

Ohio's 2025-26 Proposed Hunting and Trapping Season Dates

Species	Proposed Opening Date	Proposed Closing Date	Proposed Limit
White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons			
Deer archery			
• Statewide	Sept. 27, 2025	Feb. 1, 2026	See bag limit map
• Disease surveillance areas	Sept. 13, 2025	Feb. 1, 2026	
Youth deer gun, statewide	Nov. 22, 2025	Nov. 23, 2025	See bag limit map
Deer gun, statewide	Dec. 1, 2025 Dec. 20, 2025	Dec. 7, 2025 Dec. 21, 2025	See bag limit map
Deer muzzleloader, statewide	Jan. 3, 2026	Jan. 6, 2026	See bag limit map
Early deer gun, disease surveillance areas	Oct. 11, 2025	Oct. 13, 2025	See bag limit map
Wild Turkey Hunting Seasons			
Wild turkey, fall (70 counties)	Oct. 1, 2025	Oct. 26, 2025	1 (season)
Wild turkey, spring	To be announced		
Small Game and Furbearer Hunting and Trapping Seasons			
Squirrel	Sept. 1, 2025	Jan. 31, 2026	6 daily
Ruffed grouse (17 counties)	Nov. 7, 2025	Nov. 30, 2025	1 daily
Youth small game: cottontail rabbit, ring-necked pheasant, bobwhite quail	Oct. 25, 2025 Nov. 1, 2025	Oct. 26, 2025 Nov. 2, 2025	Same as species in season
Cottontail rabbit	Nov. 7, 2025	Feb. 28, 2026	4 daily
Ring-necked pheasant (roosters only)	Nov. 7, 2025	Jan. 11, 2026	2 daily
Chukar	Nov. 7, 2025	Jan. 11, 2026	4 daily
Bobwhite quail (16 counties and specific wildlife areas only)	Nov. 7, 2025	Nov. 30, 2025	2 daily
Crow (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday only)	June 6, 2025 June 5, 2026	March 1, 2026 March 7, 2027	None
Fox, raccoon, skunk, opossum, weasel hunting and trapping	Nov. 10, 2025	Jan. 31, 2026	None
Coyote	No closed season		None
Woodchuck	No closed season		None
Mink, muskrat trapping	Nov. 10, 2025	Feb. 28, 2026	None
Lake Erie marsh trapping: Mink, muskrat, skunk, opossum, weasel	Nov. 10, 2025	March 15, 2026	None
Beaver trapping	Dec. 26, 2025	Feb. 28, 2026	None
River otter trapping	Dec. 26, 2025	Feb. 28, 2026	3 in Zone A (season) 1 in Zone B (season) [season limit of 3]

Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons

Mourning dove	Sept. 1, 2025 Dec. 13, 2025	Nov. 9, 2025 Jan. 1, 2026	15 daily
Rail	Sept. 1, 2025	Nov. 9, 2025	25 daily
Gallinule (moorhen)	Sept. 1, 2025	Nov. 9, 2025	15 daily
Wilson's snipe	Sept. 1, 2025 Dec. 6, 2025	Nov. 19, 2025 Jan. 1, 2026	8 daily
American woodcock	Oct. 11, 2025	Nov. 24, 2025	3 daily
Early goose, statewide	Sept. 6, 2025	Sept. 14, 2025	5 daily, Canada and cackling geese only
Early teal	Sept. 6, 2025	Sept. 14, 2025	6 daily
Waterfowl (youth, active military, and veterans)	Oct. 4, 2025	Oct. 5, 2025	Same as species in the regular season
Goose Lake Erie Marsh Zone	Oct. 18, 2025 Nov. 8, 2025	Oct 26, 2025 Feb. 2, 2026	5 daily: Canada, cackling, and white-fronted geese, and may include no more than 1 brant 10 daily: light geese
Goose North Zone	Oct. 18, 2025 Nov. 15, 2025	Nov. 2, 2025 Feb. 2, 2026	5 daily: Canada, cackling, and white-fronted geese, and may include no more than 1 brant 10 daily: light geese
Goose South Zone	Oct. 18, 2025 Nov. 15, 2025	Oct. 26, 2025 Feb. 9, 2026	5 daily: Canada, cackling, and white-fronted geese, and may include no more than 1 brant 10 daily: light geese
Duck Lake Erie Marsh Zone	Oct. 18, 2025 Nov. 8, 2025	Oct. 26, 2025 Dec. 28, 2025	6 daily *
Duck North Zone	Oct. 18, 2025 Nov. 15, 2025	Nov. 2, 2025 Dec. 28, 2025	6 daily *
Duck South Zone	Oct. 18, 2025 Dec. 13, 2025	Oct. 26, 2025 Jan. 31, 2026	6 daily *

* The daily bag limit is 6 ducks, not to include more than 4 mallards (only 2 of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 3 pintails, 2 black ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, or 1 mottled duck. Scaup are also included in the daily bag limit of 6 ducks. Scaup have a 1 bird daily bag limit for the first 15 days of the duck season, regardless of zone. The scaup bag limit is 2 birds for the final 45 days of duck season, regardless of zone.