2027-28 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

2027-28 MAINE HUNTING SEASONS

DEER	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Expanded Archery	Designated areas only	September 11, 2027	December 11, 2027	**Only 1 antlered deer may be harvested annually Exceptions:** • In designated WMDs or during certain seasons (pending rulemaking spring 2027), hunters may harvest one deer, either antlered or antlerless, under the authority of their big game hunting license. This deer counts as the hunter's one deer for the year. If a hunter wants to take additional deer, an antlerless deer permit is required. • Additional deer may be harvested by hunters possessing antlerless deer permit(s) or during the expanded archery season with appropriate permits.
Regular Archery	All	October 2, 2027	October 29, 2027	
Youth Deer Hunt	All	October 22, 2027	October 23, 2027	
Maine Resident Only Day*	All	October 30, 2027		
Firearms Season	All	November 1, 2027	November 27, 2027	
Muzzleloader Statewide	All	November 29, 2027	December 4, 2027	
Muzzleloader	12-18 and 20-29	December 6, 2027	December 11, 2027	

BEAR	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Youth Bear Hunting with Bait	All	August 27, 2027	August 28, 2027	**2 Bears Per Year** 1 by hunting, 1 by trapping
General Hunting Season	All	August 30, 2027	November 27, 2027	
Hunting with Bait *Bait can be placed July 31, 2027*	All	August 30, 2027	September 25, 2027	
Bear Trapping	All	September 1, 2027	October 31, 2027	
Youth Bear Hunting with Dogs	All	September 11, 2027		
Hunting with Dogs *Bear dog training season is July 1, 2027 - August 26, 2027*	All	September 13, 2027	October 29, 2027	

MOOSE BY PERMIT ONLY**	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	ANNUAL BAG & POSSESSION
Bull-Only	1-7, 10-13, 15, 18, 19, 27 and 28	September 27, 2027	October 2, 2027	**1 Moose Per Year** A person may only harvest one moose per year, regardless of how many permits they may be listed on. In order to harvest a moose a person must be either the permittee or sub-permittee.
Bull-Only	1-15, 17-19, 27, 28	October 11, 2027	October 16, 2027	
Antlerless-Only	1-6, 8	October 25, 2027	October 30, 2027	

Permit application period: April - May of each year.

**A non-resident who owns 25 or more acres of land in Maine and leaves land open to hunting, holds a valid hunting license, and is not otherwise prohibited by law, may hunt deer on the Resident only day, anywhere in the state. A verification form must be completed and can be located on our website.*

***Moose season dates and WMDs are subject to change.*

Last Updated 11/10/2026

FALL WILD TURKEY *Archery equipment or shotgun*	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	SEASONAL BAG & POSSESSION	
General Hunting Season	15-17, 20-25	September 20, 2027	November 6, 2027	5 Wild Turkeys*	No more than two wild turkeys (either-sex, any age) may be harvested per permit holder per day, but cannot exceed the WMD bag limit.
	26	September 20, 2027	November 6, 2027	3 Wild Turkeys*	
	28	September 20, 2027	November 6, 2027	2 Wild Turkeys*	
	3, 6-8, 10-14, 18, 19, 27 & 29	September 20, 2027	November 6, 2027	1 Wild Turkey**	
	1, 2, 4, 5, & 9			Closed to taking of Wild Turkeys	
Youth Fall Wild Turkey Day		September 18, 2027			

**May harvest up to 5 turkeys for the fall season, but an individual WMD bag limit cannot be exceeded. The order in which they are harvested from a WMD does not matter.*

SPRING WILD TURKEY *Archery equipment or shotgun*	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	SEASONAL BAG & POSSESSION
All Hunters	7 and 9-29	May 1, 2028	June 3, 2028	2 bearded Wild Turkeys**
	1-6 and 8	May 1, 2028	June 3, 2028	1 bearded Wild Turkey**
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Days		April 29, 2028		May harvest up to 2 bearded Wild Turkeys from WMDs that have a 2 bird limit.

***May harvest up to 2 turkeys for the spring season, but an individual WMD bag limit cannot be exceeded. The order in which they are harvested from a WMD does not matter.*

UPLAND AND MIGRATORY BIRDS	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Ruffed Grouse & Bobwhite Quail	All	September 25, 2027	December 31, 2027	4	8
Pheasant	All	September 25, 2027	December 31, 2027	2	4
Woodcock	All	TBD	TBD	3	9
Common Snipe	All	TBD	TBD	8	24
For all other migratory waterfowl, see page 36					

OTHER SPECIES	WMDs	SEASONS		LIMITS	
		FIRST DAY	LAST DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Gray Squirrel	All	September 25, 2027	January 31, 2028	4	8
Gray Squirrel (Falconry)	All	September 25, 2027	February 28, 2028	4	8
Snowshoe Hare	All	September 25, 2027	March 31, 2028	4	8
	Season on Island of Vinalhaven	September 25, 2027	February 28, 2028		
Bobcat	All	December 1, 2027	February 21, 2028	No Limit	
Fox	All	October 18, 2027	February 28, 2028	No Limit	
Raccoon	All	October 1, 2027	December 31, 2027	No Limit	
Skunk, Opossum	All	October 18, 2027	December 31, 2027	No Limit	
Coyote	All	**During daylight hunting hours** No Closed Season for Hunting		No Limit	
		Night hunting December 16, 2027 - August 31, 2028			
Woodchuck, Porcupine, Red Squirrel	All	No Closed Season		No Limit	
Spruce Grouse, Lynx, Cottontail Rabbit		No Open Season for Hunting			

Note: Except for migratory game birds, there is no hunting season on any species of bird or animal which is not listed above. All dates are inclusive except that hunting is prohibited on Sunday.

Last Updated 11/10/2026