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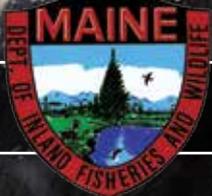
# MAINE HUNTING & TRAPPING



**2015-16 STATE OF MAINE SUMMARY OF  
HUNTING & TRAPPING LAWS AND RULES**

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE**

*Season dates for hunting and trapping are revised annually.  
Information appearing in this book may not be valid after July, 2016.*





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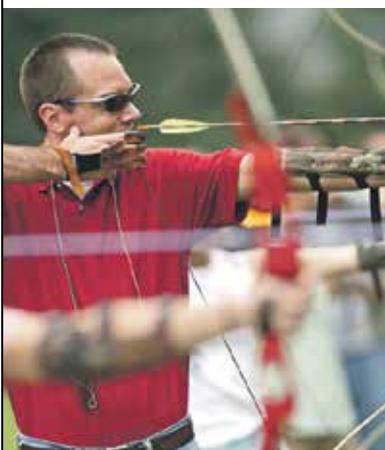


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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**MAINE IF&W CONTACTS** ..... 2

**MESSAGES** ..... 3

**NEW LAWS ENACTED IN 2015** ..... 4–8

**2015–16 LICENSING INFORMATION**

2015–16 License Fees ..... 10

Apprenticeship Hunting License ..... 9

Are There Any Other Permits Required? ..... 9

Complimentary Licenses ..... 9

How Are Licenses Obtained? ..... 9

Leashed Dog Tracking License ..... 28

License Revocation Information ..... 11

Lifetime License ..... 12

Other Hunting License Provisions ..... 9

Special Licenses ..... 9

What Are the Requirements For Obtaining a License? ..... 8

Who Needs a License? ..... 8

**BEAR HUNTING**

2015 Bear Seasons & Bag Limits ..... 25

Bait ..... 25

Bear Hunting Prohibitions ..... 25

**DEER HUNTING**

2015 Deer Seasons & Bag Limits ..... 19

Caution on Liver and Kidney Consumption ..... 20

Deer Hunting Prohibitions ..... 17

Deer Permits & Licenses ..... 18

Expanded Archery Permit ..... 18

Special Restrictions ..... 17

Youth Deer Hunting Day ..... 18

**GENERAL HUNTING PROVISIONS**

Archery Hunting Information ..... 16

Chronic Wasting Disease ..... 20

Crossbow Hunting Information ..... 16

Firearms Laws ..... 15

General Hunting Provisions ..... 13

Hunter Orange Clothing Requirements ..... 15

Hunting with Dogs ..... 28

Laws Pertaining to Hunting Equipment ..... 15

Legal Hunting Hours ..... 40

Observation Stands ..... 19

Outdoor Safety Courses ..... 14

**HUNTING AREAS**

Closed and Special Regulation Areas ..... 30

Commercial Shooting Areas ..... 31

Hunting/Trapping On Private Property ..... 31

National Park Service ..... 29

National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) ..... 29

Native American Territory ..... 30

Public Reserved Lands ..... 29

State Parks and Historic Sites ..... 29

White Mountain National Forest ..... 29

Wildlife Management Areas ..... 30

Wildlife Management District Map ..... 29

**JUNIOR HUNTERS**

Hunters to Be Accompanied ..... 21

Junior Hunting License ..... 21

Youth Hunting Days ..... 21

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS** ..... 24

**MOOSE HUNTING**

2015 Moose Permit Hunt Seasons & Bag Limits ..... 21

Moose Hunting Permit ..... 21

**OTHER SPECIES**

2015–16 Other Species Seasons & Bag Limits ..... 24

Other Species Permits & Licenses ..... 24

**TAGGING, TRANSPORTATION & REGISTRATION**

Condition of Animal Presented for Registration ..... 28

Possession of Gift Bear, Deer, Moose, or Wild Turkey ..... 28

Registration Requirements ..... 28

Tagging Requirements ..... 28

Time Limits for Registering ..... 28

Transportation Prior to Registration ..... 28

Transporting Harvested Animals ..... 28

**TRAPPING**

Bear Trapping ..... 26

Trapping Rules ..... 34

**WILD TURKEY HUNTING**

2015–16 Wild Turkey Seasons & Bag Limits ..... 23

Fall Wild Turkey Hunting Equipment ..... 23

Questionnaires ..... 22

Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Equipment ..... 22

Wild Turkey Hunting Prohibitions ..... 22

Wild Turkey Registration ..... 22

Wild Turkey to Be Tagged ..... 22

Wild Turkey Transportation ..... 22

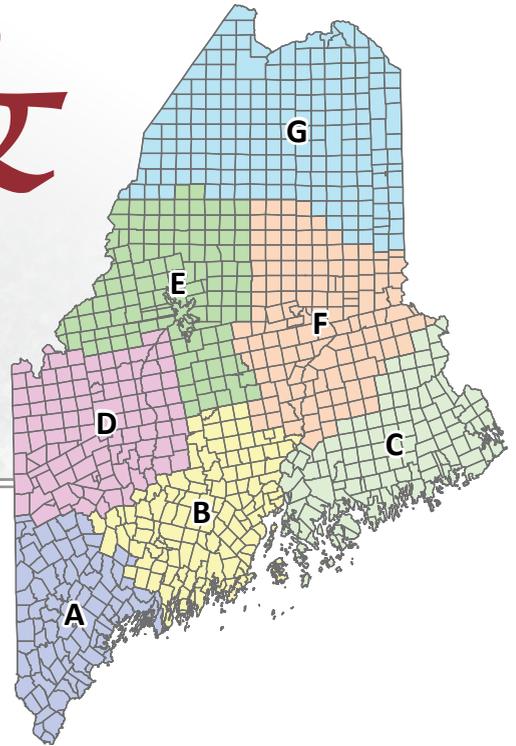
## Lynx Protection Zone & Trap Restrictions

See page 37



# MAINE HUNTING & TRAPPING

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**Chandler E. Woodcock**  
Commissioner

**Andrea L. Erskine**  
Deputy Commissioner

**MAIN OFFICE**

284 State St., 41 SHS,  
Augusta, ME 04333-0041  
(207) 287-8000

**WEBSITE**

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**REGIONAL COMMUNICATION CENTERS**

If you are in need of the services of a game warden call the Department of Public Safety Dispatch at the following toll-free numbers:

Augusta .....1-800-452-4664  
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Houlton .....1-800-924-2261  
Orono .....1-800-432-7381

**NOTE!** The State Police numbers may be used to report a fire, **ONLY** if a fire warden or forest ranger cannot be reached. To report wildfire arson call **1-800-987-0257** — The Maine Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

**MEMBERS OF THE IF&W ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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Region B – Sidney.....(207) 547-5300  
Region C – Jonesboro .....(207) 434-5927  
Region D – Strong .....(207) 778-3324  
Region E – Greenville .....(207) 695-3756  
Region F – Enfield .....(207) 732-4132  
Region G – Ashland .....(207) 435-3231

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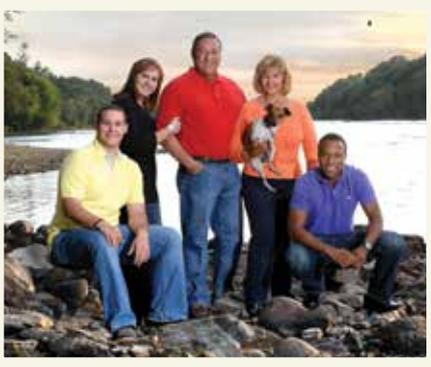
**Comments and Complaints**

If you wish to make a comment about any member of the Department, please come to or call the closest office (listed on this page), and talk to the appropriate staff member. Written comments should be mailed to:

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife  
284 State Street  
41 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0041

Receipt of your correspondence will be formally acknowledged in writing.

Photo courtesy of Jim Bowdoin Photography



## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

Whether you hunt, or fish, watch wildlife or enjoy the other countless things there are to do in Maine's great outdoors, we want you to know that you're welcome here all the time. The Maine woods are full of adventure just waiting to happen, and we're glad you're a part of it.

While you're enjoying the Maine outdoors, know that you're a part of a \$2.4 billion economy that helps Maine keep up its outdoor heritage. From the sporting camps in the Maine wilderness to the retailers ready to outfit you for adventure, the outdoor activities you participate in provide jobs and opportunity for thousands of people in our state and well beyond.

Recreational activities in our state depend on healthy lakes, rivers, and forests. By taking time to read through this handbook and learning the laws, you're preserving all that our great outdoors has to offer for generations to come.

Good luck, be safe, and enjoy the great State of Maine!

Paul R. LePage  
*Governor*



## MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

I would like to thank you for choosing to hunt in Maine. With over 17 million acres of forest and over 30,000 square miles of land, choosing to hunt in Maine is certainly easier than selecting just where to hunt in Maine.

As you go about selecting an area to hunt, I hope that you will familiarize yourself with the rules and regulations that are included in this booklet. These rules are designed not only to protect, enhance and conserve Maine's wildlife, but also to ensure that you and others have a safe and enjoyable experience while afield.

Please take the time to read the articles. Maine's rugged environment, hunting and predator pressures, and season lengths are all considered when designing our regulations. These articles will give you some insight into our management programs and the work of our biologists.

Of course, before you head out in the field, I hope that you "Ask First" before accessing private land. We are fortunate in Maine to have so many acres open to hunting. However, the vast majority of land that is open to hunting is privately owned. A simple courtesy such as asking first or thanking a landowner is a wonderful way to ensure that the land remains open not only now but for future generations.

Once again, thank you, good luck and stay safe!

Chandler Woodcock  
*Commissioner, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*



**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 71 – (LD 275) An Act To Allow the Use of a Crossbow for Recreational Target Practice within 100 Yards of a Building Without the Owner’s Permission (Effective October 15, 2015)**

For persons who are target practicing with a crossbow on their own land, or on land which they have permission to use, they may discharge a crossbow within 100 yards of a dwelling provided the projectile does not enter the property of another.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 79 – (LD 399) An Act To Establish a Youth Bear Hunting Day (Effective May 15, 2015)**

This law will allow youth hunters to hunt on the Saturday prior to the opening day of the bear hunting season. For 2015 this will occur on August 29, 2015. The youth hunter must have a junior hunting license and can hunt bear with a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow. This will NOT allow the use of dogs. The adult supervisor, parent or guardian accompanying a youth on youth bear hunting day may not possess a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow while the youth is participating in the bear hunt.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 127 – (LD 781) An Act To Expand Turkey Hunting Opportunities (Effective January 1, 2016)**

Effective January 1, 2016 this law makes the holder of a big game or a small game hunting license eligible to hold a wild turkey permit. Formally, only a holder of a big game hunting license could purchase a wild turkey permit. It also directs the Commissioner of IFW to establish a November wild turkey hunting season (beginning fall 2016) that is in addition to the current fall wild turkey hunting season in October. The fall wild turkey hunting season allows a person to take a total of 2 wild turkeys during both the October and November seasons combined, regardless of sex.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 136 – (LD 156) An Act To Eliminate the Minimum Age Requirement for a Junior Hunting License and Increase the Number of Times a Person May Hold an Apprentice Hunter License (Effective January 1, 2016)**

1. Effective January 1, 2016 this law eliminates the minimum age requirement for junior hunting license holders and allows any hunter under the age of 16 to purchase a junior hunting license.
2. Hunters from 10–15 years of age must be in the presence of and under the effective control of an adult supervisor.
3. Hunters under the age of 10 must be in the presence of, and under the effective control of, an adult supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of the hunter.

4. The adult supervisor of the junior hunter must hold, or have held, a valid adult hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter safety course.
5. This law also increases the number of times a person may hold an apprentice hunter license from twice to 5 times before becoming ineligible to purchase the license.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 245 – (LD 913) An Act To Expand Public Opportunities for Wildlife Management Education (Effective January 1, 2016)**

This law increases hunting and trapping license fees by a \$1 and directs IFW to use that revenue to educate the public on the management of game species. The hunting license fees will increase January 1, 2016 and the trapping license fees will increase July 1, 2016 to coincide with the annual license expiration date.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 262 – (LD 942) An Act To Permit the Use of Firearm Noise Suppression Devices in Hunting and Provide for a Chief Law Enforcement Officer’s Certification for Certain Firearms (Effective October 15, 2015)**

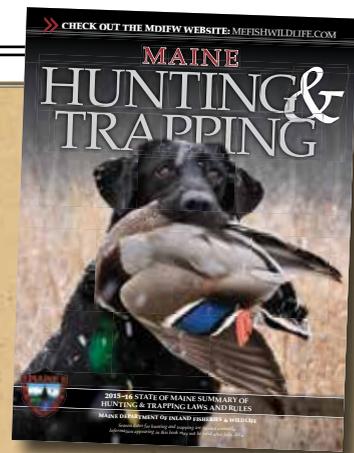
1. This law states that the Commissioner of IFW may issue a permit that is valid until August 1, 2018 for the use of noise suppression devices while hunting as long as the person has lawful possession of the device and has not had a hunting license revoked as a result of a serious hunting violation.
2. Persons wanting additional information or wishing to apply for this permit must contact the Maine Warden Service Headquarters in Augusta at 207-287-5240.
3. Until IFW has implemented an application process, permits will not be available.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 281 – (LD 1409) An Act To Clarify and Simplify the Licensing and Registration Provisions of the Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Laws (See Effective Dates Next to Each Change)**

*This law encompasses several changes or clarifications within Title 12, summarized below:*

1. Effective October 15, 2015, this changes sections of law that allow for electronic licenses or permits to be valid in addition to or in lieu of physical paper licenses or permits. Upon request an electronic license or permit can now be displayed to a game warden, other law enforcement officer, an employee of the department, a Maine guide or the owner of the land on which the licensed activity is taking place.
2. Effective October 15, 2015, this law clarifies the number of antlerless deer and either-sex permits that certain license holders may be issued for the expanded archery season on deer upon receiving their license. One antlerless deer permit and one either-sex permit must

New Laws continued on page 6



## About this Guide

This high-quality regulation guide is offered to you by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 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 MDIF&W’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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**On the Cover:**

Photo courtesy of Lee Thomas Kjos [www.therawspirit.com](http://www.therawspirit.com)



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## STAY SAFE ON THE HUNT

### With These Easy To Remember Safety Tips

The Maine wilderness is home to some of the country's best hunting, but with the sport comes inherent dangers. That's why we'd like to offer a few safety tips to help ensure that your next hunting trip is a safe hunting trip:

Hunting accidents generally have four common causes:

- 1. Judgment Mistakes** – such as mistaking a person for game, not checking what's in front or beyond your target, and getting caught up in the excitement of the hunt which can lead to irrational decisions.
- 2. Not Following Firearm Safety Rules** – Always keep your muzzle pointed in a safe direction, treat every firearm as a loaded weapon, and never keep your finger inside the trigger guard unless you're ready to shoot.
- 3. Not Enough Practice** – always know your firearm's capabilities. Lack of experience can lead to accidental discharges and stray shots.
- 4. Mechanical Failures** – Never let your guard down, as mechanical failures can and will happen.

**Maine law requires completion of an outdoor safety course specific to the license type you wish to purchase in order obtain your adult license.** Each year, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife provides more than 350 courses on hunting with firearms, bow and arrow, and trapping. **Taking a course to refresh your knowledge of safe and responsible hunting is always a wise idea.**

And if you or a loved one has been injured or disabled due to the negligence of another person, professional, business or product, contact the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein for a free and confidential consultation.

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be issued to all qualifying license holders. The license holders included are:

- » Junior hunters;
- » Residents over 70 who hold a senior lifetime license;
- » Resident disabled veterans or nonresident disabled veterans who are residents of New Hampshire or Vermont and who have a service-connected disability of 50% or more; and
- » Members of federally recognized nations, bands or tribes.

3. Effective January 1, 2016, this law allows holders of junior hunting licenses, after they turn 16 years of age, to hunt pheasants and migratory waterfowl and to hunt with a bow and arrow for the remainder of the calendar year for which their licenses are issued, without their having to purchase pheasant permits, migratory waterfowl permits or archery hunting licenses.
4. Effective October 15, 2015, this law removes the reference to “big game” hunting license and clarifies that it permits hunting of all legal species, subject to the permit requirements so any license that qualifies a person to hunt big game AND small game is simply referred to as a hunting license. A hunting license that only allows a person to hunt small game will continue to be referred to as a small game hunting license.

5. Effective October 15, 2015, this law changes the references to crossbow and muzzle-loading licenses to crossbow and muzzle-loading permits and clarifies that hunting licenses allow the hunting of all legal species, but additional permits may be required.

**PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 301 – (LD 1196) An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws (Effective October 15, 2015)**

*This bill encompasses several changes or clarifications within Title 12 summarized below:*

1. Further planning and clarification is necessary by IFW during the next Legislative session before implementation will occur for this portion of law. The intent of this section of law was to require a person who hunts with a bow and arrow to hold a valid archery hunting license which in turn would require that person to have successfully completed an archery hunter education course or show proof of having held an adult archery license in any year after 1979. The goal was to make the hunting safety education requirements consistent with other methods of hunting.
2. Effective October 15, 2015, this law organizes the requirements for crossbow hunting and

eliminates the 200 lb maximum draw weight on the use of crossbows.

3. Effective October 15, 2015, this changes the requirement for an adult supervisor of an apprenticeship hunter license from “a person who is 18 years of age or older and holds a valid Maine hunting license” to “a person who is 18 years of age or older and holds a valid adult license”.
4. Effective October 15, 2015, this states that a person cannot be compensated in any way for exchanging a moose permit to change a zone, area, or season, other than by transferring or receiving the moose permit.
5. This adds the following requirements for bow hunting bear, deer or moose:
  - » When hunting bear or deer the minimum draw weight of the bow must be 35 lbs.
  - » When hunting moose the minimum draw weight of a bow must be 45 lbs.
6. Effective October 15, 2015, this law prohibits the use of any medicinal, poisonous or stupefying substance as bait.
7. Effective October 15, 2015, this law makes it illegal for a person to hunt bear with a .17 or .22 caliber rimfire firearm or a shotgun using shot loads.

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## MAINE OUTDOOR HERITAGE LOTTERY TICKET

The Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund (MOHF) has been helping to fund critical conservation and wildlife projects throughout the state since it was created by the legislature in 1996, in response to a grassroots effort from environmental and sportsman’s groups. Supported through proceeds from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Lottery Ticket, MOHF finds its funds lagging while grant proposals continue to pour in.

Please help us spread the word about our latest ticket, **MOOSE MOOLAH**. The more tickets that are sold, the more projects can be funded!





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8. Effective October 15, 2015, this clarifies the law that prohibits baiting of moose and makes it consistent with baiting of deer. It specifies that from Sept. 1st to Dec. 15th a person may not bait moose or hunt over bait for moose. It also makes it clear that a person can hunt moose over standing crops or foods that are left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of a natural occurrence.
9. Effective October 15, 2015, this clarifies the law that prohibits baiting of wild turkeys and makes it consistent with baiting of deer. It specifies that from Sept. 1st to Dec. 15th a person may not bait wild turkey or hunt over bait for wild turkey. It also makes it clear that a person can hunt wild turkey over standing crops or foods that are left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of a natural occurrence.
10. Effective October 15, 2015, this clarifies that someone may not trap a wild bird unless it is listed in the exceptions.
11. Effective October 15, 2015, this amends the supervisory requirements for apprentice hunter licenses and apprentice trapper licenses. It specifies that the holder of an apprentice hunter license must hunt in

the presence of a person who is 18 years of age or older and who holds a valid adult hunting license and specifies that the holder of an apprentice trapper license must trap in the presence of a person that has held a valid adult trapper license for the prior 3 consecutive years.

12. Effective October 15, 2015, this law makes it illegal to place or deposit medicinal substances (in addition to the law which already prohibited poisonous or stupefying substances) to entice an animal to a location when baiting bear or for the purpose of killing, taking, catching, wounding, harming or molesting any wild animal or wild bird.

### **PUBLIC LAW 2015 CHAPTER 327 – (LD 652) An Act To Authorize the Carrying of Concealed Handguns Without a Permit (Effective October 15, 2015)**

This law allows a person to carry a concealed handgun without a permit and may have that concealed, loaded pistol or revolver in or on a motor vehicle or trailer if:

1. The person is 21 years of age or older and is not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm or;

2. The person is 18 years old or older and under 21 years of age and on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard or is an honorably discharged veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard and is not otherwise prohibited from carrying a firearm.

Upon contact with any law enforcement officer a person carrying a concealed handgun without a permit is required to notify them immediately. This law in no way allows a person to have a loaded crossbow or firearm (other than a handgun) in a motor vehicle, boat or on a trailer attached to a motor vehicle and in no way allows a person to shoot while in or on a motor vehicle, motor boat or while in or on a trailer being hauled by a motor vehicle. Certain exceptions still apply for migratory waterfowl hunting and persons with disabled hunting permits. A firearm safety brochure will be developed and provided when a person purchases a handgun.

## 2015–16 LICENSING INFORMATION

### WHO NEEDS A LICENSE?

Anyone 10 years of age and over must obtain a license to hunt wild birds or wild animals. Maine resident landowners, including immediate family members over 10 years of age, as long as their license to hunt has not been revoked or suspended, may hunt without a license, including archery, crossbow (see page 16) and muzzleloader (but must purchase all other permits) on land they own and reside provided the land exceeds 10 acres in size and is used exclusively for agricultural purposes. This does not apply to moose hunting. A license is required.

- Children under 10 years of age are not allowed to hunt.
- Hunters 10 years of age to 15 years of age must possess a junior license.
- Hunters 16 years of age and over must possess an adult license to hunt. (NOTE: A Junior License holder who turns 16 may hunt with that Junior License for the remainder of the year except on youth hunting days. See page 21 for more information.)
- A person may assist in a hunt without a license or permit for that activity as long as that person does not carry hunting equipment (means to kill) or engage in driving deer.

**NOTE:** See page 21 for changes to Junior Hunting Laws, which become effective January 1, 2016.

### WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A LICENSE?

Applicants for an adult hunting license must show proof of having previously held an adult license to hunt with firearms in any year beginning with 1976 or successful completion of an approved hunter safety course from this or any other state. Residents must provide proof of residency when applying for a license.

Convicted felons who have not been issued a permit to carry a firearm **cannot purchase or possess** a firearms hunting license in Maine (Title 15, sub-§393, sub-§§ 1 & 2).

To obtain an adult archery hunting license, you must show proof of having held an adult license to hunt with bow and arrow in any year after 1979 or successful completion of an archery education course.

Native Americans are exempt from safety course requirements for archery, crossbow and trapping.

A member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty who is permanently stationed outside of the United States and home on leave is exempt from hunter, archery, and crossbow safety course requirements if that member shows proof at time of application for the license that the member's home state of record is Maine.

## DEFINITIONS

**Resident** means a citizen of the United States or an alien who has been domiciled in the State for one year who:

- if registered to vote, is registered in this State;
- if licensed to drive a motor vehicle, has made application for or possesses a motor vehicle operator's license issued by the State;
- if owning a motor vehicle located within the State, has registered each such vehicle in the State; and
- is in compliance with the state income tax laws.

A full-time student at a Maine college or university who satisfies above requirements.

**Nonresident** means a citizen of the United States who does not fall within the definition of ALIEN OR RESIDENT.

**ALIEN** means a person who is not a citizen of the United States.

## HOW ARE LICENSES OBTAINED?

**Residents and Nonresidents** may obtain hunting licenses from agents throughout the state (sporting good stores, many convenience stores, town clerks, and turnpike service centers) or from the Department office in Augusta. Nonresidents may also obtain them by mail from the Department office in Augusta.

(**Note:** Not all town clerks issue nonresident licenses.)

Licenses may also be purchased online at *mefishwildlife.com*. Agents are authorized to process applications online for moose and antlerless deer permits; they may charge a fee of \$2.00.

All trapping licenses are issued from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife office in Augusta. A trapping license cannot be purchased online.

**It is unlawful to obtain any license or permit through misstatement or misrepresentation or to possess any license or permit which has been altered, mutilated or tampered with in any manner.**

## OTHER HUNTING LICENSE PROVISIONS

- You are required to keep your hunting license and any necessary permits with you while hunting or transporting wild birds and wild animals and, if requested to do so, must present it for inspection to any warden, law enforcement officer, Department employee, guide or landowner upon whose land you are hunting.
- Effective October 15, 2015, a person may use an electronic license or permit, in addition to, or in lieu of a physical paper license or permit, to display upon request for inspection.

**Please Note:** The commissioner may revoke the license of any person convicted of violating the fish and wildlife laws, in addition to any penalty which may be imposed by a court of law. Some violations result in **mandatory revocation**. See page 11 for a list of violations.

## ARE THERE ANY OTHER PERMITS REQUIRED?

There are certain permits required (in addition to the regular hunting license). See individual species pages for this permit information.

## SPECIAL LICENSES

### Special Privilege Licenses

- Anyone serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and permanently stationed at a military base in Maine (includes spouse and dependent children if they permanently reside with that person) may purchase a resident license to hunt, trap, or fish.
- Maine military personnel who are on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and permanently stationed outside Maine may purchase either a hunting, fishing, trapping or combination hunting and fishing license for \$3.00\*. Spouse and dependent children

## APPRENTICESHIP LICENSES

LICENSE	FEE	NEW FEE*
Resident Hunting (includes bear and turkey permits)	\$25.00	\$26.00
Resident Crossbow	\$25.00	\$26.00
Resident Archery	\$25.00	\$26.00
Nonresident Hunting	\$114.00	\$115.00
Nonresident Small Game	\$74.00	\$75.00
Nonresident Crossbow	\$55.00	\$56.00
Nonresident Archery	\$74.00	\$75.00

\* On January 1, 2016, hunting & trapping fees will increase by \$1. The additional revenue will be placed in a dedicated account, for use in educating the public on management of game species.

who reside with that person may obtain a combination license for \$20.00\*, or a hunting, fishing or trapping license for \$10.00\* upon proof that their home of record, as recorded in a service record, is Maine. \*Plus agent fee.

- Any citizen of a foreign nation, under 21 years of age, who is living with a family in Maine in connection with any cultural or educational exchange program may purchase a resident license to hunt or fish.

### Complimentary Licenses

- Veterans who are residents of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont who have a service-connected disability of 50% or more will be issued, upon application, a complimentary license to fish, trap, or hunt (including all necessary permits and other permissions and upon meeting qualifications, a guides license). Must still apply for any-deer & moose permits each year when applications become available. These licenses may only be obtained from IF&W's main office in Augusta.
- Maine residents and nonresidents (if reciprocal privileges exist in their home state) who are suffering from the loss of, or loss of use of, both lower extremities, will be issued, upon application, a complimentary license to hunt or fish as well as an antlerless deer permit. These licenses may only be obtained from IF&W's main office in Augusta.
- The commissioner shall issue a hunting, archery, trapping and fishing license, including permits and other permissions needed to hunt, trap and fish, to a person, 10 years of age or older (See page 21 for new laws, which become effective January 1, 2016), who is an enrolled member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Aroostook Band of Micmacs that is valid for the life of that person without any charge or fee if the person presents certification from the respective reservation governor or the Aroostook Micmac Council stating that the person described is an enrolled member of a federally recognized nation, band or tribe listed in this subsection.

**NOTE:** Holders of disabled veteran licenses & Native American licenses are subject to rules governing a lottery or drawing system for issuing a particular permit.

### Other Licenses

(Available at the Augusta Office only.) For detailed information on the following licenses, contact the Department at (207) 287-3614.

- Hide Dealers License:** See prohibition regarding selling of wild birds section on page 13.
- Seasonal Hide Dealers License:** Required for any place of business that butchers wild animals and commercially sells or barter the heads or untanned hides of deer or moose that they have butchered.
- Taxidermist License:** Allows a place of business to lawfully possess fish or wildlife for the sole purpose of preparing and mounting them and to also buy, sell or barter raw, untanned hides or heads of wild animals. This includes skull and bone mounts, commonly referred to as European mounts.
- Guides License:** Required for anyone who receives any form of remuneration for their services in accompanying or assisting others while hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, snowmobiling, ATVing, or camping at a primitive camping area.

## APPRENTICESHIP HUNTERS LICENSE

An apprenticeship hunting license is available to a resident or nonresident 16 years of age or older who has never held a valid adult hunting license. A person may not obtain an apprenticeship hunting license more than twice. (Effective January 1, 2016, a person may not obtain an apprenticeship hunting license more than five times.) A person holding this license may not hunt other than in the presence of an adult supervisor at least 18 years of age who has held a valid adult hunting license for the prior 3 consecutive years. The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the holder of an apprenticeship license follows safe hunting protocol as well as all hunting laws. For more information contact IF&W at (207) 287-8000.

# 2015–16 LICENSING INFORMATION

Fees listed do not include the agent fee. The commissioner may revoke all license and permits issued to any person who fails to pay the fees due and may recover fees associated with insufficient funds.

## 2015–16 LICENSE FEES

Unless otherwise noted, all licenses and permits expire on December 31 of the year issued.

LICENSE		FEE	NEW FEE****	
<b>MAINE RESIDENTS</b>	Hunting (16 and older)	\$25.00	\$26.00	
	Junior Hunting (10 to 15 years old)	\$7.00	\$8.00	
	Small Game* Hunting (16 and older)	\$14.00	\$15.00	
	Combination Hunting & Fishing (16 and older)	\$42.00	\$43.00	
	Combination Fishing & Archery (16 and older)	\$42.00	\$43.00	
	Serviceman (resident) Combination Hunting & Fishing	\$3.00	\$3.00	
	Serviceman (dependent) Combination Hunting & Fishing	\$20.00	\$20.00	
	Serviceman (dependent) Hunting	\$10.00	\$10.00	
	Disabled War Veteran (resident)	FREE		
	Archery Hunting (16 and older)	\$25.00	\$26.00	
	Trapping (16 and older)	\$35.00	\$35.00	
	Junior Trapping (10 to 15 years)	\$9.00	\$9.00	
	Apprenticeship Hunting License (16 and older)	See info on page 9.		
	Apprenticeship Trapping License (16 and older)	\$35.00	\$35.00	
	Superpack	\$200.00	\$201.00	
<b>NON-RESIDENTS</b>	Big Game Hunting (16 and older)	\$114.00	\$115.00	
	Combination Hunting & Fishing (16 and older)	\$149.00	\$150.00	
	Small Game* Hunting (16 and older)	\$74.00	\$75.00	
	3-Day Small Game* Hunting (valid for 3 consecutive days)	\$49.00	\$50.00	
	Junior Hunting (10 to 15 years)	\$34.00	\$35.00	
	Archery Hunting (16 and older)	\$74.00	\$75.00	
	Trapping (any age)	\$317.00	\$317.00	
	Apprenticeship Hunting License (16 and older)	See info on page 9.		
Apprenticeship Trapping License (16 and older)	\$317.00	\$318.00		
<b>ALIEN</b>	Big Game Hunting (16 and older)	\$139.00	\$140.00	
	Combination Hunting & Fishing (16 and older)	\$190.00	\$191.00	
	Small Game* Hunting (16 and older)	\$79.00	\$80.00	
	Archery Hunting (16 and older)	\$84.00	\$85.00	
	Junior Hunting (10 to 15 years)	\$34.00	\$35.00	
<b>OTHER FEES</b>	Bear Permits	See page 25 & 26.		
	Coyote Night Hunting Permit	\$4.00	\$4.00	
	Crossbow Hunting Permit (16 and older)**	Maine Resident	\$25.00	\$26.00
		Non-resident	\$55.00	\$56.00
		Alien	\$79.00	\$80.00
	Deer, Moose, and Bear Registration	\$5.00	\$5.00	
	Duplicate License	\$2.00	\$2.00	
	Expanded Archery Permits (See page 18.)	Antlerless Deer	\$12.00	\$12.00
		Either Sex	\$32.00	\$32.00
	Falconry Permit	\$26.00	\$26.00	
	Moose Permit	See page 21.		
	Muzzleloader Permit (16 and older)**	Maine Resident	\$13.00	\$13.00
		Non-resident	\$69.00	\$69.00
		Alien	\$79.00	\$79.00
	Pheasant Permit (Cumberland and York Counties)	\$17.00	\$17.00	
	State Migratory Waterfowl Permit (16 and older)***	\$7.50	\$7.50	
	Outdoor Partners Program	\$15.00	\$15.00	
Taxidermist, Hide Dealer, and Guide Licenses	See info on page 9.			
Wild Turkey Permits	See pages 22–23.			

**NOTE: See page 21 for changes in Junior Hunting Laws, which becomes effective January 1, 2016.**

\* Small game license permits hunting of all legal species except deer, bear, moose, wild turkey, raccoon, and bobcat. Effective Jan 1, 2016, a small game license is valid for hunting wild turkey.

\*\* A resident, nonresident, or alien 10 years of age or older and under 16 years of age may hunt with a crossbow or muzzleloader if that person holds a valid junior hunting license.

\*\*\* In addition to the State Migratory Waterfowl Permit, a Federal Migratory Waterfowl Permit is required.

\*\*\*\* On January 1, 2016, hunting & trapping fees will increase by \$1. The additional revenue will be placed in a dedicated account, for use in educating the public on management of game species.

# LICENSE REVOCATION INFORMATION

Hunters should be aware of the fact that a conviction for any hunting violation may result in the revocation of their hunting privileges.

## Minimum Mandatory Ten Year Revocation of Hunting Licenses:

If a person is convicted of Assault While Hunting [17A MRSA §208(A)] and the offense occurred in the context of hunting activity, and if, through failure of the hunter to make proper target identification, the offense resulted in the injury or death of another person.

## Minimum Mandatory Five Year Revocation of Hunting Licenses:

- Shooting a domestic animal while hunting;
- Hunting under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;
- Conviction of violation of 17A MRSA while on a hunting or fishing trip or in the pursuit of wild animals, birds or fish and when the wounding or killing of a human being has occurred.

## Minimum Mandatory Three Year Revocation of ALL Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIF&W) Licenses:

- Disturbing traps.

## Minimum Mandatory Two Year Revocation of ALL DIF&W Licenses:

Persons convicted of burglary or criminal trespass of a building located within any unorganized township; theft of any equipment used for hunting, fishing and trapping; or theft of any animal which has been obtained by hunting or trapping and which was in the possession or control of the person who hunted or trapped the animal.

## Hunting Violations with a Minimum One Year License Revocation:

- Illegally hunting and/or possessing deer, bear, or moose during closed season.
- Night hunting.
- Discharging a firearm within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling without permission of the owner, or in the owners absence, an adult occupant who dwells in that location.
- Illegally buying and/or selling deer, bear, moose or wild turkeys.
- Illegally hunting/possessing wild turkeys including using illegal methods to hunt wild turkeys.
- Hunting deer, bear, moose, or wild turkey after having killed one and/or exceeding the

- bag limit on deer, bear, moose or wild turkey.
- Hunting over another person's bear bait without written permission from that person.

In addition to penalties provided in Title 17, Section 2264-B, relating to littering, a person convicted of littering on a state owned wildlife management area or sanctuary as defined in Title 12 shall surrender their hunting and/or fishing licenses for a period of up to one year.

NOTE: Maine is a participating member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. The Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact is an agreement that recognizes suspension of hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses in member states. This means that illegal activities in one state can affect a person's hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges in all participating states. Any person whose license privileges or rights are suspended in a member state may also be suspended in Maine. If a person's hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges are suspended in Maine, they may be suspended in member states as well. If a person plans to hunt, fish, or trap in another state, and they have a license suspension in Maine, it is their responsibility to contact the other state to see if they can legally hunt, fish, or trap in that state.



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**LIFETIME LICENSE FEES**

RESIDENTS	FISHING	HUNTING	ARCHERY	TRAPPING	COMBINATION OF ANY TWO*	COMBINATION OF ANY THREE*
5 years & under	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$250	\$400
6 – 15 years	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$500	\$800
65 years of age	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$80	\$110
66 years of age	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$64	\$94
67 years of age	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$48	\$78
68 years of age	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$32	\$52
69 years of age	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$16	\$26
70 and older	\$8.00 — Covers all authorities that you are qualified to receive, see below.					
NONRESIDENTS	FISHING	HUNTING	ARCHERY	TRAPPING	COMBINATION OF ANY TWO*	COMBINATION OF ANY THREE*
5 years & under**	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$750	\$1,200
6 – 15 years	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$1,500	\$2,400

\* hunting, fishing, archery

\*\* These fees are subject to change, please check with the Department for current fees.

**SUPERPACK LICENSE**

To be eligible for this license, the applicant must be a Maine resident. This license permits a person who has met the eligibility requirements for each license or permit to hunt and fish for all legal game and fish species subject to all the laws covering these activities: fishing, hunting, and archery. The Superpack license includes muzzleloader, crossbow, migratory waterfowl, pheasant, spring/fall turkey, bear, coyote night hunt, and three expanded archery antlerless permits. The Superpack license also includes one free chance in the moose lottery and entry into a special category in the annual any-deer permit lottery.

**MAINE LIFETIME LICENSE**

**Pass on a Maine tradition and a gift that will last a lifetime.**

Your investment in a lifetime license for yourself or as a gift, will allow the bearer to fish, trap, and/or hunt for their lifetime, regardless of where they will live in the future. The revenues generated by the sale of these licenses will be deposited in a special trust fund that will provide long-term financial support for Maine’s fish and wildlife.

**Applicants 70 years of age:**

For a one-time fee of \$8.00, a senior lifetime license entitles the holder to all privileges they are qualified to receive including hunting, trapping, archery, and fishing. The license also includes the following: bear hunt, bear trap, muzzle-loader, migratory waterfowl, pheasant, spring and fall turkey, coyote night hunt, crossbow, one expanded archery antlerless deer permit, and one either sex permit. (Must still apply for any-deer

and moose permits each year when applications become available.)

**NOTE: If you purchased a senior lifetime license before age 70, you do NOT have to pay the \$8.00 fee, and the permits listed in the previous paragraph are included with your lifetime license anytime during the calendar year you turn 70 years of age.**

For more information about the Lifetime License Program, please call (207) 287-8000.

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You can also sign up at any licensing agent, or contact us at 207-287-8000

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# GENERAL HUNTING PROVISIONS

To hunt means to pursue, catch, take, kill or harvest wild birds and wild animals (*wild by nature, whether or not bred or reared in captivity including any physical part of that species of mammal or bird*) or attempt to catch, take, kill or harvest wild animals or wild birds.

**Unlawful conduct:** The hunting, possession, transporting of any species of wild animal or wild bird, or parts thereof, for which an open hunting season is not specifically provided, and except as provided in the fish and wildlife laws, is unlawful. It is also unlawful to take, possess or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird.

**Prohibition regarding selling of wild birds:** A person may not sell or possess for sale a wild bird, except as provided in this Part. A person may sell the plumage of lawfully taken wild birds if that sale does not violate regulations of the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act

**A person who has lawfully killed and registered a deer, bear or moose may (without a hide dealer's license) sell:**

- The head, hide, antlers and feet of that deer
- The head, hide, antlers, feet and bones of that moose

- The head, hide, teeth, gallbladder and claws (not attached to the paws) of that bear

A person may buy the above listed items for their personal use, **except buying, bartering for or trading for bear gallbladders and raw antlers always requires a hide dealer's license.**

The **commercial** buying, selling, bartering and trading of any raw, untanned animal hides (including fur-bearing animals) or parts of wild animals and wild birds, not prohibited above, requires a hide dealer's license.

Any parts bought or sold may not be attached to wild animal or wild bird parts which are prohibited from being sold.

Bear gall bladders and raw, unfinished deer and moose antlers must be tagged or accompanied with documentation containing the name and address of the person who legally killed the animal.

A person may buy or sell naturally shed antlers of deer or moose without a hide dealer's license

A person may buy, sell, barter or trade legally obtained finished wildlife products, excluding federally protected wild animals and birds

Please refer to [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com) for latest changes to this license and the new reporting requirements.

**Night hunting:** Except as otherwise provided, wild birds and wild animals may not be hunted from ½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise the following day. Exceptions: migratory bird, moose (see page 21), wild turkey (see page 22), raccoon (see below), and coyote (see page 24).

**Raccoon hunting:** Raccoons may be hunted at night during the open season only when the hunter:

1. is accompanied by a dog;
2. uses an electric flashlight to locate raccoons that are treed, or held at bay by a dog or dogs, and;
3. uses a rifle or handgun of no greater power than one which uses .22 caliber long rifle ammunition; said rifle to be loaded only when being used to dispatch a raccoon that is treed or held at bay by dogs.

**Placement of bait for hunting purposes:**

A person placing bait for hunting purposes must:

- Obtain oral or written permission from the landowner or landowner's agent
- Plainly label the bait with a 2-inch by 4-inch tag containing the name and address of the baiter
- Clean up the bait site immediately upon landowner request, or if not requested, within 20 days of the last day the site is hunted
- A person may NOT hunt over another person's bait site without the baiter's permission

**Sunday hunting is illegal in Maine.**

# MAINE MILITARY SUPPLY



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## OUTDOOR SAFETY COURSES

As used in this section “Bait” means an animal or plant or a part of an animal or plant used to attract wild animals for the purpose of hunting.

A person may not place any medicinal, poisonous, or stupefying substance to entice any animal, including bear.

This subsection does not apply to bear baiting, which is summarized on page 25.

- Placing bait or hunting over bait to entice deer is prohibited from Sept. 12, 2015 through Dec. 12, 2015 for the entire State when there is any open season on deer.
- Placing bait or hunting over bait to entice moose is prohibited during any open hunting season on moose and through Dec. 15, 2015.
- Placing bait or hunting over bait to entice turkey is prohibited during the fall turkey hunting season beginning October 1, 2015 through December 15, 2015 and during the spring turkey hunting season.
- **Note:** The baiting prohibitions do not apply for deer, moose or turkey when hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking: 1) standing crops; 2) or foods left as a result of normal agricultural operations or from natural occurrence.

### Shooting within 100 yards of dwelling:

It is unlawful to discharge any firearm, including muzzleloaders or crossbow, or cause a projectile to pass as a result of that discharge within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling without permission from the owner, or in the owner’s absence, an adult occupant who dwells in that location. Building means any residential, commercial, retail, educational, religious or farm structure that is designed to be occupied by people or domesticated animals or is being used to shelter machines or harvested crops. A projectile means a bullet, pellet, shot, shell, ball, bolt or other object propelled or launched from a firearm or crossbow.

**Exception:** Persons target practicing with a crossbow, on their own land or on land which they have permission to use, may discharge a crossbow within 100 yards of a dwelling provided the projectile does not enter the property of another.

**Hunting under the influence:** It is unlawful to hunt while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.

**Possession of hunting equipment on Sunday:** Possession of hunting equipment in the fields and forests or on the waters or ice of this State on Sunday is prima facie evidence of a violation of Sunday hunting unless: the hunting equipment is carried, securely wrapped in a complete cover, fastened in a case, or carried in at least 2 separate pieces in such a manner that it cannot be fired unless the separate pieces

### Do you need to take an outdoor safety course to obtain your license for firearms, archery, crossbow, or trapping?

Maine law requires completion to obtain your adult license unless you have previously done so or have held an adult license.

These courses are made available in your area by **volunteer instructors** certified by the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. Pre-registration is requested and/or required. Courses will include 6 to 12 hours of instruction dependent on the subject. Sponsors include school districts, sports clubs, civic groups, and others. Courses will be scheduled based on instructor availability.

For information on becoming a Volunteer Instructor, contact your local Regional Safety Coordinator or the Recreational Safety Division Office at (207) 287-5220. Call to find out who your local Regional Safety Coordinator is, or go on our website.

For course listings visit our website at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com)

are joined together. For the purpose of this paragraph, a clip, a magazine, or a cylinder of a firearm shall not be considered a piece of the firearm. Bows and arrows must be kept in a case or cover if broadheads or field points are kept attached to the arrows.

A person may possess hunting equipment on Sunday for legitimate activities such as target practice, sighting in rifles, etc.

For example, it is lawful for a person to possess a firearm for the purpose of target practice in a gravel pit that is located in a wooded area on a Sunday. A game warden may ask the person to explain the purpose of possessing the hunting equipment (the firearm). If the explanation given by that person, indicates that they were target practicing, and absent any further evidence of hunting on Sunday; that will normally satisfy the game warden.

**Airborne hunting:** A person on the ground or airborne may not use aircraft to aid or assist in hunting big game (deer, bear, moose).

**Shooting from a motor vehicle or motorboat or possessing a loaded firearm or crossbow in or on a motor vehicle:** It is unlawful to shoot while in or on a motor vehicle, motorboat, snowmobile or ATV or have a loaded firearm or crossbow while in or on a motor vehicle, trailer, or other type of vehicle being hauled by a motor vehicle except as specifically allowed.

- Until October 15, 2015, persons who hold a valid Maine permit to carry a concealed weapon may carry a loaded pistol or revolver in a motor vehicle as prescribed by Title 25 sub 2001A (not to be used for hunting purposes) — please see page 15 for more information on carrying concealed firearms.
- Paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may shoot from motor vehicles that are not in motion

- Migratory waterfowl may be hunted from a motorboat in accordance with federal regulations
- A person may shoot from a motorboat if that boat is not being propelled by the motor and forward momentum of the boat has stopped. However, the wanton waste law allows you to shoot crippled waterfowl from a motorboat under power on coastal waters and all waters of rivers and streams lying seaward of the first upstream bridge

**Note:** A loaded clip may be carried in a motor vehicle, but it must not be inserted in, or attached to, a firearm; a crossbow may be carried as long it is not cocked and armed; a muzzle-loader is considered to be loaded only if charged with powder, projectile and a primed ignition device or mechanism.

**Shooting from or over a public paved way:** A person is guilty of hunting from or over a public paved way if that person shoots at any wild animal or wild bird from any public paved way or within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement of the public paved way or from within the right-of-way of any controlled access highway or discharges any firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow over a public paved way (any road treated with bituminous or concrete material).

**Shooting of domestic animals:** It is unlawful for any person, while on a hunting trip, to negligently, carelessly, or willfully shoot and wound or kill any domestic animal or domestic bird.

**Firearms on school property:** Possession of a firearm or crossbow on public school property or discharging one within 500 feet of school property, except as used in supervised educational programs or by law enforcement officials, is a violation of Title 20-A Section 6552.

**Disposal of Remains:** It is unlawful, except during normal field dressing or for baiting purposes, to dispose of the carcass, waste parts or remains of a wild animal, unless you are on private property owned by you, or on property where you have landowner permission.

**Disturbing traps: Shooting an animal in a trap without permission is illegal.**

## GENERAL

Wild animals and wild birds may be hunted only by the use of rifles, handguns, shotguns (not larger than 10-gauge), hand-held bow and arrow, crossbow or by falconry. Deer and moose decoys are legal; laser sights (red dots or beam) for firearms and bows are legal. Electronic calling devices are legal for deer, bear, turkey, moose, and coyote hunting, but are illegal for migratory game birds.

## Illegal Devices

It is unlawful to hunt with the use of (or sell or offer for sale for the purpose of hunting) a set gun, or any medicinal, poisonous or stupefying substance (except rodenticide for orchard mouse control and gas cartridges for woodchuck control).

Drawlocks and set bows are illegal unless otherwise permitted for disabled hunters. Crossbows cannot be used to hunt wild turkeys in the fall season, or deer during the expanded archery, regular October archery, or the muzzleloading season. Please see exceptions and additional information related to crossbow hunting below under Crossbow Information.

## Illegal Use of Lights

From September 1 to December 15, it is unlawful to use artificial lights from ½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise to illuminate, jack, locate, attempt to locate or show up wild animals or wild birds except raccoons which may be hunted at night with electric flashlights during the open season (see *General Hunting Provisions* for details). An exception to this may be made for agents appointed by the commissioner to hunt coyotes at night during this period under policies established by the Department.

## FIREARMS LAWS

- It is unlawful to hunt with or possess for hunting any automatic firearm (a firearm that continues to fire as long as the trigger is held back.)
- It is unlawful to hunt with or possess for hunting any auto-loading firearm (a firearm which reloads itself after each shot and requires a separate trigger pull for each shot) which has a magazine capacity of more than 5 cartridges (plus 1 in the chamber for a total of 6), unless the magazine has been permanently altered to contain not more than 5 cartridges. (Note: This provision does not apply to .22 caliber rimfire guns or to auto-loading pistols with barrel lengths of less than 8 inches.)
- It is unlawful to hunt any migratory game bird with a shotgun originally capable of holding more than 3 shells unless the magazine has been cut off, altered, or plugged with a one-piece filler (incapable of removal without disassembling the gun), so as to reduce the capacity of the gun to not more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined.
- It is unlawful to hunt with or possess for hunting any firearm fitted or contrived with any device for deadening the sound of the explosion without a permit.
- It is unlawful to hunt with cartridges which contain tracer bullets or explosive bullets.
- No firearm may be used for deer, moose, and bear hunting which uses .17 or .22 caliber rimfire cartridges, except .22 magnum can be used for deer hunting.
- No firearms of any kind may be carried while hunting deer with a bow and arrow during the special archery season on deer and the expanded archery season on deer, except that a person who also holds a license that allows hunting with firearms may carry a handgun

but it cannot be used to shoot a deer or dispatch a wounded deer.

## Carrying Concealed Firearms

Until October 15, 2015, a permit is required to carry a concealed firearm in Maine, except that licensed hunters and trappers are exempt while engaged in these activities; the latter provision does not authorize the carrying of a concealed or loaded firearm in a motor vehicle. Some town offices or city halls issue these permits to residents. If not, contact Maine State Police. Nonresidents may obtain concealed weapons permits from the Maine State Police: (207) 624-7210.

Effective October 15, 2015: New law allows a person to carry a concealed handgun without a permit and may have that concealed, loaded pistol or revolver in, or on, a motor vehicle or trailer if:

1. The person is 21 years of age or older and is not otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm or;
2. The person is 18 years of age or older and under 21 years of age and on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard or is an honorably discharged veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard and is not otherwise prohibited from carrying a firearm.

Upon contact with a law enforcement officer, a person carrying a concealed handgun without a permit is required to notify them immediately.

## Loaded firearms in motor vehicles

It is unlawful to have a loaded firearm or crossbow in or on a motor vehicle (including trailer, ATV, aircraft, snowmobile, or railway car). A loaded clip may be carried in a motor vehicle, but it must not be inserted in or attached to a firearm. **Firearms may be transported in**

# HUNTER ORANGE CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

**Articles of hunter orange clothing** must be in good and serviceable condition and visible from all sides. A decal on an article of clothing that is otherwise solid-colored hunter orange does not disqualify that article of clothing from satisfying the requirements of this subsection. **Hunter orange** means a daylight fluorescent orange color with a dominant wave length between 595 and 605 nanometers, excitation purity not less than 85% and luminance factor of not less than 40%. Hunter orange clothing is not required while hunting with a bow and arrow.

## Muzzleloading Season on Deer

The hunter orange clothing requirements listed below under the firearms hunting season on deer apply.

## Firearms Season on Deer

Anyone who hunts any species with a firearm or crossbow during any firearms season on deer (also on Youth Deer Day) must wear two articles of hunter orange clothing. One article must be a solid-colored hunter orange hat; the other must cover a major portion of the torso, such as a jacket, vest, coat or poncho and must be a minimum of 50% hunter orange in color (camouflage).

## Archery Seasons on Deer

Hunter orange clothing is not required while hunting with a bow and arrow during the archery season.

## Moose Hunting Season

Anyone who hunts any species with a firearm or crossbow in a Wildlife Management District that is open to moose hunting must wear one article of solid-colored hunter orange clothing (hat or clothing) except in the WMDs (15, 16, 22, 23, 25 & 26) open during deer season and WMDs (1-4, 19) open in November, where two pieces must be worn. All laws pertaining to deer hunting apply to Moose hunters during these seasons.

## Bear and Bird Hunters

When hunting bears and birds, hunter orange clothing is **only** required when hunting with a firearm or crossbow during the firearms hunting season on deer, the muzzleloading season on deer, or within an open moose hunting district during moose hunting season.

## Waterfowl Hunters

Waterfowl Hunters: are not affected by the provisions above while hunting from a boat, blind, or in conjunction with waterfowl decoys.

a motor vehicle without a concealed firearms permit provided they are (1) unloaded and in plain view, or (2) are unloaded and placed in a remote secure area (such as a locked trunk) away from the control of the occupants of the motor vehicle. For purposes of this law, a muzzleloader is considered to be loaded only if charged with powder, a projectile and a primed ignition device or mechanism. A crossbow is considered loaded if cocked and armed. For more information regarding carrying a loaded pistol or revolver see page 15.

## ARCHERY INFORMATION Seasons

The regular archery license allows bow and arrow hunting for all legal game throughout the year (except deer during the muzzleloading season). An archery license is required to hunt during the regular archery deer season, and the expanded archery deer season. In addition to the regular archery license, hunters participating in the expanded archery deer season (designated areas only) must purchase permits as follows: Multiple antlerless deer permits may be purchased for \$12 each and one either sex permit for \$32 for the expanded archery deer season.

Complimentary archery license holders (Disabled Veteran, Native American) and junior hunting license holders may hunt with those licenses during the expanded archery deer season. One expanded archery antlerless deer permit and one either sex permit is included with these licenses.

Applicants for the regular archery license must show proof of having successfully completed an archery hunter education course or of having held an adult archery license in this state in any year after 1979. See exception for Native Americans on pg. 8. When proof or evidence cannot be provided, the applicant may substitute a signed affidavit.

Junior hunters who hold a valid Junior Hunting License are allowed to hunt with bow and arrow when accompanied by their parent or an adult 18 years of age or older (see page 21).

- Hunter orange clothing is NOT required when hunting with bow and arrow. Anyone who hunts with a firearm or crossbow must wear hunter orange (see page 15).
- A handgun may be carried by hunters while bowhunting but may NOT be used to dispatch deer.
- Laws which allow you to hunt without a license on your own land under certain conditions apply to archery hunting (see below).
- Deer may be taken under the archery provisions only by means of hand-held bow with a minimum draw weight of 35 pounds, and broad-head arrow. Arrow heads (including expandable mechanical broadheads) must be at least 7/8 inch in width. It is unlawful to use a set bow, or to use arrows with poisonous or explosive tips. Hunters 70 years of age or older may hunt any wild bird or wild animal with a crossbow.

- All deer killed by bow and arrow during the archery seasons must be inspected and registered at the first open deer registration station.
- It is legal to hunt until ½ hour after sunset during both archery deer seasons.
- In WMDs where no any-deer permits are issued, archers and junior hunters are not allowed to harvest antlerless deer during the archery season on deer. (Deer taken during the expanded archery deer season are by appropriate permit as described above.)

In addition, all other laws pertaining to deer hunting shall apply to archery hunting.

## CROSSBOW INFORMATION Crossbow Permit

To be eligible to purchase a crossbow hunting permit, you must hold a valid big game hunting license or an archery license, and must submit proof of having successfully completed an archery hunting education course and a crossbow hunting course or satisfactory evidence of having previously held adult archery and crossbow hunting permits in this state or any other state, province, or country, in any year after 1979. When proof or evidence cannot be provided, the applicant may substitute a signed affidavit. By Maine State Law, a crossbow is not considered a firearm.

A resident or nonresident 10 years of age or older and under 16 years of age (See page 21 for new laws which become effective January 1, 2016) may hunt with a crossbow if that person holds a valid junior hunting license (no crossbow permits required). A person may hunt any wild bird or

animal with a crossbow during any open season on that bird or animal while still following all the other laws pertinent to that species except that a licensed crossbow hunter under 69 years of age may not hunt wild turkey during the fall turkey season or hunt deer during the expanded archery, special October archery or muzzleloader seasons.

Persons 70 years of age or older or persons who have a special handicap permit to use a crossbow may use a crossbow for any species in season with appropriate permits. For Native Americans, see pg. 8.

## Conditions on the Use of Crossbows

**Exceptions to crossbow hunting:** Crossbows cannot be used to hunt wild turkeys in the fall season or deer during the expanded archery, regular October archery or the muzzleloading season.

The following conditions apply to the use of crossbows:

- Only crossbows with a shoulder-type stock may be used; hand-held pistol-type crossbows are prohibited;
- the draw weight may not be less than 100 pounds. Effective October 15, 2015, there will no longer be a maximum draw weight for crossbows;
- arrowheads, including mechanical broadheads when open, must be at least 7/8 inch in width;
- arrows having explosive or poisonous tips are prohibited;
- crossbows must be equipped with a mechanical trigger safety device in working condition;
- crossbows equipped with scopes or sights may be used.

## RELEASING SPORTING DOGS FROM TRAPS

A dog's reaction to being caught in a foot-holding trap can vary from calm to frightened. Dogs released from foot-holding traps do not normally sustain injury. The most common type of traps used for land trapping in Maine are of the coil-spring variety. Other types of traps that may be used operate by similar mechanisms.

- If readily available, get a second person to assist you.
- Some dogs may attempt to bite, especially as the trap is removed from its foot. Protect yourself by securing the dog's muzzle using a jacket or vest, or by placing a barrier between you and the dog.
- To open the trap, push down on the levers located at either end of the jaws. This may be best accomplished by putting the trap flat on the ground if possible.
- Pushing down on the levers will release tension on the jaws, allowing the dog's foot to be removed.

It is unlawful to take or destroy a trap without permission from the owner. Trappers commonly use lures and urine to attract furbearers such as foxes and coyotes. Sporting dogs can be trained to avoid trap location by utilizing these scents in mock trap sets.



# DEER HUNTING

Hunting of **antlered** deer is legal throughout the State during any open deer hunting season.

Hunting of **antlerless** deer (a deer that has no antlers or has antlers less than 3 inches in length measured from the skull) is prohibited except by special permit during both the firearms season and the muzzleloading season.

In WMDs where no any-deer permits are issued, archers and junior hunters are also not allowed to harvest antlerless deer.

Multiple deer may be taken during the expanded archery season, and one may be taken during any one of the remaining seasons (with appropriate licenses or permits).

## DEER HUNTING PROHIBITIONS

- Baiting deer by placing salt or any other bait or food to entice deer or hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking salt, grain, fruit, nuts or other foods known to be attractive to deer, during any open hunting season on deer is prohibited. (Does not apply to hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking: standing crops; foods that have been left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of natural occurrence; or bear bait that has been placed at a bear hunting stand or blind in accordance with bear baiting laws.)
- Deer may not be hunted with the use of dogs, artificial lights, snares, traps, set guns or

any firearm using .17 or .22 caliber rimfire cartridges, except that .22 caliber rimfire magnum cartridges are permitted. Deer decoys are legal.

- A person may not participate in a hunt for deer during which an organized or planned effort is made to drive deer. Four or more persons working together to move deer constitutes an organized or planned effort to drive deer.
- It is unlawful to hunt deer after having killed or registered one during the open season of that calendar year (except for participants in the expanded archery season on deer — see page 18, or by individuals in possession of a valid bonus antlerless deer permit or superpack antlerless deer permit).
- Gift deer may not be possessed unless clearly labeled with the name and address of the person who registered the animal, and the year it was registered.
- For information on buying, selling or bartering animals, see page 13.

## THE FOLLOWING AREAS ARE CLOSED TO DEER HUNTING:

- Mt. Desert Island in Hancock County;
- Cross and Scotch Islands, located in Washington County;
- The town of Isle au Haut and islands within that town, located in Knox County; and
- In wildlife sanctuaries. See exceptions below.

## THE FOLLOWING AREAS ARE OPEN TO DEER HUNTING BUT WITH THESE SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS:

- **Beauchamp Point Sanctuary:** In Camden and Rockport, Knox County, is open to archery hunting for deer during any open hunting season that allows archery equipment to be used to hunt deer.
- **Cranberry Isles:** In the town of Cranberry Isles, Hancock County, it is lawful to hunt deer with bow and arrow only during the archery and firearms seasons on deer or with shotgun during the firearm season on deer.
- **Frenchboro:** On the island of Frenchboro it is lawful to hunt deer with shotgun only during the firearms season on deer.
- **Islesboro:** In the town of Islesboro, Waldo County, it is lawful to hunt deer during the archery, expanded archery, or firearm season on deer with bow and arrow only.
- **Prout's Neck; Richmond's Island; Cape Elizabeth Sanctuary:** Approximately 1,600 acres of this sanctuary is open to deer hunting with bow and arrow only during the open special archery season and the firearms season on deer. (**Note:** Landowner permission required.)
- **Southport:** In the town of Southport, Lincoln County, and on all islands within its confines, it is lawful to hunt deer with shotguns only,



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during the firearms season on deer.

- **Municipal Ordinances:** Several Maine cities and towns have adopted local ordinances which restrict or prohibit the discharge of certain projectiles (e.g., arrows, bullets). Prior to hunting near densely populated communities, hunters should check with local authorities regarding such ordinances. Towns may regulate the discharge of firearms as provided by Title 30-A, however, they cannot regulate or charge fees to hunt, fish or trap.

## DEER PERMITS & LICENSES

### Muzzleloader Permit

- Required for hunters 16 years of age or older prior to hunting deer during the muzzleloading deer season. (See page 19.) The muzzleloader permit is included in the junior hunting license. Those individuals who have reached 70 years of age and possess a senior lifetime license are qualified to receive a muzzleloader permit.
- A muzzleloader permit, in addition to a valid adult big game hunting license that allows the use of firearms, is required to hunt deer with muzzleloaders during this season.
- Hunter orange clothing is required during this season (see page 15).
- Hunting hours are from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
- Except as specified, all other laws relating to the taking of deer with firearms shall apply to the taking of deer with muzzleloaders.
- **Only muzzleloaders that are 40 caliber or greater and capable of firing only a single charge and crossbows by persons 70 years of age or older may be used to hunt deer**

**during this season.** Muzzleloader means a firearm that is capable of being loaded only through the muzzle; is ignited by a matchlock, wheel lock, flintlock, or caplock, including an in-line caplock or shotgun or rifle primer mechanism; has a rifled or smooth-bored barrel capable of firing only a single charge; propels a ball, bullet, or charge of shot; and may have any type of sights, including scopes.

### Expanded Archery Permit

- Restricted to designated areas (contact the Department, or see our website, for maps of areas).
- Archery hunting only.
- Hunters who have a valid archery license will be able to purchase multiple antlerless deer permits for \$12.00\* each, and one either sex permit for \$32.00\*  
\*Plus agent fee
- Deer must be legally transported and registered as required for other deer seasons.
- All other archery deer hunting laws apply.
- Junior hunters may hunt during this season with their junior hunting license.
- The junior hunting license includes one expanded archery antlerless deer permit and one either sex permit.
- Other complimentary licenses include one expanded archery antlerless deer permit and one either sex permit.
- For all expanded archery hunters, unlimited antlerless deer permits may be purchased.

### Antlerless Deer Permit

- Hunting of antlerless deer during the firearms season and muzzleloading season is restricted

to those hunters who possess a valid any-deer permit, bonus antlerless deer permit, or superpack antlerless deer permit.

- Antlerless deer may be taken by hunters during the expanded (September – December) and regular (October) archery seasons. **Archers may not take antlerless deer in WMDs where any-deer permits are not issued.** Any-deer permits are acquired by lottery only and applications are available mid-June.
- In several WMDs, there may be more any-deer permits available than applicants. Unclaimed bonus antlerless deer permits will be allocated in a chance drawing until all permits in that district have been issued.
- **Maine's antlerless deer (firearms) hunt is a "permit only" hunt. Information on this hunt is contained in a separate publication.** Contact the Department at (207) 287-8000 for more information or visit our website at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com)

### Youth Deer Hunting Day

Youth 10 years of age and under 16 years of age may take an antlerless deer only in those WMDs where Any-Deer permits were issued. All other WMDs prohibit shooting antlerless deer. Limit is one deer per year unless they receive a bonus antlerless deer permit or participate in the expanded archery season (with appropriate licenses or permits). See page 21 for complete information, restrictions and changes to Junior hunting laws, becoming effective January 1, 2016.

## HARASSMENT OF HUNTERS & TRAPPERS

It is illegal for any person to willfully interfere with the lawful hunting and trapping of any wild animal or wild bird, including the willful disturbance of wild animals or wild birds with intent to interfere with their lawful taking. (**Note:** This law does not limit the ownership, use, access, or control of property rights otherwise provided by law.)

## NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

It is unlawful to allow any dog to run at large at any time, except when used for hunting. ("AT LARGE" means off the premises of the owner and not under the control of any person by means of personal presence or attention.) It is unlawful to allow any dog to chase, wound, or kill a deer or moose at any time or any other wild animal in closed season.

## DEER SURVEY RESULTS

MDIF&W biologists annually collect weather related data (i.e., temperature, snow depth, and deer sinking depth) from 27 representative sites across Maine to calculate a weather severity index. The index provides MDIF&W with an all-inclusive (i.e., accounts for predation, malnutrition, physical limitations of deer, etc...) estimate of over-winter mortality rates. The metric has been used since 1973 to estimate annual over-winter mortality of white-tailed deer at the statewide and WMD levels. Since the correlation between WSI and WMR was identified, the metric has become one of the cornerstones of Maine's deer management system.

Because the metric is derived from an ecological relationship, which may change through time, we must continue to monitor the efficacy of the metric to maintain our high standards of wildlife management.

As such, MDIF&W has initiated a 5-year population monitoring project using GPS-Satellite collar technology to track survival/mortality trends associated with Maine's antlerless deer populations. The primary goals of the monitoring project are to:

1. Reevaluate the correlation between WSI and WMR for white-tailed deer,
2. Assess seasonal survival rates for the adult female (≥1.5 years) and fawn segments of the population,
3. Assess cause-specific mortality of our adult female and fawn populations, and
4. Reassess the current winter severity index and try to identify a new, and more simplistic metric.
5. Begun to understand predator-prey dynamics for white-tailed deer, in Maine.

## 2015 DEER SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SEASONS	DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
<b>Expanded Archery</b> (limited area/ permit required)	Sept 12 – Dec 12	<b>Only 1 may be taken annually.</b> <b>Exception:</b> Additional deer may be taken by participants in the Expanded Archery Season within the expanded archery zones or by anyone possessing a bonus antlerless deer permit or superpack antlerless deer permit.	
<b>Regular Archery</b> (Statewide)	Oct 1 – Oct 30		
<b>Firearms</b> (allows use of bow and arrow, crossbows*, firearms, or muzzleloaders)	<b>Maine Residents Only:</b> Oct 31		
	<b>All Hunters:</b> Nov 2 – Nov 28		
<b>Youth Deer Hunting Day</b>	Oct 24		
<b>Muzzleloader</b>	<b>Week 1: All Wildlife Management Districts (WMDs)</b> Nov 30 – Dec 5		
	<b>Week 2: WMDs 12, 13, 15–18, 20–26, 29</b> Dec 7 – Dec 12		

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

\*See page 16 for information on the use of crossbows.

## REPORTING ACCIDENTS & AIDING VICTIMS

Any person who knows or has reason to believe that they have inflicted injury to another person by the use of firearms or bow and arrow is required to make themselves known to the victim and render such first aid and assistance as they are capable of under the circumstances. The incident must be reported by the quickest means, to a game warden or other law enforcement officer.



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## OBSERVATION STANDS

(10652, Subsection 1-B-1, 2) It is unlawful to insert any metallic or ceramic object into a tree on land of another for the purpose of erecting a ladder or observation stand, unless you have permission from the landowner. You must obtain verbal or written permission of the landowner (or representative) to erect or use a portable or permanent ladder or observation stand and the ladder or observation stand must be plainly labeled with a 2-inch by 4-inch tag identifying the name and address of the person or persons authorized by the landowner to use the observation stand or ladder. (Exception: Portable ladders or observation stands used on land within the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission and attended by the person who owns the ladder or observation stand shall not require landowner permission or labelling, but permanent ones do. **(Note:** For additional information on the use of private property, see page 31.) Observation stands do not include portable blinds utilized at ground level that remain in the physical possession of the hunter.

## TARGET IDENTIFICATION WHILE HUNTING

This is a summary of 12 MRSA §11222.

While hunting, a hunter may not shoot at a target without at that point in time being certain that it is the wild animal or wild bird sought.

### A reasonable and prudent hunter:

- Bears the risk of loss of legitimate prey to avoid the risk of the destruction of human life; neither disregards the risk of causing the death of another human being nor fails to be aware of that risk as a consequence of misidentification; and never bases identification upon sound alone or even upon sound in combination with what appears to be an appendage of the wild animal or wild bird sought.
- Bases identification upon obtaining an essentially unobstructed view of the head and torso of the potential target.
- Recognizes that these sound and sight target-determining factors are affected by a number of other considerations, including, but not limited to the distance to the target, surrounding or intervening terrain and cover, lighting and weather conditions, the hunter's own ability to hear and see, the hunter's own experience and the proximity of other persons in the hunter's immediate vicinity.

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## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)

### What is CWD:

- CWD is a fatal brain disease of white-tailed deer, mule deer, caribou, moose, and elk. It is similar to mad cow disease which occurs in cattle.
- CWD occurs in wild deer populations in 18 states and 2 provinces in the U.S. and Canada, including within states as close as Pennsylvania and New York.
- CWD has not yet been recorded as being transmissible to people. However, a human variant of the disease does exist.
- CWD can persist in the environment outside of a host for many years.
- CWD has a 100% mortality rate in deer.

## ATTENTION: TRAIL/GAME CAMERAS LAW

People using trail and game cameras may not place a camera upon the private land of another without written permission. All cameras must be labeled with the person's name and contact information.

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## CWD Monitoring and Prevention in Maine:

- Maine has actively monitored for CWD each year since 1999, and since that time screened approximately 9,000 wild deer. Thus far Maine proudly remains CWD free.
- It is illegal for individuals to bring into Maine cervid carcasses or parts, except that the following carcass parts may be imported and possessed: boned-out meat, hardened antlers, skull caps that have been cleaned free of brain and other tissues, capes and hides with no skull attached, teeth, and finished taxidermy mounts.
- Note: Cervid carcasses or parts from New Hampshire and provinces of New Brunswick, Labrador, Newfoundland, and Quebec are exempt from this transportation restriction.
- MDIF&W prohibits the transportation of unprocessed deer carcasses, and/or parts, into Maine from states that are not directly adjacent to our state.
- MDIF&W will not transplant deer from other states into Maine.

## MDIF&W Recommends that Individuals:

- Contact their regional wildlife biologist, or warden, if an animal shows clinical signs of illness, such as loss of fear of humans, drooling, and/or excessive weight loss.
- Take precautionary steps such as using latex gloves while processing a harvested deer, and sterilizing their equipment following processing. These steps will help to reduce potential transmission of the disease to humans. Again, thus far CWD has not been identified in a person.
- Avoid consumption of the brain and spinal tissues.
- Refrain from feeding deer during the winter months as high densities of deer within a small area can increase disease transmission.
- Do not use urine based lures as CWD has been shown to be spread via bodily fluids. To the best of our knowledge commercial lures are not currently monitored for CWD. If you choose to utilize urine-based lures be certain to place it in a location that deer cannot come in contact with.

## HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

**Attention hunters!** Some Maine citizens lack adequate nutrition. A gift of meat from your hunt can help reduce hunger in Maine. Hunters for the Hungry is a program for donating wild game meat to food kitchens, shelters, and charitable organizations statewide.

To find out how you can help call  
**1-888-4DEERME (433-3763)**

## WASTE OF GAME

A person may not waste a wild bird or wild animal that has been wounded or killed while hunting. For purposes of this section "waste" means to intentionally leave a wounded or killed animal in the field or forest without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and render it for consumption or use. This law does not apply to coyotes.

## REGULATIONS ON FEEDING DEER

The commissioner can stop anyone from feeding deer when it is deemed to be a public safety hazard or detrimental to the deer population.

## DEPARTMENT CHECK STATIONS

Our wildlife biologists annually collect information that allows the Department to assess the condition and productivity of Maine's deer population. Much of the information we collect comes from hunter harvested deer. As such, the information you provide us with is used directly for deer management purposes, in Maine. A summary of the information we collect from you can be found within our Annual Research and Management Reports.

## CAUTION ON LIVER & KIDNEY CONSUMPTION

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that the liver and kidneys of moose not be eaten because of possible contamination with the heavy metal cadmium. Also, recent studies have shown smaller amounts of cadmium in liver tissues from Maine deer, and deer, elk and antelope from other States. Maine health officials recommend that deer liver consumption be limited to 0.8 pounds in one sitting and 1 to 1½ pounds per week. Human symptoms of acute cadmium poisoning include severe nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle cramps and salivation. There is no known health risk from eating moose meat or deer meat.

## 2015 MOOSE PERMIT HUNT SEASONS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT	DATES
1-6, 11, 19	Sept 28 – Oct 3
1-14, 17-19, 27, 28	Oct 12 – Oct 17
1-4, 19	Nov 2 – Nov 7
15, 16, 23, 25, 26	Nov 2 – Nov 28
15, 16, 23, 25, 26 Maine Resident Permit Holders Only	Oct 31

All dates are inclusive except that hunting is prohibited on Sunday.  
See page 16 for information on the use of crossbows.

The legal hunting hours for moose shall be from 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset; except during the open firearms season on deer the legal hours for moose hunting shall be from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset in WMDs open to moose hunting.

### MOOSE HUNTING PERMIT

Maine's moose hunt is a "permit only" hunt. Information on this hunt is contained in a separate publication. 2,740 permits were issued for the 2015 moose hunt. Each permittee may select a subpermittee to hunt with them. Applications are available by January 31. A person selected to receive a moose permit may not then purchase an apprenticeship license to satisfy the licensing requirement. The bag limit is one moose per year, by either permittee or subpermittee.

#### Permits for 70 years old and older

A resident 70 years of age or older with 30 points or more in the moose lottery system who applies for a moose permit is guaranteed a permit.

#### Permits for sporting camp owners

In any year when moose permit numbers exceed 3,140 persons who operate a sporting camp and meet specific requirements defined in the law may apply for a moose permit through a chance drawing which is separate from the regular moose lottery.

Contact the Department at (207) 287-8000 for more information or visit our website at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com).

## JUNIOR HUNTERS

### HUNTING PROHIBITED

Children under 10 years of age are not allowed to hunt.

### JUNIOR HUNTING LICENSE

Children must have a junior hunting license to hunt. Junior hunting license holders can hunt with a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow (see page 16 for additional crossbow information). The junior hunting license also includes hunting permits for muzzleloading, spring and fall turkey, bear, coyote night hunt, pheasant, one expanded archery antlerless deer permit and one either sex permit. A junior hunting license issued to a person who has passed that person's 15th birthday is valid through the calendar year for which the license is issued. All other permit requirements for a person who is 16 years of age or older apply to a person who continues to hunt with a junior hunting license.

### HUNTERS TO BE ACCOMPANIED

Junior hunters may hunt only in the presence of an adult supervisor who is at least 18 years of age. That presence must be unaided by visual or audio enhancement devices, including binoculars and citizen band radios. The person who accompanies a youth hunter is responsible for any violations committed by that hunter. Any person who accompanies a junior hunter, other than the parent or guardian, must either possess a valid adult hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter education course.

A junior hunter who turns 16 years of age must complete the appropriate safety course prior to hunting without supervision.

### YOUTH HUNTING DAYS

Junior hunters who hold a valid junior hunting license can participate in special youth hunting days for bear, deer, spring wild turkey, and migratory waterfowl. On these days, all laws pertaining to hunting deer, spring wild turkey, and waterfowl apply.

- Youth Bear Hunting Day: Occurs on August 29, 2015, which is the Saturday prior to the opening day of the bear hunting season. A licensed junior hunter may hunt bear with a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow during the youth bear hunting day. Use of dogs is prohibited; hunting over bait or still hunting is permitted. **The accompanying parent, guardian, or qualified adult shall not possess a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow while accompanying a participating youth hunter.**
- Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days: See the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Schedule (a separate publication).
- Youth Deer Hunting Day: Occurs on October 24, 2015, which is the first Saturday preceding the residents only day of the regular deer hunting season. Participants are allowed to take one deer of either sex (except that in WMDs where no antlerless deer permits are issued, youth hunters are prohibited from shooting antlerless deer), with either a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow. If a junior hunter shoots a deer on the youth deer hunting day, they are prohibited from taking any additional deer, unless they have been awarded a bonus antlerless-deer permit or participate in the expanded archery season (designated areas

only) with appropriate expanded archery permits. **The accompanying parent, guardian, or qualified adult shall not possess a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow while accompanying a participating youth hunter.**

- Youth Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Day: Occurs on April 30, 2016, which is the first Saturday preceding the opening of the spring wild turkey hunting season. Participants may take up to two bearded wild turkeys with a shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow, but cannot exceed an individual WMD bag limit. **The accompanying parent, guardian, or qualified adult shall not possess a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow while accompanying a participating youth hunter.**

### NEW JUNIOR HUNTING LAWS

1. Effective January 1, 2016, new law eliminates the minimum age requirement for junior hunting license holders and allows any hunter under the age of 16 to purchase a junior hunting license.
2. Hunters from 10–15 years of age must be in the presence of, and under the effective control of, an adult supervisor.
3. Hunters under the age of 10 must be in the presence of, and under the effective control of, an adult supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of the hunter.
4. The adult supervisor of the junior hunter must hold, or have held, a valid adult hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter safety course.

Anyone who possesses a big game firearm license or archery license may obtain a combination spring/fall wild turkey permit.

Effective Jan 1, 2016, a small game hunting license, in addition to a spring/fall wild turkey permit, is also valid for hunting wild turkeys.

## LANDOWNERS

The following laws and regulations are specific to spring and fall wild turkey hunting seasons. Hunters must also comply with all other applicable fish and wildlife laws.

Any private landowner is eligible to hunt wild turkeys on their own land without a turkey hunting permit if:

1. That person owns a particular piece of land that is 25 or more contiguous acres in size and is located within the turkey hunting zone designated for the season that they wish to hunt;
2. That person is permanently domiciled on that land;
3. The land is managed for the raising and selling of dairy cattle, dairy products, or beef cattle; and
4. The land is open to hunting including hunting by permission only. Any family member permanently domiciled on that land is also eligible to hunt wild turkeys on that land without a permit. (Family member means any family member, including spouse, grandchildren, etc. who resides on the property). A landowner must provide proof of eligibility if requested by an agent of the commissioner. All other standard reporting and tagging procedures are required. Turkey may be taken during any open week of the season. Landowners are allowed a bag limit of 2 bearded wild turkeys in the spring season and 2 turkeys of either sex in the fall season. Please check the WMD in which you are hunting as some are closed, some are open with a bag limit of one turkey, and some are open with a bag limit of two turkeys.

## WILD TURKEY TO BE TAGGED

Any person killing a wild turkey shall immediately and securely attach to its leg a plainly visible tag bearing his/her full name, address and license number. A gift turkey must be labeled with the name and address of the person who registered it and the year the turkey was registered.

## WILD TURKEY TRANSPORTATION

Any wild turkey being moved or transported in any manner must have a tag securely attached, and it must be accompanied by the person who killed it. Unless the wild turkey has been legally registered, no person shall keep a wild turkey at his/her home or at any place of storage (except at the official registration station or at the office of a Maine Game Warden) for more than eighteen (18) hours without first notifying a game warden.

## WILD TURKEY REGISTRATION

All wild turkeys taken by hunters shall be presented for registration within 18 hours at one of the registration stations established for that purpose. The entire turkey, except the viscera, shall be presented. The fee to register a wild turkey is \$2.00. All radio transmitters, leg bands and wing tags must be submitted to the Department at the time of registration.

## WILD TURKEY HUNTING PROHIBITIONS

No person may:

1. Employ the use of a dog or dogs in any manner while hunting turkey except during the fall season;
2. Engage in an organized drive of any manner;
3. Use bait;
4. Use a trap or other device intended or designed to capture or ensnare wild turkeys;
5. Shoot a turkey while it is in a tree;
6. Present a wild turkey for registration, or allow to be registered in his or her name, any wild turkey which he/she did not lawfully kill;
7. Hunt wild turkeys within a WMD which is closed to hunting wild turkeys.
8. Possess any part or parts of a wild turkey unless each part is plainly labeled with the name and address of the person who registered the turkey, and the year it was registered;
9. Buy, sell (or offer for sale or barter) any wild turkey (except the plumage of legally taken turkeys), or to counsel or otherwise aid in buying, selling or offering for sale or barter any wild turkey, except the plumage.
10. It is unlawful for any person to hunt or register a wild turkey during the spring turkey season after having killed two turkeys or after having registered two turkeys during the spring turkey season. It is unlawful for any person to hunt or register a wild turkey during the fall turkey season after having killed two turkeys or after having registered two turkeys during the fall turkey season.

## QUESTIONNAIRES

A sample of wild turkey permit holders, including those who did not hunt or were unsuccessful, will be asked to complete a questionnaire provided by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and return it to the Department within a period of 10 days after the close of the wild turkey hunting season. Information provided by hunters is an important part of the Department's wild turkey management program.

## WILD TURKEY LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

Legal hunting time is from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

## WILD TURKEY LICENSING, PERMIT, GENERAL BAG LIMITS & WHO MAY HUNT

### License & Permit

The spring and fall wild turkey hunting seasons are open to all hunters with appropriate licenses.

A combination spring/fall wild turkey permit is required in addition to a valid hunting license that allows hunting of big game. Effective Jan 1, 2016, a small game hunting license, in addition to a spring/fall wild turkey permit, is also valid for hunting wild turkeys.

A combined spring/fall permit is available for \$20.00\*.

\*Plus agent fee.

### General Bag Limits

The spring/fall turkey permit allows the taking of two (2) bearded wild turkeys in the spring and two (2) wild turkeys of either sex in the fall, but an individual WMD bag limit cannot be exceeded.

### Who May Hunt

The turkey hunter must possess the spring/fall wild turkey permit and their license to hunt big game at all times while hunting. A person may assist in a hunt without a license or permit for that activity as long as that person does not carry a firearm, archery or crossbow equipment (means to kill). Effective Jan 1, 2016, a small game hunting license, in addition to a spring/fall wild turkey permit, is also valid for hunting wild turkeys.

## SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTING

The spring wild turkey hunting season is open to turkey hunting statewide (Wildlife Management Districts 1–29).

Effective Jan 1, 2016, a small game hunting license, in addition to a spring/fall wild turkey permit, is also valid for hunting wild turkeys.

### Equipment

- **Shotgun:** A person can use shotgun gauges 10 through 20, using shot sizes 4 through 6 or mixed loads that include shot sizes 4 through 7. A person must possess a valid big game hunting license and a turkey permit.
- **Bow & Arrow:** A person must possess a valid big game firearm hunting license or an archery license, and a turkey permit.
- **Crossbow:** A crossbow may be used to hunt wild turkeys during the spring wild turkey hunting season. A person hunting with a crossbow must possess either a valid big game firearm hunting license or an archery license as well as a turkey permit. (A person must have taken an archery and crossbow hunting education course or show proof that they have previously held an archery and crossbow hunting license prior to purchasing their crossbow permit).
- **Dogs:** It is unlawful to hunt with dogs during the spring wild turkey season.

- **Electronic Calling Devices:** The use of electronic calling devices are legal.

### FALL WILD TURKEY HUNTING

Effective Jan 1, 2016, a small game hunting license, in addition to a spring/fall wild turkey permit, is also valid for hunting wild turkeys.

#### Equipment

- **Shotgun:** A person can use shotgun gauges 10 through 20, using shot sizes 4 through 6 or mixed loads that include shot sizes 4 through 7. A person must possess a valid big game hunting license and a turkey permit.
- **Bow & Arrow:** A person must possess a valid big game firearm hunting license or an archery license, and a turkey permit.
- **Crossbow:** A person 70 years of age and older and persons with a crossbow disability permit may hunt with a crossbow with the appropriate licenses.
- **Electronic Calling Devices:** The use of electronic calling devices are legal.
- **Dogs:** The use of dogs are legal to hunt wild turkey during the fall season.
- **Note:** The fall shotgun wild turkey season involves tactics that are different from the “sit and call” approach and hunters are reminded to use extreme caution while hunting.

## 2015–16 WILD TURKEY SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

	SEASONS	DATES	BAG LIMITS
<b>Spring Wild Turkey</b> (bow and arrow, crossbow or shotgun)	WMDs: 7, 9–29	May 2 – June 4, 2016	2 bearded Wild Turkeys
	WMD 8	May 2 – June 4, 2016	1 bearded Wild Turkey*
	WMDs: 1–6 Season A** Week 1	May 2 – May 7, 2016	
	WMDs: 1–6 Season A** Week 2	May 16 – May 21, 2016	
	WMDs: 1–6 Season B** Week 1	May 9 – May 14, 2016	
	WMDs: 1–6 Season B** Week 2	May 23 – May 28, 2016	
	WMDs: 1–6 All Hunters	May 30 – June 4, 2016	
Youth Spring Wild Turkey	April 30, 2016		
<b>Fall Wild Turkey</b> (bow and arrow or shotgun)	WMDs 15–17, 20–25, 28	Oct. 1 – Oct. 30, 2015	2 Wild Turkeys, either sex, any age
	WMDs 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 26, and 29	Oct. 1 – Oct. 30, 2015	1 Wild Turkey, either sex, any age
	WMDs 1–9, 14, 27	Oct. 1 – Oct. 30, 2015	Closed to Hunting

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

See page 16 for information on the use of crossbows.

\* May take up to 2 turkeys for the season, but the second turkey **MUST** come from a WMD listed as having a 2 bird limit.

\*\* During "odd" numbered years hunters with "odd" birth years will be authorized to hunt during Season A; hunters with "even" birth years will be authorized to hunt during Season B. During "even" numbered years, hunters with "even" birth years will be authorized to hunt during Season A; hunters with "odd" birth years will be authorized to hunt during Season B.



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# OTHER SPECIES HUNTING

## OTHER SPECIES PERMITS & LICENSES

### Pheasant Permit

A Pheasant Permit is required for hunters 16 years of age or older to hunt or possess pheasant in Cumberland & York counties. Revenue derived from this permit is dedicated to the acquisition of pheasants which are raised and released by private fish and game clubs.

### Coyote Night Hunting Permit

A Coyote Night Hunting Permit is required to hunt coyote at night (½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise) from December 16 to August 31. Hunting under this permit shall cease at midnight each Saturday and resume at 12:01 a.m. on Monday. Hunters must be in possession of an electronic, hand-held or mouth-operated predator calling device. Also see *Hunting with Dogs* on page 28. The fee for this permit is \$4\*. Artificial lights may be used. In addition, the commissioner may appoint agents to hunt for coyotes at night using artificial illumination from September 1<sup>st</sup> to December 15<sup>th</sup>. The commissioner shall develop policies to make the affected public and affected law enforcement officers aware of any night hunting operation.

\*Plus agent fee.

### Falconry License

A falconry license, in addition to a regular hunting license, is required of persons who engage in falconry. Copies of the regulations pertaining to this type of hunting are available upon request. To obtain a falconry license, contact the Department.

### Crows

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

## MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

### The Following Shall be Considered Migratory Gamebirds

Anatidae or waterfowl, including brant, wild ducks, and geese; Rallidae or rails, including coots, sora, and other rails; Wilson's Snipe & American Woodcock.

### Migratory Waterfowl Permit

Required for hunters 16 years of age or older to hunt waterfowl. (Federal stamp also required.) A Migratory Waterfowl permit is **not** required to hunt woodcock, snipe, rails, or crow.

### 2015–16 Migratory Game Bird Seasons & Bag Limits

Migratory bird hunting regulations are set according to federal frameworks and are located in a separate publication—the *Migratory Game Bird Schedule*—published in September.

## 2015–16 OTHER SPECIES SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SEASONS	DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
<b>Pheasant*</b>	Oct 1 – Dec 31	2	4
<b>Ruffed Grouse (Partridge)</b>	Oct 1 – Dec 31	4	8
<b>Bobwhite Quail</b>	Oct 1 – Dec 31	4	8
<b>Crow</b>	WMDs 1 – 6: Aug 1 – Sept 25, 2015; Feb 6 – April 15, 2016	No limit	
	WMDs 7 – 29: Aug 1 – Sept 25, 2015; Jan 22 – Mar 31, 2016		
<b>Gray Squirrel</b>	Oct 1 – Dec 31	4	8
<b>Gray Squirrel (Falconry)</b>	Oct 1 – Feb 28		
<b>Snowshoe Hare</b>	Oct 1 – Mar 31	4	8
	<b>Season on Island of Vinalhaven</b> Oct 1 – Feb 28		
<b>Bobcat**</b>	Dec 1 – Feb 14	No limit	
<b>Fox**</b>	Oct 19 – Feb 28	No limit	
<b>Raccoon</b>	Oct 1 – Dec 31	No limit	
<b>Skunk &amp; Opossum</b>	Oct 19 – Dec 31	No limit	
<b>Coyote**</b>	<b>During daylight hunting hours</b> Jan 1 – Dec 31	No limit	
	<b>Night hunting (see info at left)</b> Dec 16 – Aug 31		
<b>Woodchuck, Red Squirrel, &amp; Porcupine</b>	No closed season for hunting	No limit	
<b>Spruce Grouse, Lynx, Cottontail Rabbit</b>	NO OPEN SEASON		

\* In York and Cumberland counties, a permit is required to hunt or possess pheasant. Permit is not required to hunt or possess pheasant throughout the remainder of the state.

\*\* Species must be tagged within 10 days of the close of the season. Bobcat must be tagged within 72 hours of harvest.

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

See page 16 for information on the use of crossbows.

## ATTENTION GROUSE HUNTERS

The Department is collaborating with the University of Maine on a research project to better understand the population dynamics of ruffed grouse. As part of this research we will be marking ruffed grouse using leg bands and radio collars in a number of areas throughout the state. If you shoot a banded grouse, please report your harvest using the contact information printed on the bird's leg band.

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## 2015 BEAR SEASONS & BAG LIMITS

SEASONS	DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
<b>General Hunting Season</b>	Aug 31 – Nov 28	2 may be taken annually — 1 by hunting, 1 by trapping Bait can be placed starting August 1, 2015	
<b>Hunting with Dogs</b>	Sept 14 – Oct 30		
<b>Hunting with Bait</b> (See below.)	Aug 31 – Sept 26		
<b>Trapping</b>	Sept 1 – Oct 31		
<b>Youth Day</b>	Aug 29		

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

See page 16 for information on the use of crossbows.

For information on bear trapping, see page 26.

### BEAR HUNTING PERMIT

The fee for this permit is \$27.00\* for residents and \$74.00\* for nonresidents and aliens. **A bear permit is required to hunt bear prior to the firearm season on deer. During the firearms season on deer, nonresidents and aliens are required to obtain a permit to hunt bear. The fee for this permit is \$40.00\*. Although this permit is not required to trap for bear, you do need a trapping license and a bear trapping permit to trap for bear.**

\*Plus agent fee.

### BAIT

Bait may not be used to hunt for bear from September 27, 2015 to November 28, 2015. Hunting with the use of bait is defined as hunting from an observation stand, blind or other location which overlooks any bait or food except standing crops and foods that have been left as a result of normal agricultural operations or natural occurrence. "Bear bait" means any animal or plant, or derivative of an animal or plant, used to attract bear. "Bear bait" does not include any packaging or container materials that fall within the definition of litter under Title 17, §2263. A person may not place any medicinal, poisonous, or stupefying substance to entice any animal, including bear.

Bait may not be placed to entice, hunt or trap black bear unless:

- The bait is placed at least 50 yards from any travel way that is accessible by a conventional 2-wheel or 4-wheel drive vehicle;
- The observation stand, blind, or bait area is plainly labeled with a 2 inch by 4 inch tag with the name and address of the baiter;
- The bait is placed more than 500 yards from any solid waste disposal site or campground;
- The bait is placed more than 500 yards from an occupied dwelling, unless written permission is granted by the owner or leasee;
- Although bait can be used to assist dog hunters & trappers after the bait season closes, it is illegal to shoot a bear over bait after Sept. 26, 2015;

- The bait areas will be cleaned up by November 10<sup>th</sup> as defined by the State litter laws; and
- The person hunting from any stand or blind of another person has permission of the owner of that stand or blind.
- Landowner permission (oral or in writing) is required to place bait on another person's land.
- Bait may not be placed more than 30 days before opening day of the season and not after Oct. 31.

A permit is required from Inland Fisheries & Wildlife to place bait on wildlife management areas for the purpose of hunting bear. Contact the wildlife biologist in your administrative region, which can be found on page 2, to apply for a bear baiting permit.

A permit is required from the Bureau of Parks and Lands, (207) 287-3821, to place bait on Public Reserved Land for the purpose of hunting bear. Baiting of animals is prohibited in State Parks and Historic Sites.

### BEAR HUNTING PROHIBITIONS

- A person cannot within 50 yards of a bait site and without written permission hunt, trap, molest or harass bear or release a dog or dogs to hunt bear or train dogs on bear. A person cannot disturb the bait site by using chemicals or interfere with the bait site in any other way.
- Dogs may not be used to hunt bear during the open firearm season on deer.
- No more than 6 dogs may be used at any one time to hunt for bear.
- Nonresidents may not use a dog or dogs to hunt for bear unless they employ and hunt in the presence of a resident Maine guide. This section does not apply to nonresidents who hold a valid Maine guide license — they may hunt bear with the use of dogs themselves and guide residents but not nonresidents. The total number of clients with a licensed guide may not be more than five.
- You may not kill or wound a bear that is treed or held at bay by another person's dog or dogs



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unless you have permission from the person conducting the hunt.

- You may not hunt or trap bear or release dogs to hunt for bear within 500 yards from sites permitted or licensed for the disposal of solid waste.
- Prior to registration, bears may be cut up for ease of transportation, but all parts of the bear (except for the viscera and rib cage) must be presented and in such a manner that the sex of the animal can be determined.
- It is unlawful to hunt bear after having killed and registered two (one by hunting, one by trapping) during the open season of that calendar year.
- Gift bear may not be possessed unless each part is clearly labeled with the name and address of the person who registered the animal and the year in which it was registered.
- For information on buying, selling or bartering animals, see page 13.
- For information on tracking wounded bear, deer or moose with a Leashed Dog Tracking License see page 28.

**NOTE:** Hunters are required to remove a premolar tooth from the bear they harvest and provide the tooth when they register their bear. Hunters will receive instructions at the registration station or can go online. Hunters will be notified of the age of the bear they harvested on the Bear Hunting Page on the Department's website next August.

## BEAR TRAPPING PERMIT

A bear trapping permit and a trapping license is required to set a trap for a bear during the bear trapping season from September 1 – October 31 annually. You are allowed to take one bear by trapping and one bear by hunting annually (see page 25). The fee for a trapping permit is \$27 for residents and \$67 for non-residents and aliens. Plus agent fee.

If you trap for black bear you are required to follow the same general rules that apply to the labeling of traps, the tending of traps and the need to obtain landowner permission. If you trap a bear, you are required to follow the same transportation and registration rules as those for bear which have been taken by hunting (see page 28). In addition, you are required to follow other rules which apply specifically to bear trapping, as follows:

- You are **not** allowed to have more than one trap set for bear at any time.
- The **only** trap you are allowed to use when trapping for bear is a cable trap (foot snare), and cage type live trap.
- The Belisle foot snare is prohibited.
- When using a **cable trap**, the trap **must** have a closing diameter of not less than 2½ inches.
- Each cable trap must be set at or below ground level in such a manner as to catch the animal only by the foot or leg.

## FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION PROGRAM

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937, commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson (PR) Act established a “User Pay/User Benefit” philosophy for funding State wildlife restoration and conservation efforts directed towards America’s wildlife resources. These funds have played a vital role in the management of Maine’s wildlife since they were first used in 1939 to enhance the Department’s wildlife management capabilities. Revenues are collected from excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, pistols, revolvers, bows and arrows and deposited in the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Fund.

These funds support a wide array of projects in Maine which include: wildlife population assessments, long-range species management planning, development of management recommendations, implementation of management programs, acquisition and management of wildlife habitat, and hunter education.

- All bear traps **must** be tended at least once each day.
- You are **not** allowed to catch a bear in a trap and allow another person to kill or register the bear.
- You are **not** allowed to continue to trap for bear after you have already killed or registered one in a trap.
- Bears caught in traps must be killed or released and not moved away from the catch site. A bear caught in a trap may not be used in conjunction with a hunt or to train a dog for bear hunting.
- The same rules apply to hunting and trapping for bear with the use of bait. (See page 25 for rules about the use of bear baits.)
- A line of demarcation of at least 500 yards shall be established at sites permitted or licensed for the disposal of solid waste. A person may not trap within the demarcation area (except that an agent of the commissioner is exempt for the purpose of live trapping of nuisance bear).
- All trapping licenses are issued from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife office in Augusta. Trapping licenses cannot be purchased online.

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# Monitoring Maine's Moose

A helicopter circles overhead, trained eyes peering through a concave window. On the ground, armed with a receiving antenna and GPS, a biologist stalks a moose cow and calf. In the lab, a biologist squints and focuses into a microscope. In the field using a fine tooth comb, hair is parted and ticks are counted.

Moose are Maine's most iconic animal, and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife keeps a watchful eye on moose. Whether on the ground, in the lab or in the air, perhaps no other animal in Maine is the subject of more focused research.

## IN THE AIR

How many moose are there? In order to get that answer, Maine's wildlife biologists take the air in a helicopter and take a closer look at the numbers of moose, as well as the composition of the herd.

Not too long ago, hunter sightings and questionnaires were the primary method to assess the moose population. Now, 200 feet in the air in a helicopter, a team of four fly grid patterns that cover 175 miles in a 100 square mile block in order to conduct a moose population survey. Two biologists scan the snow-covered ground below, peering through a side window with a distinct field of view. The pair mark each moose verbally over the radio, and the third biologist in the front confirms the sighting, as well as making sure the same moose is not being counted twice.

Biologists will also conduct a composition count on a separate flight. These flights provide insight into what percentage of males, females and calves comprise the population. Both types of flights provide one piece of the puzzle when it comes to setting the number of moose permits and managing the moose herd.

These flights take place each year multiple times early in the winter when moose are contrasted against the white snow. They also are repeated every year in the same wildlife management districts, allowing the department to monitor changes in the moose population.

## ON THE GROUND

Maine's GPS-radio collar moose study is providing a greater understanding of the health of Maine's moose herd, particularly factors that impact their survival and reproductive rates. These collars send a signal via satellite that allows biologists to monitor moose movements, investigate moose fatalities, and confirm the birth of calves.

If a moose dies, the satellite collar sends a mortality signal and biologists will investigate immediately. They perform an extensive field necropsy on each moose, counting ticks and taking blood, and collect tissue and fecal samples that will later be analyzed.

Biologists will also walk in on the collared female moose in order to confirm births, and monitor calf survival. Biologists will do this weekly checking on three to four moose calves. This provides insight into how many calves are surviving and the threats they face to survive.

## IN THE LAB

During hunting season at the tagging station, biologists will remove a moose's tooth. A cross section of the tooth viewed under a microscope will reveal a moose's age. Biologists monitor the age of all moose harvested in order to watch trends. Too many younger moose taken during the moose hunt could mean fewer adult moose. Too many adults in the harvest could mean that there are not many calves being born.

Biologists will also examine ovaries that are removed from female moose. Trained eyes can recognize the markings that signify reproductive success. Most moose do not become pregnant until two and half years. Blood and tissue samples from the moose necropsies are also scrutinized and compared to other moose, looking for insight into a moose's mortality.

## THE SUM ALL PARTS

Taken alone, each piece of research provides keen insight into one aspect of Maine's moose population. Taken together, the research provides a more complete picture of Maine's moose. Still, it is only when you couple the research with the field experience and observations of nearly 20 wildlife biologists who monitor Maine's moose do you have the formula necessary needed to successfully manage Maine's most iconic mammal.



## TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

Prior to presenting a bear, deer, moose, or wild turkey for registration, a person may not possess or leave that animal in the field or forest unless that person has securely attached a plainly visible tag to the animal with that person's name, address, and license number on the tag.

## TRANSPORTING HARVESTED ANIMALS

A person may not transport a harvested wild animal or wild bird unless that animal or bird is lawfully possessed by the person. Once the animal or bird has been registered, it may be transported by another person. A person may not present for registration or allow to be registered in that person's name, a bear, deer, moose, or wild turkey that the person did not lawfully kill.

## TRANSPORTATION PRIOR TO REGISTRATION

Prior to registration, a person may not transport a harvested bear, deer, moose, or wild turkey unless that animal is open to view. For purposes of this section, "open to view" means the animal is not concealed and can be readily observed in whole or in part from outside of the vehicle or trailer being used to transport the animal.

## REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

### A person who kills a bear, deer, moose, or wild turkey must:

1. Remain with the animal until it is registered, exceptions found in *Time Limits for Registering* section.
2. Present that animal for registration in that person's name at the first open registration station for that animal on the route taken by that person; and
3. Leave the registration seal attached to the animal until the animal is processed and packaged for consumption.
4. Pay a fee of \$5.00 for registration of a bear, deer or moose (of this fee, \$2 is retained by the agent and \$1 is dedicated to a Deer Habitat Enhancement Fund.) The wild turkey registration fee is \$2.00.

## TIME LIMITS FOR REGISTERING

A person may not keep an unregistered bear, deer, moose or wild turkey at home or any place of storage for more than 18 hours. This does not apply to an animal that is kept in an official registration station for the animal or at the office of a game warden. A person may leave an unregistered harvested animal in the woods if that person notifies a game warden within 18 hours as to the location of that animal and the circumstances necessitating leaving that animal in the woods.

A person on a hunting trip in an unorganized township and staying at a temporary place of lodging may keep an unregistered harvested animal at the temporary place of lodging for no more than 7 days or until that person leaves the woods, whichever comes first.

A person may not possess a bear, deer, moose, or wild turkey that has not been legally registered except as otherwise provided in the statutes regarding animals causing damage or nuisance.

Bobcats taken by hunting must be tagged by a Department employee within 72 hours from the time they were taken.

## CONDITION OF ANIMAL PRESENTED FOR REGISTRATION

A person may not present a bear, deer, moose or wild turkey for registration unless it is presented in its entirety, except that the viscera and rib cage of the animal may be removed in a manner that still allows the determination of the sex of the animal.

### Moose

A moose may be dismembered for ease of transportation, and the lower legs, head and hide of a moose may be removed. If the head of the moose is not brought to the registration station, a canine tooth or the lower jaw must be presented at the time of registration. Parts of a moose not presented for registration may not be placed where they are visible to a person traveling on a public or private way.

### Bear

Hunters are required to remove a premolar tooth from the bear they harvest and provide the

tooth when they register their bear. Hunters will receive instructions at the registration station or can go online. Hunters will be notified of the age of the bear they harvested on the Bear Hunting Page on the Department's website next August.

## POSSESSION OF GIFT BEAR, DEER, MOOSE, OR WILD TURKEY

A person may not possess any part or parts of a bear, deer, moose, or wild turkey given to that person unless that gift bear, deer, moose or wild turkey is plainly labeled with the name and address of the person who registered it and the year it was registered.

## BIG BUCK CLUB

Maine has a club for deer hunters called "The Biggest Bucks in Maine Club," which is sponsored by:

The Maine Sportsman  
183 State St., Suite 101  
Augusta, ME 04330

To qualify, the minimum dressed weight (without heart, lungs, and liver) must be 200 pounds. Application blanks are available from Department wardens and biologists or by calling The Maine Sportsman at **(207) 622-4242**.

# HUNTING WITH DOGS

## Dog Training Season

- Dogs may be trained on fox, snowshoe hare, and raccoons from July 1<sup>st</sup> through the following March 31<sup>st</sup>. It is unlawful to use or possess a firearm, other than a pistol or a shotgun, loaded with blank ammunition, while training dogs on fox, snowshoe hare, or raccoons (except during the open hunting season on these species). Dogs may be used to hunt wild hares during the firearm season on deer.
- Residents may train up to 6 dogs on bear from July 1st to August 27th, 2015 except in portions of Washington and Hancock counties that are situated south of Route 9.
- Sporting dogs may be trained on wild birds (does not include wild turkey) at any time. The commissioner may authorize the use of firearms during such training to shoot and kill wild birds propagated or legally acquired by the permittee and possessed in accordance with the laws pertaining to breeders licenses.
- A person must possess a valid hunting license to engage in these activities, except Sunday or when training on pen-raised birds.
- A person may not hunt with a dog in pursuit of bear, coyote or bobcat unless the dog has a collar that legibly provides the name, telephone number and address of the owner of that dog.
- A person or persons may not use more than 6 dogs at any one time to hunt coyotes or bobcats.
- A person may not use a dog to hunt coyotes or bear during the period from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.
- For more information on hunting bears with dogs see page 25.

**A person with a suspended or revoked license may not train dogs.**

## Leashed Dog Tracking License

A license is available which allows the tracking of wounded deer, moose, and bear with dogs. The fee for this license is \$27. The fee for a 3-year license is \$81. A person who holds a valid license may charge a fee for dog tracking services without having to hold a guides license as long as that is the only service provided. Contact the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for details.

## STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands manages one-half million acres of land in Maine for a mix of activities, including hunting and trapping, for its citizens and visitors. The safety of all visitors is of primary concern to the bureau. Certain heavily developed and high-use areas are closed to hunting for all or part of the year. At other areas, the bureau provides as many hunting and trapping opportunities as are reasonable and consistent with its mandates and visitor safety.

Hunters and trappers are asked to exercise due caution and care for the safety and enjoyment of other visitors when using Bureau lands by obeying posted information and the rules listed below.

General hunting, except where specifically prohibited, is allowed from the first day after Labor day to May 31. Hunting and trapping shall take place in conformity with the laws of the State of Maine, rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and local ordinances. Trapping on State park or historic site land in organized townships requires the written permission of the Bureau. There will be no hunting allowed in the restricted zone of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway between May 1 and September 30.

- Hunting is not allowed in any Memorial or Historic Site.
- Hunting is not allowed at Andrews Beach; that portion of Bradbury Mountain State Park west of State Route 9; Cobscook Bay; Crescent Beach and Kettle Cove; Damariscotta Lake; Ferry Beach; Holbrook Island Sanctuary; Nickerson Lake; Owls Head Light; that portion of Quoddy Head within 1,000 feet of the lighthouse; Reid, Sebago Lake, Shackford Head, Two Lights, and Wolfe's Neck Woods State Parks.
- Work areas and areas with significant public use may be posted and closed to hunting from time to time in the interest of public safety.
- The discharging of any weapons from or within 300 feet of any designated trail, picnic area, camping area, campsite, parking area, building, boat launching site or other developed area or bridge is prohibited. Loaded weapons are not allowed on the treadway of any trail posted "Closed to hunting".
- The baiting of any animal for the purpose of hunting is not allowed.

### For more information

Please call (207) 287-3821, TTY (207) 287-2213 or write to:  
Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands  
22 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

## PUBLIC RESERVED LANDS

**Firearms:** Loaded firearms are not permitted in campsites, on marked hiking trails, or at boat launching sites and picnic sites and shall not be discharged within 300 feet of such areas.

**Bear Hunting:** A permit is required from the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands to place bait on Public Reserved Land for the purpose of hunting bear.

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES (NWR)

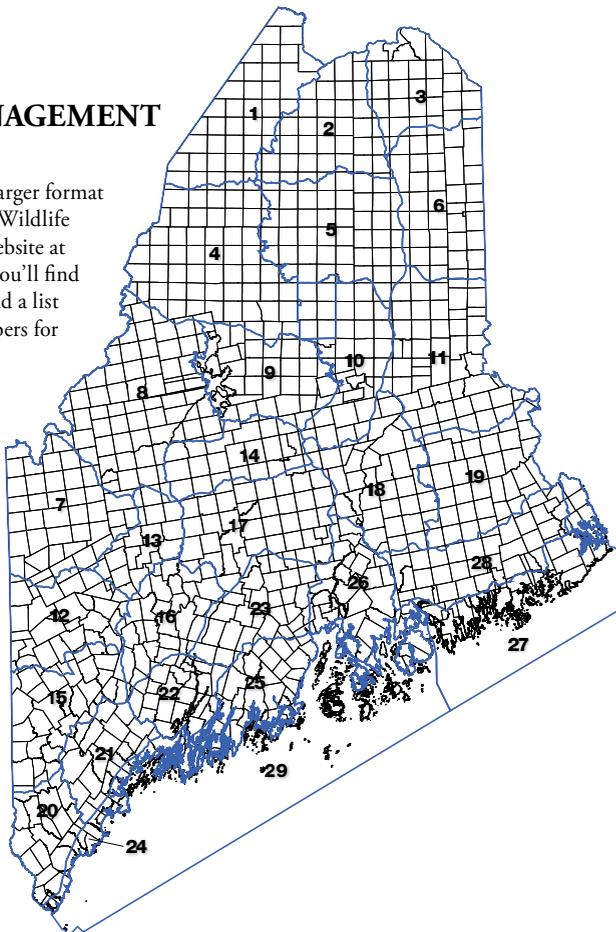
**NOTE:** On National Wildlife Refuges which permit hunting of upland game, persons hunting upland species other than deer and turkey with a shotgun shall possess and use only nontoxic shot while in the field.

More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on federal refuge regulations, contact:

- **Rachel Carson NWR**  
321 Port Road  
Wells, ME 04090  
(207) 646-9226
- **Maine Coastal Islands NWR**  
PO Box 279  
Milbridge, ME 04658  
(207) 594-0600
- **Sunkhaze Meadows NWR**  
PO Box 1735  
Rockland, ME 04841  
(207) 594-0600
- **Moosehorn NWR**  
(Baring and Edmunds Units)  
RR #1, Box 202  
Baring, ME 04694  
(207) 454-7161
- **Lake Umbagog NWR**  
PO Box 240  
Errol, NH 03579  
(603) 482-3415
- **Aroostook NWR**  
97 Refuge Rd.  
Limestone, ME 04750  
(207) 328-4634

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MAP

This map is available in a larger format at all Inland Fisheries and Wildlife offices, or check out our website at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com), where you'll find individual district maps and a list of towns and district numbers for each town.



## WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST Oxford County, Maine

The public land within National Forests is open to hunting. Portable observation stands that do not damage live trees may be used. Please contact the Androscoggin Ranger District for more information on bear baiting on National Forest lands at (603) 466-2713.

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Acadia National Park & the Appalachian National Scenic Trail — hunting, trapping, and/or possessing a weapon is prohibited on land administered by the National Park Service. For further information on these lands contact:

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

All Wildlife Management Areas (WMA), except Steve Powell WMA (Swan Island) and portions of Steep Falls and Killick Pond WMA, owned and managed by the Department are open for general law hunting and trapping. A full list of these areas can be found online at: [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com). Camping, fires, and permanent observation stands are all prohibited on Department-owned WMAs.

- **Acadia National Park**  
PO Box 177, Bar Harbor, ME 04609  
(207) 288-3338
- **Appalachian Trail Park Office**  
Harpers Ferry Center  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425  
(304) 535-6270
- **Appalachian Trail Conference**  
New England Regional Office  
PO Box 264, South Egremont, MA 01258  
(413) 528-8002

Mount Desert Island (MDI) is located within the geographic boundary of WMD 26.

### CLOSED AND SPECIAL REGULATION AREAS

**Unity Utilities District:** It is unlawful to hunt on the Unity Utilities District Property located on Route #139 and Prairie Road in Unity, Waldo County.

**Gray Squirrels:** It is unlawful to hunt gray squirrels on any land which is dedicated as a public or private park or on any land located within the limits of the compact or built-up portion of any city or town.

**Haley Pond:** It is unlawful to hunt waterfowl on Haley Pond in the town of Rangeley and Dallas Plantation, Franklin County.

**Wildlife Sanctuaries and certain Wildlife Management Areas:** Unless otherwise specifically provided, it is unlawful to hunt or trap any wild animal or wild bird within the limits of any wildlife sanctuary, any area properly posted by the State of Maine, or within the following described territories:

- Back Bay Sanctuary, Portland
- Baxter State Park: Closed to all hunting except: The area north of Trout Brook in T6R9; in T6R10 or T2R9 and T2R10 where hunting is allowed.
- Beauchamp Sanctuary: Open to the taking of deer with bow and arrow during any open season that allow hunting of deer, including expanded archery.

- Cape Elizabeth Sanctuary\*
- Carver's Pond Waterfowl Sanctuary
- Colby College Area, Waterville
- Drake's Island Game Sanctuary
- Dry Pond Sanctuary (Crystal Lake)
- Fairfield Sanctuary\*
- Glencove Sanctuary
- Gray Game Sanctuary
- Hog Island Game Sanctuary
- Jefferson & Whitefield Sanctuary
- Kineo Point Sanctuary
- Limington, Hollis, Waterboro Sanctuary
- Lowell E. Barnes Area, Oxford County
- Marsh Island Area,\* Old Town: Open to the taking of deer with bow and arrow during any open season that allow hunting of deer, including expanded archery.
- Megunticook Lake and Vicinity Sanctuary
- Merrymeeting Bay Game Sanctuary
- Monroe Island Game Sanctuary
- Moosehead Lake Game Sanctuary
- Moosehorn Game Sanctuary
- Narragansett Game Sanctuary\*
- Oak Grove Area, Vassalboro
- Ocean Park Game & Bird Sanctuary
- Orrington Game Sanctuary
- Pittston Farm Sanctuary
- Prout's Neck, Richmond's Island;
- Rangeley Game Sanctuary
- Rangeley Lake Sanctuary
- Readfield and Winthrop Sanctuary
- Salmon Pond Sanctuary
- Sebago Lake Basin Area, Standish, Windham
- Somerset Game Sanctuary
- Standish Sanctuary
- Stanwood Wildlife Sanctuary, Ellsworth
- Steve Powell WMA (Swan Island), Richmond
- Thorncrag-Stanton Bird Sanctuary
- Tomhegan Game Sanctuary
- Wells Sanctuary
- Wells & York Game Sanctuary
- Willow Water Game Sanctuary
- Woodbury Sanctuary, Litchfield, Monmouth
- York Game Sanctuary, Franklin County

\* Trapping allowed in accordance with the general laws of the State.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TERRITORY

As a result of the Maine Native American Claims Settlement Act of 1980, lands purchased by the Penobscot Native American Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe within certain designated areas of the State are classified as Native American territory and have special legal status. The Penobscot Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe, within their respective Native American territories, have exclusive authority to regulate hunting and trapping. At the time of this publication, parcels of Native American territory had been acquired within the following areas:

#### PENOBSCOT NATION

**Franklin County:** Alder Stream Twp.

**Penobscot County:** T2R9 NWP (western portion), T3R9 NWP (eastern portion), T6R8 WELS (western portion) Argyle Township (northern portion) and T3R1 NBPP (northeastern portion).

**Piscataquis County:** T6R8 NWP. The Penobscot Nation also has exclusive authority to regulate hunting and trapping in the Penobscot Reservation, consisting of all islands in the Penobscot River north of, and including, Indian Island, located near Old Town, Maine. Contact the Penobscot Nation, Department of Natural Resources for specific locations of Reservation islands.

#### Passamaquoddy Tribe

**Franklin County:** Lowelltown, T1R8 WBKP.

**Hancock County:** T3&4ND.

**Penobscot County:** T3R9 NWP, T5R1 NBPP, TAR7 WELS.

**Somerset County:** Holeb T6R1 NBKP, Prentiss, T4R4 NBKP, Hammond Township, T3R4 NBKP, Alder Brook Township, T3R3 NBKP, Pittston Academy Grant, T2R4 NBKP, Soldiertown Township, T2R3 NBKP.

**Washington County:** T5ND, BPP; T19 MD, Indian Township, and Pleasant Point, Perry.

Most of these areas will be conspicuously posted as Native American Territory. Anyone wishing to hunt or trap on Native American territory should contact the appropriate Native American agency for further information.

#### Penobscot Nation

Department of Natural Resources  
12 Wabanaki Way  
Indian Island, ME 04468  
(207) 817-7331

#### Passamaquoddy Tribe

Ranger Department  
Box 301, Princeton, ME 04668  
(207) 796-2677

#### Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission

PO Box 241, Stillwater, ME 04489  
(207) 817-3799

## RAILROAD TRACKS

- **Walking or standing on track or bridge.** A person may not, without right, stand or walk on a railroad track or railroad bridge or pass over a railroad bridge except by railroad conveyance.
- **Entering a track.** A person may not, without right, enter upon a railroad track with a team or a vehicle however propelled or drive any team or propel a vehicle upon a railroad track.



## HUNTING/TRAPPING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Relations Program is actively working towards enhancing the relationship between landowners and land users. With approximately 94% of the land in Maine privately owned, everyone **MUST** respect landowners and their rights. Landowner wishes have to be followed by all outdoor recreation participants to help ensure access and use of private property in the years to come.

The Maine Legislature has enacted laws that address the concerns of landowners.

**Summarized** below are several of those laws and a brief description of each. For further detail on these laws, consult Maine Revised Statutes cited in parenthesis.

### Landowner Liability (14 MRSA §159-A) Limited Duty

An owner, lessee, manager, holder of an easement or occupant of premises shall owe no duty of care to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for recreational or harvesting activities or to give warning of any hazardous condition, use, structure or activity on these premises to persons entering for those purposes. This subsection applies regardless of whether permission has been given to another to pursue recreational or harvesting activities on the premises.

### Exceptions to Limited Duty

1. For a willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure, or activity; and
2. When financial consideration is paid for the exclusive right to make use of the property for recreational activities.

### Costs and fees

The court shall award any direct legal costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, to an owner, lessee, manager, holder of an easement or occupant who is found not to be liable for injury to a person or property pursuant to this section.

### Posting of Land and Criminal Trespass (17-A MRSA, §402)

Property is posted if it is marked with signs or paint in one of the following ways and in a manner that is reasonably likely to come to the attention of an intruder:

1. Signs must indicate that access is prohibited, that access is prohibited without permission of the landowner or landowner's agent, or that access for a particular activity is prohibited.
2. One vertical "OSHA Safety Purple" stripe at least one inch in width and at least 8 inches in length means "Access by Permission Only" when it is placed on trees, posts or stones between three and five feet off the ground.

These signs or paint stripes must mark the property at distances no more than 100 feet apart at locations that are readily visible to any person

approaching the property, and at all vehicular access entries from a public road.

- In addition, landowners may also, either verbally or in writing, personally communicate to others that access is prohibited.

Remember, it is unlawful to remove, mutilate, deface or destroy a sign or paint mark that is placed in order to prohibit or restrict access; and it is unlawful to post the land of another without permission of the landowner

### Other provisions of posting

1. Signs or paint markings must be at all vehicular access entrances from a public way.
2. It is unlawful to post the land of another and to remove, destroy, mutilate or deface any signs or paint marks.
3. Trespass by a motor vehicle is a violation of the trespass law.

### Trespass Damages (14 MRSA, §7551-B)

Any person who enters the land of another without permission and causes damage to the property of another is liable to the owner in a civil action. Violations of this law will have the following results:

1. If the damage is intentional the person doing the damage is liable to the owner for 2 times the actual damage plus additional costs which include the attorney fees of the landowner.
2. If the damage is unintentional, the person doing the damage is liable to the owner for the amount of the actual damage plus additional costs which include attorney fees of the landowner.
3. A person doing damage to property of another may also be charged criminally for doing the damage.

### Unlawful cutting of trees (14 MRSA, §7552, and 17 MRSA, §2510)

It is unlawful for any person to intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or negligently cut down or fell any tree without the consent of the owner of the property on which the tree stands.

### Abuse of Another Persons Property While Hunting (12 MRSA §10652)

It is unlawful to tear down a fence or wall, destroy any crop, leave open any bars or gates, or insert objects into trees on another person's land without permission (see page 19 for observation stand information).

### Littering

It is unlawful to dispose of litter anywhere in this state except in areas or receptacles designed for that purpose. As litter relates to the proper disposal of legally taken game, a person may not drop, deposit, discard, dump or otherwise dispose of a carcass, waste parts or remains of a wild animal, except waste parts or remains resulting from the normal field dressing of lawfully harvested wild game or the lawful use of waste parts or remains of wild game as bait.

### Civil Trespass (12 MRSA, §10657) Prohibition

While engaging in any activity regulated by the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, a person, knowing that the person is not licensed or privileged to do so, may not:

1. Enter or cause a projectile to enter any place from which that person may lawfully be excluded and that is posted in accordance with Title 17-A, section 402, subsection 4 or in a manner reasonably likely to come to the attention of intruders or that is fenced or otherwise enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders; or
2. Enter or remain in or cause a projectile to enter or remain in any place in defiance of a lawful order not to enter or an order to vacate that was personally communicated to that person by the owner of the place or another authorized person.

**Definition of projectile:** For the purposes of this section, "projectile" means a bullet, pellet, shot, shell, ball, arrow, bolt or other object propelled or launched from a firearm or a bow, crossbow or similar tensile device.

For information on other provisions of these laws, contact the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at (207) 287-8000.

### COMMERCIAL SHOOTING AREAS

A person may not charge any fee for access to land if the fee is contingent upon the taking of game on that land or directly related to the taking of game on the land, unless the land is an authorized commercial shooting area licensed as follows: The commissioner may issue licenses for the establishment and operation of commercial shooting areas, authorizing the owner of a commercial shooting area to charge others for the opportunity to hunt mallard ducks, pheasants, quail, Chukar partridge, and Hungarian partridge in that area (12 MRSA section 12101).

The operator of a commercial shooting area may authorize a person to hunt other wild birds or wild animals in a commercial shooting area during the regular open season on those species, in accordance with the provisions of 12 MRSA Part 13, as long as the person possesses a valid state hunting license that allows the hunting of those wild birds and wild animals.

The operator of the commercial shooting area shall provide to each person taking birds in that area a receipted invoice or bill of sale for possession and transportation of those birds.

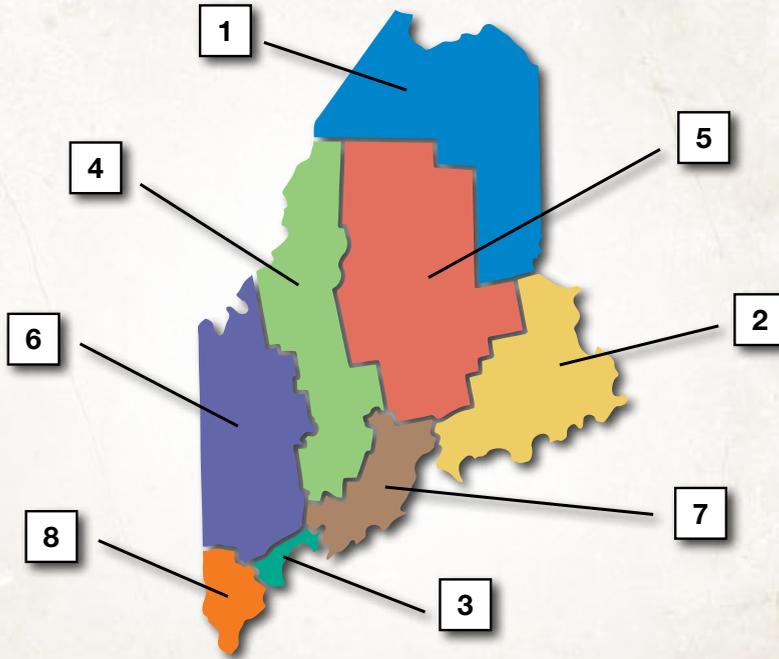
### Enforcement

Enforcement of the trespass laws of a commercial shooting area is the responsibility of the owner and may not in any manner be considered an obligation of the Department.

### Commercial Shooting Areas

Hunting on commercial shooting areas is governed by the license provisions of Section 12101. For a complete copy of this law, and to obtain a list of commercial shooting areas, call the Information Center at (207) 287-8000.

# Maine Outfitter & Guide Directory



- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Aroostook                      | 5. The Maine Highlands     |
| 2. Downeast & Acadia              | 6. Maine Lakes & Mountains |
| 3. Greater Portland & Casco Bay   | 7. Mid-Coast               |
| 4. Kennebec & Moose River Valleys | 8. Southern Maine Coast    |

## REGION 1

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## DRUMMING UP RESEARCH

Ruffed grouse are arguably the most important game bird in the State of Maine. Although much of Maine supports an abundant grouse population, a changing forest throughout much of the state, coupled with forest fragmentation, may limit grouse numbers in the future.

Tens of thousands of hunters pursue grouse in Maine each year. The hunting season for ruffed grouse is three months long and runs from October 1 to December 31 each year. Grouse have been well-studied in other areas of North America, and many of the department's management decisions concerning grouse are based on research in other states.

However, with Maine's changing forest landscape there is need for new biological data concerning Maine grouse. IFW is partnering with the University of Maine in a collective grouse research project.

The study focuses on such things as grouse nesting success and survival, and also the effect of hunting mortality on the ruffed grouse population. The study also utilizes radio-tagged grouse to help determine how grouse numbers are affected by forest management practices, as well as how individual characteristics such as age, sex and or location affect mortality.



This new research data will be combined with grouse drumming surveys. Together, this will give the department solid, biological data which will guide grouse management decisions into the future.



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Beaver trapping season dates and town closures were not available at the time of printing, but dates and closures will be available to trappers in mid-October on the website at: [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com).

The Department has initiated rule making on several issues related to trapping. Any changes that pass will be included in the Trapper Information Booklet when it becomes available.

Landowners who trap can contact the Department at (207) 287-8000 to be added to a mailing list for updates on beaver closure and trapping changes annually.

## What is a trap?

A trap is any device which is made to catch animals. There are many types of traps, but those which you are allowed to use to trap wild animals in Maine (under the rules explained in the following pages) are:

- foothold traps (including those manufactured with padded jaws);
- dog proof raccoon traps;
- killer-type traps of the body-gripping variety, including spring-type traps;
- cage-type live traps;
- colony traps;
- snares; and
- vector traps are legal for weasel and red squirrel.

## What is trapping?

Trapping is the setting, placing or tending of traps. You are considered to be trapping if you do any of the following things:

- set one or more traps anywhere in the fields, forests or waters of the State;
- tend or visit a trap which has been set in the fields, forests or waters of the State;
- kill an animal which is being held in a trap;
- remove an animal from a trap; or
- assist another person in doing any of these things.

## Who needs a trapping license?

Except for certain landowners, full-time Department employees authorized by the commissioner for animal damage control purposes, and children under 10, everyone (including animal damage control agents and animal control officers appointed pursuant to Title 7) must have the appropriate trapping license before going out to trap for wild animals or before going out to help another person who is trapping. (An unlicensed person may accompany a trapper only as an observer.)

## Where can I get a trapping license?

All trapping licenses are issued from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife office in Augusta. Trapping license cannot be purchased online.

## Which trapping license do I need?

- If you are a Maine resident under 10 years old, you may trap without a license, except bear. You must be 10 years of age to trap a bear.

## HOW MUCH DOES A TRAPPING LICENSE COST?

LICENSE	FEE
Resident Junior Trapping License	\$9.00
Resident Trapping License	\$35.00
Nonresident Trapping License	\$317.00
Resident Trapping License (Over 70 Years of Age)	\$8.00
Resident Bear Trapping Permit	\$27.00
Nonresident Bear Trapping Permit	\$67.00
Resident Apprenticeship License	\$35.00
Nonresident Apprenticeship License	\$317.00

**Note:** Serviceman licenses, resident disabled veterans and Native Americans (see page 9) are eligible for a free license.

- If you are a Maine resident who is at least 10 but less than 16 years old, you must have a junior trapping license. (**Note:** A junior trapping license issued to a 15 year old is good for the entire calendar year regardless of when the person turns 16.)
- If you are a Maine resident who is 16 or more years old, you must have a resident trapping license (see resident landowner below).
- Resident landowners, and immediate family members, as long as their license to trap is not under revocation or suspension, may trap without a license on their own land IF they actually live on that land AND the land is used only for agricultural purposes. (If you trap for beaver, you must have a trapping license.)
- If you are a nonresident, regardless of age, you must have a nonresident trapping license. (**Note:** Nonresidents are not allowed to trap for beaver unless their home state allows Maine residents to trap beaver.)
- If you are a nonresident who is not a citizen of the United States (nonresident alien), you are not allowed to trap in Maine.
- An apprenticeship trapper license allows a person who has never held a valid adult trapping license to go trapping with an adult supervisor for up to two years without having to take a trapper education course. An "adult supervisor" is one who has held a valid adult trapping license for the prior 3 consecutive years. The holder of an apprenticeship trapper license must, while trapping, be under the direct supervision of an adult supervisor at all times. An apprenticeship trapper license allows a person to trap for all species that may be legally trapped, except black bear. The fee for an apprenticeship trapper license is the same as a regular trapping license.

## Do I need to take a trapper education course?

When you apply for any Maine trapping license (except a junior license), you must show proof of having successfully completed a state-approved trapper education course OR show proof of having held an adult trapping license (in Maine

or in some other state, province or country) at some time since 1978.

## How long does a trapping license remain valid?

A trapping license remains valid from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

## Are young people allowed to go trapping by themselves?

Children under 10 years of age are allowed to trap all legal species, except bear, without a license but must be accompanied at all times by an adult supervisor\*. Children over 10 years of age and under 16 years of age who hold a junior trapping license must be accompanied, unless they have successfully completed a trapper education course. The person who accompanies a youth trapper is responsible for any violations committed by this trapper.

\* "Adult Supervisor" for a junior trapper means a parent or guardian of the junior trapper or a person 18 years of age or older who is approved by the parent or guardian of the junior trapper and who holds or has held a valid adult trapping license or has completed a trapper education course.

## What animals am I allowed to trap?

Maine has an open trapping season for the following species of animals:

- Beaver
- Black Bear
- Bobcat
- Coyote
- Fisher
- Gray Fox
- Marten
- Mink
- Muskrat
- Opossum
- Otter
- Raccoon
- Red Fox
- Red Squirrel
- Skunk
- Weasel

**Note:** There is also a trapping season for black bear. However, the black bear is not considered a furbearing animal, so the bear trapping rules will be explained separately. See bear trapping on page 26.

Except as explained in animal damage control laws, you are never allowed to trap for any species of wild bird, and you are never allowed to trap for any species of wild animal which does not have an open trapping season.

## When does the trapping season open?

- **General trapping season** for bobcat, coyote, fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, otter, raccoon, red squirrel, marten, fisher, skunk, and weasel **opens on November 1, 2015, and closes on December 31, 2015.**
- **The fisher season** in WMDs 12, 13 & 15–29 opens November 15, 2015 and closes December 15, 2015. The fisher season in WMDs 1–11 & 14 opens November 1, 2015 and closes December 31, 2015.
- See page 37 for early fox, coyote, and muskrat trapping season dates.
- See page 26 for bear trapping season dates & information.

## Am I allowed to trap for muskrats while I'm beaver trapping?

After the end of the general trapping season, you are allowed to continue to trap for muskrats in any area of the State which is open to beaver trapping. Please see the *Trapper Information Booklet*, on our website, for current muskrat trapping rules during the spring beaver season.

## What if I catch a mink or otter in my beaver (or muskrat) traps?

Although you are not allowed to trap for mink or otter after the general trapping season closes, you are allowed to keep a mink or otter if you catch one by accident during the beaver trapping season.

## Are there “special” trapping seasons for any furbearing animals?

There is an early statewide fox and coyote trapping season prior to the regular trapping season, and there is an early muskrat trapping season in Wildlife Management Districts 1 through 6, 9, 10, and 11 prior to the regular trapping season. Details about these two early seasons will be explained later.

## Am I allowed to put out bait or prepare sets before the trapping season begins?

Except for beaver and muskrat, you are allowed to go out before the season starts and make preparations in the area you plan to trap; however, you are never allowed to fasten a trap (set or unset) at any trap site location before opening day. You are not allowed to make any advance preparations for trapping beaver and muskrat. You may not use meat or fish as bait in trapping for beaver.

Also, you are not allowed to set any footholds or killer-type traps within 50 yards of bait that is visible from above.

## What does “advance preparation” include?

Advance preparation includes:

- the preparation of the site where your trap will eventually be set; and
- the placement of trapping implements (such as drowning devices) or associated materials (such as trap stakes or guide sticks) **in** the water or **on** the ice of any wetland.

## Is there a season limit on any species of furbearing animal?

The only furbearing animals which have a season limit are marten and fisher. You are not allowed to take or possess more than 25 marten or 10 fisher during the trapping season. (See special tagging requirements for marten and fisher.)

## When and where am I allowed to set the different types of traps?

As already mentioned, you are allowed to use foothold traps, dog proof raccoon traps, body gripping killer-type traps, cage-type live traps, colony traps and snares, but you must obey the following rules:

### Bait

Foothold or killer-type traps must not be set within 50 yards of bait that is visible from above. Bait may be used for trapping if it is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above, and it must be covered in such a way as to withstand wind action and other normal environmental conditions. Bait is defined as animal matter including meat, skin, bones, feathers, hair or any other solid substance that used to be part of an animal. This includes live or dead fish. For the purpose of this paragraph, bait does not include animal droppings (scat), urine, or animals, dead or alive, held in a trap as the result of lawful trapping activity.

### Visual Attractions

You are not allowed to use any visual attractor during the early fox and coyote season. You are allowed to use visual attractors during the regular trapping season, but if they are any part of an animal (antler, bone, feather, etc.) they must be completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above. See above section for more details.

### Foothold traps & Killer-type (body-gripping) traps:

The Department has initiated rule making on several issues related to Foothold traps & Killer-type (body-gripping) traps. Any changes that pass will be included in the Trapper Information Booklet when it becomes available.

### Dog Proof Raccoon Traps

Dog proof raccoon traps that are designed primarily to catch raccoons and avoid incidental catches of other animals may be used throughout the trapping season.

### Cage-type live traps

Cage-type live traps may be used to trap for all legal species of furbearing animal, except that in WMDs 1–6 and 8–11, no cage trap which has an opening of more than 13 inches in width or more than 13 inches in height may be used unless the cage trap is being used (1) for wildlife research and survey activities; (2) for the removal of animals that are causing damage to property; or (3) to capture bear.

## Snares

Snares may be used **only** in the following situations:

- snares may be used to trap for beaver, but they **must** be set completely underwater,
- foot snares (cable traps) may be used **only** to trap for bear. See page 26 for more information on bear trapping.

## Colony traps

Colony traps may be used to trap for furbearing animals throughout the trapping season, except that:

- the outside dimensions of colony traps may not exceed 7 inches high by 7 inches wide by 40 inches long, and
- all colony traps must be set so as to remain completely under water at all times.
- For tending purposes, colony traps are considered killer-type traps.

## Rat snap traps

Except in Wildlife Management Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 11 rat snap traps may be set on land for weasel and red squirrel trapping if recessed in a wooden box with a hole no larger than 2 inches in diameter.

## Am I allowed to set traps in the built-up section of a town?

Unless you are on your own land, the only trapping you are allowed to do within ½ mile of the built-up section of a city or town is with the use of cage-type live traps and drowning sets.

## What's a drowning set?

A drowning set is a trap that is set completely under water and rigged in such a way as to reasonably ensure the drowning of any species of trapped furbearer that would reasonably be expected to visit the set location and be held in the type of trap used at the set. (**Note:** You are allowed to trap in shallow water where a trapped animal is not likely to drown, but traps set in this manner are not considered to be drowning sets and are not allowed within ½ mile of the built up section of a city or town.)



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## Do I need permission to trap on land I don't own?

You are strongly encouraged to seek landowner permission before going on someone else's land for any purpose. The trapping laws, with some exceptions, require that you have prior written permission from the landowner before setting traps:

- anywhere in an organized town,
- within 200 yards of any occupied dwelling, and
- on cultivated or pasture land in an unorganized township if someone is living there.

Landowner permission is not required when trapping for beaver that can be legally accessed via water. A new law has also eliminated the written landowner permission requirements:

- when trapping with the use of drowning sets on state-owned land and on public rights of way, and
- when trapping with the use of drowning sets along navigable rivers and streams on privately owned land as long as the traps are set at least 200 yards away from any occupied dwelling.

**Note:** Although you are not always required to obtain written landowner permission before setting traps, you are never allowed to set traps on privately owned land if the landowner has asked you not to trap there, either by a conspicuously posted sign or by word of mouth.

## When trapping on someone else's land, there are certain things you are never allowed to do unless the landowner has given you specific permission to do so:

- You are never allowed to tear down or destroy a fence or wall.
- You are never allowed to leave open a gate or bar way.
- You are never allowed to trample or destroy crops.
- You are never allowed to cut trees or remove branches from trees.

## What are the rules about trapping around muskrat houses, beaver houses and beaver dams?

You are not allowed to destroy or damage a muskrat house or den, a beaver house or a beaver dam. You are not allowed to set a trap within 10 feet of a muskrat house, a muskrat den, or a beaver house, and you are not allowed to set a trap within 5 feet of a beaver dam.

The exceptions to this rule are that in Wildlife Management Districts 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, and 10 there is no required setback distance from an active beaver dam, and in Wildlife Management Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 there is no required setback distance from a beaver house.

## How do I know if a hole in the bank of a lake or stream is the entrance to a muskrat den or beaver house?

For enforcement purposes, the Department uses the following definitions in deciding if a hole in the bank is part of a muskrat den or beaver house:

### Muskrat den

A muskrat den is any cavity which is capped by muskrats with vegetative matter, including but not limited to hollow stumps and bank cavities. Holes in the bank not capped with vegetative matter are not considered to be muskrat dens.

### Beaver house

The term beaver house includes any cavity in the bank which is capped by beaver with mud and sticks. Holes in the bank not capped with mud and sticks are not considered to be beaver houses.

## Am I allowed to set traps on an abandoned beaver dam which no longer holds back water?

Yes. As long as the dam is inactive or breached, is in disrepair and is no longer being maintained by a beaver and shows no evidence of beaver activity.

## Am I required to set my traps a certain distance away from another person's traps?

You are required to set your traps at least 4 feet away from another person's beaver traps; however, as a matter of common courtesy you should always set your traps a reasonable distance away from any trap which has been set by someone else.

## How do I know if my traps are set the required distance away from a muskrat house or den, a beaver house or another person's beaver traps?

If there is any question, you should always measure the distance to your trap using the following guidelines:

- Beaver and muskrat houses should be measured from where the nearest edge of the house meets the water or ice. If the house or den is a capped cavity in the bank, the measurement should be made from where the nearest edge of the cap meets the ground, water or ice.
- Beaver dams should be measured from where the nearest edge of the dam meets the ground, water or ice.
- All measurements should be made from the trap itself. Sticks and poles used to construct the set or to secure the trap are **not** considered part of the trap.

## Do my traps need to be marked or identified in any way?

Each trap you set must be clearly labeled with your full name and address.

**Note:** The recommended method for labeling traps is to attach to each trap chain with a piece of wire a small metal tag preprinted with your name and address.

## When trapping beaver (or other animals) under the ice, am I required to display my name and address above the ice on the pole to which my trap is attached?

The law only requires that you label each trap with your name and address. However, most

trappers label both their trap and the pole to which their trap is fastened. This eliminates the need for a warden to chop out or otherwise disturb the set in order to identify the trapper. (It is a Department policy that if the trapper's name and address are displayed on the trap pole above the ice, the warden will not chop out the set to check the trap for a label.)

## I trap with a partner, and we use each other's traps. Do the traps need to have both names on them?

The purpose of the trap labeling law is to make sure that the trapper can be located if there's a problem. Therefore, if two people are trapping together, it is not necessary to have the name and address of both trappers on each trap.

## How often do I need to tend (visit or check) my traps?

That depends on where you trap and what types of traps you use. Under ice drowning sets for beaver and muskrat have no specific tending requirements. All other traps must be tended, as follows:

### In organized towns

- killer-type traps must be tended at least once every three days, and
- all other traps must be tended each day.
- drowning sets must be tended once every 3 days, except within a half mile of the built up section of town, they must be checked every 24 hours.

### In unorganized towns

- killer-type traps or drowning sets must be tended at least once every five days, and
- all other traps must be tended each day (including all foothold traps placed in the water at non-drowning sets).

## Am I allowed to have someone else tend my traps for me?

If you are unable to tend your traps, you are allowed to give permission to another **licensed trapper** to tend your traps for you.

## Am I allowed to carry a firearm while tending my traps?

Any licensed trapper is allowed to carry a firearm at any time while tending traps (including nights and Sundays) for the sole purpose of dispatching trapped animals. (**Note:** If you have a hunting license, you are also allowed to use this firearm for legal hunting purposes.) Any person prohibited from possessing a firearm under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, Section 393 is prohibited from carrying a firearm during the open trapping season for the purpose of dispatching animals unless they have obtained a valid permit to carry a firearm.

## Am I allowed to hunt for furbearing animals with my firearm?

You may use a firearm or bow and arrow to hunt for bobcat, coyote, red and grey fox, opossum, raccoon, red squirrel and skunk during the open hunting season on these animals. You are not

allowed to hunt for beaver, fisher, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, or weasel at any time.

### What do I do when I catch an animal in one of my traps?

Any animal you find in one of your traps **must** be removed. If the animal is alive, it may either be released or humanely dispatched. You are not allowed to keep a trapped animal alive unless you also have a license to possess captive wildlife. (Contact the Department for more information about captive wildlife.) See the Trapper Information handbook for information on what to do and who to contact if you catch a lynx or bald eagle.

### What if I catch an animal that I'm not allowed to keep?

If you catch an animal at a time when you are not allowed to trap for that species, you must immediately release the animal alive, except Lynx (see page 37 for what to do if you catch a lynx). If the animal is found dead in the trap, you must report the incident to a game warden as soon as possible and turn the animal over to the Department.

### What are the details about the early fox and coyote trapping season and the early muskrat trapping season?

During the seasons explained below, there are rules, in addition to the general trapping rules, which you **must** follow. Failure to follow these rules could result in the loss of your trapping license.

#### Early Fox and Coyote Trapping Season Opens October 18, 2015 and closes October 31, 2015

- Dates and closures will be posted on the website at: [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com). The Department has initiated rule making on several issues

related to trapping. Any changes that pass will be included in the Trapper Information Booklet when it becomes available.

- You **must** set all traps at or below ground level.
- You are **not** allowed to use killer-type traps.
- You are **not** allowed to set traps in the water.
- You are **not** allowed to use any exposed bait or visible attractor.
- You are allowed to keep any incidental opossum, raccoon or skunk which you catch in your fox and coyote traps. Any other furbearing animal caught incidentally in your fox and coyote traps must be immediately released alive, except lynx (as described on page 37), or, if found dead, must be left there, in the trap, and be reported to a game warden as soon as possible.

#### Early Muskrat Trapping Season Wildlife Management Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 only. Opens October 25, 2015 and closes October 31, 2015.

- You **must** set all traps at or below ground or water level. (**Note:** For enforcement purposes, traps will be considered set "at or below ground or water level" when set on objects which muskrats frequently visit, such as floating logs, logs extending from the water onto the bank and tree stumps located in or near the water.)
- The **only** traps you are allowed to use are foothold traps not larger than size number 1 1/2, killer-type traps with a jaw spread of not more than 5 inches and colony traps (colony trap restrictions explained on page 35).
- You are **not** allowed to use any exposed bait or visible attractor.
- You are allowed to keep any incidental mink or raccoon which you catch in your muskrat traps. Any other furbearing animal caught incidentally in your muskrat traps must be immediately released alive, or, if found dead,

must be left there in the trap and be reported to a game warden as soon as possible.

### Do the furbearing animals which I take by trapping or hunting need to be tagged?

The skins of all beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, fox, marten, mink and otter **must** be tagged within 10 days after the end of the season on each species. There is a 25 cent tagging fee for each skin. (**Note:** The skins of all bobcats **taken by hunting** must be tagged within 72 hours from the time they were taken.) Tags must be attached to the skins of these furbearing animals before you are allowed to sell them, give them away, send them anywhere or take them anywhere. Skins of other furbearing animals (muskrat, opossum, raccoon, red squirrel, skunk and weasel) **do not** need to be tagged.

### If the beaver trapping season closes at different times in different districts, do some beaver skins have to be tagged sooner than others?

All beaver must be tagged within 10 days of the final closing date on beaver. If beaver are allowed to be trapped in some districts until April 30<sup>th</sup>, all beaver skins (regardless of where they were taken) must be tagged by May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### What are the special tagging requirements for marten and fisher?

When you obtain your trapping license you will be given 25 temporary marten tags and 10 fisher tags. One of these tags, signed and dated, must be immediately attached to each marten and fisher at the time you remove the animal from the capture site. This temporary tag must match the number indicated on the trapper's license. This allows you to keep the marten until you are able to have it officially tagged by the Department. Trappers who are not required by law to have a trapping

## LYNX PROTECTION ZONE & TRAP RESTRICTIONS

**Canada lynx are a federally listed Threatened Species. There is no open season for the trapping or hunting of lynx in Maine. Fish and Wildlife biologists have confirmed the presence of reproducing lynx in northern Maine. To protect the lynx, and to help ME trappers avoid accidentally taking lynx, Fish and Wildlife worked with the ME Trappers Association to delineate a lynx protection zone in the northern and Maine area where special regulations are in effect.**

In November 2014, the Department finalized its incidental take permit (ITP) with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the unintentional take of Canada lynx through regulated trapping. Under this agreement a maximum of three lynx were allowed to be killed or permanently disabled over a period of 15 years. Within the first month of the 2014-2015 trapping season, two lynx were killed in legally set traps. In response, the Department implemented an emergency rule in December 2014, to prohibit setting killer-type traps (body-

gripping traps) at or above ground level in WMDs with resident lynx. This rule expired after 90 days. Because only one additional lynx can be killed over the next 14 years, the Department is concerned that it may exceed the ITP agreement with the USFWS. Therefore, the Department is proposing additional rules regarding killer-type and foothold traps to minimize the take of a lynx in a legally set trap.

The proposed rule changes can be seen on our web site. Once the rule changes are approved they will be included in the

trappers handbook which the Department will mail prior to the start of trapping season to all individuals licensed to trap in Maine. In addition we will issue a press release and post the changes on our website.

### What do I do if I catch a lynx?

If you catch a lynx you must report to a game warden or biologist of the Department as soon as possible and **prior to removing the animal from the trap**, unless a Department official cannot be reached in time to prevent injury to the lynx. Any lynx released under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours from this time it was discovered. If you catch a lynx call the **lynx hotline (207) 592-4734** or your local game warden.

license (residents under 10 years of age and residents trapping on their own land) may use, in lieu of the official temporary tag, a substitute tag (string tag) on which the name and address of the individual has been clearly written in ink.

## What if I bring the skins of furbearing animals into Maine from another state or province?

The skins of furbearing animals taken in another state or province must be tagged in that state or province before being brought into Maine. If that state or province has no tagging requirements, you must have the skins tagged in this State. (The tagging of imported fur applies only to those eight species for which Maine requires tagging.) **Note:** Skins imported by taxidermists solely for taxidermy purposes do not require tagging.

## Am I allowed to have a skin tagged before removing it from the carcass?

Yes, you may have a skin tagged while it's still attached to the carcass, but you may find it more difficult to properly prepare the skin if it has already been tagged.

## What about tagging frozen skins?

If a skin will be frozen at the time it is presented for tagging (even if it hasn't been removed from the carcass), you should insert a popsicle stick, tongue depressor, or similar object from the mouth hole through one of the eye holes before you freeze it. Removal of the stick at the time

of tagging allows the tag to be inserted in the skin without thawing it out. Tagging agents may refuse to tag frozen skins which have not been prepared in this manner.

## Where do I get my furs tagged?

Except for bobcat and otter, you can get your furs tagged at one of the many fur tagging stations which are located throughout the state. You can find out the location of a fur tagging station in your area by calling the nearest Regional Headquarters. (Numbers are listed on page 2.) In addition to fur tagging stations, furs may be tagged at any regional office of the Department and, through prior arrangement, by any Department game warden or wildlife biologist. Bobcat and otter must be tagged by Department personnel.

## What if I want to take or ship my furs out of the State?

If your furs have been properly tagged, you are allowed by Maine law to take or ship your furs out of the State, but Federal Law requires an export permit for black bear, bobcat, otter and ermine (weasel) before these animals may be transported outside the United States. For information and permit applications, please contact:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Office of Management Authority  
4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 420C  
Arlington, VA 22203  
(703) 358-2104

## ALWAYS SEEK PERMISSION

Always seek permission before engaging in any form of outdoor recreation on property that belongs to someone else. If you know you are welcome to use someone's land, don't abuse the privilege. If you don't know if you are welcome, find out. If the land is posted or you know you are not welcome, find another location. A hunting or trapping license does not give you the right — stated or implied — to go on another person's land against their wishes.

## DISTURBING TRAPS

You are not allowed to take or disturb any trap, or any wild animal which is caught in a trap, without permission from the owner of the trap.

If you are convicted of disturbing traps, you will lose any license in effect, and be ineligible to purchase any license issued by the Department for 3 years.

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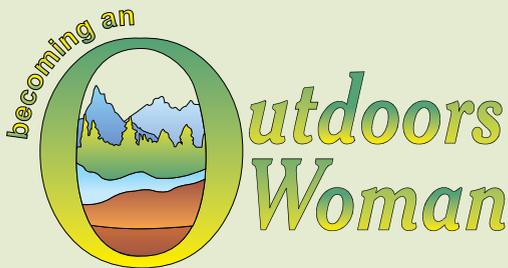
## Sunday hunting is illegal in Maine

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

\* Legal hunting hours are based on sunrise/sunset in Bangor, Maine (Eastern Standard Time).

The above time chart is **NOT** the sunrise and sunset time table and has already been adjusted to display the actual legal hunting hours.

**Exceptions:** Moose, Raccoon, Coyote, and Migratory Bird Hunting (see separate legal hunting hours for these species).



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