

Maryland Hunting Seasons Calendar for 2025-2026

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Maryland Hunting Seasons Calendar for 2025-2026

Species, Season, & Region	2025					2026						
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
Squirrel ^{15, 17}		9/6-----2/28										
Rabbit ¹⁷				11/1-----2/28								
Quail ^{16, 17}				11/1-----1/15								
Quail, western counties & eastern DNR lands ¹⁶	Closed Season-----											
Pheasant ¹⁷				11/1-----2/28								
Ruffed Grouse ¹⁷			10/4-----12/31									
Crow	8/15-----Wednesday through Saturday on-----3/15											
Beaver, Trapping ¹⁸					12/15-----3/15							
Beaver, Trapping ¹⁹					12/15-----3/15							
Coyote, Hunting ³⁰	Year-round											
Coyote, Trapping, Eastern Region ²⁰				11/15-----2/28								
Coyote Trapping, Western Region ²¹				11/1-----2/15								
Long-tailed Weasel Trapping, Eastern Region ²⁰				11/15-----2/15								
Long-tailed Weasel Trapping, Western Region ²¹				11/1-----2/1								
Fisher ³⁰				11/1-----2/1								
Fox, Hunting ³⁰ & Trapping Charles & Dorchester Co.	Year-round											
Fox, Hunting ³⁰ & Trapping County Group 1 ²²				11/15-----2/28								
Fox, Hunting ³⁰ & Trapping County Group 2 ²³				11/1-----2/15								
Muskrat & Mink, Trapping County Group A ²⁴				11/15-----2/15								
Muskrat & Mink, Trapping County Group B ²⁵						1/1-----3/15						
Muskrat & Mink, Trapping County Group C ²⁶					12/15-----3/15							
Groundhog ³⁰	Year-round											
River Otter, Trapping County Group ²⁷					12/15-----3/15							
River Otter, Trapping County Group 2 ²⁸					12/15-----3/15							
River Otter, Trapping County Group 3 ²⁹					12/1-----3/15							
Raccoon & Opossum, Chasing Only ³⁰	8/1-----10/14							3/16-----7/31				
Raccoon & Opossum, Hunting ³⁰			10/15-----3/15									
Raccoon, Skunk, & Opossum, Trapping, Eastern Region ²⁰				11/15-----3/15								
Raccoon, Skunk, & Opossum, Trapping, Western Region ²¹				11/1-----3/15								
Skunk, Hunting ³⁰				11/1-----3/15								

SUNDAY DEER HUNTING 2025-2026 (FOR WHITE-TAILED AND SIKA DEER)
 Sunday deer hunting is open with these restrictions, in these counties and locations on these dates.

COUNTY	LANDS OPEN	ARCHERY SEASON																FIREARM SEASON				MUZZLELOADER SEASON	
		SEPT. 7	SEPT. 14	SEPT. 21	SEPT. 28	OCT. 5	OCT. 12	OCT. 19	OCT. 26	NOV. 2	NOV. 9	NOV. 16	NOV. 23	JAN. 4	JAN. 11	JAN. 18	JAN. 25	NOV. 16 (JR. HUNT)	NOV. 30	DEC. 7	JAN. 11	DEC. 21	DEC. 28
ALLEGANY	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open			Open	Open
ANNE ARUNDEL	Private Only									Open								Open	Open				
BALTIMORE	None																						
CALVERT	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²
CAROLINE	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²
CARROLL	Private Only					Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open				Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
CECIL	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
CHARLES	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²
DORCHESTER	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
FREDERICK	Private Only					Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open				Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
GARRETT	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open	Open
HARFORD	Private Only						Open	Open	Open	Open	Open							Open	Open	Open	Open		
HOWARD	None																						
KENT	Private Only	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open
MONTGOMERY	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²
PRINCE GEORGE'S	None																						
QUEEN ANNE'S	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²
ST. MARY'S	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
SOMERSET	Private & Designated Public ³	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²
TALBOT	Private Only	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²
WASHINGTON REGION A	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open	Open
WASHINGTON REGION B	Private Only	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
WICOMICO	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²
WORCESTER	Private & Designated Public ¹	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²	Open ²		Open ²	Open ²	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open ²	Open ²

1 – Designated public lands open to Sunday hunting in **Allegany** (Billmeyer-Belle Grove WMA, Dan's Mountain WMA, Green Ridge SF, McCoolle FMA, Sideling Hill WMA, Warrior Mountain WMA), **Cecil** (C&D Canal Lands, Earlville WMA, Grove Farm WMA, Old Bohemia WMA), **Garrett** (Cunningham Swamp WMA, Garrett SF, Mt. Nebo WMA, Potomac SF, Savage River SF), **St. Mary's** (Salem SF, Saint Inigoes SF), **Washington** (Indian Springs WMA, Prather's Neck WMA, Sideling Hill WMA), **Wicomico** (Ellis Bay WMA, Chesapeake Forest Lands, Johnson WMA, Nanticoke River WMA, Wetipquin WMA), and **Worcester** (Chesapeake Forest Lands, E. A. Vaughn WMA, Hickory Pt. Wildlands, Isle of Wight WMA, Pocomoke SF, Pocomoke River WMA).

2 – Legal shooting hours for deer are one half hour before sunrise to 10:30am on this Sunday (applies only where footnoted).

3 – Designated public lands open to Sunday hunting in Somerset County are those lands leased to hunt clubs for the purpose of hunting.

Footnotes for 2025-2026 Hunting Season Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, hunting seasons are for all Maryland counties. Not all species are found in all counties.

1 Bear Hunt Zones - There are two bear hunt zones that are permit specific. Bear hunt zone 1 includes Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties (AL, FR, GA, WA). Bear hunt zone 2 includes Frederick and Washington counties (FR, WA). Permit required.

2 Sunday Deer Hunting (white-tailed and sika) -

White-tailed and sika deer hunting seasons include Sundays - see the Sunday deer hunting chart for areas, dates, counties and times.

3 Deer Management Region A - This region includes Allegany County, Garrett County and the western portion of Washington County (Zone 2, Private Land Code Areas 250 and 251) that lies west of a line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 494 and the Pennsylvania line, south on Rt. 494 to Rt. 57, south on Rt. 57 to Rt. 40 at St. Paul's Church, west on Rt. 40 to the junction of Big Spring Rd. and Rt. 40 in Clear Spring, south on Big Spring Rd. to the junction of Rt. 56 at Big Spring, following Rt. 56 west to the junction of Charles Mill Rd., then south on Charles Mill Rd. to the Potomac River.

4 Deer Management Region B - This region includes Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Kent, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, the eastern portion of Washington County, Zone 1, Private Land Code Area 252, that lies east of a line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 494 and the Pennsylvania line, south on Rt. 494 to Rt. 57, south on Rt. 57 to Rt. 40 at St. Paul's Church, west on Rt. 40 to the junction of Big Spring Rd. and Rt. 40 in Clear Spring, south on Big Spring Rd. to the junction of Rt. 56 at Big Spring, following Rt. 56 west to the junction of Charles Mill Rd., then south on Charles Mill Rd. to the Potomac River), Wicomico and Worcester counties.

5 Sika Deer - Sika deer may be hunted statewide where they are found.

6 Primitive Deer Hunt Days - Hunters may only use long bows, recurve bows or flintlock and sidelock percussion muzzleloading rifles or handguns during these days.

7 Wild Turkey -

The Spring Season is open statewide. Daily shooting hours for April 18 through May 9 are one-half hour before sunrise to noon. Daily shooting hours for May 10 through May 23 are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Sunday hunting is open in certain counties (see below).

The Fall Season hunting area includes Allegany, Garrett and Washington counties only. Sunday hunting is open in certain counties (see below).

The Winter Season is open statewide.

The Junior Turkey Hunt Season is open statewide on Saturday, April 11, 2025 in all counties and Sunday, April 12, 2025 in certain counties (see below).

SUNDAY TURKEY HUNTING 2025–2026		
Sunday hunting is permitted on April 12 (Junior Hunt Day) and all Sundays during any open turkey season with these restrictions, in these counties and locations.		
COUNTY	LOCATION	SHOOTING HOURS
Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Kent, Queen Anne's	Private lands only	Shooting hours are the same as Monday through Saturday
Dorchester	Private and public lands	Shooting hours are the same as Monday through Saturday
Allegany, Cecil, Garrett, St. Mary's, and Washington	Private and designated public lands*	Shooting hours are the same as Monday through Saturday
Talbot	Private lands only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Somerset	Private lands and public land leased to a hunt club only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Wicomico and Worcester	Private and designated public lands*	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
* Designated public lands open to Sunday hunting in Allegany (Billmeyer-Belle Grove WMA, Dan's Mountain WMA, Green Ridge SF, McCoole FMA, Sideling Hill WMA, Warrior Mountain WMA), Cecil (C&D Canal Lands, Earlville WMA, Grove Farm WMA, Old Bohemia WMA), Garrett (Cunningham Swamp WMA, Garrett SF, Mt. Nebo WMA, Potomac SF, Savage River SF), St. Mary's (Salem SF, Saint Inigoes SF), Washington (Indian Springs WMA, Prather's Neck WMA, Sideling Hill WMA), Wicomico (Ellis Bay WMA, Chesapeake Forest Lands, Johnson WMA, Nanticoke River WMA, Wetipquin WMA), and Worcester (Chesapeake Forest Lands, E. A. Vaughn WMA, Hickory Pt. Wildlands, Isle of Wight WMA, Pocomoke SF, Pocomoke River WMA)		

8 Canada Goose, Early Resident Season, Eastern Hunt Zone - This zone includes Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; and that part of Anne Arundel County east of Interstate 895, Interstate 97 and Route 3; that part of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County east of 301.

9 Canada Goose, Early Resident Season, Western Hunt Zone - This zone includes Allegany, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery and Washington Counties; and that part of Anne Arundel County west of Interstate 895, Interstate 97 and Route 3; that part of Prince George's County west of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County west of 301.

10 Canada Goose, Migratory Atlantic Population Hunt Zone - This zone includes Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; that portion of Carroll County east of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and east of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; that portion of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County east of Route 301.

11 Canada Goose, Late Resident Goose Hunt Zone - Late resident season is split into Southern region and Western Region. The Late Resident Southern Maryland Zone includes these counties: Montgomery County; and that portion of Prince George's County west of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County west of Route 301. The Late Resident Western Maryland Canada Goose Zone includes these counties: Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Washington, and that portion of Carroll County west of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and west of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line. (see below).

12 Light Goose Conservation Season Zone - This zone includes Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; that portion of Carroll County east of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and east of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; that portion of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County east of Route 301.

13 September Teal Hunt Zone - This zone includes Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties and that part of Anne Arundel County east of Interstate 895, Interstate 97, and Route 3; that part of Prince Georges County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County east of Route 301.

14 Eastern Duck Season Zone - This zone includes Anne Arundel, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, Saint Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, Worcester counties; and: those portions of Baltimore, Howard, Prince George's, and Montgomery counties east of a line beginning at I83 at the Pennsylvania state line, following I83 south to the intersection of I83 and I695 (Outer Loop), south following I695 (Outer Loop) to its intersection with I95, south following I95 to its intersection with I495 (Outer Loop), and following I495 (Outer Loop) to the Virginia shore of the Potomac River. The **Western Duck Season Zone** is that portion of the state not included in the Eastern Zone.

15 Closed Season for Delmarva Fox Squirrel

16 Quail - Allegany and Garrett counties are closed to quail hunting. Lands owned or managed by the Department of Natural Resources east of the Susquehanna River are closed to quail hunting. Private lands east of the Susquehanna River and all lands west of the Susquehanna River, excluding Garrett and Allegany Counties, are open to quail hunting.

17 Small Game - Sunday hunting is open in certain counties (see below).

SUNDAY SMALL GAME HUNTING 2025–2026

The following small game species may be hunted on all Sundays during their open seasons with these restrictions, in these counties and locations.

Eastern cottontail rabbits, gray squirrels, eastern fox squirrels, red squirrels, quail (closed in Garrett and Allegany counties), ruffed grouse and pheasants.

COUNTY	LOCATION	SHOOTING HOURS
Allegany, Cecil, Garrett, St. Mary's and Washington	Private and designated public lands*	Shooting hours are the same as Monday through Saturday
Calvert, Caroline, Charles, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, and Talbot	Private lands only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Somerset	Private lands and public land leased to a hunt club only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Wicomico and Worcester	Private and designated public lands*	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am

* **Designated public lands** open to Sunday hunting in **Allegany** (Billmeyer-Belle Grove WMA, Dan's Mountain WMA, Green Ridge SF, McCoolle FMA, Sideling Hill WMA, Warrior Mountain WMA), **Cecil** (C&D Canal Lands, Earlville WMA, C&D Canal Lands, Grove Farm WMA, Old Bohemia WMA), **Garrett** (Cunningham Swamp WMA, Garrett SF, Mt. Nebo WMA, Potomac SF, Savage River SF), **St. Mary's** (Salem SF, Saint Inigoes SF), **Washington** (Indian Springs WMA, Prather's Neck WMA, Sideling Hill WMA), **Wicomico** (Ellis Bay WMA, Chesapeake Forest Lands, Johnson WMA, Nanticoke River WMA, Wetipquin WMA), and **Worcester** (Chesapeake Forest Lands, E. A. Vaughn WMA, Hickory Pt. Wildlands, Isle of Wight WMA, Pocomoke SF, Pocomoke River WMA)

LATE SOUTHERN MARYLAND RESIDENT CANADA GOOSE ZONE SEASON AND BAG LIMITS 2025–2026

DATES	BAG LIMIT
Nov. 22, 2025–Nov. 28, 2025	5 per day, possession limit of 15
Dec. 15, 2025–Dec. 18, 2025	5 per day, possession limit of 15
Dec. 19, 2025–Jan. 3, 2026	1 per day, possession limit of 3
Jan. 5, 2026–Jan. 13, 2026	5 per day, possession limit of 15
Jan. 14, 2026–Jan. 31, 2026	1 per day, possession limit of 3
Feb. 2, 2026–March. 7, 2026	5 per day, possession limit of 15

LATE WESTERN MARYLAND RESIDENT CANADA GOOSE SEASON AND BAG LIMITS 2025–2026

DATES	BAG LIMIT
Nov. 22, 2025–Nov. 28, 2025	5 per day, possession limit of 15
Dec. 15, 2025–March 7, 2026	5 per day, possession limit of 15

18 Beaver Trapping 1 - All counties except Garrett and Allegany.

19 Beaver Trapping 2 - Garrett and Allegany counties.

20 Long-tailed Weasel Eastern Region - That portion of Maryland east of the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River.

21 Long-tailed Weasel Western Region - That portion of Maryland west of the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River.

22 Fox, County Group 1 - This group includes Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester counties.

23 Fox, County Group 2 - This group includes Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's and Washington counties.

24 Muskrat and Mink, County Group A - This group includes Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard and Washington counties.

25 Muskrat and Mink, County Group B - This group includes Anne Arundel, Calvert, Caroline, Charles, Dorchester, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's, Talbot and Wicomico counties.

26 Muskrat and Mink, County Group C - This group includes Baltimore, Cecil, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset and Worcester counties.

27 River Otter, County Group 1 - All counties except Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery and Washington.

28 River Otter, County Group 2 - Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery and Washington counties.

29 River Otter, County Group 3 - Allegany and Garrett counties.

30 Furbearers - Sunday hunting is open in certain counties (see below).

SUNDAY FURBEARER HUNTING 2025–2026

The following furbearer species may be hunted on all Sundays during their open seasons with these restrictions, in these counties and locations.

Coyotes, fishers, foxes, opossums, raccoons and skunks.

COUNTY	LOCATION	SHOOTING HOURS
Allegany, Cecil, Garrett, St. Mary's and Washington	Private and designated public lands*	Shooting hours are the same as Monday through Saturday
Calvert, Caroline, Charles, Dorchester and Queen Anne's	Private lands only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Somerset	Private lands and public land leased to a hunt club only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Wicomico and Worcester	Private and designated public lands*	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30 am
Only trapping permit holders or their appointees may hunt furbearers on WMAs from Nov. 15 - March 15		

* **Designated public lands** open to Sunday hunting in **Allegany** (Billmeyer-Belle Grove WMA, Dan's Mountain WMA, Green Ridge SF, McCoolle FMA, Sideling Hill WMA, Warrior Mountain WMA), **Cecil** (C&D Canal Lands, Earlville WMA, C&D Canal Lands, Grove Farm WMA, Old Bohemia WMA), **Garrett** (Cunningham Swamp WMA, Garrett SF, Mt. Nebo WMA, Potomac SF, Savage River SF), **St. Mary's** (Salem SF, Saint Inigoes SF), **Washington** (Indian Springs WMA, Prather's Neck WMA, Sideling Hill WMA), **Wicomico** (Ellis Bay WMA, Chesapeake Forest Lands, Johnson WMA, Nanticoke River WMA, Wetipquin WMA), and **Worcester** (Chesapeake Forest Lands, E. A. Vaughn WMA, Hickory Pt. Wildlands, Isle of Wight WMA, Pocomoke SF, Pocomoke River WMA)