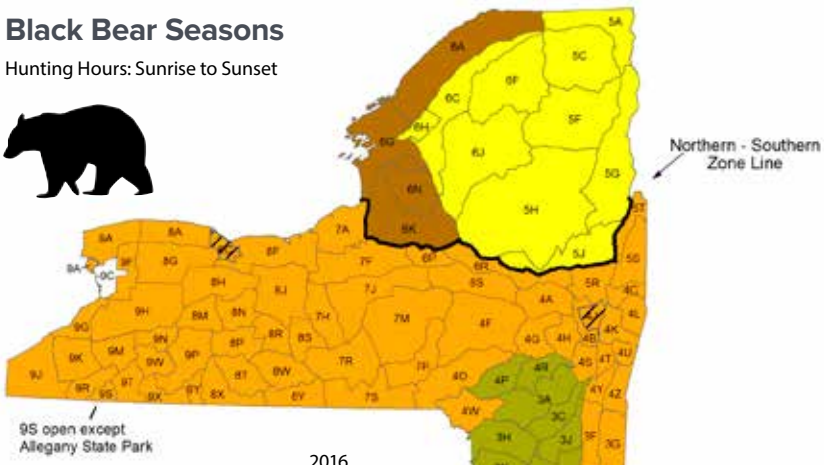
**Available for viewing or loan from your local library or local DEC regional wildlife office.**




## Black Bear Seasons

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset






| | 2016 |
|---|---|
| **Northern Zone** | |
| Early Bear | Sept. 17–Oct. 14 |
| Bowhunting | Sept. 17–Oct. 21 |
| Crossbow | Oct. 12–Oct. 21 |
| Muzzleloading | Oct. 15–Oct. 21 |
| Regular | Oct. 22–Dec. 4 |
| **Southern Zone** | |
| Early Bear | Sept. 10–Sept. 25 |
| Early Bowhunting | Oct. 1–Nov. 18 |
| Crossbow–Not in WMUs 4J or 8C | Nov. 5–Nov. 18 |
| Regular | Nov. 19–Dec. 11 |
| Late Bowhunting | Dec. 12–Dec. 20 |
| Late Muzzleloading | Dec. 12–Dec. 20 |
| Westchester County (3S) Regular–Bowhunting Only | Oct. 1–Dec. 31 |

Bowhunting Only WMUs

No Bear Hunting

### Crossbows

- May be used to hunt bear during the early bear seasons, muzzleloader seasons, and the regular firearms seasons
- May not be used to hunt bear anytime in WMUs 3S (Westchester County), 4J or 8C

Small game includes upland and migratory game birds, small game mammals, certain furbearers, and reptiles and amphibians.

Please read general hunting regulations first. See page 16.

## General Regulations

- You may not use a rifle or handgun to hunt pheasant or migratory game birds. See page 44 for more information on turkeys.
- See pages 47–51 for additional information on migratory game birds.
- Air guns (see page 16) may be used to hunt squirrels, rabbits, hares, ruffed grouse, and furbearers that may be hunted (e.g., raccoons and coyotes) and unprotected species (see page 17). Air guns may not be used to hunt waterfowl, pheasant, wild turkey, or big game.
- Crossbows may not be used to take waterfowl or other migratory game birds. Crossbows may not be possessed afield in the Northern Zone when hunting small game (except coyotes) with the aid of a dog or when accompanied by a dog. Crossbows may be used to take any other small game or upland game birds during their respective open seasons.
- In Wildlife Management Unit 2A, hunting is permitted by falconry only.

## Reptiles and Amphibians

**Frogs**—"Frogs" are defined as eastern spadefoot toad, eastern American toad, Fowler's toad, northern cricket frog, northern gray treefrog, northern spring peeper, western chorus frog, bullfrog, green frog, mink frog, wood frog, northern leopard frog, southern leopard frog, and pickerel frog.

A fishing or hunting license is required to take frogs with a spear, club, hook, or by hand. A hunting license is required to take frogs with a gun, bow or crossbow.

**Snakes, Lizards, and Salamanders**—You may not harvest, take, or possess any native snakes, lizards, or salamanders at any time.

**Turtles**—The only turtle species for which there is an open hunting season are the snapping turtle and the diamondback terrapin. You may not harvest, take, or possess any other turtle species at any time.

**Snapping turtles**—A hunting license is required to take snapping turtles. The only legal implement for taking snapping turtles is a gun, bow or crossbow.

**If you choose to eat snapping turtles, you should carefully trim all fat and discard fat, liver and eggs prior to cooking to reduce exposure to contaminants. For information on these health advisories, call 1-800-458-1158 or visit the website *http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/fish/health_advisories/***

**Diamondback terrapin**—A valid diamondback terrapin license is required to take diamondback terrapin. Application for, and purchase of, a diamondback terrapin license must be made by mail or in person at NYSDEC, SUNY Stony Brook, 50 Circle Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409.

Diamondback terrapin may only be taken using dip nets, hand capture, seine nets, and traps. The traps must be capable of capturing diamondback terrapin alive, and the trap must be marked with a tag bearing the name and address of the licensee and must be checked daily.

Possession of a diamondback terrapin on the waters or shores of New York State during the closed season is prohibited. Diamondback terrapin legally taken during the open season may be sold throughout the year only if they were killed and processed for consumption prior to May 5.

## DEC is Looking for "Citizen Scientists" to Help Monitor Wildlife Populations

**There are several surveys where hunters can record their wildlife observations while afield. Visit the DEC website to learn more about opportunities to help us track deer, turkeys, grouse, and more!**

- **Bowhunter Sighting Log**
- **Grouse and Woodcock Hunting Log**
- **Grouse Drumming Survey**
- **Summer Turkey Sighting Survey**
- **Winter Turkey Flock Survey**
- **Cottontail Survey**
- **Furbearer Observations**

***www.dec.ny.gov/animals/1155.html***


## FIREWOOD WARNING

**Your firewood may be hiding invasive pests that are killing our trees and forever changing the forests we love. Protect our trees.**
**Buy Local, Burn Local.**

- It is illegal to bring untreated* firewood into New York State
- It is illegal to transport untreated firewood more than 50 miles from its source or origin
- When transporting firewood, you must carry proof of source (receipt from a vendor), origin (self-issued certificate from DEC website), or treatment (label showing treatment method)

**Failure to follow these regulations may result in a ticket.**

For questions or to report any invasives you find, call toll-free

**1-866-640-0652**

State and federal quarantines exist that further restrict the movement of firewood. For more information please visit **www.dec.ny.gov** and search for "invasive insects".

*Treated firewood has been heated to 160°F for 75 minutes to eliminate pests living inside the wood. Treated firewood can be moved without restriction.

**What's lurking in your firewood?**

## Falconry Seasons

To hunt small game species with trained raptors, you must possess a Falconry License and a hunting license. Licensed falconers may take small game from October 1 through March 31 in any area of the state open to hunting these species EXCEPT:

- Waterfowl may be taken only during the regular firearm hunting season or during a specific period outside of the firearms seasons as specified by DEC.
- Common crow may only be taken during the open firearms season.
- A licensed falconer may take both male and female pheasants anywhere in the state when hunting under a Falconry License.

For more information on falconry, contact the DEC Special Licenses Unit, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4752 or call 518-402-8985.

## Possession and Release of Game Birds

It is illegal to possess or release migratory game birds and upland game birds without the proper license(s) from DEC. Before you take possession of any captive-reared or wild game birds, contact the DEC Special Licenses Unit, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4752 or call 518-402-8985 or e-mail *speciallicenses@dec.ny.gov.*

| Small Game Hunting Seasons | |
|---|---|
| **Frogs** | |
| Open Season | June 15–Sept. 30 |
| Open Area | All wildlife management units except that (1) leopard frogs shall not be taken in Wildlife Management Units 1A, 1C, or 2A; and (2) northern cricket frogs and eastern spadefoot toads shall not be taken in any area of the state. |
| Size Limit | None |
| Daily Bag | None |
| Season Bag | None |
| Hunting Hours | Any time of the day or night, except that no person shall use a gun to take frogs when hunting at night (sunset to sunrise). |
| **Snapping Turtles** | |
| Open Season | July 15–Sept. 30 |
| Open Area | Statewide |
| Size Limit | The upper shell (carapace) must be 12 inches or longer, measured in a straight line. |
| Daily Bag | 5 |
| Season Bag | 30 |
| Hunting Hours | Any time of the day or night |
| **Diamondback Terrapin** | |
| Open Season | Aug. 1–April 30 |
| Open Area | All of Long Island, New York City, and the lower Hudson River north to the Tappan Zee Bridge |
| Size Limit | The upper shell (carapace) must measure at least 4 inches, but may not be greater than 7 inches in length. |
| Daily Bag | None |
| Season Bag | None |
| Hunting Hours | Any time of the day or night |

## Use of Hunting Dogs

**Dogs may be used to hunt small game, except:**

- **You may not use dogs to hunt wild turkey in the spring.**
- **In the Northern Zone, if you are hunting with a dog, or accompanied by a dog, you may not possess a rifle larger than .22-caliber rimfire or possess a shotgun loaded with slug, ball or buckshot unless you are coyote hunting with a dog. In the Northern Zone, crossbows may not be possessed afield when hunting small game (except coyotes) with the aid of a dog or when accompanied by a dog.**

### Training

**You may train dogs on raccoon, fox, coyote, and bobcat from July 1 through April 15. You may train dogs on other small game only from August 15 through April 15. You may train dogs at any time on lands you own, lease, or have written permission to use, if you are not training on wild game. You may only use blank ammunition when training dogs, except during an open season.**

### Control

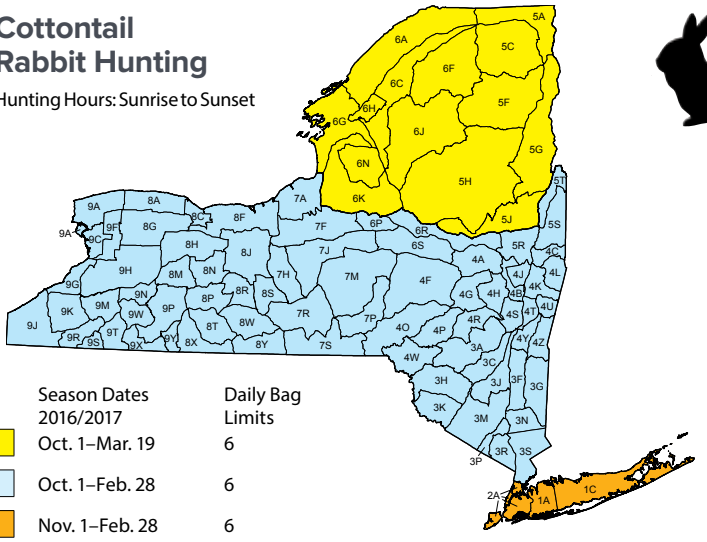
**Hunting dogs should remain under control of the hunter or trainer, especially on lands inhabited by deer. Do not allow your dogs to pursue game on any posted land without the landowner's permission. Do not shoot dogs; report stray dogs to a local Environmental Conservation Officer or your local animal control officer.**

## Attention

**The New England cottontail was a candidate for the federal Endangered Species Act, but as a result of ongoing conservation activities, it was determined that this was not necessary. It's important that we continue to collect information on this species and conduct conservation activities and you can help! If you hunt or own property in WMUs 3F, 3G, 3N, 3S, 4C, 4K, 4L, 4Z, 4U, 4T, or 4Y and would like to assist with survey efforts or habitat management, please call 518-402-8870 or email *wildlife@dec.ny.gov*.**

## Cottontail Rabbit Hunting

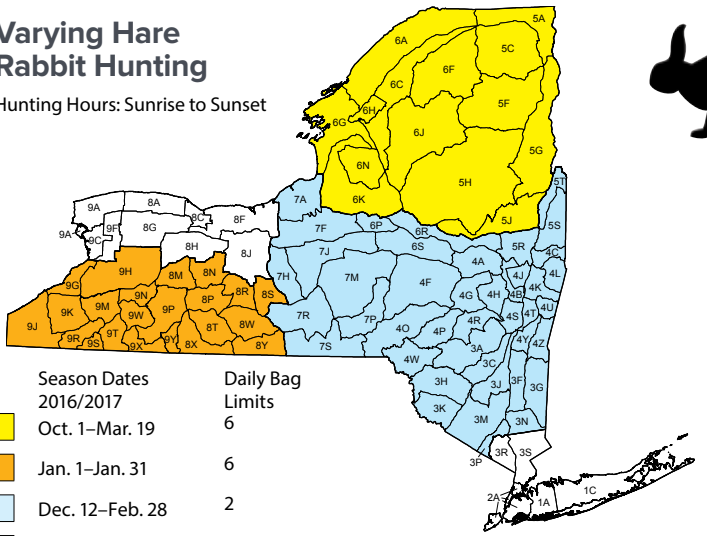
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset



| Season Dates 2016/2017 | Daily Bag Limits |
|---|---|
| Oct. 1–Mar. 19 | 6 |
| Oct. 1–Feb. 28 | 6 |
| Nov. 1–Feb. 28 | 6 |

## Varying Hare Rabbit Hunting

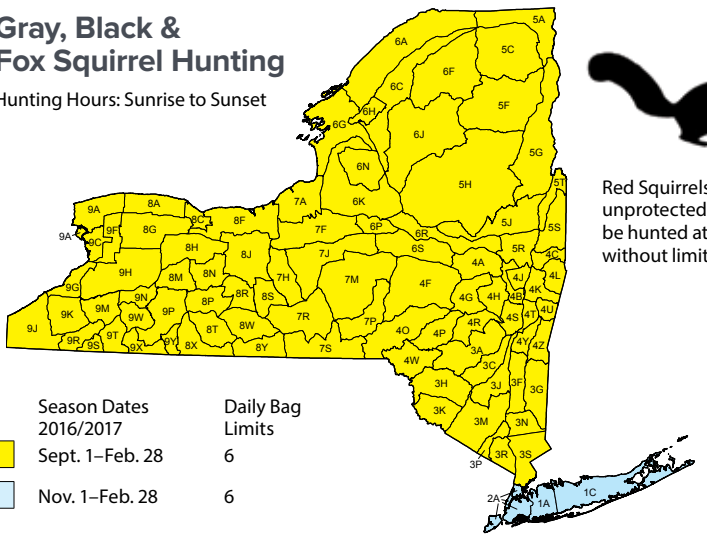
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset



| Season Dates 2016/2017 | Daily Bag Limits |
|---|---|
| Oct. 1–Mar. 19 | 6 |
| Jan. 1–Jan. 31 | 6 |
| Dec. 12–Feb. 28 | 2 |
| Closed | |

## Gray, Black & Fox Squirrel Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset



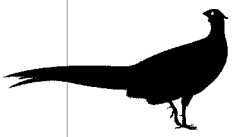
Red Squirrels are unprotected and may be hunted at any time without limit.

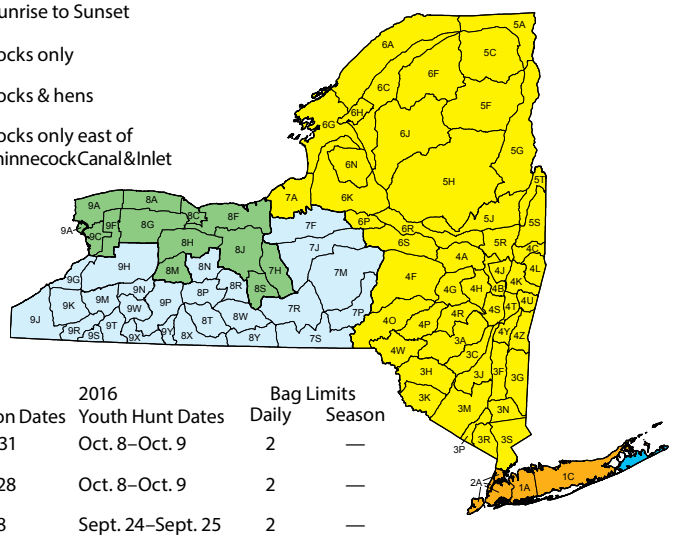
| Season Dates 2016/2017 | Daily Bag Limits |
|---|---|
| Sept. 1–Feb. 28 | 6 |
| Nov. 1–Feb. 28 | 6 |

## Pheasant Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset

- Cocks only
- Cocks & hens
- Cocks only east of ShinnecockCanal&Inlet



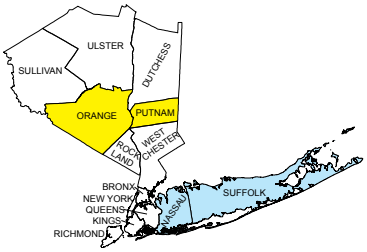


| 2016/2017 Regular Season Dates | 2016 Youth Hunt Dates | Bag Limits Daily | Bag Limits Season |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. 15–Dec. 31 | Oct. 8–Oct. 9 | 2 | — |
| Oct. 15–Feb. 28 | Oct. 8–Oct. 9 | 2 | — |
| Oct. 1–Feb. 28 | Sept. 24–Sept. 25 | 2 | — |
| Nov. 1–Dec. 31 | Oct. 29–Oct. 30 | 2*/4** | 30 |
| Nov. 1–Dec. 31 | Oct. 29–Oct. 30 | 2*/4** | 30 |

* Youth Hunt
** Regular Season

## Bobwhite Quail Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset




| Season Dates 2016/2017 | Bag Limits Daily | Bag Limits Season |
|---|---|---|
| Oct. 1–Feb. 28 | 4 | 10 |
| Nov. 1–Dec. 31 | 6 | 40 |
| Closed | | |

## Attention

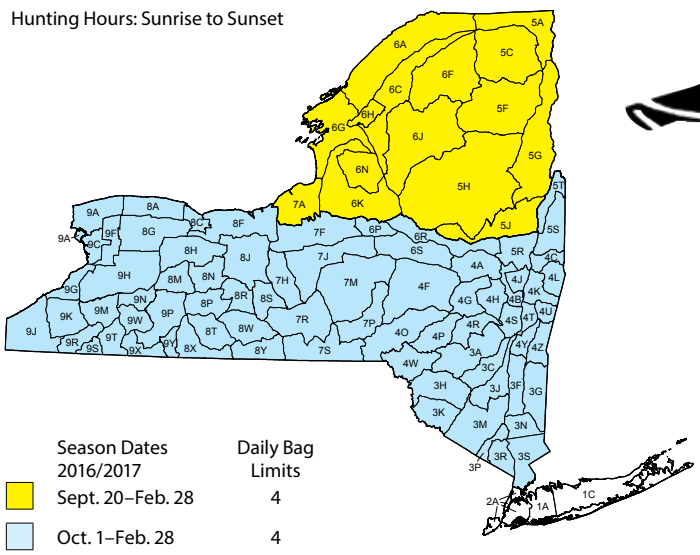
**If you would like to raise and release pheasants to increase pheasant hunting opportunities, please e-mail us at *wildlife@dec.ny.gov* and type "pheasants" in the subject line or call (607) 273-2768. For a list of hunting areas where pheasants are released, contact a DEC regional wildlife office (on page 6) or visit our website at *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/9349.html***

## Youth Pheasant Hunt

**Junior hunters (ages 12–15) must be accompanied by a licensed adult hunter. Only the junior hunter may carry a firearm.**

## Ruffed Grouse Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset



| Season Dates 2016/2017 | Daily Bag Limits |
|---|---|
| Sept. 20–Feb. 28 | 4 |
| Oct. 1–Feb. 28 | 4 |
| Closed | |

## Attention Grouse Hunters

**You may not shoot woodcock unless you have registered in the Harvest Information Program. To register, go to *www.NY-HIP.com* or call 1-888-427-5447. (See woodcock season dates, page 49.)**

## Attention

**DEC is seeking grouse hunters to participate in a survey to help monitor ruffed grouse populations. For more information, please e-mail us at *wildlife@dec.ny.gov* and type "grouse log" in the subject line, call (518) 402-8883, or visit *www.dec.ny.gov/animals/9351.html***

## General Information

- You may buy only one turkey permit per year.
- If you have filled your bag limit, you may call turkeys for another hunter, but you may not carry a bow, crossbow, or firearm.
- If you have taken a turkey that is unfit for consumption, authorized DEC staff may issue a special permit to take another. You will have to surrender the carcass. Call your wildlife or law enforcement office (see page 6).
- You may call turkeys to aid another hunter only if you are licensed to hunt wild turkey in New York and have a valid turkey permit.

### Turkey Hunters Needed for Grouse Survey

**DEC is seeking spring turkey hunters to participate in a survey to help monitor grouse populations.**

**For more information:**

- **E-mail us at *wildlife@dec.ny.gov* and type "Grouse Drumming Survey" in the subject line, or**
- **Call 518-402-8883, or**
- **Visit www.dec.ny.gov and search for "drumming survey."**

## Manner of Taking

- You must carry your hunting license and turkey permit while you hunt.
- You may hunt with a bow or crossbow.
- You may hunt with a shotgun or handgun only when using shot no larger than #2 and no smaller than #8.
- You may not take a turkey with a rifle or with a handgun firing a bullet.
- You may use a muzzleloading shotgun.
- You may not hunt with a dog during the spring season. You may hunt with a dog during the fall season.
- You may not use bait to hunt turkey.
- You may not use an electronic calling or amplifying device to locate or hunt turkeys during the open season.
- You may use decoys.
- A scope of any type is allowed.

## Tagging and Possession

- Immediately after taking a wild turkey, you must fill out the appropriate carcass tag in ink, mark or cut out the date and month of kill, sign the back, and attach it to the carcass.
- The carcass tag must stay attached to the turkey carcass until it is prepared for eating.
- You may give your turkey to another person.
- You must attach a tag with the following information to the turkey carcass:
  - » Your name
  - » Your address
  - » Your hunting license number
  - » Turkey permit carcass tag number
  - » The recipient's name
  - » The recipient's address
- You must report your harvest within 7 days via phone (1-866-GAMERPT) or online (*www.dec.ny.gov*).

### Reward

**Protect wild turkeys against illegal hunting. Their future depends on you!**

**The National Wild Turkey Federation is offering a $200 reward to anyone giving information and testimony leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone illegally hunting or killing a wild turkey in the State of New York.**

**1-844-DEC-ECOS**

## Fall Turkey Season

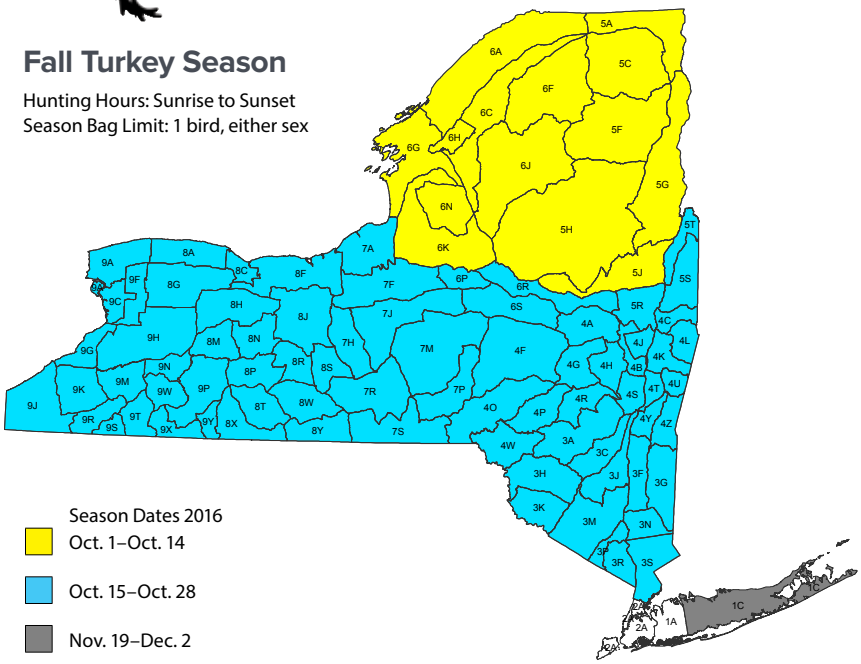
- You may take a bird of either sex.
- There is one carcass tag for the fall season and it may be used in any fall turkey hunting zone. Immediately after taking a turkey, you must fill out the carcass tag in ink and attach it to the bird.
- **If you take a turkey, save one of its legs.** You will receive instructions about what to do with the leg when you report your harvest. The legs are used for age and sex information.

## Spring Turkey Season

- In the spring, you may take two bearded birds. You may only take one bird per day.
- Fill out the carcass tag and attach it to the bird.
- You do not need to save and send in turkey legs in the spring. You do need to take careful spur, beard, and weight measurements for harvest reporting.
  1. Spur measurements: Spurs should be measured from the tip of the spur to the base of the spur, where it emerges from the scaly part of the leg. Measure to the nearest ¼ inch. Do not measure to the forward edge of the leg, only to the base of the spur.
  2. Beard measurements: Beards should be measured from the tip of the beard to the base, where it emerges from the skin. Put the end of your ruler against the base of the beard and extend the beard along the body of the ruler. Measure to the nearest ¼ inch.
  3. Record the weight of the turkey to the nearest pound.

### Fall Turkey Season

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to Sunset
Season Bag Limit: 1 bird, either sex




### Spring Turkey Season (no map)

Hunting Hours
One half-hour before sunrise to noon
Area Open
All of upstate New York north of the Bronx-Westchester County boundary
Season Dates
May 1–May 31
Season Bag Limits
Two bearded turkeys (one bird per day)

### Spring Youth Hunt

Season Dates
April 22–23, 2017
Area Open
Same as regular spring season plus Suffolk County (WMU 1C)
Eligible Hunters
Youth 12–15 years of age
Bag Limit
One bearded turkey

Subscribe now to **Conservationist** and save!

- Your guide to New York hunting, wildlife, outdoors and more.
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Address: _____

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**www.TheConservationist.org** or call **800-678-6399** and mention code **J13HR**

Or mail this coupon to: **Conservationist, PO BOX 1500, LATHAM, NY 12110**

If you are not satisfied, return the bill marked "cancel" and you will owe nothing.

## Spring Youth Hunt

Eligible hunters are 12–15 years of age and hold a Junior Hunting License and a Turkey Permit.

All youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult, as required by law for a Junior Hunting License (see pages 36 and 37).

The accompanying adult must have a current hunting license and Turkey Permit. He/she may assist the youth hunter (including calling), but may not carry a firearm, crossbow or bow, or kill or attempt to kill a wild turkey during the youth hunt. Crossbows may only be used by licensees who are 14 years of age or older.

The bag limit for the youth hunt is one bearded bird. This bird becomes part of the youth's regular season bag limit of two bearded birds. A second bird may be taken beginning May 1.

All other wild turkey hunting regulations remain in effect.

## Turkey Hunting Tips

**Successful turkey hunters sit and call.**

**Don't wear red, white, blue or black.**

**Most turkey hunting injuries happen when one hunter stalks another hunter. DON'T TRY TO STALK TURKEY!**

**Assume anything that sounds like a turkey is a human (calls, footsteps).**

**If you see another hunter...**

- **Don't move, or wave or nod.**
- **Don't make turkey or animal sounds.**
- **Do speak up clearly, saying "STOP."**

**If you see a turkey...**
**Be 100% sure of your target and beyond.**

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STATE OF NEW YORK
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**...In 2015, DEC Rangers protected the people using more than 5 million acres of state land by walking, snowmobiling or paddling 21,800 miles during patrols.**

**...DEC Forest Rangers venture into remote wilderness areas to find lost people anytime of the day or night, in any condition.**

**...In 2015, Rangers conducted 178 search missions, 149 rescue missions, and 13 recoveries.**

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## Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Bag Limits

Migratory game bird hunting regulations are set by the federal government. Due to a change in the federal regulation setting process, migratory game bird seasons are now finalized by mid-June or early July. Final season dates and bag limits are now available in time to be published in the annual hunting guide; pocket references for migratory game bird seasons are also available from regional DEC offices upon request.

## License Requirements

To hunt any migratory game bird in New York, you need a hunting license unless you qualify to hunt without a license.

To hunt any migratory game bird in New York except crows, you must register in New York's Harvest Information Program (HIP). This applies to all hunters, including junior hunters and people who qualify to hunt without a license. To register, go to: *www.NY-HIP.com* or call 1-888-427-5447. HIP registration is valid from July 1 through June 30 annually (not the same as your hunting license!).

## Duck Stamp

If you are 16 years or older and you hunt waterfowl, then you also need a federal migratory game bird hunting stamp ("duck stamp"). The stamp is not needed to hunt coot, rails, gallinules, woodcock, snipe or crows. You may buy a duck stamp at most post offices and many sporting goods stores. They may also be ordered on-line (*www.duckstamp.com*) or by phone (1-800-852-4897). The stamp must be signed in ink across the face to be valid for hunting.

## Consumption of Wild Waterfowl

Every year, tens of thousands of people consume wild waterfowl harvested in New York. There are many ways to cook and enjoy waterfowl, but it's important to remember that some birds may pick up chemical contaminants from the environment. Mergansers are fish-eating birds that tend to be the most heavily contaminated waterfowl and should not be eaten. For all other wild waterfowl, the New York State Department of Health recommends that you remove the skin and fat before cooking, and eat no more than two meals containing waterfowl per month.

## Waterfowl Hunting in Populated Areas

Some excellent waterfowl hunting opportunities occur in shoreline areas of New York that are becoming more populated and developed. Waterfowl hunters have special privileges in New York, but please consider the possible concerns that nearby homeowners may have about noise, safety or invasion of privacy before you go afield. Avoiding such conflicts will help ensure that waterfowl hunting remains an accepted tradition in fast-developing shoreline areas. For more information, go to: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/94213.html*.

DEC, in cooperation with the South Shore Waterfowlers Association (SSWA), has produced *A Pocket Reference for Police Officers and Waterfowl Hunters* that summarizes the state laws that pertain to waterfowl hunting in general and includes a "code of ethics" for waterfowl hunters to help ensure that waterfowl hunting remains a viable recreational opportunity in New York. For a copy, call (518) 402-8883.

## Special Snow Goose Harvest Program

Waterfowl hunters in New York will have a special opportunity to harvest snow geese in most areas of the state from January 16 through April 15, 2017. This additional opportunity is offered because of concerns about impacts that snow geese are having on natural ecosystems. For more information, including harvest regulations for 2016–17, go to: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/50514.html*.

## General Regulations

Following is a summary of state and federal rules that apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting and storing of all migratory game birds in New York. For more complete information, consult the specific federal (50 CFR Part 20) and state (6 NYCRR Part 2.30) regulations. You can link to both of these from: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28175.html*.

### Definitions

Migratory game birds are wild ducks, geese, brant, coot, rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe. Migratory waterfowl are wild ducks, geese, brant and coot.

### License requirements

All migratory game bird hunters must carry a valid New York State hunting license, except for persons not required to have a hunting license. All migratory game bird hunters in New York must also register annually with New York's Harvest Information Program (HIP) and carry proof of compliance whenever going afield. To register, call toll-free 1-888-4ASKHIP (1-888-427-5447) or visit the website: *www.NY-HIP.com*. You will be given a confirmation number that you can record on the back of your hunting license as proof of participation in HIP. HIP registration is valid from July 1–June 30 annually.

### Migratory bird hunting stamp

Each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age or older must carry on his/her person a valid Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp ("duck stamp") signed in ink across the face. Stamps do not have to be attached to your license. Duck stamps are not required to hunt coot, rails, gallinules, woodcock or snipe. Duck stamps are not required of minors 12 to 15 years of age hunting migratory waterfowl in New York State.

Federal duck stamps are sold at most post offices and many sporting goods stores and cost $25.00 each. They may also be ordered by calling 1-800-852-4897 or visiting the website *www.duckstamp.com*. There is a shipping and handling fee for phone or Internet orders.

### Hunting hours

Woodcock may be taken from sunrise to sunset. All other migratory game birds may be taken from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset in all hunting zones. Canada geese may be taken until one-half hour after sunset during the September seasons, except on Youth Waterfowl Hunt Days, when hunting hours end at sunset. Snow geese may be taken until one-half hour after sunset during January 15– April 15 whenever all other waterfowl hunting seasons are closed.

### Non-toxic shot requirement

Non-toxic shot is required for hunting any migratory game bird, except woodcock, everywhere in New York State. Possession or use of shells loaded with shot other than steel, bismuth-tin, iron-tungsten, iron-tungsten-nickel, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-tin-iron, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-tin-iron-nickel or other shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is strictly prohibited when hunting waterfowl, snipe, rails or gallinules.

### Duck hunting blinds

NYS Navigation Law Section 33-b requires that duck blinds placed in the waters of lakes within New York State be prominently marked with the owner's full name and address. All duck blinds placed in lakes must be removed no later than March 15 annually.

### Prohibitions on methods of take

No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, crossbow, swivel gun, shotgun larger that 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.

### Help Monitor Woodcock Populations

**Join our grouse and woodcock hunting log: *www.dec.ny.gov/animals/9351.html* or call 518-402-8886.**

- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun. This does not apply to the taking of snow geese in any area or zone, or taking of Canada geese during September, when all other waterfowl seasons are closed.
- From a sink box (a low-floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may, with a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Conservation, take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease or injury to the spinal cord.
- From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased. Motorboats and sailboats under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds; however, crippled birds may not be shot from such craft under power except in the Special Sea Duck Area described in the Hunting Seasons Table.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- Using recorded migratory bird calls or sounds or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls. This does not apply to the taking of snow geese in any area or zone, or taking of Canada geese in September, when all other waterfowl seasons are closed.
- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of hunters.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement) or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation. Migratory game birds may be taken on or over standing crops, flooded harvested crop lands, grain crops properly shocked on the field where grown or grains found scattered solely as a result of the normal agricultural planting or harvesting.

## Wanton waste/ possession of live birds

No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird and retain it in his/her actual custody. Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be killed immediately and included in the daily bag limit.

## Field possession limit

No more than one daily bag or aggregate daily bag limit of migratory game birds may be possessed or transported, tagged or untagged, at or between the place of taking and:

- His or her automobile or principal means of land transportation
- His or her personal abode or temporary place of lodging
- Migratory bird preservation facility
- Post office or common-carrier facility

No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird and then transport the bird from the field. The head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported.

## Possession, tagging, shipment and importation

The possession limit is the maximum number of migratory game birds that any person may possess in total in his/her automobile or principal means of land transportation, personal abode, or in his/her name at any migratory bird preservation facility, post office or common-carrier facility. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit for all waterfowl species except snow geese.

No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than personal abode) or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, storage (including temporary storage) or taxidermy services, unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

- Hunter's name, address and signature
- Total number of birds involved, by species
- Dates such birds were killed

For more information on regulations pertaining to possession, tagging, shipment and importation of legally killed migratory game birds, consult the specific federal and state regulations cited above.

## Caution/dual violation

More restrictive regulations may apply to national wildlife refuges and state wildlife management areas (WMAs) open to public hunting. Violation of New York State migratory bird hunting regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.

## What is a "Migratory Game Bird"?

**Under state and federal laws and regulations, all of the following are considered migratory game birds in New York:**

- **All wild ducks, mergansers, geese, and brant ("waterfowl")**
- **All coot, rails, and gallinules (moorhens)**
- **Woodcock and snipe**

**Crows are not considered migratory game birds under federal regulations, but most of New York's migratory game bird hunting regulations apply to crows. You should assume they are the same except where differences are noted.**

**Mourning doves are considered migratory game birds under federal regulations, but they are not defined as such under New York State law so no hunting season has been established for this species (for more information, see: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/59626.html*).**

# Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

## Woodcock, Crow, Snipe, Rail & Gallinule Seasons

Upstate New York
(North of Bronx-Westchester County boundary)
American Woodcock: Oct. 1–Nov. 14
Crow: Sept. 1–Mar. 31 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday only)
Snipe, Rail & Gallinule: Sept. 1–Nov. 9

Long Island
(Nassau and Suffolk counties)
American Woodcock: Oct. 1–Nov. 14
Crow: Sept. 1–Mar. 31 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday only)
Snipe, Rail and Gallinule: Closed

New York City
(Bronx, Kings, Queens, New York & Richmond counties)
Closed for all migratory bird species


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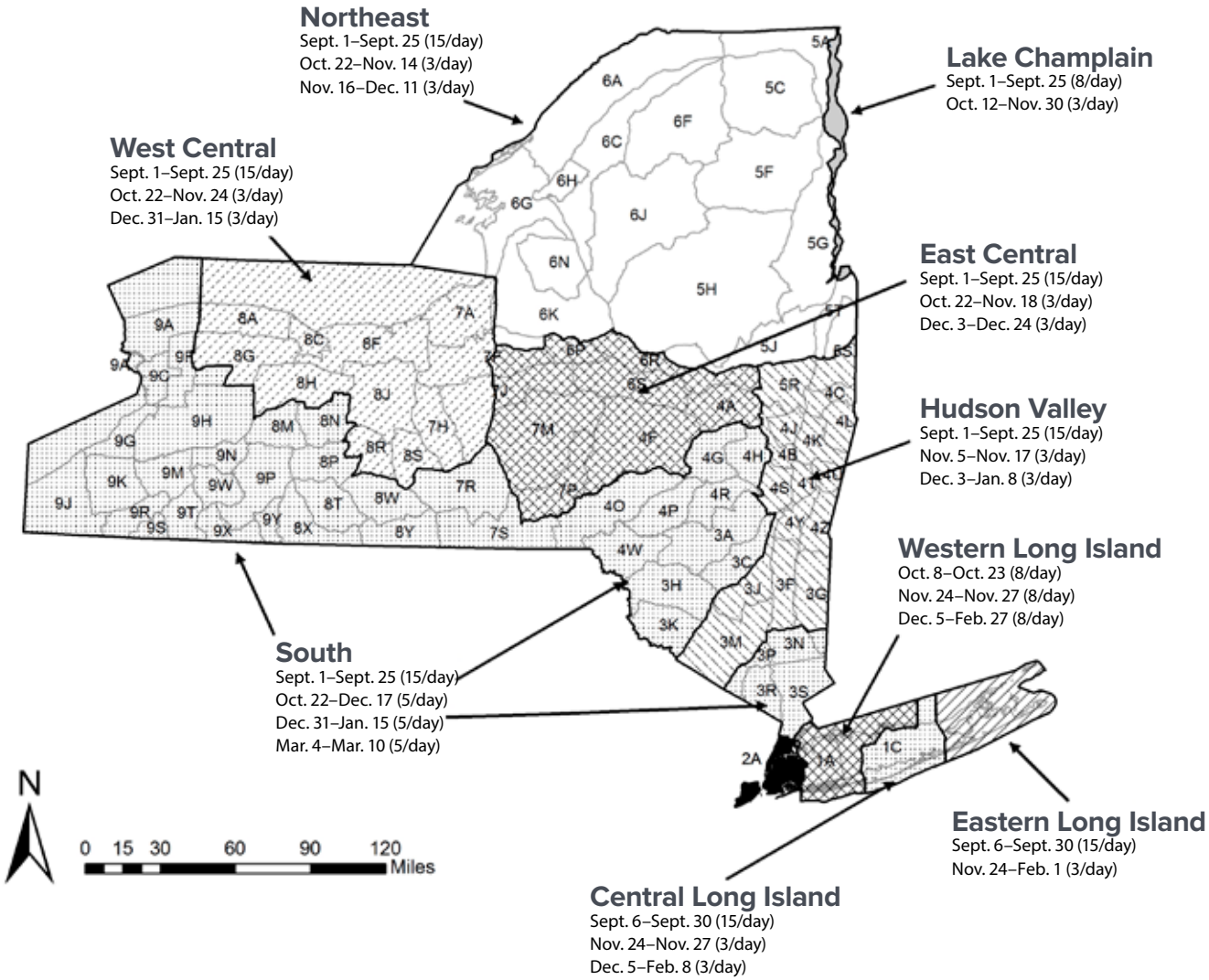
**Woodcock, Crow, Snipe, Rail and Gallinule Hunting Season Dates, Bag Limits, and Regulations for 2016–17**

| Regulations | Woodcock | Crow | Snipe | Virginia & Sora Rails | Gallinules | Clapper & King Rails |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Upstate New York [1,3] | Oct. 1 – Nov. 14 | Sept. 1 – Mar. 31 | Sept. 1 – Nov. 9 | Sept. 1 – Nov. 9 | Sept. 1 – Nov. 9 | Closed |
| Long Island [2,3] | Oct. 1 – Nov. 14 | Sept. 1 – Mar. 31 | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| Bag Limit | 3/day<br>9 in possession | None | 8/day<br>24 in possession | 8/day<br>24 in possession | 8/day<br>24 in possession | n/a |
| Shooting Hours | Sunrise to Sunset | Sunrise to Sunset | 1/2-Hr Before Sunrise to Sunset | 1/2-Hr Before Sunrise to Sunset | 1/2-Hr Before Sunrise to Sunset | n/a |
| Non-Toxic Shot | NOT Required | NOT Required | Required | Required | Required | n/a |
| HIP Registration | Required | NOT Required | Required | Required | Required | n/a |
| Other | Fed Migratory Bird Stamp NOT Required | Hunting on Fri., Sat., Sun. & Mon. ONLY; Fed Migratory Bird Stamp NOT Required; Rifles and electronically amplified bird calls or sounds permitted | Fed Migratory Bird Stamp NOT Required | Fed Migratory Bird Stamp NOT Required | Fed Migratory Bird Stamp NOT Required | n/a |

1 Upstate New York includes all of New York State north of the Bronx-Westchester County boundary
2 Long Island includes all of WMUs 1A and 1C (Nassau and Suffolk counties)
3 Hunting season closed in New York City for all species listed in table; New York City includes all of WMU 2A (Bronx, Kings, Queens, New York, and Richmond counties)

## 2016–2017 Canada Goose Hunting Areas and Seasons

**Note:** "Goose Hunting Areas" (see map below) have replaced waterfowl hunting zones for setting Canada goose hunting seasons. Season dates are shown below (with the daily bag limit in parentheses).




## Boating Safety

**Operators born on or after May 1, 1996 must have a boating safety certificate and be at least 10 years of age.**

**A boating safety course can be completed online, see *http://nysparks.com/recreation/boating/boating-safety-class.aspx* for more information.**

**Life jackets must be worn by:**

- **Children under the age of 12 aboard pleasure vessels less than 65 feet in length, canoes, kayaks or rowboats unless in a totally enclosed cabin**
- **Everyone being towed (wakeboarding, water skiing, tubing, etc.)**
- **Everyone aboard pleasure vessels less than 21 feet in length, including rowboats, canoes, and kayaks, while underway between November 1st and May 1st**
- **Everyone aboard a PWC**

# Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

## Bag Limits

The daily bag limit is the maximum number of birds of each species that any person may take or possess in the field during any one day. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit for all migratory game birds except snow geese.

| Species | Daily Limit | Possession Limit |
|---|---|---|
| Ducks*/Seaducks** | 6 | 18 |
| Coot | 15 | 45 |
| Canada Geese | See map | See map |
| Snow Geese*** | 25 | No limit |
| Brant | 2 | 6 |
| Woodcock | 3 | 9 |
| Snipe, rails, gallinules | 8 | 24 |

* The daily limit of 6 ducks includes all mergansers and sea ducks (scoters, eiders and long-tailed ducks) and may include no harlequin ducks and no more than 4 mallards (2 of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 1 black duck, 2 pintail, 2 scaup, 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 4 scoters, 4 eiders, 4 long-tailed ducks or 2 hooded mergansers. For all other duck species found in New York, the daily limit is 6.

** Sea ducks count towards the regular duck bag in all areas.

*** Cackling geese and white-fronted geese may be taken as part of the Canada goose daily and possession limits. Snow geese and Ross' geese may be taken as part of the snow goose limits.

## 2016–2017 Migratory Game Bird Seasons (Regulations in Effect September 2016 to April 2017)

| Species | Western Zone | Northeastern Zone | Lake Champlain Zone | Southeastern Zone | Long Island Zone |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ducks, Coot and Mergansers | Oct. 22 – Dec. 4<br>Dec. 31 – Jan. 15 | Oct. 8 – Oct. 30<br>Nov. 5 – Dec. 11 | Oct. 12 – Oct. 16<br>Oct. 29 – Dec. 22 | Oct. 1 – Oct. 10<br>Nov. 12 – Dec. 31 | Nov. 24 – Nov. 27<br>Dec. 5 – Jan. 29 |
| Sea Ducks* | same as above | same as above | same as above | same as above | same as above |
| Youth Days** | Oct. 1 & Oct. 2 | Sept. 17 & Sept. 18 | Sept. 24 & Sept. 25 | Sept. 17 & Sept. 18 | Nov. 12 & Nov. 13 |
| Canada Geese | see other panel | see other panel | see other panel | see other panel | see other panel |
| Snow Geese | Oct. 1 – Apr. 15 | Oct. 1 – Apr. 15 | Oct. 12 – Dec. 31<br>Jan 15 - Apr. 15 | Oct. 1 – Apr. 15 | Nov. 24 – Mar. 10 |
| Brant | Oct. 1 – Nov. 29 | Oct. 1 – Nov. 29 | Oct. 5 – Dec. 3 | Oct. 1 – Nov. 29 | Nov. 24 – Nov. 27<br>Dec. 5 – Jan. 29 |

* During the period of Oct. 17–Jan. 31, the taking of sea ducks (scoters, eiders and long-tailed ducks) is permitted within the Special Sea Duck Area, defined as the coastal waters of New York State lying in Long Island Sound, Block Island Sound, Great Peconic Bay and associated bays eastward from a line running between Miamogue Point in the Town of Riverhead to Red Cedar Point in the Town of Southampton, and any ocean waters of New York State lying south of Long Island.

** These are additional days for Junior Hunters only (ages 12–15) to hunt ducks, coot, mergansers, Canada geese and brant (see page 36).

**For written descriptions of Goose Hunting Areas and Waterfowl Hunting Zones, see page 72.**

# New Permit Requirements for Fisher, Marten and Bobcat

## New Fisher and Marten Trapping Permit

Following completion of the *New York State Fisher Management Plan*, regulations were adopted to:

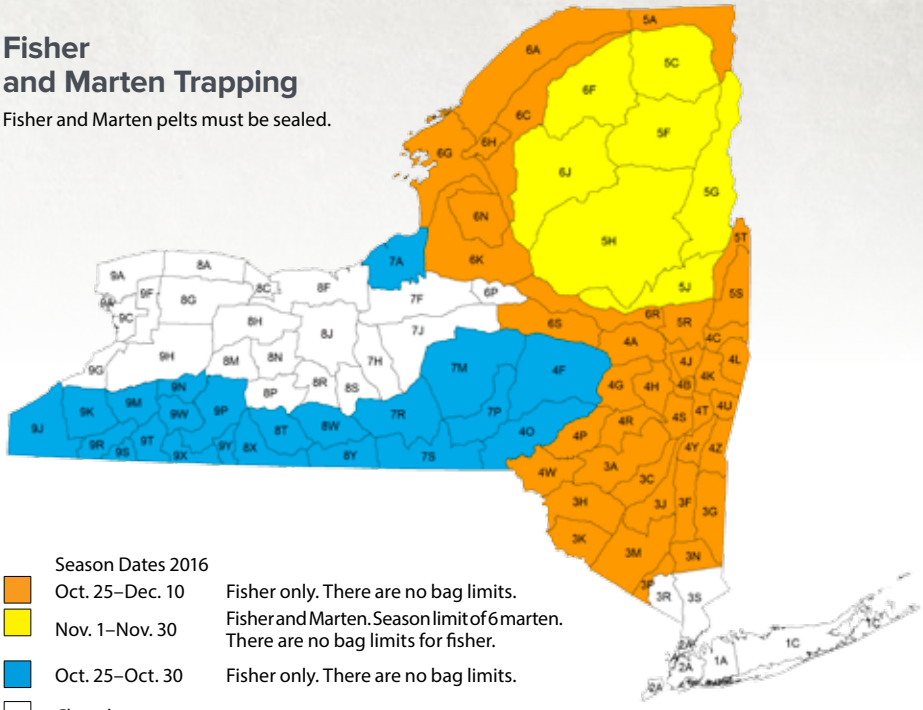
- Reduce the fisher (and marten) trapping season from 46 days to 30 days in select Adirondack Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in the Northern Zone (yellow area on the map).
- Establish a 6-day fisher trapping season in selected WMUs in Central/Western New York (blue area on the map).
- Require a free special permit for all fisher trapping. The special permit will enable DEC to collect important data for managing fisher harvests.

### Permit conditions:

- To trap fisher or marten anywhere in the state, obtain a Special Free Fisher Permit or combination Fisher/Marten Permit (yellow area on map) from DEC regional Bureau of Wildlife offices as outlined in the table below.
- Submit the skull or lower jaw of all harvested fishers and the entire carcass of all harvested martens at the time of pelt sealing.
- Complete and submit a trapping activity log, even if you did not trap, within 10 days after the close of the season.

### Fisher and Marten Trapping

Fisher and Marten pelts must be sealed.



| Season Dates 2016 | |
|---|---|
| Oct. 25–Dec. 10 | Fisher only. There are no bag limits. |
| Nov. 1–Nov. 30 | Fisher and Marten. Season limit of 6 marten. There are no bag limits for fisher. |
| Oct. 25–Oct. 30 | Fisher only. There are no bag limits. |
| Closed | |

## Bobcat Harvest Expansion Area (HEA) Permit

To hunt or trap bobcats in the "Harvest Expansion Area" (HEA area highlighted in blue on the bobcat season map), which includes Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) 3R, 3S, 4A, 4F, 4O, 5R, 6R, 6S, 7S, 8T, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X, and 9Y, you must obtain a free bobcat Harvest Expansion Area permit from DEC regional Bureau of Wildlife offices as outlined in the table below.

**Note:** Bobcat hunting/trapping activity logs and submission of the bobcat skull, jaw, or carcass are no longer required.

## To Obtain a Free Fisher, Fisher/Marten, or Bobcat HEA Permit

Contact your regional wildlife office (see table below), or apply by e-mail. You must provide the following information:

- Name
- Species (fisher, fisher/marten, bobcat)
- Mailing address
- DEC ID # (from your trapping license or backtag)
- Phone number and/or e-mail address

**A special free trapping permit must be obtained from the regional wildlife office.**

- If you request a permit by e-mail, be sure to include the primary county in which you plan to hunt (bobcat) or trap (fisher, marten, or bobcat).

Only one fisher or fisher/marten permit is needed to trap these species anywhere in New York where the season is open, and only one bobcat permit is needed to hunt or trap bobcats in the WMUs in the Harvest Expansion Area.

Apply in person or by phone to any office listed below:

| DEC Region | Fisher/Marten | Fisher | Bobcat HEA | Address | Phone |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | N/A | Contact any regional office to obtain a free permit to trap fisher in any WMU with an open season (other than those listed for fisher/marten). | 3R, 3S | 21 South Putt Corners Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561 | 845-256-3098 |
| 4 | | | 4A, 4F, 4O, 5R, 6R, 6S | 1130 N Westcott Rd, Schenectady, NY 12306 | 518-357-2007 |
| 5 | 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J, 6F, 6J | | N/A | 232 Golf Course Rd, Warrensburg, NY 12885 | 518-623-1240 |
| 6 | | | | 317 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 | 315-785-2263 |
| 7 | N/A | | 7S | 1285 Fisher Ave., Cortland, NY 13045 | 607-753-3095 ext. 247 |
| 8 | | | 8T, 8W, 8X, 8Y | 7291 Coon Rd., Bath, NY 14810 | 607-776-2165 |
| 9 | | | 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X, 9Y | 182 E Union St, Suite 3, Allegany, NY 14706 | 716-372-0645 |

Or apply by email to: wildlife@dec.ny.gov and type "Fisher/Marten Permit" or "Bobcat Permit" in the subject line.

To hunt furbearers, you must possess a Resident or Non-resident Hunting license. A trapping license does not allow you to hunt furbearers. Furbearers may be hunted with a bow, crossbow or firearm as described below.

- You may hunt red and gray fox, coyote, bobcat, raccoon, skunk, mink, weasel and opossum.
- If you take a bobcat, it must be tagged and sealed.
- You may use a call, including an electronic call.
- Mink may only be hunted in the Southern Zone with a firearm not larger than .22 caliber during their open trapping season. Mink may not be hunted with a firearm in the Northern Zone.
- Muskrat may only be hunted on Lake Champlain during the open trapping season with a firearm not larger than .22 caliber.
- You may not hunt from any motor vehicle, including an ATV or snowmobile.
- Except as noted above, you may hunt furbearers using any handgun, shotgun, muzzleloading rifle, bow, crossbow or air gun.

## Possession and Use of Rifles for Hunting Furbearers

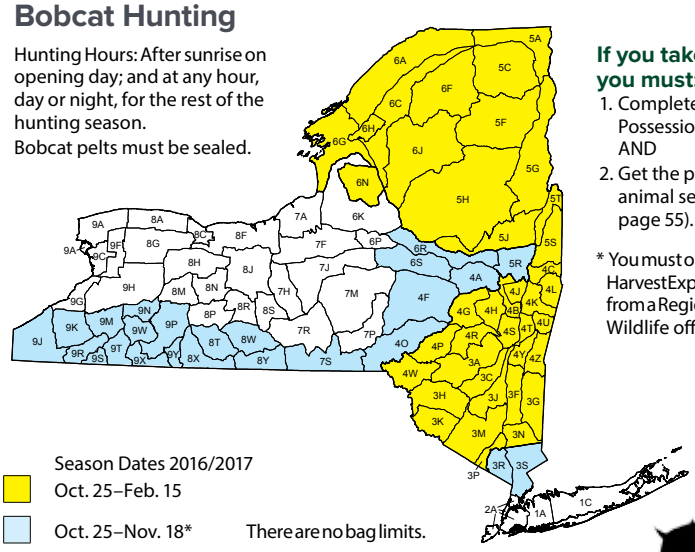
1. Is **any deer season open** in the location you wish to hunt (including archery, muzzleloading, regular, late and Focus Area)?
   a. If **NO**, you may use any caliber rimfire or centerfire rifle for hunting furbearers.
   b. If **YE**S, can deer be hunted with rifles in that location during the regular season?
      i. If **YES**, you may use any caliber rimfire or centerfire rifle for hunting furbearers during any open deer season.
      ii. If **NO**, you may only possess afield rimfire rifles .22-caliber or smaller, or centerfire rifles **LESS THAN** .22 caliber (.204, .17, etc.) during any open deer season. Once all deer seasons are closed, the restriction ends, except:
2. You may **NEVER** possess a rifle afield in Westchester, Nassau, and Suffolk counties.
3. In the Northern Zone, it is illegal to carry a rifle larger than .22 caliber rimfire (or .22-caliber or larger centerfire rifles) at any time if accompanied by a dog, except when coyote hunting.

## Hunting Furbearers at Night

- Spotlights, night vision, thermal and laser devices are permitted for furbearer hunting. They may be attached to the firearm. All laws pertaining to the use of a spotlight apply.
- Hunters should consult with local government officials for any laws that may prohibit the discharge of firearms at night.

### Bobcat Hunting

Hunting Hours: After sunrise on opening day; and at any hour, day or night, for the rest of the hunting season.
Bobcat pelts must be sealed.



**If you take a bobcat, you must:**

1. Complete a Furbearer Possession Tag (see below) AND
2. Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed (see page 55).

* You must obtain a free bobcat Harvest Expansion Area permit from a Regional DEC Bureau of Wildlife office, see page 52.

Season Dates 2016/2017
- Oct. 25–Feb. 15
- Oct. 25–Nov. 18* There are no bag limits.
- Closed

### Weasel, Opossum, Skunk, Raccoon and Fox Hunting

Long Island: Nov. 1–Feb. 25
All other areas of New York: Oct. 25–Feb. 15
There are no bag limits for these species. They may be hunted during the day or night.

### Coyote Hunting

Statewide except Long Island and New York City: Oct. 1–March 26
There are no bag limits for coyotes. They may be hunted during the day or night.

## Definition of Trapping

To trap means to take, kill or capture wildlife with traps, deadfalls and other devices commonly used to take wildlife, including the shooting or killing of lawfully trapped animals. It also includes all related activities such as placing, setting, staking or checking traps or assisting another person with these activities. You do not need a hunting license to shoot a trapped animal.

## Other Definitions

- **Public Highway:** The traveled portion of a public highway. Culverts, drainage ditches, and the area under bridges are not considered the traveled portion of a public highway.
- **Carcass:** The body or parts thereof, meat, organs or viscera of an animal, including fish. Feathers (including feathers with attached skin or entire bird wings), hair (with or without skin or hide), and bones that include no attached meat, organs or viscera, are excluded from this definition.
- **Suspension:** This term applies to animals fully suspended in the air by means of the trap anchoring system (typically a chain, cable or wire). It does not apply to traps set in water or to traps that are directly and firmly attached to an elevated structure, such as a tree.
- **Restraining trap:** A device used to capture and restrain a mammal. These traps include leg-gripping traps ("foothold traps"), foot encapsulating traps, and cage or box traps.
- **Foot encapsulating trap:** A trap with the following mechanical attributes: The triggering and restraining mechanisms are enclosed within a housing; the triggering and restraining mechanisms are only accessible through a single opening when set; the opening does not exceed 2 inches in diameter; and the trap has a swivel-mounted anchoring system.
- **Cage or box trap:** A type of restraining trap that fully encloses a captured animal within wood, wire, plastic, or metal.

## Legal Traps

- You must put your name and address or your DEC customer identification number (see your hunting or trapping license) on all your traps.
- Foothold traps larger than 4" set on land must have a pan tension device and be covered when set.
- Teeth are not allowed on foothold traps.
- On land, foothold traps must be 5¾" or smaller (inside jaw spread).

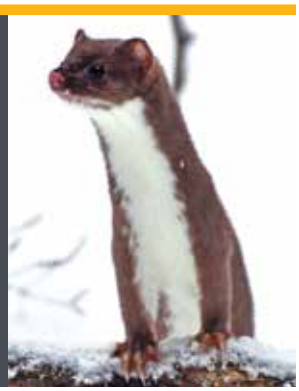
### Report Your Furbearer Sightings!

**DEC wants to learn more about the occurrence of various furbearers throughout New York such as bobcat, otter, fisher, and weasel. Your observations help biologists understand the distribution and abundance of these elusive or inconspicuous mammals.**

**You can report you observations online, and can even include photos!**

**Go to *www.dec.ny.gov/animals/30770.html* or e-mail us at *wildlife@dec.ny.gov***

**Thanks for your help!**



- During beaver or otter season, foothold traps up to 7¼" are allowed if set under water.
- When the beaver or otter season is closed, foothold traps set in water may not be larger than 5¾".
- A foothold trap larger than 7¼" is never legal to use.
- Body-gripping traps more than 7½" may never be used on land.
- Body-gripping traps more than 7½" may only be used in water during an open beaver or otter season.
- Snares may not be used for trapping.
- Box or cage traps are legal for all species.
- You may not use a cage trap that is designed to take more than one muskrat at a setting.

## Trapping Methods

### Checking traps

- In the Southern Zone: You must check traps once in each 24-hour period.
- In the Northern Zone, follow these rules:
  - » **WMU 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J, 6F, 6J and 6N:** Visited once in each 48-hour period
  - » **WMU 5A, 6A, 6C, 6G, 6H and 6K:**
    - – **Traps set in water during the open season for beaver, otter, mink and muskrat:** Visited once in each 48-hour period
    - – **Body-gripping traps set on land:** Visited once in each 48-hour period
    - – **Restraining traps:** Visited once in each 24-hour period

### Use of carcasses as bait

Any carcass, as defined above, used as bait and placed or used in conjunction with a foothold trap shall be completely covered at the time the trap is set or visited. Coverings shall include but not be limited to brush, branches, leaves, soil, snow, water, or enclosures constructed of wood, metal, wire, plastic or natural materials, and must completely cover the carcass so that it is not visible from directly above.

### Land trapping

- You may not set a trap in such a manner that it causes a captured animal to be fully suspended in the air.
- In the Northern Zone, body-gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure when the fisher and /or marten seasons are closed.

### Water trapping

- You may set a trap in a permanent body of water only when the mink, muskrat, otter, or beaver season is open.
- You may not disturb a muskrat house or den.
- You may not set a trap on or within 5 feet of a muskrat house.

### Land or water trapping

- You may use any legal method to kill a trapped animal. You do not need a hunting license to use a firearm to kill a legally trapped animal.
- You may not set or stake a trap prior to 7:00 AM on opening day.
- You are not allowed to set a trap within 100 feet of a house, school, playground or church unless you have permission from the owner of the land where the trap is set.
- You may not set a trap on a public road. You are allowed to set a trap in a culvert or ditch unless the property is posted or the landowner does not allow trapping.

### Trapping near beaver dams and lodges

- You may not disturb a beaver lodge or beaver dam.

You may set the following traps on or near (within 15 feet of) a beaver lodge or dam at any time:

- Body-gripping trap that measures less than 5½ inches
- Foot-encapsulating trap
- Foothold traps that are 4¾ inches or less
- Cage or box traps
- Any trap may be used if the otter season is open

By limiting the trap sizes that are usable on beaver dams, this regulation provides greater

**Place your name & address or Customer ID # on all your traps.**

OR

opportunities for trappers while minimizing the accidental capture of otter.

## Pelt Sealing

Otter, bobcat, fisher and marten must have a plastic seal attached to the pelt or unskinned animal before:

- It is sold or ownership is transferred to another person, or
- It is mounted or tanned, or
- It leaves New York State, or
- Ten days have passed since the close of the season where the fur was taken

The plastic pelt seals can be removed when the pelt is processed for taxidermy, tanning or manufacturing.

### How to get your pelts sealed: a two-step process

- **Step 1:** Fill out your furbearer possession tag.
  - » A possession tag must be filled out for each animal you take.
  - » Possession tags must be filled out immediately after you reach your motor vehicle, camp or home, whichever comes first.
  - » Possession tags must stay with the animal or pelt at all times, but they do not need to be attached to the pelt.
  - » Furbearer possession tags can be obtained from your regional wildlife office (see page 6) or at *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/29046.html*
- **Step 2:** Get your pelt sealed (see below).
  - » A completed furbearer possession tag must be submitted to obtain a plastic pelt seal.
  - » You can give your pelts to another person (other than a taxidermist) so he or she can get the pelts sealed or get them skinned. You must give that person your trapping license or a copy of your license and your completed possession tags while he or she has your pelts.
  - » Only authorized DEC representatives can attach the plastic pelt seals to otter, bobcat, fisher or marten.
  - » Call a regional wildlife office (see page 6) to make arrangements to get your otter, bobcat, fisher, or marten sealed. Seals for these species cannot be sent through the mail.
  - » Prior to having a marten sealed, you must submit the entire carcass.
  - » Bobcats taken in the Harvest Expansion Area (see page 52) must have skull or lower jaw submitted at the time of pelt sealing.
  - » If the plastic pelt seal is broken or damaged, contact your regional wildlife office for a replacement seal.

## Buying and Selling Fur

- Species requiring a pelt seal cannot be bought or sold or given to another person unless they have the plastic pelt seal attached. All other species may be bought, sold, and transported without restriction.
- Furbearers may be bought or sold either skinned or unskinned.
- People who buy fur do not need a fur buyer's license in New York.

## Rights of Trappers

- No one may disturb a trap lawfully set by another person.
- No one may remove a lawfully trapped animal from another person's trap.
- No one may harass a trapper while he or she is trapping.

## License Responsibilities

- A license is not transferable and can be used only by the person to whom issued.
- A license to trap does not give the holder any right to go on private property without permission of the landowner.
- It is illegal to refuse to show your license on demand to a law enforcement officer or the owner, lessee or person in control of the lands (or their designees) while on their property.

## Trapping License Exceptions

All residents must have a valid trapping license in their possession except:

- Resident owners primarily engaged in farming, lessees, and members of their immediate families do not need a trapping license, when trapping on farm lands they are occupying and cultivating, for bobcat, coyote, fox, mink, muskrat, raccoon, opossum, weasel, skunk and unprotected wildlife that may be lawfully taken by trapping. **(Note: beaver, otter, fisher and marten are not included.)**
- Native Americans living on a reservation do not need a trapping license while trapping on reservation lands.

## Incidental and Accidental Captures of Trapped Animals

There are no provisions in the Environmental Conservation Law allowing trappers to possess animals that are taken outside of the open trapping season.

You must attempt to release any animals that are accidentally captured when the season is closed or if the area is not open for trapping that species.

If the animal is injured to the extent you believe it will not survive, humanely dispatch it. If you are not sure, contact a DEC regional wildlife office for assistance.

When you find an unintentionally captured animal dead in the trap, or when you must dispatch an unintentionally captured animal due to a serious injury, you may remove it and lay it in the vicinity of the trap. There are no legal provisions for you to keep it, and you may not possess it even to take it back to your vehicle without permission from DEC.

DEC seeks information on all accidentally taken bobcat, otter, fisher and marten as well as other species of unusual nature. If the animal is dead, a DEC biologist will want to collect the carcass. Using the location and carcass data, biologists will be able to track the status of these species and study the age and reproductive data from the individual. The pelts from these carcasses will also be utilized in our trapper education classes.

Remember, you must contact the Regional Wildlife Office or an ECO as soon as possible to report the catch. You will receive instructions on what to do and information to provide.

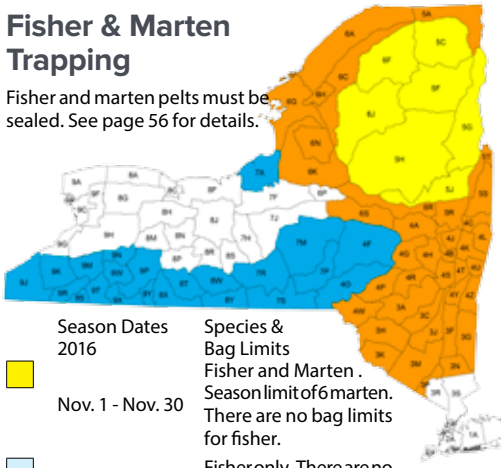
## Possession of Road-Killed Furbearers

If the trapping or hunting season is open for the species in a WMU, you may keep a dead furbearer found on roads within that WMU. The requirements for possessing road-killed furbearers are the same as for trapping and hunting. For example, if you find a road-killed bobcat in an area with an open bobcat season, you can possess it if you have a hunting or trapping license, but you must fill out a furbearer possession tag and have the pelt sealed.

# Furbearer Trapping

## Fisher & Marten Trapping

Fisher and marten pelts must be sealed. See page 56 for details.

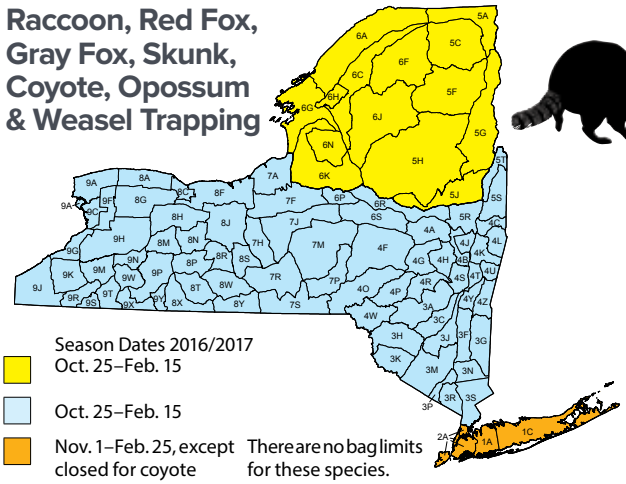


A special permit is required for trapping fisher and marten. Contact your DEC Wildlife Office (see page 10 for details).

| Season Dates 2016 | Species & Bag Limits |
|---|---|
| Nov. 1 - Nov. 30 | Fisher and Marten . Season limit of 6 marten. There are no bag limits for fisher. |
| Oct. 25–Oct. 30 | Fisher only. There are no bag limits. |
| Closed | Fisher and Marten |
| Oct. 25–Dec. 10 | Fisher only. There are no bag limits. |

**In the Northern Zone body-gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure when the fisher and marten season is closed.**

## Raccoon, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Skunk, Coyote, Opossum & Weasel Trapping

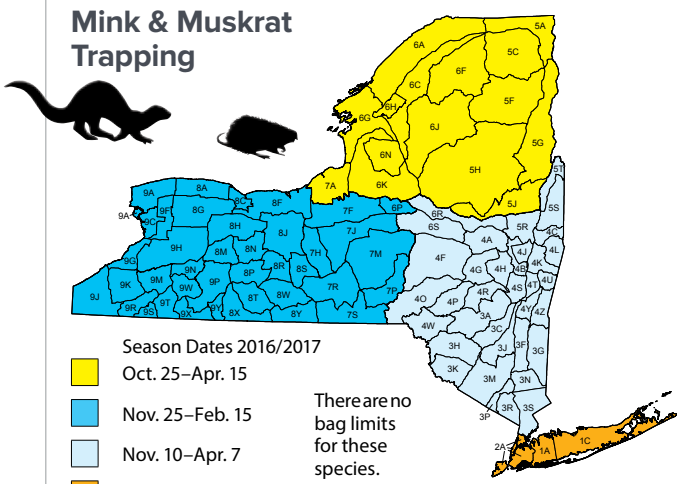


Season Dates 2016/2017

- Oct. 25–Feb. 15
- Oct. 25–Feb. 15
- Nov. 1–Feb. 25, except closed for coyote

There are no bag limits for these species.

## Mink & Muskrat Trapping







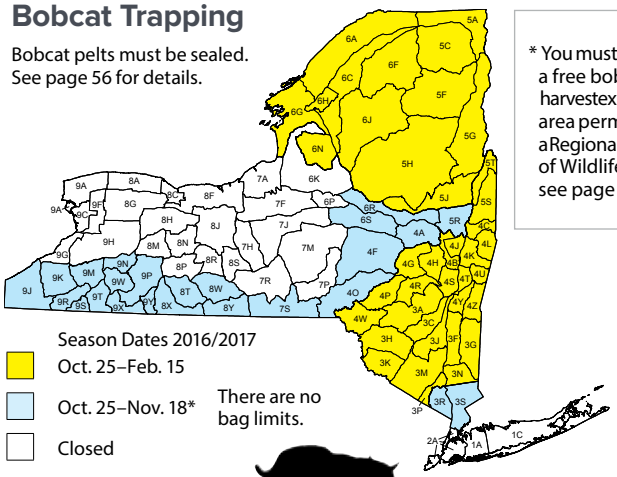
Season Dates 2016/2017

- Oct. 25–Apr. 15
- Nov. 25–Feb. 15
- Nov. 10–Apr. 7
- Dec. 15–Feb. 25

There are no bag limits for these species.

## Bobcat Trapping

Bobcat pelts must be sealed. See page 56 for details.



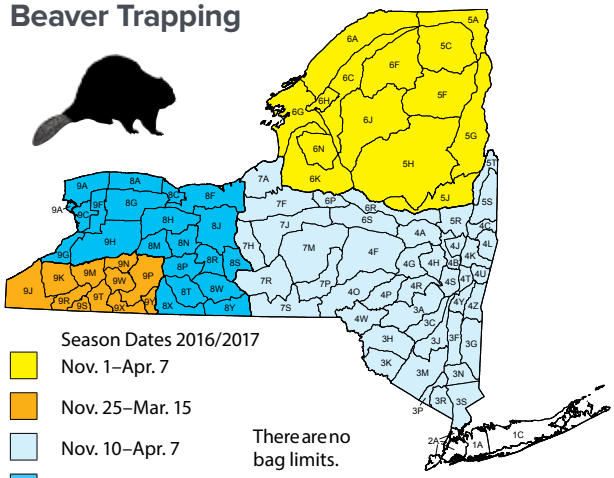
* You must obtain a free bobcat harvest expansion area permit from a Regional Bureau of Wildlife office, see page 52.

Season Dates 2016/2017

- Oct. 25–Feb. 15
- Oct. 25–Nov. 18*
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

## Beaver Trapping





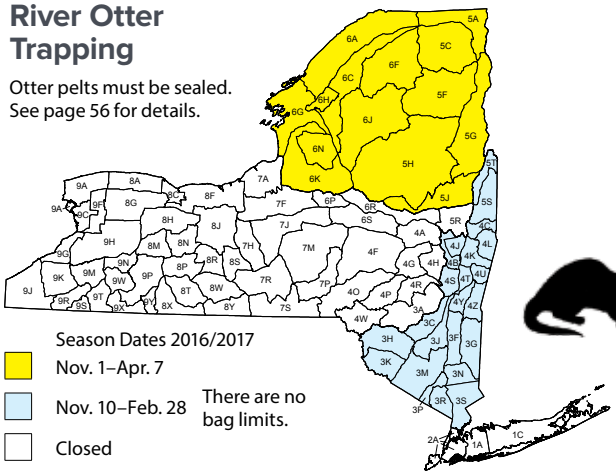
Season Dates 2016/2017

- Nov. 1–Apr. 7
- Nov. 25–Mar. 15
- Nov. 10–Apr. 7
- Nov. 25–Feb. 15
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

## River Otter Trapping

Otter pelts must be sealed. See page 56 for details.



Season Dates 2016/2017

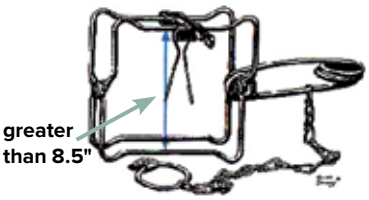
- Nov. 1–Apr. 7
- Nov. 10–Feb. 28
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

# How to Measure a Trap

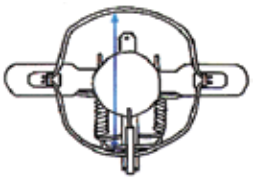
## How to measure a body-gripping trap:

Measure the inside distance between the outer frames of the trap. The addition of one or more bars to the inside of the frame does not change the way these traps are measured. The measurement is still the MAXIMUM distance as shown in the top picture.




## How to measure a foothold trap:

Measure the inside distance between the jaws excluding the gripping surface as shown. If the jaws have inside laminations, the measurement is the inside distance between the laminations. If the trap has double jaws, measure the inside distance between the outer jaws.

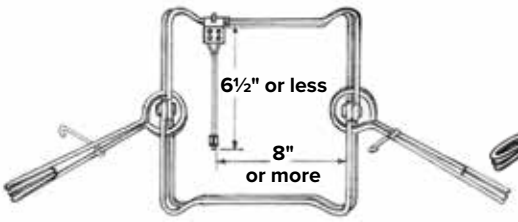


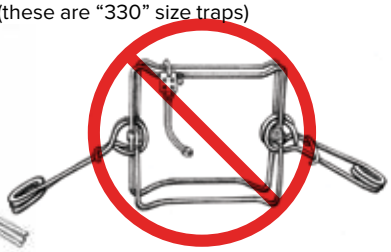
**5¾" or less on land, 7¼" or less under water**

# Trigger Regulations for Beaver Trappers

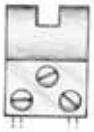
This regulation applies if you:

- Trap in a WMU in the Southern Zone during a closed otter season
- Use a body-gripping trap larger than 8.5 inches (these are "330" size traps)



1. **Body-gripping trap with off-set parallel trigger:**
2. **Example of non-legal vs. legal trigger brackets:**
   Non-legal: V-notch, four-way trigger

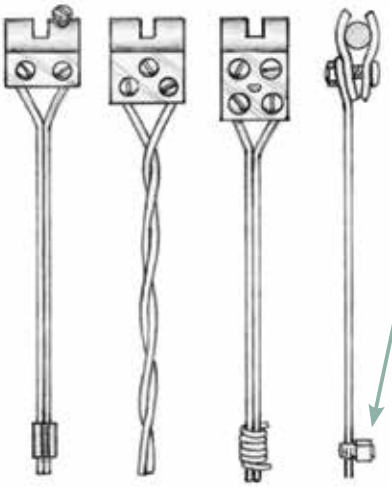


**Two-way tension adjustable (legal)**

**Two-way non-tension adjustable (legal)**

**Four-way trigger (not legal)**

Legal: square-notch, two-way trigger



**The trigger must be 6½" or less.**

**Recommended tension: 8 to 12 oz.**

**Trigger wires must be joined together.**

**NOTE:**

1. You can bait these traps in any manner. However, the trap must have all of the features noted above.
2. There is no exception for traps set under ice; traps set under ice, whether baited or not, must have all of the design features noted above.
3. There is no tension requirement. However, DEC research showed that 8 to 12 oz. of tension works best for protecting otter and catching beaver.

3. **Examples of acceptable parallel triggers:**
4. **Tension-adjustable triggers and trigger stops are no longer required.**


# New York State Trappers Association

Are you one of the 11,000 trappers in New York willing to risk losing your right to trap? The NYS Trappers Association currently has just under 2,000 members dedicated to defend, promote & advance trapping and other outdoor activities in NY and we need your help. Recent legislation introduced in the New York Senate & Assembly designed to reduce or eliminate trapping as we now know it, has grown increasingly more difficult to combat with the current membership and funding levels. That's why we're asking for the support of ALL New York sportsmen & women, not just trappers, in our time of need. You don't have to be an active trapper and even if you never plan to set a trap, please consider becoming a member of the Organization working for you in Albany to not only defend, but advance trapping and other outdoor opportunities here in New York so in the future, you, your children & your grandchildren will be able to.

Name_____

Street/RFD/Box _____

Town/City_____

State _____ Zip _____

County_____

Region_____

Phone # _____

E-mail_____

Date of Birth _____

☐ General Membership — $35/yr
Over 16 years of age; Magazine included

☐ Family Membership — $40/yr
Two family members; One magazine included

☐ Junior Membership — $25/yr
Under 16 years of age; Magazine included

☐ Basic Membership — $25/yr
Over 16 years of age; NO magazine

☐ Lifetime Membership — $300
NO magazine

☐ Lifetime Membership — $750

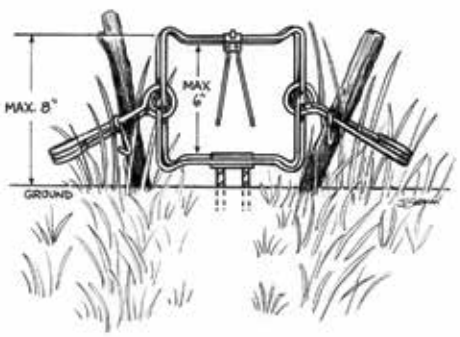
Mail To:

Bob Samuelson,
NYS Trappers Assoc.
3889 Westside Drive,
Churchville, NY 14428

or sign up online at: www.nystrappers.org

## Regulations for Body-Gripping Traps Set on Land

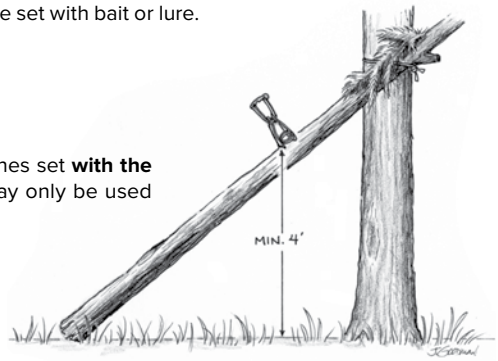
Body-gripping traps set on land shall not be within 100 feet of a public trail except on Wildlife Management Areas.



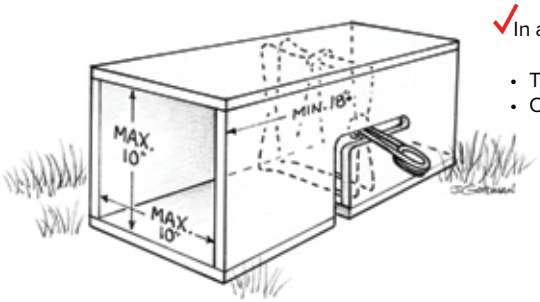

A body-gripping trap measuring less than 5½ inches may be set in any manner **with or without the use of bait**. Body-gripping traps measuring 5½ inches to 6 inches, set without the use of bait, must be set so that no part of the trap is 8 inches or more above the ground. Body-gripping traps measuring more than 6 inches to 7 1/2 inches may never be set in this manner.

**NOTE:** During a closed season for fisher and/or marten in the Northern Zone, body-gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure.

Body-gripping traps 5½ inches to 7½ inches set **with the use of bait, lure, or other attractants** may only be used as follows:

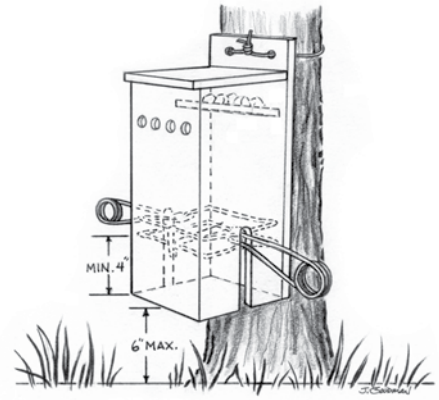



✓Four or more feet off the ground



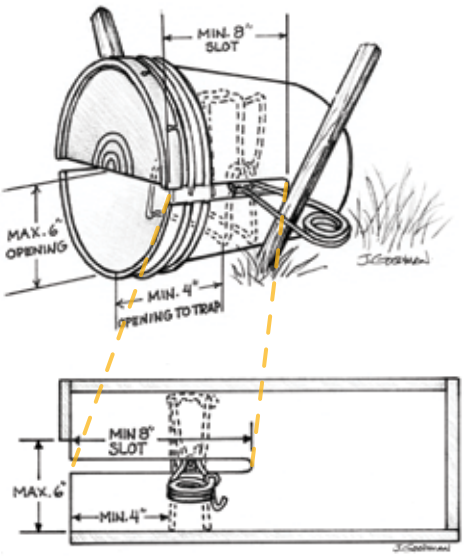

✓In a container of the following design:

- Trap recessed minimum of 18 inches
- Opening height and width 10 inches or less




✓In a container of the following design:

- Only one entrance, facing the ground
- Container set so entrance is no more than 6 inches from ground
- Trap recessed minimum of 4 inches




✓In a container of the following design:

- Opening height 6 inches or less
- Eight-inch minimum spring notches
- Trap recessed minimum of 4 inches

You may also build an enclosure of natural materials (e.g., logs or rocks).

- Opening height 6 inches or less
- Trap recessed minimum of 8 inches

# Report Poachers and

## New York State Environmental Conservation Police

**Q: How do I report poaching or other suspected violations of fish & wildlife laws?**
A: As soon as possible, call the DEC Police "Report Poachers and Polluters" Hotline at 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267). You may file a complaint anonymously or have your name kept confidential.

**Q. Has the minimum distance that I can discharge a bow near a house changed?**
A: Yes. You must be a minimum of 150 feet to discharge a bow, 250 feet for a crossbow and 500 feet for a firearm.

**Q: Can I hunt small game with a rifle in counties where deer hunting with a rifle is prohibited?**
A: Yes, but if the deer season is open, you cannot use a rifle larger than .22 caliber. You may never possess a rifle afield for hunting on Long Island or in Westchester County.

**Q: Can I use a tag from a friend or family on a deer, bear or turkey I shot?**
A: Only the deer management permit, (DMP), may be transferred to another person. Instructions on transfers are found on Pages 30–31 of this guide. Otherwise, it is not legal to possess or use tags of another.

**Q: If the trapping season is open, does that mean I can hunt for that species?**
A: No. While hunting, the hunting rules apply; while trapping, the trapping rules apply. Seasons and other rules vary between hunting and trapping. Unless you own the trap or have permission, it is illegal to release, dispatch or steal a trapped furbearer or tamper with legally set traps.

**Q: After reporting my deer harvest and cutting it up, what do I do with the carcass tag?**
A: The tag must remain with the meat, not the carcass. Your actions reflect on all sportsmen, so properly dispose of the carcass and hide.

**Q: What is the definition of an "unloaded crossbow" for transportation or possession in a motor vehicle?**
A: A crossbow must be uncocked to be legally possessed in or on a motor vehicle. Simply removing the bolt does not meet the requirement. When using lights on lands inhabited by deer, a crossbow must be taken down, securely fastened in a case or locked in the trunk.

**Q: Am I required to wear "Hunter Orange" while hunting?**
A: Junior hunters and their mentors are required to wear at least 250 inches of hunter orange while hunting deer or bear. There are no requirements for other hunting activities. Hunter orange makes it easier for others to see you in thick brush or at longer ranges.

**Q: I wounded a deer and heard there are trained dogs that can help me find it. How do I contact a handler?**
A: DEC-licensed leashed tracking dog handlers may help you find the deer. They are volunteers and do not charge for their service. Visit *www.deersearch.org* for more information or call the ECO Dispatch Center.

**Q: May I hunt small game with an air gun?**
A: You may use an air gun to hunt any species that may legally be taken with a .22 caliber rimfire rifle, provided the air gun is no smaller than .17 caliber and produces a muzzle velocity of at least 600 feet per second.

**Q: May I take a child younger than 12 with me while hunting? What about a spouse?**
A: Yes, a person of any age may accompany a hunter afield to observe as long as they do not assist in the taking of wildlife. Assist excludes calling animals or actively participating in a deer drive. If unsure, consult an ECO.

**Q: I own a camp and property in New York, can I purchase a resident hunting license?**
A: Residency is a fixed, permanent and principal home to which a person always intends to return. Simply owning land or paying taxes does not make one a resident. More information on residency is found in the front of this guide.

**Q. Can our hunting party "share" Deer Management Permits (DMPs) on a "deer drive"?**
A: Only the person with the DMP tag in their possession may take an antlerless deer, regardless of how many have the tag consigned to them. See the rules for DMP consignment for more info.

**Q: Can I target shoot on DEC lands?**
A: Many DEC state lands, including State Forests and Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) have specific rules – call ahead. You may not damage live trees and must remove all litter.

**Q: Can I carry a handgun while bowhunting deer/bear during the special bowhunting seasons?**
A: No, this is prohibited by law. Possession of a handgun in New York requires a NYS Pistol Permit. NY does not recognize permits from other states.

**Q: Can I shoot a deer at first light on opening day of deer season?**
A: No. Certain species have specific legal shooting hours. For deer and bear, it is from legal sunrise to sunset, NOT just when it's light enough. The sunrise/sunset chart is at the back of this guide.

**Please contact your local Environmental Conservation Officers (ECOs) for answers to your specific questions (see pages 62–63).**

# Polluters Hotline — 1-844-DEC-ECOS (1-844-332-3267)

Acting on a tip from a local PD, ECO Robert Peinkofer investigated and charged two men who illegally shot these bucks from an area closed to hunting while using bows and spotlights at night.

ECO Jason Curinga teaches youth about the tools used by ECOs and the importance of a clean environment at an Albany park preserve day. ECOs regularly participate statewide in similar school and community events.

ECO Jeff Hull investigated this piebald deer found dead in the woods. The meat was donated to charity. When faced with the evidence, including matching arrows, the suspect confessed to hunting over bait and failing to tag the deer.

ECO Steven Bartoszewski responded to a complaint in progress and discovered two illegally tagged antlerless deer. During his interview, the suspect admitted to taking three others which he had hidden in a field.

ECOs Anthony Glorioso (left) and Vern Bauer (right) mentored this new hunter during a youth turkey hunt in Greene County, where he harvested his first long beard, weighing 20 lbs, with a 9" beard and 3/4" spurs.

ECO Travis McNamara responded to a complaint of two bucks caught in a tennis net. He and a local police officer were able to lasso this larger buck until it could be cut free of the net. Both bucks were released uninjured.

# Environmental Conservation Officers

## Report All Poachers and Polluters

### 1-844-DEC-ECOS (844-332-3267)

Approximately 250 field ECOs patrol the entire state. Their job includes enforcement of fish and wildlife laws and state environmental quality laws. ECOs rely on the eyes and ears of our dedicated members of the sporting community to report suspected violations. Poachers and other violators are stealing from you, your children and our environment.

**As soon as possible,** call the hotline to report suspected violations. Dispatchers will assist you in filing a complaint. You may ask to have your name kept confidential or file anonymously. File complaints online at *www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/67751*.

Complaints are forwarded to an ECO for investigation. The sooner you call and the more detailed information you provide, the more likely the violator will be apprehended. Try to remember the "who, what, when, where and how" of the event.

**Keep your distance.** Do not approach or confront suspects. They may be dangerous, destroy evidence, or simply evade officers if forewarned.

**Who did it?** Provide names, age, sex, height, weight, clothing or vehicle descriptions, etc.

**What occurred?** What exactly is the nature of the violation? Examples — taking deer using bait, over limit, shooting from roadway, trespass, using tags of another, after hours, non-resident buying resident license.

**When did it occur?** Dates and times. Is it still in progress, ongoing or yet to happen?

**Where did it occur?** Provide exact street addresses, town/county, GPS locations or other ways the officer can locate the scene, suspects and evidence.

**How did it occur?** What methods or circumstances were used in the violation?

## Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

New York State is a member of IWVC, which is an agreement between states to share information regarding hunting, fishing and trapping convictions. The IWVC gives members the capability to honor each other's license revocations. Essentially, a violator convicted in one state may be barred from hunting, fishing or trapping in all member states, at the discretion of each state. By early 2015, 44 states were members, with 4 in the process of membership. Call NYSDEC Law Enforcement at (518) 402-8816 or visit *http://wildlifecrimestoppers.org/report-a-poacher-2/*

**Albany**
ECO L. Billotto ..... (518) 505-4029
ECO K. Bush ..... (518) 813-6805
ECO K. Swan ..... (518) 869-5237
Supervisor, Lt. J. Hays ..... (518) 357-2047

**Allegany**
ECO K. Basile ..... (585) 403-2447
ECO R. Calanni ..... (585) 403-2437
Supervisor, Lt. D. Pleakis ..... (716) 851-7050

**Bronx**
ECO J. Bastedo ..... (845) 623-3767
ECO K. Reynolds ..... (646) 630-1679
Supervisor, Lt. A. Gordon ..... (718) 482-4885

**Broome**
ECO A. McCormick ..... (607) 621-3464
ECO A. Rigoli ..... (607) 766-1375
ECO E. Templeton ..... (607) 621-3255
Supervisor, Lt. K. Warner ..... (315) 426-7431

**Cattaraugus**
ECO N. Mead ..... (716) 548-1482
ECO R. Nosal ..... (716) 532-0461
ECO J. M. Powers ..... (716) 771-8266
Supervisor, Lt. D. Pleakis ..... (716) 851-7050

**Cayuga**
ECO M. Colesante ..... (315) 567-1835
ECO S. Sincebaugh ..... (315) 253-8534
Supervisor, Lt. D. McShane ... (315) 426-7431

**Chautauqua**
ECO K. Budniewski ..... (716) 401-1163
ECO D. Dougherty ..... (716) 316-5607
ECO C. Freeman ..... (716) 490-3947
ECO J. Kinney ..... (716) 401-1187
Supervisor, Lt. D. Pleakis ..... (716) 851-7050

**Chemung**
ECO T. Dragotta ..... (607) 331-7458
ECO J. Lifrieri ..... (607) 644-3815
Supervisor, Lt. M. Lochner .... (315) 836-6137

**Chenango**
ECO B. Armstrong ..... (607) 895-6515
ECO A. Markey ..... (607) 423-2971
Supervisor, Lt. K. Warner ..... (315) 426-7431

**Clinton**
ECO M. LaCroix ..... (518) 335-5422
ECO C. Lagree ..... (518) 319-7706
ECO D. Malone ..... (518) 643-8172
Supervisor ..... (518) 897-1326

**Columbia**
ECO J. Cox ..... (518) 794-8935
ECO J. Davey ..... (518) 414-6083
Supervisor, Lt. L. Bobseine ... (518) 357-2047

**Cortland**
ECO T. Fernandes ..... (607) 836-6595
ECO K. Markey ..... (607) 749-0163
Supervisor, Lt. K. Warner ..... (315) 426-7431

**Delaware**
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ECO N. Doig ..... (607) 267-5452
ECO G. Wilber III ..... (607) 267-5479
ECO J. Woodin ..... (607) 437-6259
Supervisor, Lt. K. Beiter ..... (518) 357-2047

**Dutchess**
ECO R. Hodor, Jr. ..... (845) 483-9672
ECO D. Read III ..... (845) 240-6758
ECO B. Whalen ..... (914) 589-5759
Supervisor, Lt. D. Clayton .... (845) 256-3013

**Erie**
ECO C. Gill ..... (716) 908-5051
ECO S. Marshall ..... (716) 537-2464
ECO M. Mazurkiewicz ..... (716) 537-2533
ECO R. Peinkofer ..... (716) 425-8329
ECO J. P. Powers ..... (716) 604-5353
ECO A. C. Wilson ..... (716) 675-1095
Supervisor, Lt. B. Hummel ..... (716) 851-7050
Supervisor, Lt. J. Schultz ..... (716) 851-7050

**Essex**
ECO J. Blades ..... (518) 335-5201
ECO A. Brassard ..... (518) 396-6428
ECO J. Hovey ..... (518) 354-9014
Supervisor, Lt. H. Barber ..... (518) 897-1326

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ECO N. Favreau ..... (518) 354-9833
ECO J. Okonuk ..... (518) 319-0064
ECO K. Riggs ..... (518) 335-3558
Supervisor ..... (518) 897-1326

**Fulton**
ECO M. Clemens ..... (518) 708-9424
ECO S. Manns ..... (518) 708-1168
Supervisor, Lt. M. Trottier ..... (518) 897-1326

**Genesee**
ECO G. Wilson ..... (585) 683-0773
Supervisor, Lt. J. VerHague . (585) 226-6866

**Greene**
ECO M. Arp ..... (518) 966-5357
ECO S. Dewey ..... (518) 653-3077
ECO A. Glorioso ..... (518) 755-9242
Supervisor, Lt. K. Beiter ..... (518) 357-2047

**Hamilton**
ECO P. Buswell ..... (518) 335-5013
ECO K. Kelly ..... (315) 804-9435
ECO S. Pierce ..... (518) 866-4723
Supervisor, Lt. M. Trottier ..... (518) 897-1326

**Herkimer**
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ECO D. Lucas ..... (315) 823-4071
ECO R. Ritzel ..... (315) 489-3907
ECO C. Schoonover ..... (315) 269-6646
Supervisor, Lt. M. Jacoby ..... (315) 785-2231
Supervisor, Lt. J. Murphy ..... (315) 785-2231

**Jefferson**
ECO S. Bartoszewski ..... (315) 489-6984
ECO M. Foster ..... (315) 405-6576
ECO S. Mathis ..... (315) 489-9803
Supervisor, Lt. E. Haag ..... (315) 785-2231

**Kings**
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ECO N. Digiovanni ..... (718) 987-5094
ECO K. Garnsey ..... (718) 668-0276
ECO P. Pasciak ..... (718) 704-6659
Supervisor ..... (646) 842-3113

**Lewis**
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ECO F. Fuerch ..... (315) 542-4290
ECO T. Worden ..... (315) 778-9279
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Supervisor, Lt. J. Murphy ..... (315) 785-2231

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ECO B. Wade ..... (585) 303-0065
ECO C. Ward ..... (585) 303-0098
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**Madison**
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ECO C. Childs ..... (315) 254-0657
Supervisor, Lt. J. Reitmeier .... (315) 426-7431

**Monroe**
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ECO B. Shea ..... (585) 576-5678
ECO E. Snowdon ..... (585) 683-6758
ECO J. Wolgast ..... (585) 613-2418
Supervisor, Lt. B. Hummell .. (585) 226-6866

## ECO Dispatch — 1-877-457-5680 for General Questions

**Montgomery**
ECO J. DeAngelis (518) 339-7612
ECO C. Valenty (518) 505-4104
ECO B. Willson (518) 491-2273
Supervisor, Lt. J. Hays (518) 357-2047

**Nassau**
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ECO I. Helmer (516) 325-8636
ECO R. Howe (516) 325-8550
ECO M. Unger (516) 328-0579
Supervisor, Lt. T. Gadomski (631) 444-0250

**New York**
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Supervisor, Lt. A. Gordon (718) 482-4885

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ECO N. VerHague (716) 433-1432
Supervisor, Lt. J. Schultz (716) 851-7050

**Oneida**
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ECO S. Hutton (315) 767-5232
ECO S. Lakeman (315) 734-0648
ECO R. Ritzel (315) 489-3907
ECO C. Starczek (315) 489-4224
Supervisor, Lt. M. Jacoby (315) 785-2231

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ECO R. Head (315) 673-3067
ECO P. Sherman (315) 484-9678
ECO S. Yacavone (315) 487-4401
Supervisor, Lt. D. McShane (315) 426-7431

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ECO K. Levanway (585) 369-8116
ECO J. Stansfield (315) 986-9438
Supervisor, Lt. M. Lochner (315) 836-6137

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ECO M. Burdick (845) 213-7891
ECO D. Galvin (845) 638-0979
ECO C. Lattimer (845) 662-5787
Supervisor, Lt. M. Townley (845) 256-3013

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ECO P. Kroth (585) 682-7791
Supervisor, Lt. J. VerHague (585) 226-6866

**Oswego**
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ECO M. Dorrett (315) 625-4129
ECO M. Harger (315) 383-1766
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ECO D. Thomas (315) 236-0307
Supervisor, Lt. J. Reitmeier (315) 426-7431

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ECO R. Fetterman (607) 422-8342
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ECO P. Jackson (845) 424-3281
ECO T. Koepf (845) 612-6099
ECO G. Younglove (845) 654-0070
Supervisor, Lt. M. Filmer (845) 256-3013

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ECO D. Lum (718) 956-6460
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Supervisor (646) 842-3113

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ECO M. Terrell (518) 505-4056
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Supervisor, Lt.W. Powell (585) 226-6866

**St. Lawrence**
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ECO T. Basford (315) 265-2757
ECO B. Canary (315) 489-3180
ECO J. Munn (315) 842-2854
ECO J. Ryan (315) 322-5106
ECO J. Schneller (315) 566-9258
ECO M. Sherry (315) 566-9574
Supervisor, Lt. E. Haag (315) 785-2231
Supervisor, Lt. J. Murphy (315) 785-2231

**Steuben**
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ECO D. Oliver (607) 590-1135
Supervisor, Lt. M. Lochner (315) 836-6137

**Suffolk**
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ECO J. Eastwood (631) 874-3132
ECO B. Farrish (631) 351-8601
ECO T. Fay (631) 447-0959
ECO M. Goodrich (631) 820-1521
ECO K. Grady (631) 744-2507
ECO R. Gross (631) 601-5287
ECO T. Hansen (516) 204-6623
ECO J. Hull (516) 881-6548
ECO R. Johnson (631) 601-5793
ECO A. Lawston (631) 325-8569
ECO R. McNamara (631) 601-5792
ECO L. Simmons (631) 205-0470
ECO M. Simmons (631) 874-2591
Supervisor, Lt. M. Blaising (631) 444-0250
Supervisor, Lt. F. Carbone (631) 444-0250
Supervisor, Lt. C. Ruckert (631) 444-0250

**Sullivan**
ECO M. Baker (845) 428-8679
ECO R. Wood (845) 665-5637
Supervisor, Lt. D. Clayton (845) 256-3013

**Tioga**
ECO B. Wilson (607) 972-4435
ECO S. Winnick III (607) 245-9751
Supervisor, Lt. K. Warner (315) 426-7431

**Tompkins**
ECO O. Eisenberg (607) 564-9458
ECO T. Machnica (607) 227-8742
Supervisor, Lt. K. Warner (315) 426-7431

**Ulster**
ECO M. Schillinger (845) 246-8002
ECO C. Stephens (845) 430-8541
ECO J. Sulkey (845) 663-6504
Supervisor, Lt. D. Clayton (845) 256-3013

**Warren**
ECO L. Gerrain (518) 925-5560
ECO R. Higgins (518) 281-6487
ECO G. LaPoint (518) 793-3767
Supervisor, Lt. H. Barber (518) 897-1326

**Washington**
ECO S. Gonyeau (518) 567-2104
ECO M. Krug (518) 417-9954
ECO T. Wensley (518) 742-0523
Supervisor, Lt. J. Ellithorpe (518) 897-1326

**Wayne**
ECO T. Smith (315) 745-9371
ECO K. Thomas (315) 359-1122
Supervisor, Lt. W. Powell (585) 226-6866

**Westchester**
ECO D. Dainack (845) 424-3073
ECO P. Jackson (845) 424-3281
ECO T. Koepf (845) 612-6099
ECO G. Younglove (845) 654-0070
Supervisor, Lt. M. Filmer (845) 256-3013

**Wyoming**
ECO J. Hunt (716) 628-3488
ECO R. Ward, Jr. (585) 919-4465
Supervisor, Lt. J. Schultz (716) 851-7050

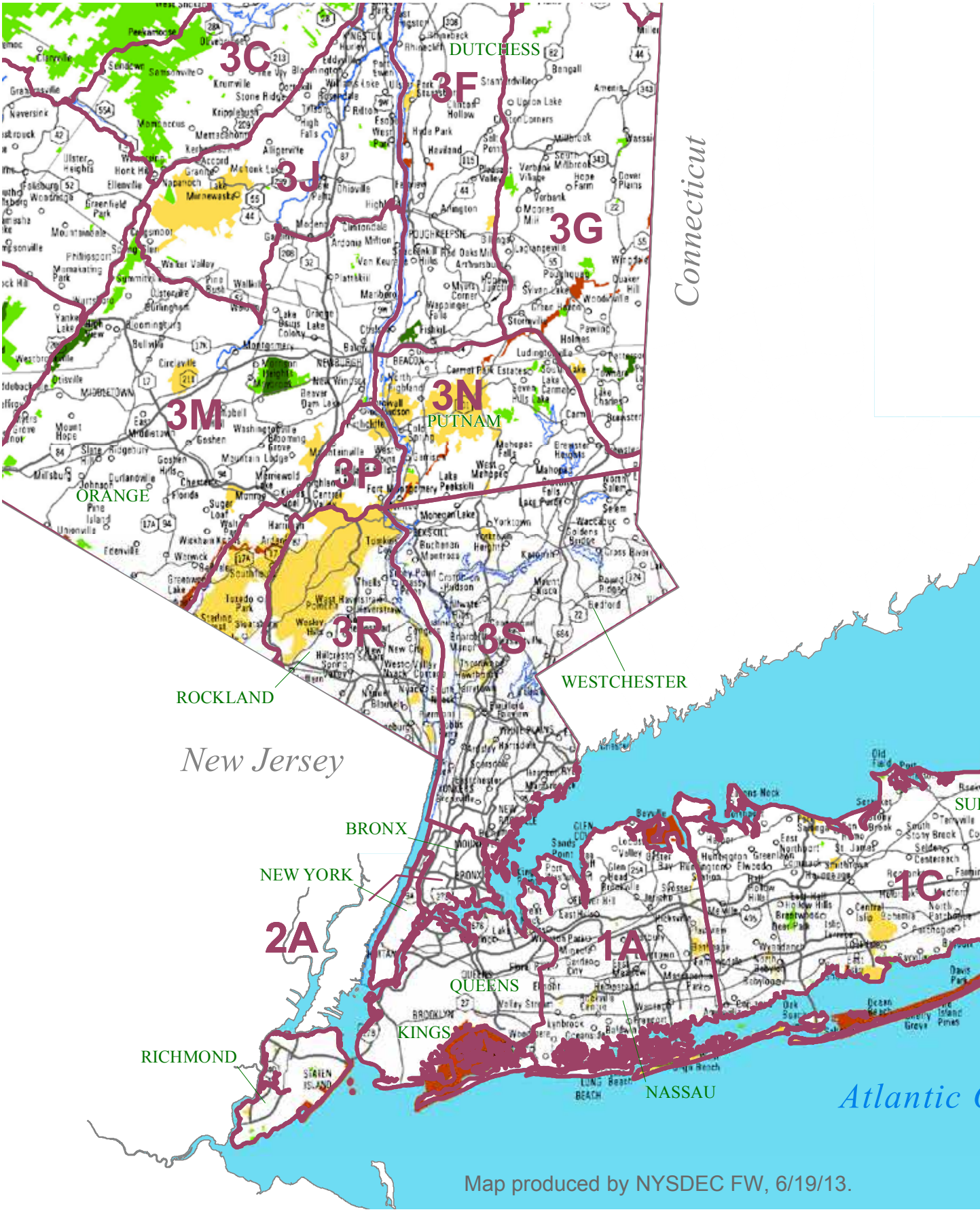
**Yates**
ECO P. Blanton (585) 694-4077
ECO J. Crain (315) 775-7168
Supervisor, Lt. M. Lochner (315) 836-6137

### Marine Enforcement Units

**Nassau/Suffolk**
ECO J. Doroski (631) 599-9430
ECO K. Holzle (516) 375-9495
ECO S. Reilly (516) 779-9358
Supervisor (631) 444-0851

**New York City**
ECO W. Auguscinski (646) 630-1534
ECO J. Hilliard (646) 630-1237
ECO J. Krueger (646) 294-7153
Supervisor, Lt. A. Gordon (718) 482-4885

# Regional Maps



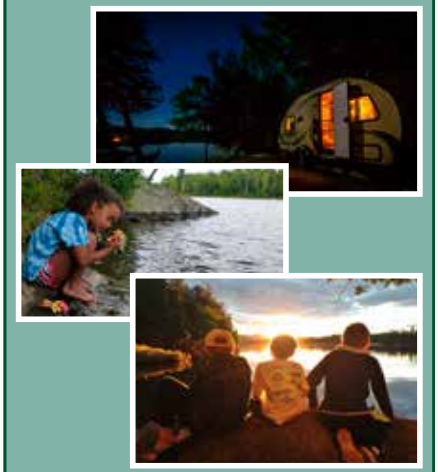

Map produced by NYSDEC FW, 6/19/13.

## Public Lands & Management Areas

- Wildlife Management Units
- Federal Recreational Land
- State Park
- Wildlife Management Area
- Multiple Use Area
- DEC Lands
- Conservation Easements

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Department of Environmental Conservation

DEC State Campgrounds



in New York State's Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves

www.dec.ny.gov

# Regional Maps

## Public Lands & Management Areas

- Wildlife Management Units
- Federal Recreational Land
- State Park
- Wildlife Management Area
- Multiple Use Area
- DEC Lands
- Conservation Easements

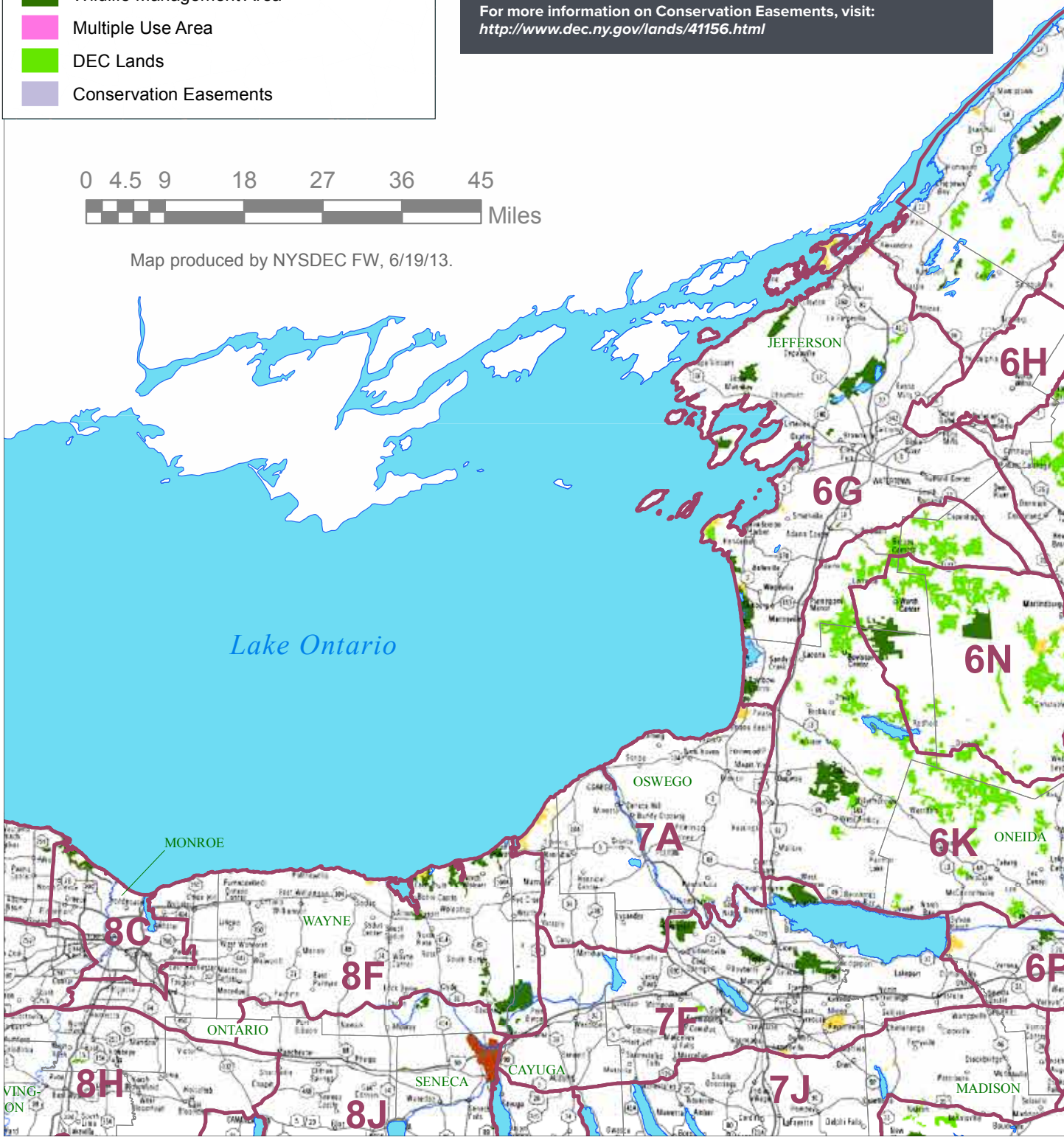
## Conservation Easements

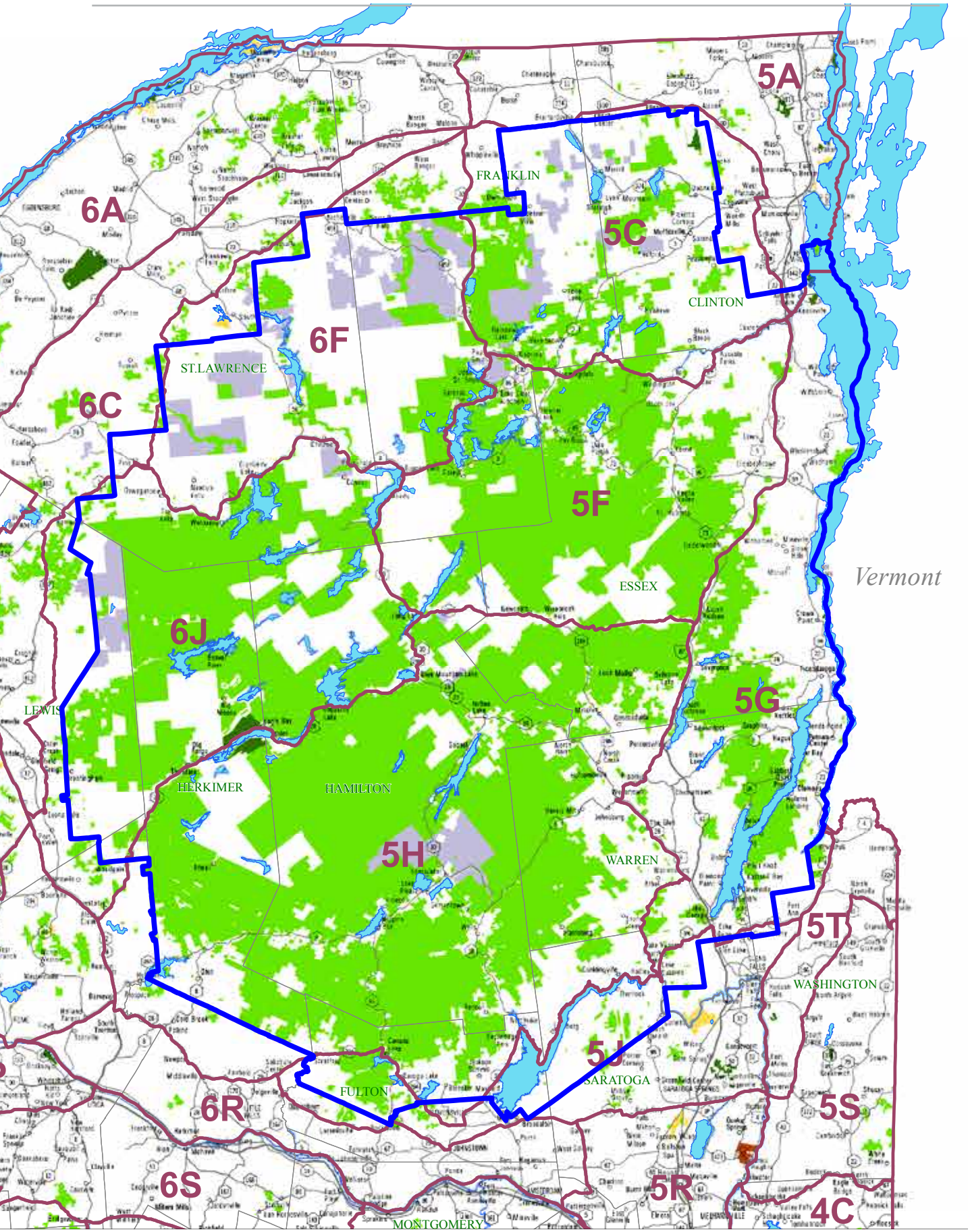
**Public hunting and trapping is allowed on the conservation easements shown on these maps, but because rules and regulations are different for each conservation easement, members of the public wishing to hunt or trap on a particular easement property are strongly encouraged to contact the local DEC office (see page 6) before planning a trip.**

**For more information on Conservation Easements, visit:** ***http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/41156.html***

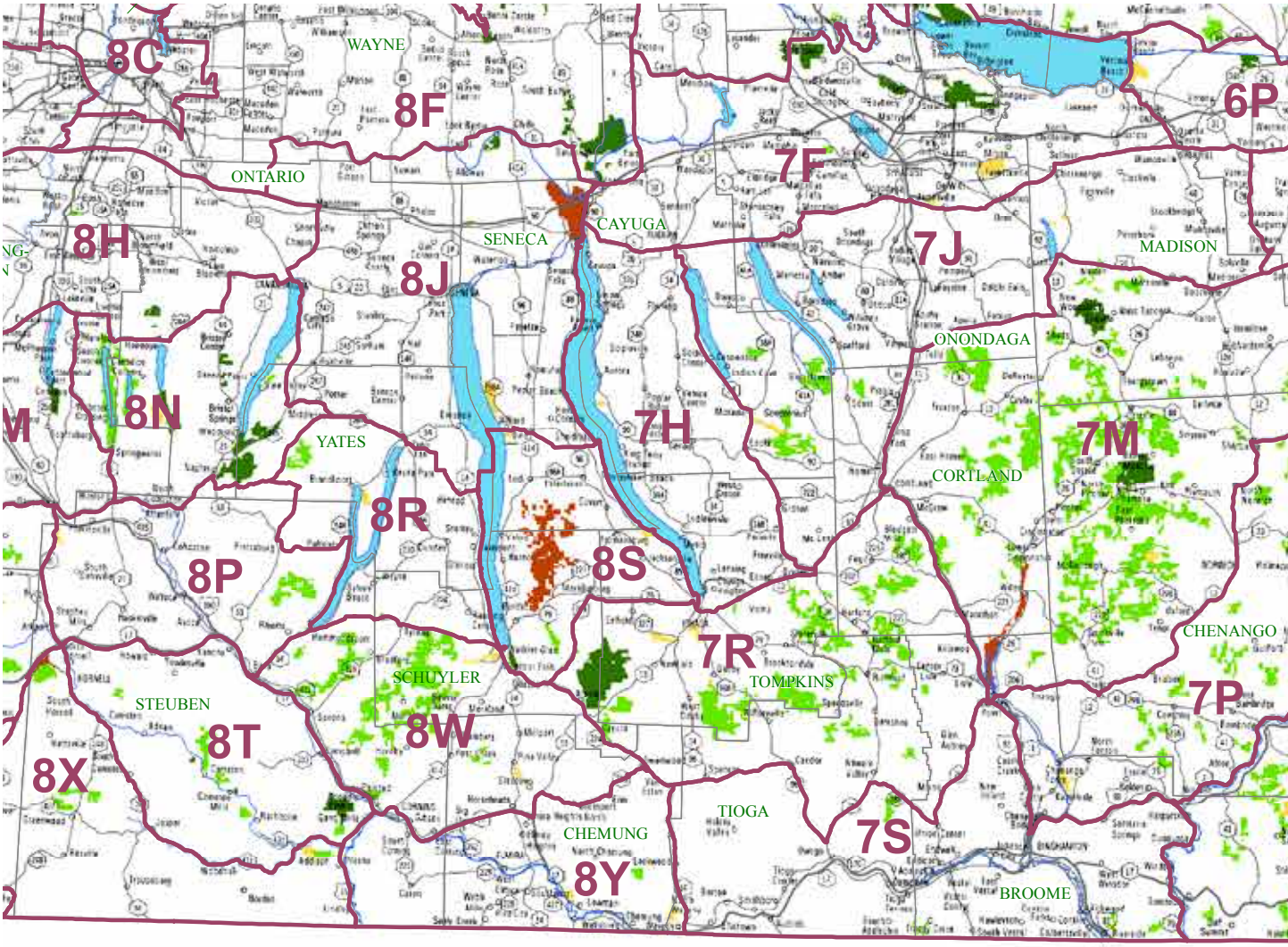
0 4.5 9 18 27 36 45 Miles

Map produced by NYSDEC FW, 6/19/13.




5A
6A
FRANKLIN
5C
CLINTON
6F
ST.LAWRENCE
6C
5F
ESSEX
Vermont
6J
5G
LEWIS
HERKIMER
HAMILTON
5H
WARREN
5T
WASHINGTON
5J
SARATOGA
FULTON
6R
5S
6S
5R
4C
MONTGOMERY

# Regional Maps




*Pennsylvania*

## Public Lands & Management Areas

- Wildlife Management Units
- Federal Recreational Land
- State Park
- Wildlife Management Area
- Multiple Use Area
- DEC Lands
- Conservation Easements

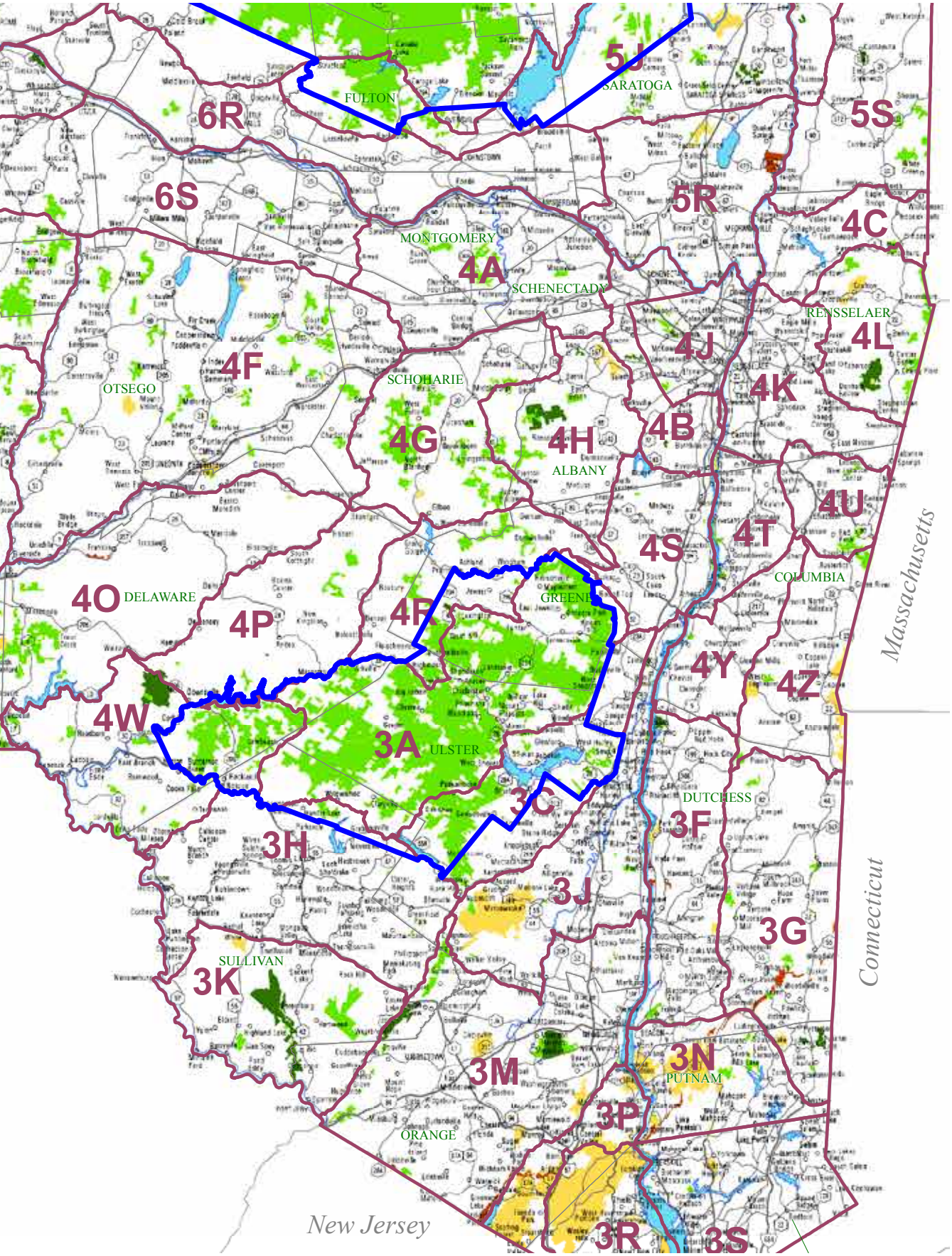
0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

Map produced by NYSDEC FW, 6/19/13.

## 2016–17 Habitat & Access Stamp

**Under Governor Andrew Cuomo's New York is Open for Fishing and Hunting initiative, DEC is embarking on a Young Forest initiative on Wildlife Management Areas to increase on-the-ground wildlife habitat management in order to foster healthy populations of many wildlife species that use young forests (trees aged 0–10 years) during all or part of their life cycle. Some of these species include ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare, wild turkey, New England cottontail, and American woodcock, along with many song birds that have experienced population declines, such as the golden-winged warbler and whip-poor-will.**

**We hope that you will continue to support DEC's Young Forest initiative by buying future Habitat and Access Stamps, and by using the newly created young forest habitat on our WMAs. You can keep track of our progress on DEC's website at *http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/104218.html*.**


5J
SARATOGA
FULTON
6R
5S
6S
5R
4C
MONTGOMERY
4A
SCHENECTADY
RENSSELAER
4L
4J
4F
OTSEGO
SCHOHARIE
4K
4G
4H
4B
ALBANY
4U
4T
4S
COLUMBIA
Massachusetts
4O
DELAWARE
4P
4R
GREENE
4Y
4Z
4W
3A
ULSTER
3C
DUTCHESS
3F
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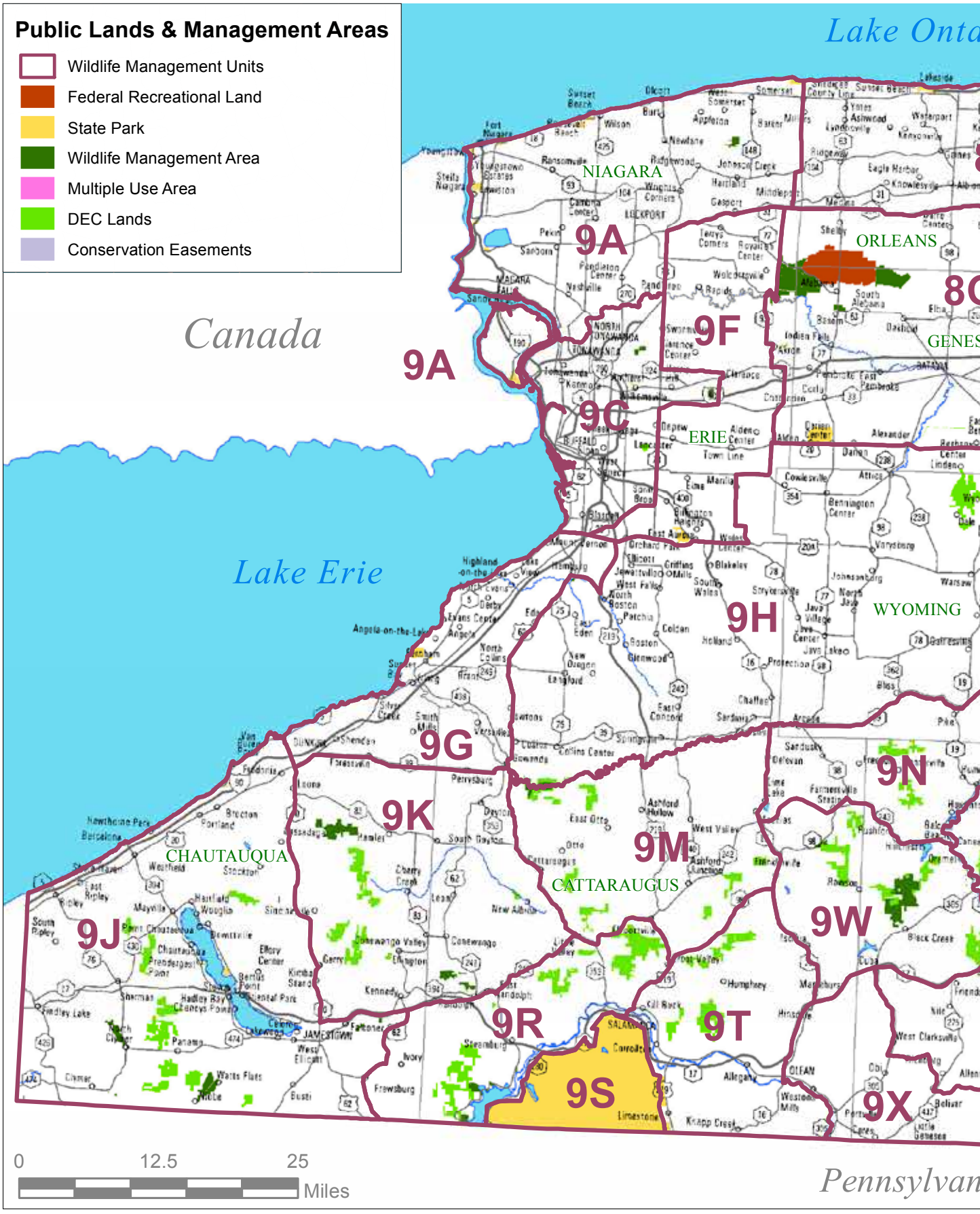
3J
3G
Connecticut
SULLIVAN
3K
3M
3N
PUTNAM
3P
ORANGE
New Jersey
3R
3S


Public Lands & Management Areas
Wildlife Management Units
Federal Recreational Land
State Park
Wildlife Management Area
Multiple Use Area
DEC Lands
Conservation Easements
Lake Onta
Canada
Lake Erie
Pennsylvan
NIAGARA
ORLEANS
GENES
ERIE
WYOMING
CHAUTAUQUA
CATTARAUGUS
9A
9A
9C
9F
8O
9H
9G
9K
9M
9N
9W
9J
9R
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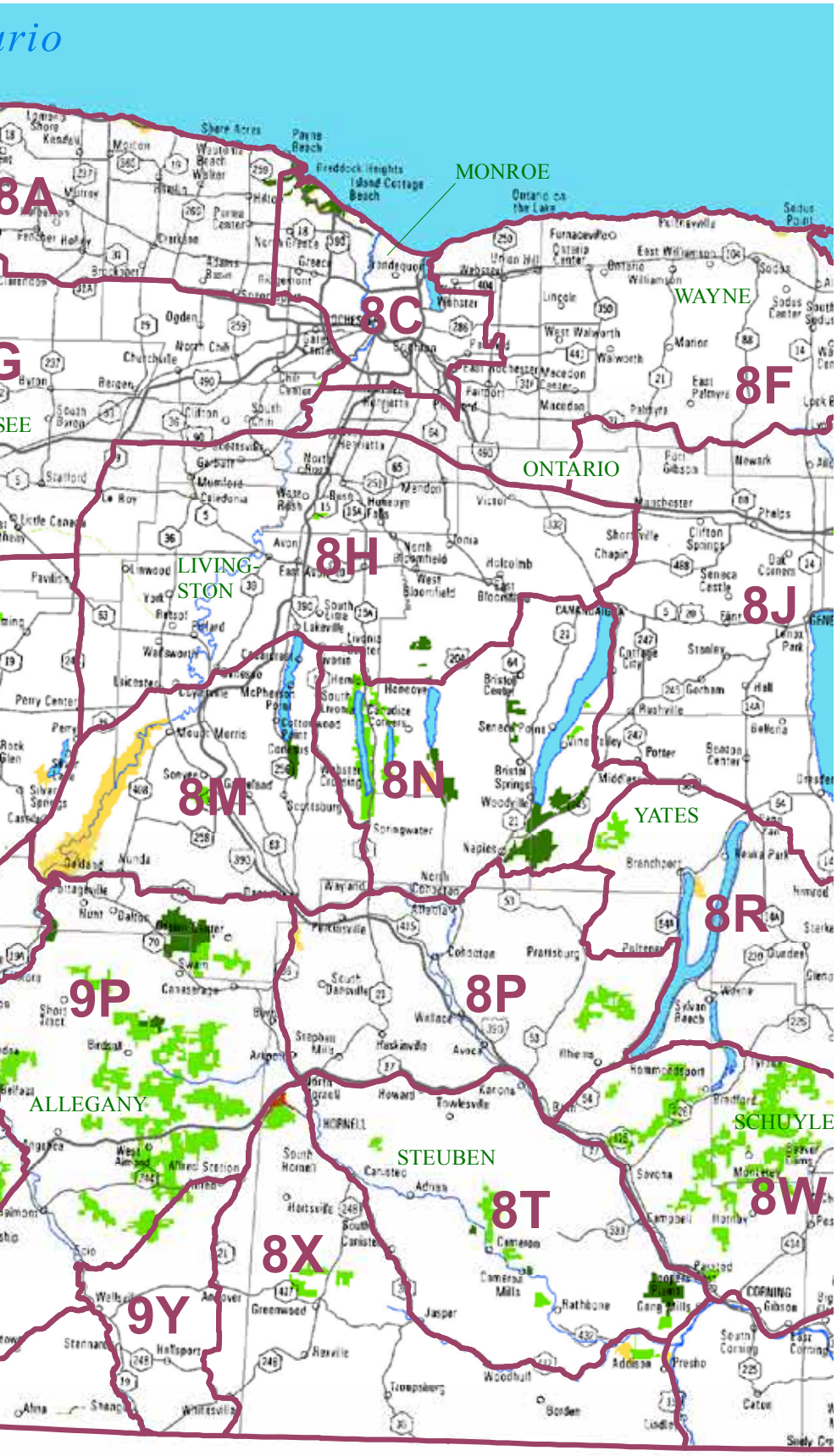
Miles




Map produced by NYSDEC FW, 6/19/13.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- Providing trees and shrubs for wildlife, privacy screen, aesthetics and more!
- More than 50 varieties of NY-source seedlings at affordable prices!

**Saratoga Tree Nursery**
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www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7127.html

NEW YORK STATE | Department of Environmental Conservation

## Feral Swine Cause Damage!

Manage the Damage
Stop Feral Swine

Feral Swine damage agriculture, natural resources, property, people, and cultural sites.

**For more information:**
Call 1-866-4-USDA-WS or
Your state wildlife agency

USDA

FOREST
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
STATE OF NEW YORK
RANGER

## Did you know?

**...In 2015, Rangers put out 175 wildfires that burned 3,924 acres. Rangers trained 2,081 firefighters and other first responders in wildfire and emergency rescue.**

**...DEC Forest Rangers are experts on all aspects of the state lands they patrol. Ask a Ranger where to hunt, fish, hike, camp or see wildlife.**

**...DEC Forest Rangers issue permits for camping on state lands and administer the license guide program.**

***www.dec.ny.gov***
**518-408-5850**

# Waterfowl Hunting Zone Descriptions

## NY State Goose Hunting Areas

See road boundaries at: *www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28510.html*

1. The Lake Champlain Goose Hunting Area is the same as the Lake Champlain Waterfowl Hunting Zone (see other page).
2. The Northeast Goose Hunting Area is the same as the Northeastern Waterfowl Hunting Zone (see other page).
3. The West Central Goose Hunting Area consists of the following WMUs: 7A, 7H, 8A, 8C, 8F, 8H, 8J, 8R and 8S. The West Central Goose Hunting Area also includes: that part of WMU 6K lying west of a continuous line extending along the north shore of the Salmon River from US Route 11 to Interstate Route 81, then south along Route 81 to Route 49; those parts of WMUs 7F and 7J lying west of Route 81; and that part of WMU 8G lying north and east of a continuous line extending along the New York State Thruway from Crittenden-Murrays Corners Road (near the Erie-Genesee county line) to Exit 48 in Batavia, then south along Route 98 to Route 20.
4. The East Central Goose Hunting Area consists of the following WMUs: 4A, 4F, 6P, 6R, 6S, 7M and 7P. The East Central Goose Hunting Area also includes those parts of WMUs 7F and 7J lying south of Route 31 and east of Route 81.
5. The Hudson Valley Goose Hunting Area consists of the following WMUs: 3F, 3J, 3M, 4B, 4C, 4J, 4K, 4L, 4S, 4T, 4U, 4Y, 4Z, 5R; that part of WMU 5S lying south of a continuous line extending east along Route 29 to Route 22, north along Route 22 to Washington County Route 153, then east along Route 153 to the New York–Vermont boundary; and that part of WMU 3G lying in Dutchess County.
6. The South Goose Hunting Area consists of the following WMUs: 3A, 3C, 3H, 3K, 3N, 3P, 3R, 4G, 4H, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4W, 7R, 7S, 8M, 8N, 8P, 8T, 8W,8X, 8Y, 9A, 9C, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X and 9Y. The South Goose Hunting Area also includes: that part of WMU 8G lying south and west of a continuous line extending along the New York State Thruway from Crittenden-Murrays Corners Road (near the Erie-Genesee county line) to Exit 48 in Batavia, then south along State Route 98 to State Route 20; that part of WMU 3G lying in Putnam County; and that part of WMU 3S lying north of Route I-95.
7. The Western Long Island Goose Hunting Area is that area of Westchester County and its tidal waters southeast of Interstate Route 95 and that area of Nassau and Suffolk counties lying west of a line extending from the New York-Connecticut boundary due south to the northernmost end of the Sunken Meadow State Parkway, south along the Sunken Meadow State Parkway, the Sagtikos State Parkway, and the Robert Moses State Parkway to its southernmost end, then due south to international waters.
8. The Central Long Island Goose Hunting Area is that area of Suffolk County lying between the Western and Eastern Long Island Goose Hunting areas, as defined above and below.
9. The Eastern Long Island Goose Hunting Area is that area of Suffolk County lying east of a continuous line extending due south from the New York-Connecticut boundary to the northernmost end of Roanoke Avenue in the Town of Riverhead, south on Roanoke Avenue (which becomes County Route 73) to State Route 25, west on Route 25 to Peconic Avenue, south on Peconic Avenue to County Route (CR) 104 (Riverleigh Avenue), south on CR 104 to CR 31 (Old Riverhead Road), south on CR 31 to Oak Street, south on Oak Street to Potunk Lane, then west on Stevens Lane, then south on Jessup Avenue (in Westhampton Beach) to Dune Road (CR 89), then due south to international waters.

## Waterfowl Hunting Zones

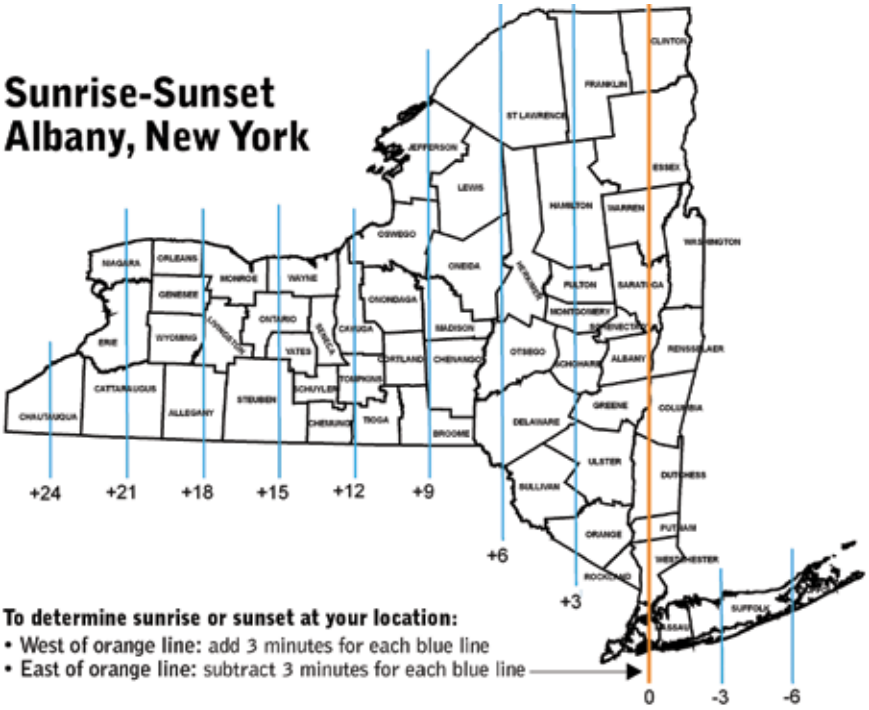
**Western Zone** – That area west of a continuous line extending from Lake Ontario east along the north shore of the Salmon River to Interstate Route 81 and then south along Interstate Route 81 to the New York-Pennsylvania boundary.

**Northeastern Zone** – That area north of a continuous line extending from Lake Ontario east along the north shore of the Salmon River to Interstate Route 81, south along Interstate Route 81 to Route 31, east along Route 31 to Route 13, north along Route 13 to Route 49, east along Route 49 to Route 365, east along Route 365 to Route 28, east along Route 28 to Route 29, east along Route 29 to Route 22, north along Route 22 to Route 153, east along Route 153 to the New York-Vermont boundary, exclusive of the Lake Champlain Zone.

**Lake Champlain Zone** – That area east and north of a continuous line extending along Route 11 from the New York-Canada boundary south to Route 9B, south along Route 9B to Route 9, south along Route 9 to Route 22 south of Keeseville, south along Route 22 to the west shore of South Bay along and around the shoreline of South Bay to Route 22 on the east shore of South Bay, southeast along Route 22 to Route 4, northeast along Route 4 to the New York-Vermont boundary.

**Southeastern Zone** – That area east of Interstate Route 81 that is south of a continuous line extending from Interstate Route 81 east along Route 31 to Route 13, north along Route 13 to Route 49, east along Route 49 to Route 365, east along Route 365 to Route 28, east along Route 28 to Route 29, east along Route 29 to Route 22, north along Route 22 to Route 153, east along Route 153 to the New York-Vermont boundary, and northwest of Interstate Route 95 in Westchester County.

**Long Island Zone** – That area consisting of Nassau and Suffolk counties and their tidal waters, and that area of Westchester County and its tidal waters southeast of Interstate Route 95.



## When Hunting for Wildlife, All Shooting Hours are Sunrise to Sunset, Except:

- Unprotected wildlife—any hour
- Furbearers, i.e. coyote, raccoon, fox, bobcat—any hour
- For most migratory game bird species, including ducks, geese, snipe, rails—½ hour before sunrise to sunset
- Spring turkey—½ hour before sunrise to noon

| Day | SEPT | | OCT | | NOV | | DEC | | JAN | | FEB | | MAR | | APR | | MAY | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM | Rise AM | Set PM |
| 1 | 6:20 | 7:28 | 6:53 | 6:36 | 7:30 | 5:47 | 7:06 | 4:22 | 7:25 | 4:32 | 7:09 | 5:09 | 6:30 | 5:45 | 6:37 | 7:21 | 5:49 | 7:56 |
| 2 | 6:21 | 7:27 | 6:54 | 6:34 | 7:31 | 5:46 | 7:07 | 4:22 | 7:25 | 4:33 | 7:08 | 5:10 | 6:29 | 5:46 | 6:35 | 7:23 | 5:48 | 7:57 |
| 3 | 6:22 | 7:25 | 6:55 | 6:32 | 7:32 | 5:45 | 7:08 | 4:22 | 7:25 | 4:34 | 7:07 | 5:11 | 6:27 | 5:47 | 6:33 | 7:24 | 5:47 | 7:58 |
| 4 | 6:24 | 7:23 | 6:56 | 6:30 | 7:33 | 5:43 | 7:09 | 4:22 | 7:25 | 4:35 | 7:06 | 5:13 | 6:25 | 5:49 | 6:32 | 7:25 | 5:45 | 7:59 |
| 5 | 6:25 | 7:22 | 6:57 | 6:29 | 7:35 | 5:42 | 7:10 | 4:22 | 7:25 | 4:36 | 7:05 | 5:14 | 6:24 | 5:50 | 6:30 | 7:26 | 5:44 | 8:00 |
| 6 | 6:26 | 7:20 | 6:58 | 6:27 | 6:36 | 4:41 | 7:11 | 4:21 | 7:25 | 4:37 | 7:03 | 5:15 | 6:22 | 5:51 | 6:28 | 7:27 | 5:43 | 8:01 |
| 7 | 6:27 | 7:18 | 6:59 | 6:25 | 6:37 | 4:40 | 7:12 | 4:21 | 7:25 | 4:38 | 7:02 | 5:17 | 6:20 | 5:52 | 6:27 | 7:28 | 5:42 | 8:02 |
| 8 | 6:28 | 7:16 | 7:01 | 6:23 | 6:38 | 4:39 | 7:13 | 4:21 | 7:25 | 4:39 | 7:01 | 5:18 | 6:19 | 5:53 | 6:25 | 7:29 | 5:40 | 8:03 |
| 9 | 6:29 | 7:15 | 7:02 | 6:22 | 6:40 | 4:38 | 7:14 | 4:21 | 7:25 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 5:19 | 6:17 | 5:55 | 6:23 | 7:30 | 5:39 | 8:04 |
| 10 | 6:30 | 7:13 | 7:03 | 6:20 | 6:41 | 4:37 | 7:15 | 4:21 | 7:24 | 4:41 | 6:58 | 5:21 | 6:15 | 5:56 | 6:22 | 7:32 | 5:38 | 8:06 |
| 11 | 6:31 | 7:11 | 7:04 | 6:18 | 6:42 | 4:36 | 7:15 | 4:22 | 7:24 | 4:43 | 6:57 | 5:22 | 6:14 | 5:57 | 6:20 | 7:33 | 5:37 | 8:07 |
| 12 | 6:32 | 7:09 | 7:05 | 6:17 | 6:43 | 4:35 | 7:16 | 4:22 | 7:24 | 4:44 | 6:56 | 5:23 | 7:12 | 6:58 | 6:18 | 7:34 | 5:36 | 8:08 |
| 13 | 6:33 | 7:07 | 7:06 | 6:15 | 6:45 | 4:34 | 7:17 | 4:22 | 7:23 | 4:45 | 6:54 | 5:25 | 7:10 | 6:59 | 6:17 | 7:35 | 5:35 | 8:09 |
| 14 | 6:34 | 7:06 | 7:08 | 6:14 | 6:46 | 4:33 | 7:18 | 4:22 | 7:23 | 4:46 | 6:53 | 5:26 | 7:08 | 7:01 | 6:15 | 7:36 | 5:34 | 8:10 |
| 15 | 6:35 | 7:04 | 7:09 | 6:12 | 6:47 | 4:32 | 7:19 | 4:22 | 7:22 | 4:47 | 6:52 | 5:27 | 7:07 | 7:02 | 6:13 | 7:37 | 5:33 | 8:11 |
| 16 | 6:36 | 7:02 | 7:10 | 6:10 | 6:48 | 4:31 | 7:19 | 4:23 | 7:22 | 4:48 | 6:50 | 5:28 | 7:05 | 7:03 | 6:12 | 7:38 | 5:32 | 8:12 |
| 17 | 6:37 | 7:00 | 7:11 | 6:09 | 6:50 | 4:30 | 7:20 | 4:23 | 7:21 | 4:50 | 6:49 | 5:30 | 7:03 | 7:04 | 6:10 | 7:40 | 5:31 | 8:13 |
| 18 | 6:39 | 6:59 | 7:12 | 6:07 | 6:51 | 4:29 | 7:20 | 4:23 | 7:21 | 4:51 | 6:47 | 5:31 | 7:01 | 7:05 | 6:09 | 7:41 | 5:30 | 8:14 |
| 19 | 6:40 | 6:57 | 7:13 | 6:06 | 6:52 | 4:29 | 7:21 | 4:24 | 7:20 | 4:52 | 6:46 | 5:32 | 7:00 | 7:06 | 6:07 | 7:42 | 5:29 | 8:15 |
| 20 | 6:41 | 6:55 | 7:15 | 6:04 | 6:53 | 4:28 | 7:22 | 4:24 | 7:19 | 4:53 | 6:44 | 5:34 | 6:58 | 7:08 | 6:05 | 7:43 | 5:28 | 8:16 |
| 21 | 6:42 | 6:53 | 7:16 | 6:03 | 6:55 | 4:27 | 7:22 | 4:25 | 7:19 | 4:55 | 6:43 | 5:35 | 6:56 | 7:09 | 6:04 | 7:44 | 5:27 | 8:17 |
| 22 | 6:43 | 6:51 | 7:17 | 6:01 | 6:56 | 4:27 | 7:23 | 4:25 | 7:18 | 4:56 | 6:41 | 5:36 | 6:54 | 7:10 | 6:02 | 7:45 | 5:26 | 8:18 |
| 23 | 6:44 | 6:50 | 7:18 | 6:00 | 6:57 | 4:26 | 7:23 | 4:26 | 7:17 | 4:57 | 6:40 | 5:37 | 6:53 | 7:11 | 6:01 | 7:46 | 5:25 | 8:19 |
| 24 | 6:45 | 6:48 | 7:20 | 5:58 | 6:58 | 4:25 | 7:23 | 4:26 | 7:16 | 4:58 | 6:38 | 5:39 | 6:51 | 7:12 | 5:59 | 7:48 | 5:25 | 8:20 |
| 25 | 6:46 | 6:46 | 7:21 | 5:57 | 6:59 | 4:25 | 7:24 | 4:27 | 7:16 | 5:00 | 6:37 | 5:40 | 6:49 | 7:13 | 5:58 | 7:49 | 5:24 | 8:21 |
| 26 | 6:47 | 6:44 | 7:22 | 5:55 | 7:00 | 4:24 | 7:24 | 4:28 | 7:15 | 5:01 | 6:35 | 5:41 | 6:47 | 7:14 | 5:56 | 7:50 | 5:23 | 8:22 |
| 27 | 6:48 | 6:43 | 7:23 | 5:54 | 7:02 | 4:24 | 7:24 | 4:28 | 7:14 | 5:02 | 6:33 | 5:42 | 6:46 | 7:16 | 5:55 | 7:51 | 5:23 | 8:22 |
| 28 | 6:49 | 6:41 | 7:25 | 5:52 | 7:03 | 4:23 | 7:25 | 4:29 | 7:13 | 5:04 | 6:32 | 5:44 | 6:44 | 7:17 | 5:53 | 7:52 | 5:22 | 8:23 |
| 29 | 6:51 | 6:39 | 7:26 | 5:51 | 7:04 | 4:23 | 7:25 | 4:30 | 7:12 | 5:05 | | | 6:42 | 7:18 | 5:52 | 7:53 | 5:21 | 8:24 |
| 30 | 6:52 | 6:37 | 7:27 | 5:50 | 7:05 | 4:23 | 7:25 | 4:31 | 7:11 | 5:06 | | | 6:40 | 7:19 | 5:51 | 7:54 | 5:21 | 8:25 |
| 31 | | | 7:28 | 5:48 | | | 7:25 | 4:32 | 7:10 | 5:07 | | | 6:39 | 7:20 | | | 5:20 | 8:26 |