

# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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## Federal Framework for Waterfowl Seasons

### Duck Season Setting Guidelines for 2018-19

- Season Length:** Maximum of 60 days, and the season may be 60 consecutive days (“straight season”) or divided into two blocks totaling 60 days (“split season”) in each zone. Seasons may not be split into 3 or more blocks, and zone boundary changes are not allowed.
- Outside Dates:** Seasons may begin on the Saturday closest to September 24 (Sept 22, 2018) and must end no later than the last Sunday in January (January 27, 2019).
- Youth Days:** Any 2 weekend days or holidays, up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season framework (between Sept 8, 2018 and Feb 10, 2019). For youth hunters only (age 12-15) accompanied by an adult. Bag limits are the same as during regular season for ducks and brant, but only 3 Canada geese per day in all areas. Youth days are not counted as part of the 60-day regular season.
- Daily Bag Limits:** Total of all ducks (including sea ducks\* and mergansers (and any not listed below) - 6/day and may include no more than:
- Mallard - 4/day (2 hens)
  - Wood duck - 3/day
  - Black duck - 2/day
  - Pintail\* - 2/day
  - Canvasback - 2/day
  - Redhead - 2/day
  - Scaup - 2/day
  - Harlequin duck - closed
  - Hooded merganser - 2/day
  - Scoter – 4/day
  - Long-tailed duck – 4/day
  - Eider – 4/day
- \* Indicates a change made in 2018-19
- Other Constraints:** None. The seasons in each zone may be set independent of duck seasons in other zones of New York. Special September teal seasons are not allowed in New York or other northern “production” states. Youth hunt days should not overlap with Youth deer hunting weekend (Oct 6-8, 2018).

## **Canada Goose Season Setting Guidelines for 2018-19**

Note: Canada goose hunting seasons are set for “Goose Hunting Areas”, which are not the same as zones used for ducks, snow geese and brant.

### **Atlantic Population Areas:**

#### **West Central, East Central, Northeast, and Hudson Valley areas**

Assume 50 days (3 geese/day) between the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in October (October 27, 2018) and February 3, 2019; the season may be split into 2 segments in these areas.

### **North Atlantic Population Areas:**

#### **Central Long Island Area**

Assume 70 days (3 geese/day) between October 1, 2018 and February 15, 2019; the season may be split into 2 segments.

#### **Eastern Long Island Area**

Assume 60 days (2 geese/day) between October 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019; the season may be split into 2 segments.

### **Resident Population Areas:**

#### **South Area**

Assume 80 days (5 geese/day) between the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in October (October 27, 2018) and March 10, 2019; the season may be split into 3 segments in this area.

#### **Western Long Island Area**

Assume 105 days (8 geese/day) and may begin on the Saturday closest to September 24 (September 22, 2018) and March 10, 2019; the season may be split into 3 segments in this area.

The above regular seasons are in addition to September seasons.

**Snow geese:** For the Long Island Zone only, assume 107 days (25 birds/day), between October 1, 2018 and March 10, 2019; season may be straight or split into 2 or 3 segments in this zone. In all other zones, the regular season will be a straight season (107 days, 25 birds/day) from October 1, 2018 through January 15, 2019, followed by the special Conservation Order season from January 16, 2019 through April 15, 2019. The special provisions (unplugged guns & e-calls) will be allowed whenever no other waterfowl hunting seasons are open.

**Brant:** Assume a 60 day/2-bird bag limit season between September 22, 2018 and January 27, 2019; seasons may be straight or split into 2 segments in each zone.