

HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY		OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ANNUAL LIMIT
DEER					
	Youth Deer Hunt Day	Sept. 30, 2023	See full regulations for more information.	1 antlered deer statewide OR antlerless deer in the Wildlife Management Zone(s) specified on the permit.	
Deer (Big Game)	Archery	Zones 10–14: Oct. 2 – Nov. 25, 2023 Zones 1–9: Oct. 16 – Nov. 25, 2023	See full regulations for more information.	2 antlered deer + antlerless deer by permit	
	Paralegic	Nov. 2 – Nov. 4, 2023			
	Shotgun	Nov. 27 – Dec. 9, 2023			
	Primitive Firearms	Dec. 11 – Dec. 30, 2023			

BLACK BEAR					
Black Bear (Big Game)	Zones 1–14	Sept. 5 – Sept. 23, 2023 Nov. 6 – Nov. 25, 2023 Nov. 27 – Dec. 9, 2023	See full regulations for more information.		1

UPLAND GAME BIRDS*					
Crow	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2 – Apr. 10, 2023 and July 1, 2023 – Apr. 10, 2024 (M, F, Sat only)	—	—	—
Pheasant	Youth Hunt Zones 1–14	Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, and Oct. 7, 2023 Oct. 14 – Dec. 30, 2023	2	4	No limit
Quail	Zones 11–14	Oct. 14 – Dec. 30, 2023	4	8	No limit
Ruffed Grouse	Zones 1–14	Oct. 14 – Nov. 25, 2023	3	6	15
Wild Turkey (Big Game)	Youth Hunt: Zones 1–13 Spring: Zones 1–13 Fall: Zones 10–13*** Fall: Zones 1–9***	April 22, 2023 (special restrictions apply**) April 24 – May 20, 2023 Oct. 2 – Nov. 25, 2023 Oct. 16 – Nov. 25, 2023	See full regulations for more information.		

* Crow, pheasant, and quail hunting are closed during shotgun deer season. Migratory game birds (includes waterfowl, woodcock, snipe, rails): Seasons and bag limits set annually. For Migratory Game Bird Regulations visit mass.gov/migratory-game-bird.

** Must have completed the Youth Turkey Hunt program.

*** Shotgun, muzzleloading shotgun, and archery from Oct. 16 – 28, 2023.

RABBIT, HARE & SQUIRREL					
Cottontail Rabbit	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2, 2023 – Feb. 28, 2023 Oct. 14, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024	5	10	—
Snowshoe Hare	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2, 2023 – Feb. 28, 2023 Oct. 14, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024	2	4	—
Gray Squirrel	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2, 2023 – Feb. 28, 2023 Sept. 5, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024	5	10	—

Rabbit, hare, and squirrel hunting are closed during shotgun deer season.

FURBEARERS					
Bobcat	Zones 1–8	Jan. 2 – Mar. 8, 2023 and Dec. 20, 2023 – Mar. 8, 2024	—	—	—
Coyote	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2 – Mar. 8, 2023 and Oct. 14, 2023 – Mar. 8, 2024	—	—	—
Fox (red or gray)	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2 – Feb. 28, 2023 and Nov. 1, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024	—	—	—
Opossum	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2 – Jan. 31, 2023 and Oct. 2, 2023 – Jan. 31, 2024	—	—	—
Raccoon	Zones 1–14	Jan. 2 – Jan. 31, 2023 and Oct. 2, 2023 – Jan. 31, 2024	3	See full regulations for more information.	

All furbearer hunting seasons are closed during shotgun deer season, except for coyotes. Special restrictions apply.

The following species may be taken year-round (except during shotgun deer season) by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrow, flying squirrel, red squirrel, chipmunk, porcupine, skunk, starling, weasel, woodchuck.

Falconers may hunt pheasant, bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse, cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, and gray squirrel from the respective opening day through March 15th.

TRAPPING

		OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)
Beaver ¹		Jan. 1 – April 15, 2023 and Nov. 1, 2023 – April 15, 2024
Bobcat ^{1,2} , Coyote ¹ , Fox ¹ , Weasel		Nov. 1 – Nov. 30, 2023
Fisher ¹		Nov. 1 – Nov. 22, 2023
Mink ¹ , River Otter ¹		Nov. 1 – Dec. 15, 2023
Muskrat, Opossum, Raccoon, Skunk		Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, 2023 and Nov. 1, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024

1 – Pelt checking/reporting required.

2 – Bobcats may only be trapped or salvaged in Wildlife Management Zones 1–8.



TO REPORT VIOLATIONS
(800) 632-8075

www.mass.gov/ole