



State of Illinois
Department of Natural Resources



Illinois Digest of **Hunting and Trapping** **REGULATIONS 2020–2021**



Use through July 31, 2021 or until the 2021-2022 digest is printed.

Photo of Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) courtesy of Matthew Williams

 www.instagram.com/illinoisdnr/

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Message From the Director



On behalf of our staff at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, I want to thank the hunters, trappers, landowners, and other citizens who enjoy outdoor recreation opportunities in Illinois for your support and encouragement in recent months as we have tried to navigate through the challenges presented to all of us by the coronavirus pandemic.

We are grateful for the grace and patience you have displayed and expressed to us as we have implemented a host of efforts intended to protect the health and ensure the safety of the public we serve.

As we head into our busy hunting and trapping seasons, I also want to thank you for reviewing the *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations 2020-2021*.

This digest includes just about everything you need to know about hunting and trapping season dates, possession limits, hunting zone boundaries, statewide hunting regulations, and license and permit information. New or amended regulations for 2020-2021 are highlighted, and you will also find information on public hunting areas, Illinois property laws, harvest reporting requirements, and efforts to combat wildlife diseases.

Those of you who hunt and trap are our most important partners in managing wildlife in Illinois. You are also key partners in our efforts to recruit new hunters and trappers, and to reactivate those who haven't enjoyed these activities in recent years. As part of those efforts, please consider taking a young person or an adult friend hunting with you this season.

Once again, our sincere thanks for your support as we work through trying times, and we all play our parts in managing Illinois wildlife and enjoying all of the natural wonders of our state.

Best wishes for a safe and successful season.

Colleen Callahan, Director
Illinois Department of Natural Resources



**Illinois Department of
Natural Resources**

Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations

Digest Purpose

This publication is a summary of Illinois hunting and trapping regulations prepared for your convenience. It is designed as a **guide** to help you understand the laws and regulations for hunting and trapping in Illinois. It also provides information such as seasons, harvest limits, and required permits for these opportunities in Illinois. It is **not a legal document** and is not intended to cover all hunting and trapping laws and regulations. This document does not contain the exact wording of the Illinois' Adopted Administrative Rules available at www.dnr.illinois.gov/adrules/pages/default.aspx or the Wildlife Code of the Illinois Compiled Statutes available at www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs2.asp?ChapterID=43.

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2020-2021 Illinois Hunting Information

New Regulations for 2020-2021 – New laws, new programs and pending legislative changes are indicated by **yellow shading**. Prior to undertaking activities subject to change, review information published at www.dnr.illinois.gov, your local newspaper's outdoor writer's column or check with your local IDNR office for more information.

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IDNR Regional Offices

Headquarters

One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271
217-782-6302

Region 1 Office

For all inquiries, please contact
Morrison Rockwood State Park
815-772-4708

Region 2 Office

2050 West Stearns Road
Bartlett, IL 60103
847-608-3100

Region 3 Office

None

Region 4 Office

For all inquiries, please contact
Pere Marquette State Park
618-786-3323

Region 5 Office

11731 State Highway 37
Benton, IL 62812
618-435-8138

For Further Information Contact

Target Illinois Poachers (877) 2DNRLAW (236-7529)

Springfield Offices:

Special Hunting Permits (217) 782-7305

License Office (217) 782-2965

Wildlife Resources (217) 782-6384

Law Enforcement (217) 782-6431

Telecommunications Device

for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired (TTY) (217) 782-9175

IDNR Website Index

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Hunting/Trapping Information

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/default.aspx>

Hunting/Trapping Licenses

<https://www.il.wildlifelicenses.com/license.php?action=custlkup>

Public Hunting Areas

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/PublicHuntingAreas.aspx>

Hunter Safety Certification

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Pages/HunterSafety.aspx>

Trapper Safety Certification

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Pages/Trapping.aspx>

Conservation Police

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LawEnforcement/Pages/default.aspx>

Office of the Director

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/director/Pages/default.aspx>



It's ALL HERE for on the go hunters!

You'll Find:

Hunt Planner
Seasons & Events Calendars
Hunt Map
Permit Lottery Info
And More!



huntillinois.org

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Hunt Illinois is a collaborative effort led by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, and the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center. Funding for Hunt Illinois was made available through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-147-T.



The National Great Rivers
Research & Education Center

2020-2021 Hunting and Trapping Timeline

Animal	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21
Coyote/Striped Skunk				Closed 20-22	Closed 3-6							
Woodchuck				Closed 20-22	Closed 3-6			Ends 31			Opens 1	
Squirrels				Closed 20-22	Closed 3-6		Ends 15					
Doves	See Page 37 for specific dates											
Canada geese	See Pages 29-30 for specific dates											
Common Snipe		Opens 5			Ends 20							
Rails		Opens 5		Ends 13								
Teal ducks		5-20										
Deer	See Page 13 for specific dates											
Turkey	See Page 24 for specific dates						See Page 24 for specific dates					
Ducks/Mergansers/Coots	See Pages 29-30 for specific dates											
Light Geese/Brant	See Pages 29-30 for specific dates											
White-fronted Geese	See Pages 29-30 for specific dates											
Crow			Opens 28					Ends 28				
Woodcock			Opens 17	Ends 30								
Rabbits				Opens 7				Ends 15				
Pheasant/Quail/Partridge				Opens 7			Ends 8 (N) Ends 15 (S)					
Bobcat/Foxes/ Opossum/Raccoon				Opens 10 Closed 20-22	Closed 3-6			Ends 15				
Conservation Order Light Geese	See full digest for specific dates											
Trapping Timeline												
Woodchuck		Ends 31										Opens 1
Badger/Bobcat/Coyote/Foxes Mink/Muskrat/Opossum/Raccoon/St riped Skunk/Weasels				Opens 10				Ends 15				
Beaver/River Otter				Opens 10				Ends 31				

Permit Lotteries Timeline

(dates are inclusive, see hunting digest for full details)

Species	Lottery	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21
Deer	1st lottery									Early March	Closes 30			
	Youth lotteries									See digest for specific dates				
	2nd lottery											Early May	Closes 30	
	3rd lottery	Opens 1	Closes 21											
	OTC				Opens 20 until permits gone									
	Late Winter				Opens 27	Closes 23								
Turkey	Fall - 1st lottery											Early May		Closes 6
	Fall - 2nd lottery	Opens 7	Closes 24											
	Fall - OTC			Opens 21 until permits gone										
	Spring-1st lottery				Opens 6		Closes 1							
	Spring-2nd lottery						Opens 2	Closes 11						
	Spring-3rd lottery							Opens 12	Closes 9					
	Spring-Youth							Opens 19	Closes 15					
Spring-OTC									Opens 9 until gone					
Waterfowl	1st lottery		16-31											
	Youth		Opens 31		Closes 1									
	2nd lottery			1-14										
	3rd lottery			15-28										
	As available				Opens 1 until gone									
Upland game	One-time lottery		1-31											
Doves	1st lottery												1-30	
	2nd lottery		6-20											
	OTC	Opens 27	Closes 25											
	Youth	Opens 27	Closes 25											
Bobcat	One-time lottery			1-30										

HUNTING LICENSE INFORMATION

- All residents and non-residents will need an applicable base hunting license, unless noted as exempt in the table below.
- Additional licenses, permits and stamps required to hunt or trap particular species are listed in sections covering those species in this digest.
- All hunting licenses and state stamps are effective from date of purchase 2020 through 31 March 2021.

- Every person holding a hunting license shall have it, including all appropriate stamps, in his/her possession for immediate presentation for inspection to any authorized law enforcement officer while hunting.
- For Residency restrictions see definition on page 5.
- For license necessity see (520 ILCS 5/3.1) (from Ch. 61, par. 3.1) in Wildlife Code.

Base Hunting Licenses (does not include vendor fees)

License type	Fee	Online	Vendors	Phone	Paper Application	Specifications	
Resident	\$12.00	X	X	X			
Resident Senior	\$6.00	X	X	X		Only available to hunters age 65 to 74 (inclusive).	
Resident Super Senior	\$1.00	X	X	X		Only available to hunters age 75 or older.	
Illinois Veteran	Variable	X	X	X		Illinois veterans who served overseas or were mobilized by the President of the United States and have a form DD214 can take their form to IDNR's Springfield office and ask to be certified as qualifying for half priced licenses.	
Apprentice	\$7.00	X	X	X		One-year, non-renewable license for residents and non-residents. Apprentice hunters must be supervised by a validly licensed Illinois resident or non-resident hunter who is 21 years of age or older. A hunter safety course is not required to purchase this license.	
Youth Hunt/Trap	\$7.00	X	X	X		Any hunter/trapper under 18 years of age may purchase this license. Hunters/trappers with this license must be supervised by an adult who is 21 years of age or older and has the appropriate Illinois hunting or trapping license or have a valid hunter safety card and FOID in possession. The youth hunter shall not hunt or trap or carry a hunting device, unless the youth is accompanied by and under close personal supervision of that adult.	
Resident Lifetime	\$360.00				X		
Resident Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$25.50	X	X	X			
Illinois Veteran Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	Variable	X	X	X		See specification on veteran license above.	
Resident Senior Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$12.75	X	X	X		Only available to hunters age 65 to 74 (inclusive).	
Resident Super Senior Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$2.00	X	X	X		Only available to hunters age 75+	
Resident Lifetime Sportsman Combination Hunt/Fish	\$765.00				X		
Non-resident	\$57.00	X	X	X			
Non-resident (5 day)	\$35.00	X	X	X			
Disabled		See specifications					Illinois residents with a disability may hunt without a license if they have an Illinois Driver's License or Illinois Disability Identification Card indicating that they have a Type 1 or Type 4, Class 2 disability. Veterans with a disability (both resident and nonresident) may hunt without a license if they possess an Affidavit of Disability Card (resident) from the IL Department of Veteran's Affairs or documentation (non-resident) that they are at least 10% disabled with service-related disabilities. Certain stamps are still required.
Armed Forces		See specifications					All persons on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces are considered Illinois residents. A person on active duty in the Armed Forces, who entered the service from Illinois and is an Illinois resident, may, while on ordinary or emergency leave, hunt without a license. Illinois resident military, guard or reserve members who served overseas within the last 2 years may be eligible for the Illinois Resident Armed Forces Special Pass, which waives fees for fishing, hunting and camping. Eligible persons MUST APPEAR IN PERSON at IDNR's Springfield office. See details at www.dnr.illinois.gov or call (217) 782-2965. Former POWs are required to purchase a resident or non-resident hunting license.

Resident License/Stamps Guidelines

License/Stamp	Under 16	16-17	18-64	65-74	75+	Disabled	Disabled Veteran	Former POW	Armed Forces*	Landowner
Resident	x	x	x					x	See footnote	
Senior				x				x	x	
Super Senior					x					
Apprentice	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	
Sportsman Combo			x					x	x	
Senior Sportsman Combo				x				x	x	
Super Senior Sportsman Combo					x			x	x	
Lifetime	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	
Youth Hunting & Trapping	x	x								
Trapping	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Federal Waterfowl Stamp		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
State Waterfowl Stamp			x	x	x			x	x	
State Habitat Stamp			x	x	x	x			x	x
HIP Certification	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	

*See specification for Armed Forces license requirements on previous Hunting Licenses table.

Non-Resident License/Stamps Guidelines

License/Stamp	Under 16	16-17	18-64	65+	Disabled	Disabled Veteran	Former POW	Landowner
Non-Resident	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Non-Resident 5-Day	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Apprentice	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Youth Hunting & Trapping	x	x						
Trapping	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Federal Waterfowl Stamp		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
State Waterfowl Stamp			x	x	x		x	x
State Habitat Stamp			x	x	x			x
HIP Certification	x	x	x	x	x		x	x

Hunting Times Table

Use government sources such as <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/grad/solcalc/> or <https://www.weather.gov/dvn/sunrise-sunset> for accurate sunrise/sunset times.

Windshield Cards

Windshield Cards For Public Land Hunting/Trapping

Free "Windshield Cards" are required to hunt deer and record hunting effort/harvest at many Illinois Public Hunting Areas. Cards are available at: <https://dnr.illinois.gov/windshieldcard/index.asp>. Print a card for each site you intend to hunt and place on the dashboard of your vehicle when hunting the site. Each hunter will need to display a windshield card. For information or assistance, contact the site where you intend to hunt.

Hunters are required to return to this website prior to Feb. 15 each year to record harvest information.

Firearm Owner's I.D. Card

Regardless of who **owns** the firearm, Illinois residents who have a firearm or firearm ammunition in their possession also must have in their possession a valid Firearm Owner's I.D. (F.O.I.D.) Card, issued by Illinois State Police, unless they are:

- a licensed non-resident hunting in Illinois.
- a resident who is hunting within a licensed commercial club (licensed by IDNR), provided he/she is accompanied by a person who has a valid card.
- under the age of 21 and under the immediate control of a parent, guardian or responsible adult who has in his or her possession a valid F.O.I.D. card.

IDNR does not issue F.O.I.D. cards. To obtain a F.O.I.D. card visit this site <https://www.ispsfb.com/Public/FOID.aspx> or call the Illinois State Police at (217) 782-7980.



Shooting Safety and Skills Clinics

The IDNR and partners offer "wingshooting" clinics that teach shooting safety, fundamentals and hunting skills using shotguns and moving clay targets. Clinics are held for novice to advanced shooters on weekends throughout Illinois during spring through early fall of each year. Visit the following website for more information, including a calendar of clinics:

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/wingshooting/Pages/default.aspx>

Definitions

Case: Any case, firearm carrying box, shipping box, or container acceptable under Article 24. <https://law.justia.com/codes/illinois/2005/chapter53/60752.html>

Daily Limit: The maximum number or amount of species that can be lawfully taken by one person in one calendar day.

Floating Blind: Any watercraft or floating structure that is capable of carrying a person and which is camouflaged, disguised or altered in appearance to offer a place of concealment. Such floating blind may be mechanically powered as long as such power is used only for movement to and from the place of hunting and no attempt is made to hunt during such movement.

Freshly Killed: Any carcass, remains or parts of the body of any dead mammal or bird that has not been prepared for immediate consumption or storage for later consumption.

Furbearing Mammals: Mink, muskrat, raccoon, striped skunk, weasel, opossum, beaver, red fox, gray fox, badger, bobcat, river otter and coyote.

Game Birds: Bobwhite quail, Hungarian partridge, chukar partridge, ring-necked pheasant and wild turkey.

Game Mammals: Cottontail and swamp rabbits, white-tailed deer, fox and gray squirrel and woodchuck (groundhog).

Green Hide: Any hide or pelt which has not been tanned.

Gun: Shotgun, muzzleloading rifle, handgun or airgun.

Hunt: act of a person possessing a weapon or being accompanied by a dog or a bird of prey for the purpose of taking species protected by this Act in any location such species may inhabit.

Hunting: the lawful pursuit, trapping, shooting, capture, collection, or killing of wildlife.

Hunting License: an electronic or physical license authorizing the person to harvest a certain type of animal during a specified period of time.

IDNR: Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Lead Ammunition: A projectile containing one or more percent lead by weight.

Migratory Game Birds: Mourning dove, Eurasian collared dove, white-winged dove, ringed-turtle dove, sora rail, Virginia rail, American woodcock, snipe (Wilson's snipe), American coot, ducks, geese, swans and American crow.

Possession Limit: Maximum number or amount of species that can be lawfully held or possessed by one person at any time.

Protected Species: Wild birds and wild mammals, including parts, which shall include their nests, eggs and green hides, in the State of Illinois, or which may be brought into the State. See 520 ILCS 5/2.2 of the Wildlife Code for details.

Resident: "Resident" means a person who in good faith makes application for any license or permit and verifies by statement that he or she has maintained his or her permanent abode in this state for a period of at least 30 consecutive days immediately preceding the person's application, and who does not maintain permanent abode or claim residency in another state for the purposes of obtaining any of the same or similar licenses or permits covered by this Code. A person's permanent abode is his or her fixed and permanent dwelling place, as distinguished from a temporary or transient place of residence. Domiciliary intent is required to establish that the person is maintaining his or her permanent abode in this state. Evidence of domiciliary intent includes, but is not limited to, the location where the person votes, pays personal income tax or obtains a drivers license. Except for the purposes of obtaining a Lifetime License, any person on active duty in the Armed Forces shall be considered a resident of Illinois during his or her period of military duty.

Sale: To sell, barter or otherwise offer goods to another for consideration. The term sale includes serving the same as a part of a meal by any restaurant, hotel or other commercial establishment.

Take: To hunt, shoot, pursue, lure, kill, destroy, capture, gig or spear, trap or ensnare, or harass or attempt to do so.

Transport or Ship: To convey by means of parcel post, express, freight baggage or shipment by common carrier of any description; or by automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle of any kind; or by water or aircraft of any kind or by any other means of transportation.

Trap: To capture, or attempt to capture, by setting or placing a leg-hold trap, body-gripping trap, cage or live-trap or other similar device permitted by the Illinois Wildlife Code to capture, hold or kill any protected wildlife.

Vehicle: Any device capable of transporting a person on land, on ice, on water, in water or in the air.

Wildlife: Any bird or mammal living in a state of nature without the care of man, including all protected wildlife.

Statewide Regulations

Hunting Hours Restrictions *You cannot legally* hunt any wild game except during times specified for those game species in reference to official sunrise-sunset times for the location.

Possession and Daily Limits *You cannot legally* possess wild game birds, wild game mammals or wild fur-bearing mammals or any parts thereof in excess of the legally established daily limit or possession limit, whichever applies.

Maintaining Separate Bag *You cannot legally* possess wildlife for which there is a daily or possession limit unless each hunter maintains his/her "bag" of such species separately and distinctly from those of all other hunters.

Possessing Another's Wildlife *You cannot legally* receive or have in custody any protected game belonging to another person, except in the personal abodes of the donor or donee, unless such protected species are tagged with the hunter's name and address, the total number of individuals by species and the date such species were harvested. (But see "Possession and Tagging" in Waterfowl Hunting section found on pg. 35.)

Retrieving Killed/Crippled Wildlife (Wanton Waste of Game) *You cannot legally* kill or cripple any species protected by the Illinois Wildlife Code for which there is a harvest limit without making a reasonable effort to retrieve such species and include it in the harvest limit. It is also unlawful for any person having control over harvested game mammals, game birds, or migratory game birds for which there is a harvest limit to wantonly waste or destroy the usable meat of the game, except this shall not apply to wildlife harvested by means of a nuisance wildlife removal permit or wildlife harvested by means of a scientific collection permit. "Usable meat" means the breast meat of a game bird or migratory game bird and the hind ham and front shoulders of a game mammal. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, leave, dump, or abandon a wildlife carcass or parts of it along or upon a public right-of-way or highway or on public or private property, including a waterway or stream, without the permission of the owner or tenant. It shall not be unlawful to properly discard game meat that is determined to be unfit for human consumption.

Possession of Illegally Harvested Wildlife *You cannot legally* possess any species of wildlife or wildlife parts harvested unlawfully in Illinois or any other state or country, whether or not the wildlife or wildlife parts is indigenous to Illinois. The statute of limitations for unlawful possession of such wildlife or wildlife parts shall not cease until 2 years after the possession has permanently ended.

Possession of Freshly Killed Game Out of Season *You cannot legally* possess any freshly killed game when the season is closed for taking (see Wildlife Conflicts section for Deer Accidentally Killed).

Selling Wildlife, Feathers etc. *You cannot legally* buy, sell, or offer to sell or barter game birds or migratory game birds, or parts thereof, including feathers, nests or eggs (including wild turkey parts) or the edible parts of game mammals except as provided by specific permits.

Hunting Near Inhabited Dwellings

You cannot legally hunt or allow a dog to hunt within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling without first obtaining permission of the owner or tenant of the dwelling. Except: A 100-yard restriction shall apply while trapping, hunting with bow and arrow, or hunting with shotgun using shotshells only, or on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas, on federally owned and managed lands, on IDNR-owned, -managed, -leased or -controlled lands.

Hunter Interference Act

- You cannot legally* interfere with or disturb another person engaged in the lawful taking of a wild animal with intent to prevent the taking, or disturb or engage in an activity that will disturb wild animals, with intent to prevent their lawful taking.
- You cannot legally* use a drone in a way that interferes with another person's lawful taking of wildlife or aquatic life. "Drone" means any aerial vehicle that does not carry a human operator.

Hunting Devices and Ammunition Restrictions

You cannot legally:

- hunt any protected species except with a gun or bow and arrow.
- use any shotgun larger than 10 gauge while taking or attempting to harvest any protected species. Barrel length shall not be less than 18 inches, and the overall length shall not be less than 26 inches.
- hunt with, or have in your possession while hunting, a shotgun shell with shot larger than lead shot size BB, steel shot size T or number BBB of any other non-toxic shot. Except: Shot size is unrestricted for furbearer hunting and deer may be harvested with a shotgun no larger than 10 gauge or smaller than 20 gauge loaded with slugs.
- harvest any species of wild game except deer and furbearers with a shotgun loaded with slugs.
- use a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined. Any shotgun having a capacity of more than three shells must be fitted with a one-piece plug that is irremovable without dismantling the shotgun or otherwise altered to render it incapable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined. Except: This does not apply on licensed hunting preserves unless hunting wild migratory game birds and does not apply during Conservation Order light goose (snow, blue and Ross' geese) seasons.
- use a rifle, handgun or airgun to harvest game birds or migratory game birds.
- discharge a rifle, handgun or airgun on, over or into water or ice.
- use a gun equipped with a silencer.
- possess any rifle in the field during the gun deer season except licensed trappers to dispatch animals or muzzleloading rifles used by deer hunters only. Note: The lawful possession of rifles to harvest furbearing mammals and game mammals other than deer shall not be prohibited during the Youth Deer Season, Muzzleloading Rifle Deer Season, Special CWD season and the Late Winter Antlerless-only Deer Season.

Outdoor Illinois Wildlife Journal



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Outdoor Illinois Wildlife Journal is a collaborative effort of people and institutions led by the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center in Illinois. Other organizations include the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Division of Wildlife Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration. Funding for Outdoor Illinois Wildlife Journal was made available through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-147-T.



THANK YOU!

To all of you who have completed and returned surveys about your harvests and hunting and trapping activities in Illinois, we thank you. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has partnered with the Illinois Natural History Survey for 30 years to gather important input on hunting and wildlife management in Illinois. Information from you and your fellow hunters and trappers helps guide the management of Illinois' wildlife resources and evaluating changes to hunting and trapping regulations.



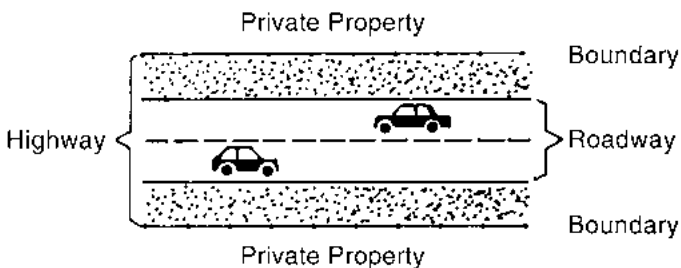
Michael Wefer
Chief, Wildlife Resources Division
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Hunting From Vehicles and Boats

You cannot legally hunt, disturb, harass or take any protected bird or mammal by the use or aid of an automobile, vehicle or conveyance, any type of watercraft, aircraft or any machine propelled by mechanical power. Exception: Paraplegics or other disabled persons, with a permit from the Office of Law Enforcement, may hunt from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. Note: It is legal to hunt game birds and game mammals (except deer and furbearing mammals) from a boat not camouflaged or disguised to alter its identity or further provide a place of concealment and not propelled by sail or mechanical power. A boat merely painted in a camouflage pattern is not considered camouflaged and may be used to hunt under conditions specified above. See exceptions to boat use in the Waterfowl Hunting section of this digest.

Hunting from Roads

You cannot legally hunt, trap or discharge a gun or bow and arrow device along, upon, across or from a public roadway, highway or right-of-way. Highway (right-of-way) means the entire width between the boundary lines of every public road. Roadway means the portion of the public road that is improved or ordinarily used for vehicle travel, excluding the berm or shoulder.



Hunting Near Fires

You cannot legally hunt adjacent to or near any peat, grass, brush or other flammable substance when it is burning.

Transporting Shotguns on Boats

You cannot legally place, carry, possess or transport a shotgun on a boat of any type in an area under the jurisdiction of IDNR from 1 Feb to 31 May inclusive, except persons having a valid, unfilled turkey permit and licensed or authorized hunters legally hunting wildlife in season.

Transporting Firearms and Bow and Arrow Devices in Vehicles

You cannot legally:

- have or carry a shotgun, rifle, handgun or airgun in or on any vehicle, conveyance or aircraft unless the firearm or airgun is unloaded and completely enclosed in a case except as noted in the Blinds section of Waterfowl Hunting in this digest. Also see Hunting From Vehicles and Boats and "FAQs" hereafter.
- carry a bow or bow and arrow device in or on a vehicle, conveyance or aircraft unless it is unstrung or enclosed in a case, or otherwise made inoperable.

Concealed Carry

A validly licensed concealed carry licensee can possess a concealed carry firearm while hunting or trapping within designated areas but are subject to Section 2.33 of the [Wildlife Code](#) on illegal devices and State refuges, the prohibitions set forth in Section 65 of the [Firearm Concealed Carry Act](#) and any applicable federal regulations.

Guns in State Refuges

You cannot legally carry or possess any gun in any state refuge except as provided by Administrative Rules.

Night Hunting with Lights, Shining Wildlife

You cannot legally use lights of, any light from, or any light connected to a vehicle or conveyance in areas where wildlife can be found. This does not prohibit normal use of headlamps for driving upon a roadway. Except: skunk, opossum, red or gray fox, coyote and raccoon may be harvested during the open season using a small hand-operated light by a person who is on foot and not in any vehicle.

Property Laws

Purple Paint Law

Landowners or lessees can mark trees or posts on private land with purple paint as a “no trespassing” notice.

Damaging Property while Hunting

You cannot legally damage or destroy another person’s property while hunting or trapping on his/her land.

Private Land Permission and Access

It is unlawful for any person to take (see definition of “take” above) or attempt to take any species of wildlife or parts thereof or intentionally or wantonly allow a dog to hunt, within or upon the land of another, or upon waters flowing over or standing on the land of another, or to knowingly shoot a gun or bow and arrow device at any wildlife physically on or flying over the property of another without first obtaining permission from the owner or the owner’s designee. For the purposes of this law, the owner’s designee means anyone whom the owner designates in a written authorization and the authorization must contain (i) the legal or common description of property, (ii) the extent that the owner’s designee is authorized to make decisions regarding who is allowed to take or attempt to take any species of wildlife or parts thereof, and (iii) the owner’s notarized signature.

Private land owners may grant permission for hunting, fishing or other recreational activities on their property, and in most instances, shall not be held liable for injuries to those accessing the property. Limitations exist. Refer to <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2081&ChapterID=58> for more information. Illinois law does not grant the right of trespass for the purpose of retrieving wounded or crippled wildlife or hunting dogs. Secure permission from the landowner or tenant before entering any property. Your conduct while hunting and trapping can influence the landowner’s decision to allow future hunting or trapping. Note: Railroad rights-of-way are private property and permission from the owner is needed before hunting or trapping.

For your convenience, IDNR has developed this form for hunters to attain written permission from the landowner(s): <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Documents/PermissionCard.pdf>

Possession of Captive-reared Game Mammals and Birds

You cannot legally hold, possess or engage in the raising of game mammals, game birds or migratory game birds without obtaining a Class A Noncommercial or Class B Commercial Game and Game Bird Breeders Permit. Permit holders must keep detailed records of the acquisition and disposal of each species. Class B permit holders must keep records of sales. Records must be available for inspection by IDNR and peace officers. Complete regulations are available in the Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5/3.23] at <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1729&ChapterID=43>

Taxidermy Laws

Any person who engages in the business of taxidermy must obtain an IDNR permit. Persons taking animals to a taxidermist must be able to prove that the animal was legally harvested. Taxidermists are required to keep written records of all animals received. All animals in their possession must be properly tagged or labeled. For further information contact an IDNR office.

Outfitter Regulation Information

The development of outfitter regulations was initiated by concerned hunters and outfitters. Their interests were to ensure hunters utilizing outfitters were provided the proper services and treatment, to strengthen the reputation of the outfitting industry in Illinois, and to ensure the proper management of the state’s deer herd, wild turkey flock, and waterfowl resource. To apply for an Outfitter Permit or obtain a complete copy of the regulations contained in Admin. Rule 640 may be found at www.dnr.illinois.gov or by contacting the Office of Law Enforcement (217) 782-6431.

Dogs — Deer and Turkey

You cannot legally allow your dog to chase, harass or kill deer or turkey. Dogs may be used for hunting, except for deer and turkey. See section “Hunting Deer with Dogs, Horses, Vehicles, Boats and Aircraft.”

Field Trial and Dog Training

You cannot legally:

- hold a field trial, organized night hunt, water race or other competitive event involving sporting dogs without first obtaining a IDNR permit. Applications must be submitted 4 weeks prior to the event.
- possess any firearm or ammunition other than a pistol loaded with blank cartridges while training dogs when hunting seasons are closed, except on an authorized field trial or dog training area. When training dogs from sunset to sunrise, no person in, along with, or accompanying the dog training party shall be in possession of a firearm or live ammunition, except pistols capable of firing only blank cartridges.
- If using live birds in training area, the operator must obtain a wild game breeder’s permit ((217) 785-3423) and dog training area permit ((217) 785-8129) from IDNR. Complete information about field trials and dog training is available at www.dnr.illinois.gov.

Falconry

State falconry permits, issued in accordance with federal regulations 50 CFR 21.29, are required to take, possess and transport hawks, falcons and great horned owls for falconry purposes. Call the Office of Law Enforcement for details at (217) 782-6431 or email Brian.Clark@illinois.gov.

Feeding Wildlife

You cannot legally make available food, salt, mineral blocks or other products for ingestion by wild deer or other wildlife. An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of the bait.

Except:

- elevated bird/squirrel feeders providing seed, grain, fruit, worms or suet for birds or squirrels located within 100 feet of a dwelling devoted to human occupancy.
- incidental feeding of wildlife within active livestock operations.
- feeding of wild animals, other than wild deer, by hand as long as a reasonable attempt is made to clean up unconsumed food.
- feeders for wildlife other than deer so long as deer are excluded from the feed in and around the feeder by fencing or other barriers.
- grain or other feed scattered or distributed solely as a result of normal agricultural, gardening or soil stabilization practices.
- standing, flooded or manipulated natural vegetation or food/seed deposited by natural vegetation.
- grain or other feed distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, for purposes of dove hunting.
- food material placed for capturing or killing wildlife pursuant to 520 ILCS 5/2.37, 2.30, and 1.3.
- scientific permits issued pursuant to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 520 that allow food to attract wildlife.
- any other permits issued by IDNR that require the attraction of wildlife for purposes of management, research or control.

Violation of the provisions of this part is a Petty Offense with a maximum fine of \$1,000. Hunting deer over bait is a separate offense.

Dens, Nests and Feed Beds

You cannot legally:

- use a mechanical device, smoke or gases to remove an animal from its den.
- molest or destroy any feed bed (a mound, pile or mat of branches, cattails or other vegetation gathered and piled by muskrats or beaver), nest, den, house or other animal cavity.

Statewide Regulations FAQs

Can I use a centerfire rifle for hunting in Illinois? Or handguns?

A: The following species may be harvested with a rifle or handgun: coyote, striped skunk, woodchuck, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, opossum and red and gray fox. We do not regulate the caliber of handgun or rifle that may be used, except on state-owned or managed areas, which normally allow only the use of shotguns or .22 caliber rimfire rifles. Squirrel, furbearers and woodchuck hunters may use a .17 caliber rimfire rifle on some state-owned or managed areas. No rifles may be possessed in the field, however, during firearm deer season except trappers can use guns with a caliber no larger than .22 during deer season to dispatch trapped furbearing mammals. Certain handguns are lawful for deer hunting.

At all times when in possession of firearms, hunters must comply with all firearms regulations as outlined in the Illinois Criminal Code.

Can I use walkie-talkies or cell phones to keep in touch with my hunting partners while in the field hunting?

A: Yes.

Can I use a scope on my gun or bow?

A: Yes.

Can I use a shotgun primer as a percussion cap for my muzzleloader?

A: Yes. A shotgun primer is a type of percussion cap and therefore legal for use in hunting with muzzleloaders.

Do I need a F.O.I.D. card to hunt with a muzzleloader?

A: Yes. Illinois residents possessing or using modern muzzleloading firearms are required to have a valid F.O.I.D. card.

Is there a set distance from a roadway I have to be in order to hunt?

A: No. There is no set distance. It is simply unlawful to hunt, trap, or discharge a gun or bow and arrow device along, upon, across or from a public roadway, highway, or right-of-way.

Is there a set distance from another person's property I must be in order to hunt?

A: No. But there are a couple of issues to keep in mind. One, you must have permission to hunt from the landowner or tenant before you enter their property. That includes tracking wounded game. Although it is illegal to kill game and not make an attempt to retrieve it, your attempt ends if you are not granted access to the property where the animal goes. Second, you cannot hunt within 100 yards of an inhabited dwelling if hunting with bow and arrow device or shotgun loaded with shot shells (or 300 yards if using a rifle, handgun or deer slugs) unless you have permission from the person occupying the dwelling. You could theoretically be on your own property but if it is too close to another person's dwelling, and you don't have permission from the person who occupies that dwelling, you can't hunt there.

How may I safely and legally transport a firearm in a vehicle?

A: Residents of Illinois must possess a valid Firearm Owner's Identification Card (F.O.I.D.) and the firearm must be unloaded and enclosed in a case (see definition of "case" in "Definitions"). Unloaded and properly enclosed firearms can be placed anywhere in the vehicle. (See Transporting Bow and Arrow Devices in Vehicles).

How may I safely and legally transport ammunition in a vehicle?

A: The location of ammunition being transported, including ammunition being transported in loaded magazines, is not regulated as long as the firearm is unloaded and encased, and the resident possessing the firearm/ammunition holds a valid F.O.I.D. card.

How may I legally transport firearms and ammunition in another state?

A: The particular state in which you will be traveling should be contacted for that information.

Where can I get more information on transporting firearms?

A: For more information, contact: Illinois State Police at (217) 782-6637, or the F.O.I.D. office at (217) 782-7980, www.isp.state.il.us; or IDNR's Clearinghouse at (217) 782-7498, www.dnr.illinois.gov and ask for the brochure "Transport Your Gun Legally – Commonly Asked Questions on Transporting Firearms."

What are the most frequently cited areas of violation?

A: Hunting without permission, hunting deer over a baited area, hunting after legal hours, permit violations (no permit in possession or using someone else's permit), not wearing blaze orange or blaze pink when required, no or wrong license/stamps, hunting from a vehicle, uncased or loaded gun in vehicle, using shotgun capable of holding more than three rounds, falsifying licenses or permits.

Releasing Wildlife and Possessing Live Wildlife

You cannot legally:

- release from captivity any wildlife except as authorized by IDNR or as authorized by permits for a field trial, dog training area, game breeding and hunting preserve area, or wild game and bird breeder permits.
- carry into this state alive or possess alive any species of protected wildlife taken outside of this state without first obtaining IDNR permission, except licensed game breeders, as permitted by the Illinois Wildlife Code.
- release turkeys in Illinois except IDNR employees and licensed hunting preserve operators authorized to release turkeys for the purpose of hunting.
- take wildlife and retain it alive.

Hawks, Eagles and Owls Protected

You cannot legally harvest, or attempt to harvest, molest or disturb any hawk, eagle or owl or parts thereof (including feather, nests and eggs), at any time, except as provided by falconry regulations.

If You Find An Injured Or Orphaned Animal

- Most birds and mammals in Illinois are considered a protected species and picking up or possessing the animal outside of a legal hunting season is unlawful.
- If you suspect an animal is injured or orphaned, do not attempt to rescue the animal, call a wildlife rehabilitator immediately.
- Go to: <https://www.wildlifeillinois.org/list-of-licensed-wildlife-rehabilitators/> for a rehabilitator in your area.
- Stay calm and quiet when you are around the animal and leave it alone to minimize stress.
- Do not feed or provide fluids to the animal.

Protection and Care of Wildlife

All wild birds (EXCEPT the house sparrow, European starling and domestic pigeon) and parts thereof (their nests and eggs) are protected. Wild turkey, purple swamphen, muscovy duck and game birds listed in this digest are legal to harvest.

Wild mammals and parts thereof, including their green hides, are protected EXCEPT as authorized by a hunting or trapping season, and include: woodchuck, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, eastern cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, white-tailed deer, muskrat, beaver, raccoon, opossum, least weasel, long-tailed weasel, mink, striped skunk, red fox, gray fox, river otter, bobcat, badger and coyote.

Wild mammals and parts thereof, including their green hides, are protected throughout the year and include: all white white-tailed deer, grey/timber wolves, flying squirrel, red squirrel, white squirrel, eastern woodrat, golden mouse, rice rat, bats, mountain lion and black bear. Note: piebald deer are legal to harvest.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take any other living wild animal not covered above without the permission of the landowner or tenant.

You cannot legally take, possess, sell or offer for sale any such wild birds (dead or alive) and parts thereof (including their nests and eggs), or such wild mammals (dead or alive) and parts thereof, including their green hides, contrary to the provisions of the Illinois Wildlife Code.

You cannot legally bring into Illinois for the purpose of holding, releasing, propagating or selling any other living wild animal not listed under the Protected Species section above without first obtaining a DNR permit. Contact Division of Wildlife Resources (217) 782-6384.

Duty to Report Hunting and Trapping Accidents

Every hunting or trapping accident involving serious personal injury (death, internal injury, broken bones, loss of an appendage, disfigurement, etc.) including falls from elevated tree stands or a gunshot or archery wound must be reported to IDNR within 5 days. Persons involved in a hunting or trapping accident must render assistance to persons affected by the accident provided they can do so without serious danger to themselves and others. Accidents must be reported on forms obtained from the Safety Education Section at 1-800-832-2599 or <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Pages/IncidentReportSummaries.aspx>

Authority of Conservation Police Officers (CPOs)

All Conservation Police Officers are empowered, pursuant to law, to enter all lands and waters to enforce the provisions of the Wildlife Code and Administrative Rules.

Serving Since 1885 Illinois Conservation Police

To be a vigilant guardian of the natural resources, public safety and homeland security of Illinois.

The Illinois Conservation Police would like to thank YOU, the sportsmen of Illinois, for your continued support over the last 134 years. It's your passion for conservation that has enabled us to protect the natural resources of this great state while providing a safe place to enjoy the outdoors. Our unique partnership will continue to provide future generations with lifelong outdoor recreational opportunities.

Revocations/Suspensions for Violations

Point system

Below is a synopsis of IDNR points, revocations, and suspensions. For more complete information, see the below applicable Acts and 17 IL Adm. Code 2530. For more information, contact IDNR Office of Law Enforcement at (217) 782-6431, or visit <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LawEnforcement/Pages/default.aspx>.

Points

Each time a person is found guilty by a circuit court of the State of Illinois (including supervision or conditional discharge) or by a U.S. District Court in an Illinois District, the specific number of points assigned to such violation shall be charged against that person.

Petty Offense = **3 points**

Class C Misdemeanor = **6 points**

Class B Misdemeanor = **9 points**

Class A Misdemeanor = **12 points**

Class 4 Felony = **24 points**

Class 3 Felony or higher = **60 points**

Violation committed during a period of suspension = **60 points**

Violations of section 2.33(cc) or 2.38 of the Wildlife Code = **13 points**

Federal offenses shall be assessed points based upon the classification of offense for the corresponding Illinois violation.

Types of offenses

Type I Offenses = Those offenses related to commercial/business activities covered under the Timber Buyer, Taxidermist, Aquaculture, Aquatic Life Dealer, Minnow Dealer, Mussel Dealer, Commercial Roe Dealer, Commercial Fisherman, Commercial Mussel Harvester, Commercial Roe Harvester, Game and Game Bird Breeder, Wild Game Food Dealer, Fur Bearing Animal Breeder, Fur Tanner, Class A Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator or Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Area, charter fishing licenses and permits.

Type II Offenses = All other offenses related to activities covered under licenses and permits. (Example: hunting, trapping, fishing, etc.)

Computation of suspension periods

For **Type I Offenses**, any person who, within an 18 month period, accumulates 13 or more points in a single group shall have all licenses, permits and stamps relevant to those types of activities revoked, and the person's privilege to engage in Type I activities shall be suspended for a period of time that equals one month for each point accumulated. All accumulated points shall remain in effect for 18 months from the date of arrest that resulted in the point accumulation and shall not be removed or reduced by a period of suspension. Any second or subsequent suspension imposed shall be served consecutively to any earlier suspension.

For **Type II Offenses**, any person who, within a 36 month period, accumulates 13 or more points in a single group shall have all licenses, permits and stamps relevant to that type and group revoked, and the person's privilege to engage in the activity covered by the type and group shall be suspended for a period of time that equals one month for each point accumulated. All accumulated points shall remain in effect for 36 months from the date of arrest that resulted in the point accumulation and shall not be removed or reduced by a period of suspension. Any second or subsequent suspension imposed shall be served consecutively to any earlier suspension.



Contacting a Conservation Police Officer

The Department of Natural Resources' Office of Law Enforcement developed the Target Illinois Poachers program to encourage any concerned citizen who witnesses a poaching offense to report the violation, such as poaching or polluting.

Good law enforcement is everybody's responsibility. If you see a violation, report it. Let's Target Illinois' Poachers and Polluters!

Internet:

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LawEnforcement/Pages/Target-Poachers.aspx>

REPORT VIOLATIONS TO:

**1-877-2DNRLAW
(236-7529)**

Operates 24 hrs./day, 7 days a week. Contact a CPO:
<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LawEnforcement/Documents/DistrictCPOPhonesAndEmails.pdf>

Ameritech Relay 1-800-526-0644 for the deaf and hearing impaired.

For all other requests for an Illinois Conservation Police Officer after regular business hours, contact your Illinois State Police district HQ dispatch center.

Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

Illinois is a participating member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.
All 50 states are members of the Compact.

How the IWVC works:

- Compact membership applies to aquatic life and wildlife violations.
- The Compact allows non-resident violators receiving citations for violations in participating states to be treated the same as residents who are in violation.
- A violator who fails to comply with the terms of a citation issued in a participating state faces the possibility of the suspension of his/her privileges in his/her home state until the terms of the citation are met.
- The Compact provides for the reciprocal recognition of the suspension of license privileges by participating states. (Illinois has recognized suspensions imposed by other states for several years. Membership in the Compact allows other states to recognize Illinois' suspensions.)
- The Compact provides that information on convictions in participating states may be forwarded to the home state of the violator.
- IWVC not only assures equal treatment of residents and non-residents of participating states, but also enhances the law enforcement services and deterrent value of time spent patrolling by uniformed officers. The reciprocal recognition of suspensions between states is intended to address the problems associated with the mobility of many violators.

Illinois Recreational Access Program

IRAP is funded by NRCS' Voluntary Public Access Program and Habitat Improvement Program. IRAP leases private land for public access for the following activities:



IRAP Activities-at-a-Glance



ACTIVITY	WHO CAN APPLY	HOW	WHEN TO APPLY	IRAP DATES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
YOUTH TURKEY Hunting	Any licensed youth under age 18	Fill out application and mail or email to IDNR	Applications available November 15	Varies Youth spring turkey season	Must hunt with Adult
Spring TURKEY Hunting Seasons 3 and 4	Any licensed turkey hunter	Apply for IDNR turkey permit, then mail or email IRAP application	Applications available November 15	Varies—3rd and 4th spring season, both southern and northern zones	
SPORTFISHING	Any licensed angler	Register and Reserve a site online	Online reservation system available March 20	April 1—September 30; Friday—Monday Sunrise to Sunset	No boats
SQUIRREL Hunting	Any licensed hunter	Register and Reserve a site online	Online reservation system available July 20	August 1—September 15	Up to 4 in hunting party
YOUTH Shotgun DEER Hunting	Any licensed youth under age 18	Fill out application and mail or email to IDNR	Applications available July 1	Varies—second 3-day weekend in October	Must hunt with Adult
Archery DEER Hunting	Any licensed hunter	Fill out application and mail or email to IDNR	Applications available July 1	Month of October and December 16-31	Hunters are awarded at least 15 consecutive days
WATERFOWL Hunting	Any licensed hunter	Fill out application and mail or email to IDNR	Applications available August 15	November 1—December 31 Hunting site assigned for 5 consecutive days	Blinds provided; up to 4 in hunting party
UPLAND GAME Hunting	Any licensed hunter	Fill out application and mail or email to IDNR	Applications available October 1	2-day hunts; last 3 weekends in December	Dogs Allowed; Up to 4 in hunting party
RABBIT Hunting	Any licensed hunter	Register and Reserve a site online	Online reservation system available November 15	December 10—December 31	Dogs Allowed; Up to 4 in hunting party

Please note: Illinois residents and non-residents may participate. A participant must have an IRAP site permit and reservation prior to using any site. Participants must follow all laws and obtain necessary permits and licenses as outlined in the IL Digest of Hunting/Trapping and Fishing Regulations. Additional information about the IL Recreational Access Program (IRAP) can be found at: www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/irap

Wildlife*Illinois*



- Get Help with Wildlife Identification
- Control & Prevent Damage
- Learn About Seasonal Behaviors
- Report Sightings
- Request Permits
- Find Wildlife Control Operators & Wildlife Rehabilitators

wildlifeillinois.org

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Wildlife Illinois is a collaborative effort of people and institutions led by the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center in Illinois. Other organizations include the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Division of Wildlife Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration. Funding for *Wildlife Illinois* was made available through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-147-T.



Photo by Dan Stephens



DEER SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SEASON	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	LIMITS	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Archery (Counties with a firearm season and west of Route 47 in Kane County)	1 Oct-19 Nov and 23 Nov-2 Dec and 7 Dec 2020-17 Jan 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One deer per archery permit	** See footnote below
Archery (Cook, DuPage, Lake and Kane [east of route 47] Counties)	1 Oct 2020-17 Jan 2021		One deer per archery permit	** See footnote below
Firearm (Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Handgun)	20-22 Nov and 3-6 Dec 2020		One deer per firearm permit	** See footnote below
Muzzleloader only	11-13 Dec 2020		One deer per muzzleloader permit	** See footnote below
Special CWD	31 Dec 2020-3 Jan 2021 and 15-17 Jan 2021		One deer per valid permit	Antlered deer limit in footnote below does not apply to this season. See Special CWD Deer Hunting section for open counties.
Late Winter Antlerless-only (Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Handgun)	31 Dec 2020-3 Jan 2021 and 15-17 Jan 2021		One antlerless deer per permit	Counties open during this season will be posted online in October.
Youth firearm	10-12 Oct 2020		One deer	** See footnote below

**No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than two antlered deer during a year, including the youth, archery, muzzleloader and firearm seasons except as allowed in special CWD areas. For this harvest limit, deer seasons are in the same year if their opening dates are within the same 12-month period that begins July 1.

Deer Hunting Credentials (does not include vendor fees)

License/Permit/Stamp	Price		How to apply for or purchase					Specifications
	Resident	Non-Resident	Lottery	Online	Vendors	Phone	Paper Application	
Hunting License	Variable	Variable		X	X	X	X	See Statewide Regulations section for license types
State Habitat Stamp	\$5.00	\$5.00		X	X	X		Purchasers of a lifetime hunting license prior to Jan 1, 1993 and legally disabled veterans are exempt from this stamp. Exempt under 18.
Super Senior Habitat Stamp	Free	n/a		X	X	X		Must be 75 or older, and pay \$0.50 issuing fee
Deer Firearm Permits								
Either-Sex Permit	\$25.00	\$300.00	X	X	X		X	
Antlerless-Only Permit	\$17.50	\$25.00 or \$100.00	X	X	X		X	Nonresident applicants must possess an ES permit to be eligible for a discounted (\$25) AO permit. The nonresident \$100 permit is only available at license vendors.
Deer Muzzleloader-Only Permits								
Either-Sex Permit	\$25.00	\$300.00	X	X	X		X	
Antlerless-Only Permit	\$17.50	\$25.00 or \$100.00	X	X	X		X	Nonresident applicants must possess an ES permit to be eligible for a discounted (\$25) AO permit. The nonresident \$100 permit is only available at license vendors.
Deer Archery Permits								
Combination Archery Permit (1 either-sex & 1 antlerless permit)	\$25.00	\$410.00		X	X	X		Nonresidents may obtain permits via online or phone until 8/31, after which permits are only available over-the-counter at vendors. Nonresident youth (<18 yrs.) may purchase a resident Combination Archery Permit for \$25.
Single Either-Sex Permit	\$15.00	n/a					X	
Single Antlerless-Only Permit	\$17.50	\$25.00 or \$100.00			X			Nonresident applicants must possess an archery ES permit to be eligible for a discounted (\$25) single AO permit.
Deer Landowner Permits								
Combination Firearm Permit (1 either-sex & 1 antlerless permit)	Free	\$175.00					X	Landowners and resident tenants (of commercial agricultural leases) must have at least 39.5 acres of land to qualify for landowner permits. Permits are only valid on the owned/leased land.
Combination Archery Permit (1 either-sex & 1 antlerless permit)	Free	\$210.00					X	
Deer Youth Firearm Permit								
Either-Sex Permit	\$10.00	\$10.00		X	X			Youth Firearm Permits will allow the holder to hunt in any open counties within the state
Deer Late Winter Firearm Permits								
County-specific Antlerless-only	\$17.50	n/a			X			Open counties to be publicly announced; see our website at www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting .
Special Hunt Area Antlerless-only	\$17.50	n/a		X				
Special Chronic Wasting Disease Season Deer Permits								
County-specific Antlerless-only	\$5.00	\$5.00			X			See SPECIAL CWD DEER HUNTING section for open counties.
Special Hunt Area Antlerless-only	\$17.50	n/a		X				

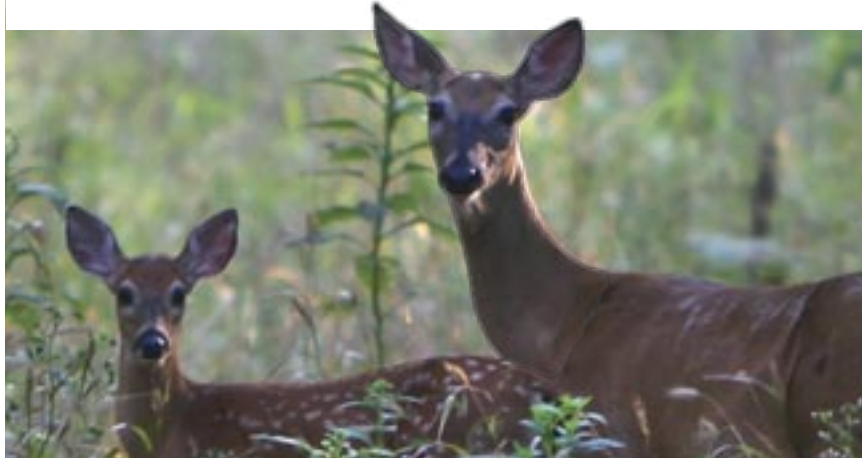
HUNTING CREDENTIALS AND REQUIREMENTS

- To hunt deer, residents and non-residents will need a hunting license, a Habitat Stamp, and at least one pertinent deer permit listed in the Deer Hunting Credentials table. Exemptions to these requirements are specified in table. For residency qualification, see Resident definition in Statewide Regulations.
- ES = deer of either sex; AO = antlerless-only deer.

You cannot legally:

- hunt deer without an IDNR permit.
- hunt deer unless the permit is properly signed and in the hunter's possession while hunting.
- transfer, loan, use, possess, or falsify any license, permit, tag, or harvest record issued to another person.
- harvest an antlered deer with an antlerless-only permit. An antlered deer is defined as a deer having at least one antler of a length of 3 inches or more. An antlerless deer is defined as a deer without antlers or a deer having antlers less than 3 inches long.
- hunt deer in a county or area other than specified on the permit.
- move, transport or field dress a deer upon kill before properly attaching the temporary harvest tag as instructed on the permit. Deer must be tagged immediately upon kill.

White-tailed Deer Illinois




Learn About Deer Ecology & Management

Report Sick or Dead Deer

Get Tips to Control Damage

Find Harvest Information

deer.wildlifeillinois.org

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White-tailed Deer Illinois is a collaborative effort led by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration, and the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center. Funding for White-tailed Deer Illinois was made available through Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-147-T.



ILLINOIS
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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



**The National Great Rivers
Research & Education Center**

Deer Harvest Limit

- *You cannot legally* kill more than one deer per permit during any deer hunting season.
- No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than two antlered deer during a year, including the youth, archery, firearm and muzzleloader seasons.
- For the purpose of this harvest limit, deer seasons are considered to be in the same year if their opening dates are within the same 12-month period that begins July 1.
- Deer harvested during the Special CWD Deer Season (select counties only) do not count toward the antlered buck limit.
- You cannot legally harvest any all-white white-tailed deer at any time. Piebald deer are legal to harvest.

Deer Hunting Regulations (Additional to Statewide Regulations)

Firearm and Archery Equipment Regulations

You cannot legally:

- have in possession any firearm other than legal for that season and permit when hunting deer with a shotgun, handgun or muzzleloader. However, more than one firearm may be possessed by a firearm deer hunter provided it is a lawful gun for that particular season (also see Statewide Regulations on use of concealed carry handguns).
- possess any rifle in the field during firearm deer season except for trappers to dispatch animals or muzzleloading rifles used by deer hunters only. NOTE: The lawful possession of rifles to harvest furbearing mammals and game mammals other than deer shall not be prohibited during the youth deer hunting season, muzzleloading rifle-only deer season, Special CWD season, or Late Winter antlerless only deer season.
- carry a loaded gun or bow with a nocked arrow in the field except during legal hunting hours.

Treestand Requirements

You cannot legally:

- use more than one tree stand or ground blind at an IDNR owned or managed site.
- construct or use any tree stand using nails, screws or any device which pierces or cuts the bark of the tree on which it is installed on an IDNR owned or managed site. Tree stands must be portable and removed at the end of each day, unless otherwise specified in site-specific regulations.

Clothing Requirements

A solid blaze orange or blaze pink cap/hat and an upper outer garment displaying at least 400 square inches of solid blaze orange or blaze pink material must be worn:

- to hunt deer during all firearm deer seasons.
- to track wounded deer with a dog during all firearm deer seasons.
- by individuals accompanying youth during youth firearm deer hunts.

Camouflage blaze orange or camouflage blaze pink material does not meet the requirements.

You cannot legally use or occupy a ground blind during any firearm deer season on IDNR-owned or -managed land unless at least 400 square inches of solid, vivid blaze orange or blaze pink material is securely attached to the uppermost portion of the blind and a substantial amount of orange or pink is visible for 360 degrees.

Types of Hunting Opportunities

There are different opportunities for hunting deer on state, federal and private lands. The primary types of deer hunting include:

- 1) IDNR Sites (Open Hunting) – some sites are open to archery hunting or firearm hunting with county-specific tags, but may require a windshield card or signing in/out when you hunt. Check the Hunter Fact Sheets or call site for hunting opportunities and regulations in your area.
- 2) IDNR sites permit only – some sites require a permit issued by a lottery or physically at the site to hunt deer with any method, see description of Deer Permit Process hereafter. Also, see tables in Hunting Areas Information at the end of this digest.
- 3) Private lands – youth deer hunting permits, statewide archery permits and county-specific firearm and muzzleloader-only permits are valid on private property. Hunters on private property are required to have hunting permission from the landowner.
- 4) Federal sites – see Public Hunting Areas information for links to sites with open or lottery-based hunting opportunities.



Photo by Dan Stephens

Hunting Deer with Dogs, Horses, Vehicles, Boats and Aircraft

You cannot legally use a dog, horse, automobile, aircraft, boat or other vehicle to harvest deer with a firearm or bow and arrow. Dogs may, however, be used to track wounded deer if the following conditions are met:

- Any person using a dog for tracking wounded deer must maintain physical control of the dog at all times by means of a maximum 50 foot lead attached to the dog's collar or harness.
- Tracking wounded deer is permissible at night, but at no time outside of legal deer hunting hours or seasons shall any person handling or accompanying a dog being used for tracking wounded deer be in possession of any firearm or archery device.
- Persons tracking wounded deer with a dog during the firearm seasons shall wear blaze orange or blaze pink as required. Blaze orange is not required tracking on private land, but its use is suggested
- Dog handlers tracking wounded deer with a dog are exempt from hunting license and deer permit requirements so long as they are accompanied by the licensed deer hunter who wounded the deer. You cannot legally track deer with dogs on any IDNR-owned or –managed site during hours when deer hunting is open on the site.

Hunting Deer Over Salt, Mineral or Bait

It is illegal to feed deer at any time and/or take deer by the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. Despite their widespread availability, deer baits and attractants commonly sold in stores are also illegal to use at any time except for use by properly licensed owners of captive cervids while feeding captive animals. For the purpose of this section, "bait" means any material, whether liquid or solid, including food, salt, minerals and other products that can be ingested, placed or scattered in such a manner as to attract or lure white-tailed deer. "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract deer. An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of the bait.

For the purposes of taking white-tailed deer, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation, including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots or normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting and maintenance, such as cultivating, or the use of products designed for scent only and not capable of ingestion, solid or liquid, placed or scattered, in such a manner as to attract or lure deer.

Driving Deer on IDNR-controlled Properties

You cannot legally "drive deer", or participate in a deer drive, on DNR-owned or -managed properties during all deer seasons. A deer drive is defined as a deliberate action by one or more persons (whether armed or unarmed) whose intent is to cause deer to move within firearm range of one or more participating hunters.

Transportation

- **To taxidermist** – if the head/antlers are delivered to a taxidermist for processing, the confirmation number/temporary harvest tag must be recorded on the 'head tag' portion of the permit and both must remain with the deer at the taxidermist.
- **To meat processor** – if the carcass is taken to a meat processor, the permanent tag or temporary harvest tag (leg tag) with confirmation number must remain with the deer while it is processed, and until it is at the legal residence of the person who legally took or possessed the deer.
- **To tanner** – persons delivering deer/parts of a deer to a tanner for processing must supply the tanner with their deer permit number to verify lawful acquisition. In the absence of a permit number, the tanner may rely on the written certification of the person from whom the deer was received that the specimen was legally harvested or obtained.

Exportation of Deer by Non-residents

Non-resident hunters who harvest a wild deer in Illinois should contact the state wildlife agency in states they will be traveling through, including their home state, to inquire about regulations related to possession/transportation of deer carcasses and/or parts of carcasses through the state in question as regulations vary from state to state.

Importation of Animal Carcasses and Parts

Importation of hunter-harvested deer and elk carcasses into Illinois is prohibited except:

- deboned meat, antlers, antlers attached to skull caps, hides, upper canine teeth (also known as "buglers," "whistlers," or "ivories"). Skull caps shall be cleaned of all brain and muscle tissue;
- finished taxidermists mounts;
- carcasses or parts of carcasses with the spinal column or head attached may be transported in the state only if they are submitted to a licensed meat processor or a licensed taxidermist for processing within 72 hours after entry; licensed meat processors and taxidermists shall dispose of all inedible tissue not listed in the first dot point in a properly permitted landfill or with a renderer;
- tissues can be imported into the state for use by a diagnostic or research laboratory.

NOTE: Nothing in this Part shall prevent renderers regulated under the Illinois Dead Animal Disposal Act [225 ILCS 610] with Class A or B licenses from transporting cervid carcasses or parts into the state for the purpose of rendering.

Mandatory Deer Harvest Registration

All deer harvested during muzzleloader, archery, late winter antlerless, special CWD seasons and during firearm season in counties without CWD surveillance during firearm, muzzleloader, archery, late winter antlerless, or special CWD season must be registered by 10 p.m. on the same calendar day the deer was harvested by calling the toll-free telephone check-in system at 1-866-452-4325 (1-866-ILCHECK) or by accessing the online check-in system at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/HarvestReporting.aspx>.

- Counties with CWD surveillance are: Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will, and Winnebago (deer harvested in these counties during firearm deer season need to be physically registered at a designated check station, see Firearm and Muzzleloader Deer Hunting).
- Successful hunters must register their harvest with check station workers and receive a permanent leg tag (provided at the check station). Please refer to mandatory harvest reporting and transportation in counties with CWD surveillance.
- The harvest confirmation number must be written by the hunter onto the temporary harvest tag (leg tag). If the condition of the tag precludes writing on the tag in the appropriate space (i.e., bloody, etc.), the confirmation number shall be written elsewhere on the tag, or onto a piece of paper and attached to the deer along with the temporary harvest tag.
- The deer must remain whole (or field dressed) until it has been checked in.
- In instances where deer are checked in while the hunter is still afield, the deer may not be dismembered while afield beyond quartering the animal. If quartered, all parts of the carcass (except the entrails removed during field dressing) must be transported together and evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to one quarter. Evidence of sex is:
 - A) For a buck: head with antlers attached to carcass, or attached testicle, scrotum or penis.
 - B) For a doe: head attached to carcass or attached udder (mammary) or vulva.
- The temporary harvest tag (leg tag) and confirmation number or permanent leg tag must remain attached to the deer until it is at the legal residence of the person who legally took or possessed the deer, the deer has been checked in, and final processing is complete.



Firearm and Muzzleloader Deer Hunting

Counties Open

- All counties except Cook, DuPage, Lake and that portion of Kane County east of State Route 47, are open to Firearm/Muzzleloader deer hunting.

Legal Hunting Equipment

- Shotguns, loaded with slugs only, of not larger than 10 nor smaller than 20 gauge, not capable of firing more than three consecutive slugs; or
- Single or double barreled muzzleloading rifles of at least .45 caliber shooting a single projectile through a barrel of at least 16 inches in length; or
- Centerfire revolvers or centerfire single-shot handguns of .30 caliber or larger with a minimum barrel length of 4 inches.
- A muzzleloading firearm is defined as a firearm that is incapable of being loaded from the breech end.
- Only blackpowder or a "blackpowder substitute" such as Pyrodex may be used. Modern smokeless powders (nitrocellulose-based) are an approved blackpowder substitute only in muzzleloading firearms specifically designed for their use.
- Percussion caps (shotgun primers are legal percussion caps), wheellock, matchlock or flint type ignition only may be used, except a muzzleloader with an electronic ignition is legal to use.
- A muzzleloading firearm is considered unloaded when: removal of percussion cap or removal of prime powder from frizzen pan with frizzen open and hammer all the way down or removal of prime powder from flashpan and wheel un-wound or removal of prime powder and match with match not lit, or removal of the battery from the electronic ignition muzzleloader.
- During Firearm Deer Season hunters with a valid, unfilled Firearm Deer Permit may, on private land only, use archery equipment meeting all legal requirements as outlined in the Archery Deer Hunting section hereafter.
- Use of a suppressor/silencer of any type is not permitted
- Scopes may be used on any legal firearm for hunting deer.

Legal Ammunition

- For shotguns and muzzleloading firearms, the minimum size of the projectile shall be .44 caliber. A wad or sleeve is not considered a projectile or a part of the projectile.
- For handguns, a bottleneck centerfire cartridge of .30 caliber or larger with a case length not exceeding 1.4 inches, or a straight-walled centerfire cartridge of .30 caliber or larger, both of which must be available as a factory load with the published ballistic tables of the manufacturer showing a capability of at least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. There is no case length limit for straight-walled cartridges.
- Non-expanding, military-style full metal jacket bullets cannot be used to harvest white-tailed deer; only soft point or expanding bullets (including copper/copper-alloy rounds designed for hunting) are legal ammunition.
- For archery equipment, broadheads must be used and may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert- or obsidian-knapped) or expandable (must be metal) cutting surfaces, but they must have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.

Permit Requirements

- Firearm deer hunters must have a current, valid Firearm Deer Season Permit or unfilled Property-only Landowner/Tenant Firearm Deer permit, even if hunting with archery equipment during the firearm season
- Muzzleloading rifle deer hunters must have a current, valid Muzzleloading Rifle Deer Season Permit, or an unused Property-Only Landowner/Tenant Deer Permit valid for that year's Firearm Deer Season.
- A hunter with a Muzzleloading Rifle Deer Permit may also hunt during the second firearm deer providing the hunter must use only a legal muzzleloading rifle.
- Unfilled Landowner Firearm Deer Permits used during the muzzleloader season are valid only on lands owned/ leased by the permit holder, and the holder must use a muzzleloading rifle.

Deer Permit Application Process

- Apply for a deer permit: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR/Pages/DeerPermitsFees.aspx>
- To receive hardcopy application forms for a firearm or muzzleloader deer hunting permit, contact the IDNR Springfield permit office at (217) 782-7305.
- Applicants please allow approximately 4 weeks after the respective application deadline dates for Lottery Drawing results.

Deer Permit Applications

Application Period/Location	Methods	Hunt period	Lottery opens	Lottery closes	Notes
Firearm and Muzzleloader Season					
First lottery (residents only)	Internet/Hardcopy		10 Mar 2020	30 Apr 2020	
Second lottery	Internet/Hardcopy	20-22 Nov and 3-6 Dec 2020	1 May 2020	30 Jun 2020	
Third lottery	Internet/Hardcopy		1 Jul 2020	21 Aug 2020	
Over-the-counter	Vendors		20 Oct 2020	As available	County-specific permits.
Late Winter/CWD Lottery	Internet	31 Dec 2020–3 Jan 2021 and 15-17 Jan 2021	27 Oct 2020	23 Nov 2020	Limit 1 SHA application.
Site-specific Youth Opportunities					
Dixon Springs State Park	Internet/Hardcopy	20-22 Nov 2020 3-6 Dec 2020	Same as lotteries above		Unfilled Youth Deer Permits may be used on public sites that do not require regular site-specific lottery permits. See lottery webpage for list of sites.
Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge		Call: 618-997-3344 ext. 1			
Lost Mound Unit FL	Paper application	10-12 Oct 2020	1 July 2020	31 July 2020	Federally regulated hunt

Disabled Hunter Opportunities

See the following link for opportunities: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/D00/Pages/events.aspx>. Additional hunts may be available, contact Jay Williams at jay.d.williams@illinois.gov.

- First Lottery:** Only resident hunters may apply for firearm season permits and special muzzleloader season permits during the first lottery. Permits are issued using a computerized lottery. Applicants wanting to determine whether they were successful before the second lottery deadline can check online at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer/Pages/OnlineDeerPermitInquirySystem.aspx>.
- Second Lottery:** Resident hunters who were rejected for a deer permit during the first lottery, who are applying for their first permit, or who are non-residents may apply for firearm and muzzleloader deer permits during this lottery. Applicants may apply for one either-sex deer permit and one bonus antlerless-only deer permit to be allocated from permits remaining after the first lottery. Illinois residents have preference over non-residents in this lottery.
- Third Lottery:** Residents and non-residents may apply for additional firearm or muzzleloader permits left over from the county quotas. Anyone (regardless of other deer permits they may have) may apply for one or more permits in this lottery.
- Over-the-Counter Sales Period:** Permits remaining after the Third Lottery Drawing will be available to residents and non-residents over-the-counter from license vendors throughout the state on a first-come, first-served basis. Permits will be sold until quotas are exhausted, or until the close of the firearm deer season, whichever occurs first.
- Permit Limit:** Prior to the Third Lottery Drawing in August, no hunter may receive, or attempt to receive, more than one either-sex permit and one antlerless-only permit for the firearm or muzzleloader deer season.

HUNTERS SUSTAIN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Pittman-Robertson Act • Since 1937



Hunters purchase equipment, ammo, licenses & stamps.



Manufacturers pay US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) 10–11% excise tax on hunter equipment & ammo.



Conservation of wildlife is improved. More hunting & target shooting opportunities are available.



USFWS allocates states funding based on license sales & land area.



Illinois Department of Natural Resources (25%) matches USFWS (75%) funding with hunting license & stamp funds to conduct wildlife conservation projects & habitat improvements.

Mandatory Firearm Harvest Reporting and Transportation in Counties with CWD Surveillance

Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will and Winnebago

- Successful firearm season hunters must take their deer either whole or field-dressed to a designated firearm deer check station on the same day it was killed.
- Daily check station hours are 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
- A permanent harvest tag will be attached to the leg of the deer upon registration at the check station.
- If not able to locate a harvested deer in sufficient time to enable checking it in by 8 p.m., the hunter must take the deer to the appropriate check station upon its opening at 8 a.m. the following morning, or immediately upon retrieving it if that occurs later than the opening of the check station. If this situation occurs on a Sunday, the hunter must contact the appropriate regional IDNR Law Enforcement office by 10 a.m. Monday morning for instructions on checking the deer.
- Successful hunters using their muzzleloader deer permits during the second weekend of the firearm season may, at their option, register their harvest either electronically (via phone-in or on-line registration) or at a designated firearm deer check station by 8 p.m. on the day the deer was killed.
- Deer harvested during the firearm season in counties with a CWD checkstation cannot be registered online or via telephone.

Check station locations can be found at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/programs/CWD/Pages/default.aspx>

Special CWD Deer Hunting Seasons

Counties Open to Hunting (all harvest is checked electronically)

- Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, Jo Daviess, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will, Winnebago counties, and the portion of Kane County west of State Route 47. Information and a map of counties composing the CWD hunting zone for 2020/2021 will be available around 1 Oct at: www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting.

CWD Permit Requirements

- Hunters must have an unfilled deer permit valid for the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season and valid for one of the open counties; or a valid Chronic Wasting Disease Season Deer Permit (issued for one county and valid only in the county stated on the permit).
- Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits are valid only for the county for which they were originally issued, except that unfilled landowner property-only hunting firearm deer permits are valid only for the lands which the person to whom it was issued owns, leases or rents within the open counties/portion of counties. Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits originally issued for special hunt areas are not valid during the CWD season unless the hunter is redrawn to hunt at the same site at a special site lottery, or if the special hunt area is open to persons with a county permit without conducting a lottery.
- CWD Season Deer Permits are available over-the-counter from participating license vendors beginning 8 Dec. These permits are antlerless-only.
- Unfilled youth deer hunting permits will be valid in any open county.

Special Harvest Regulations

- Persons using unfilled permits from the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season may harvest only the type of deer specified on that permit (either-sex or antlerless-only).
- The harvest limit is one deer per legally authorized either-sex or antlerless-only permit.
- Deer harvested during the CWD season are not subject to the antlered deer harvest limit restrictions imposed during the firearm, muzzleloader, youth and archery deer hunting seasons.

Legal Firearms

- Hunters with valid, unused permits from the firearm, youth or muzzleloader seasons may use only the weapons allowed by that permit in those respective seasons.
- Hunters with a valid CWD season deer permit may use any of the weapons allowed during the Late Winter firearm season.

Archery Deer Hunting

Legal Archery Equipment

- A long, recurve or compound bow with a minimum pull of 30 pounds at some point within a 28-inch draw. Minimum arrow length is 20 inches.
- A crossbow with minimum draw weight of 125 pounds; minimum overall length of 24 inches; have a working safety; and used with fletched bolts or arrows of not less than 14 inches.
- Broadheads must be used and may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert- or obsidian-knapped) or expandable (must be metal) cutting surfaces, but they must have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.
- Electronic tracking systems utilizing radio-telemetry are illegal.
- Archery equipment use is legal on private land ONLY during Firearm Deer Season, provided the hunter has a valid county firearm deer permit. Archery hunting is not allowed using an Archery Deer Permit during the Firearm Deer Season in counties open to firearm deer hunting.
- *You cannot legally* have any firearm in possession while hunting deer with a bow and arrow or crossbow (but see Statewide Regulations on use of concealed carry handguns).

County-specific Deer Archery Change

To grow deer populations to their appropriate county goals, only antlered deer may be harvested during the **1–15 October** period of archery season in the following counties: Champaign, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt. After **October 15**, archery regulations are the same as the rest of the state. Firearm deer permits have already been decreased considerably in these counties and archery harvest, which accounts for half or more of deer harvest, must be managed to allow deer to increase.

Resident Archery Permits and Limits

Resident antlerless-only and combination archery deer permits can be purchased without limit from your local hunting license vendor. Resident hunters may apply for only one of the single either-sex permits on paper applications printed from 1 Aug–1 Sep (www.dnr.illinois.gov) with an application deadline of 1 September.

Non-resident Archery Permits and Limits

- Non-residents may apply for and receive only one archery combination permit per license year. A non-resident landowner who has obtained landowner archery permits is also eligible for one combination non-resident archery permit.
- Applications are accepted 1-30 June via DNR Direct Online License Sales at www.dnr.illinois.gov.
- The number of permits is limited to 25,000, with clients of outfitters licensed by IDNR given preference in the drawing for the first 7,500. Clients of licensed outfitters should contact the outfitter prior to applying to receive a certification number to be used in the application process to verify their outfitter client status. Permits will be allocated using a computerized, random lottery drawing conducted after June 30. If the number of eligible outfitter clients in the drawing is less than 7,500, all remaining permits will be allocated to the remaining applicants until the quota is reached. If the number of eligible outfitter clients in the drawing exceeds 7,500, those outfitter clients unsuccessful in obtaining one of the first 7,500 permits will compete against non-client applicants for the remaining 17,500 permits.
- Non-resident archery deer permits issued to outfitter clients who received a permit based on the preference given to outfitter clients are valid only on property controlled by the outfitter used to gain preference; all other archery permits are valid statewide.
- Any permits remaining after the drawing will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Non-residents who have previously obtained either a Nonresident Combination Archery Deer Permit or a Non-resident Landowner Archery Deer Permit may purchase single antlerless-only archery deer permits for a fee of \$25. Non-residents without one of those permits will be charged a fee of \$100. There is no limit for single antlerless-only permits.
- Non-residents may not purchase a combination archery deer permit after 30 September if they have previously purchased any single antlerless-only archery deer permit.

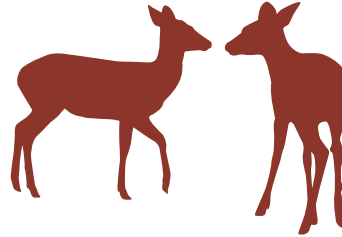
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) IN ILLINOIS

Neurological disease of deer • All deer are susceptible • CWD is always fatal
There is no treatment or cure • Caused by a misfolded protein known as a prion

If CWD is not controlled:

- This disease will likely spread over large portions of the state.
- Infection rates are expected to increase to high levels.
- Deer populations will likely be reduced if not eliminated by this disease.

CWD is transmitted by:



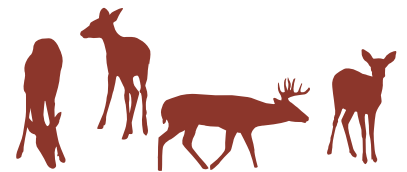
Direct contact with an infected deer.



Ingestion of residual body fluids from a sick deer shed into the environment



Lower deer density = less CWD risk



Reducing deer populations within 2 miles of where CWD has been found has kept infection levels low and minimized spread.

Additional Deer Seasons

Additional deer seasons were established with low cost permits in CWD counties. Hunters are encouraged to harvest as many deer as possible in CWD areas and have them tested. Samples provided by hunters contribute toward disease management goals.

Testing is free and available at:

- Check stations in CWD counties during firearm deer season.
- Select processors, taxidermists and drop-off stations statewide and during all seasons.
- List is available at www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/CWD/Documents/CWDSamplingLocations.pdf

Illinois CWD Infected Sections



Minimize Spread Through Proper Carcass Disposal

Carcass parts (especially the head and spinal column) can carry CWD agents

- Carcass parts should be buried under 6" of soil or landfilled.
- This is critical for deer harvested in CWD areas and moved to other parts of the state.

Cull Additional Deer

Where needed, IDNR staff will cull additional deer:

- Only on land with permission of owner in close proximity to known infection.
- After hunting seasons are completed.

Suitable venison is returned to landowners or donated to local food pantry network.

Health Concerns

CWD is not known to be a threat to human health, livestock or pets, but recent research is raising the level of concern.

Health authorities recommend that:

- Deer should be tested, especially when harvested from known CWD areas.
- Deer should be handled and processed in a way to minimize exposure to CWD causing agents.
- No part of any CWD positive animal should be consumed by humans or other animals.

Additional information

Additional information about CWD in Illinois is available at www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/CWD/Pages/default.aspx.

IDNR is responsible for proper management and conservation of deer, with an eye toward long term benefit and sustainability. In CWD affected areas, hunters and managers are being asked to sacrifice some deer abundance today to ensure the prosperity of deer resources statewide in the future.

Late Winter Antlerless Deer Hunting

Counties Open to Hunting (all harvest checked electronically via phone-in or on-line registration) Information and a map of counties composing the Late Winter antlerless hunting zone for 2020/2021 will be available around 1 Oct at: www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting.

During the 2019/2020 hunting season, 20 counties were open for the Late Winter Deer Season and 15 northern Illinois counties were open to CWD Deer Season. Even though the seasons are held concurrently, and all harvest in each is reported electronically, different regulations may apply for the two seasons. See FAQs hereafter regarding both seasons.

Permit and Application Information

- Resident Late Winter County Deer Permits will be available for sale over-the-counter from license vendors beginning 8 Dec 2020 through the last day of Late Winter Deer season.
- Illinois resident hunters must have a current, valid Late Winter Deer Season Permit, or an unfilled firearm, youth, muzzleloader or property-only landowner/tenant firearm deer permit valid for the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season and valid for one of the open counties.
- Nonresident hunters must have an unfilled firearm or muzzleloader deer permit valid for the previous youth, firearm or muzzleloader deer season and valid for one of the open counties.
- Unfilled youth deer hunting permits are valid in any open county.
- Unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permits that were originally issued for special hunt areas are not valid during the Late Winter Deer Season unless the hunter is redrawn to hunt at the same site at a special site lottery, or if the special hunt area is open to persons with a county permit without conducting a lottery.
- Persons using an unfilled firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer permit valid for the previous firearm, youth or muzzleloader deer season (including landowner permits) may harvest only antlerless deer even when using an either-sex permit.

Legal Firearms

Hunters using:

- Unfilled Firearm Deer Season or Late Winter Season permits may use all firearms described in Firearm and Muzzleloader Deer Hunting above, as well as single-shot muzzleloading handguns (blackpowder handguns incapable of being loaded from the breech end) of .50 caliber or larger capable of producing at least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle according to published ballistic tables of the manufacturer. Single-shot muzzleloading handguns must use a projectile of .44 caliber or larger with sufficient blackpowder or "blackpowder substitute" (such as Pyrodex) to produce at least 500 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle. A wad or sleeve is not considered a projectile or part of a projectile.
- Unfilled Muzzleloader Deer Season permits may use only muzzleloading rifles.
- Unfilled Youth permits may use only shotguns or muzzleloaders.



Photo Chris Evans

ILLINOIS

LEARN *to* HUNT

The Learn to Hunt program provides FREE educational workshops aimed at teaching ADULT participants how to hunt deer, turkey, small game, upland game, and waterfowl.

SIGN UP TO LEARN

Hunting ethics and conservation - Equipment and safety
Licenses and laws - Game ecology - Target shooting
Hunting techniques - Butchering and processing wild game

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: www.facebook.com/IllinoisLearnToHunt
Website: www.learntohuntill.com

Youth Deer Hunting

- Only young hunters (resident or non-resident) who have not reached their 18th birthday before the first day of the hunt may participate in the Youth Deer Hunt. Unfilled Youth Permits are also valid during the first weekend of Firearm Deer Season.
- Participants must have a current, valid Youth Deer Hunt Permit.
- Each hunter participating in the Youth Deer Hunting Season while using an Apprentice Hunter License or a Youth Hunting and Trapping License must be accompanied by a non-hunting, validly-licensed (Illinois hunting license) adult who is 21 years of age or older. All other hunters (using other types of hunting licenses or license-exempt) participating in the Youth Deer Hunting Season must each be accompanied by a non-hunting supervisor (parent, guardian or responsible adult). A nonresident supervisor must have a valid Illinois hunting license.
- Permits will be available for sale over-the-counter from license vendors beginning 4 August through the last day of the youth deer season in October.
- Hunters may purchase only a single permit (either-sex) that is **valid statewide**.
- All counties except Cook, DuPage and Lake counties, and that portion of Kane County east of State Route 47, are open to youth deer hunting.
- Legal firearms are limited to shotguns and muzzleloading rifles during the youth firearm deer hunting season.

Integrated Hunting Opportunities

Site-specific Youth Deer Hunts: (hunters age 17 or younger)

- Fort Massac SP and Crab Orchard NWR
- Dixon Springs SP. Hunting occurs 20-22 Nov and 3-6 Dec 2020. Site permit required. Apply using statewide application.
- Unfilled Youth Deer Permits are not valid for hunting during the first firearm deer season on public land sites that limit the number of hunters during the firearm season using the site-specific lottery permit system. But, public sites that allow unrestricted access with no lottery permits may be hunted.

Disabled Hunter Deer Hunts: (qualified disabled persons only)

- Clinton Lake SRA; Crab Orchard NWR; Horseshoe Lake; Johnson-Sauk; Jubilee College SP; Lost Mound Unit FL; Rend Lake WMA (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers); Rock Cut SP; Spoon River; Starved Rock SP; Wayne Fritzgerrell; Wolf Creek SP/ Shelbyville FL (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
- Physically Challenged Archery Deer Hunt: Kankakee River SP
- Additional deer hunt locations for disabled individuals may be available. Contact IDNR Disabled Outdoor Opportunities Coordinator Jay Williams at jay.d.williams@illinois.gov for further details.



Deer Hunting FAQs

Can I use mechanical deer decoys or electronic calls for deer hunting?

A: Yes. (Note: electronic turkey decoys and electronic calls are illegal for turkey hunting).

Which counties are open for hunting during the Late Winter antlerless and the CWD deer seasons?

A: IDNR will announce in October the counties open to the Late Winter antlerless deer season. Hunters should watch for news releases or check www.dnr.illinois.gov. Counties open to the Special CWD deer season are Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Grundy, Jo Daviess, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will and Winnebago counties, and the portion of Kane County west of State Route 47.

Can I kill an antlered deer during the Late Winter antlerless or the Special CWD deer seasons?

A: Hunters hunting in counties open for the Late Winter antlerless deer season are limited to shooting "antlerless deer only," regardless of the type of firearm permit held by the hunter. Hunters hunting in counties open to the Special CWD deer season may harvest an antlered deer if they have a leftover unused either-sex permit from the current year Firearm, Muzzleloader-only or Youth deer seasons; but hunters may only harvest an antlerless deer when utilizing the Special CWD antlerless permit.

How many deer can I harvest during the Late Winter Antlerless or the Special CWD deer seasons?

A: Hunters hunting during the Late Winter Antlerless season may harvest one "antlerless" deer per Late Winter Antlerless deer permit. Hunters also may fill any unused leftover current year Firearm, Muzzleloader-only, Landowner Firearm or Resident Youth firearm deer permits provided they were issued for an open county. Leftover permits may be used to harvest "antlerless deer only," regardless of whether the permit is stamped "antlerless" or "either-sex." Late Winter Antlerless deer hunters must use the weapon specified on the permit.

Hunters hunting in open counties of the Special CWD deer season may only harvest one "antlerless" deer per CWD firearm deer permit, and also can use any unused leftover current year firearm permits, as above. Hunters in the CWD counties also can harvest an antlered deer if they have an unfilled "either-sex" left over permit from the regular Firearm, Muzzleloader-only or the Youth firearm deer seasons issued for an open CWD season county.

Can I archery deer hunt during the Late Winter Antlerless and the Special CWD deer seasons, and if so, do I have to wear orange clothing?

A: Yes. Even though archery season is closed during the regular firearm season, archery season is still open during the Youth, Muzzleloader-only, Late Winter Antlerless and the Special CWD deer seasons. If you are archery hunting in a county open to one of the firearm deer seasons, you must wear a solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink hat and a solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink outer upper garment of at least 400 square inches.

If I am archery deer hunting during the days when the Late Winter Antlerless or the Special CWD deer seasons are open, can I shoot an antlered deer?

A: Yes, archers are subject to the Archery deer season regulations, so you may shoot an antlered deer with a bow when archery deer hunting concurrently with the Late Winter Antlerless or the Special CWD deer seasons if you possess a valid Either-Sex Archery deer permit and if you have not previously reached the limit of two antlered deer.

Can I firearm deer hunt and archery hunt at the same time during the Late Winter Antlerless or the Special CWD deer seasons or use a bow to fill a firearm deer permit?

A: Archery hunters cannot be in possession of a firearm while archery deer or turkey hunting. However, you can legally possess a bow and firearm at the same time while firearm deer hunting as long as you have a firearm deer permit.



Photo by Adele Hodde

TURKEY SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SEASON	DATES <i>(inclusive)</i>		HOURS	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS	
Spring <i>(shotgun and archery)</i>	Season 2021		1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One tom, jake or bearded hen per permit, maximum of 3 spring permits	See map of turkey hunting zones for specific season segments in each zone	
	Segment	North				South
	1	12-16 Apr				5-9 Apr
	2	17-22 Apr				10-15 Apr
	3	23-28 Apr				16-21 Apr
4	29 Apr-5 May	22-28 Apr				
5	6-13 May	29 Apr- 6 May				
Youth Spring <i>(1 permit per year)</i>	27-28 Mar and 3-4 Apr 2021		1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One tom, jake or bearded hen per permit, counts toward maximum of 3 spring permits	Permit is valid to hunt individual counties or IDNR sites during season dates	
Fall <i>(shotgun)</i>	24 Oct 2020–1 Nov 2020		1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	One either-sex turkey per permit, maximum of 2 fall permits	See map of fall firearm turkey hunting	
Fall <i>(archery)</i>	1 Oct 2020–17 Jan 2021		1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One either-sex turkey per permit, maximum of 2 fall permits	Season closed during firearm deer season in counties open to firearm deer hunting	

Turkey Hunting Credentials (does not include vendor fees)

License/Permit/Stamp	Price		How to apply for or purchase					Specifications
	Resident	Non-Resident	Lottery	Online	Vendors	Phone	Paper Application	
Hunting License	Variable	Variable		X	X	X	X	See Statewide Regulations section for license types.
State Habitat Stamp	\$5.00	\$5.00		X	X	X		Purchasers of a lifetime hunting license prior to 1993 and legally disabled veterans are exempt from this stamp. Exempt under 18.
Super Senior Habitat Stamp	Free	n/a		X	X	X		Must be 75 or older and pay \$0.50 issuing fee.
Turkey Permits								
Spring Shotgun/Archery	\$15.00	\$125.00	X	X	X		X	
Fall Archery OTC	\$5.00	\$75.00			X			OTC = over-the-counter at vendors
Fall Shotgun	\$15.00	\$125.00	X	X	X		X	
Spring Youth Special Hunt Area (SHA)	\$10.00		X	X				
Spring Youth OTC	\$10.00	\$10.00			X			OTC = over-the-counter at vendors
Landowner Spring Shotgun/Archery	Free	\$37.50				X		Landowners and resident tenants (of commercial agricultural leases) must have at least 39.5 acres of land to qualify for landowner permits. Permits are only valid on the owned/leased land.
Landowner Fall Shotgun	Free	\$37.50					X	
Landowner Fall Archery	Free	\$25.00					X	

Firearm and Archery Equipment Regulations

- The only firearm that can be used to hunt wild turkey is a **shotgun** (20 gauge to 10 gauge only, no .410 or 28 gauge allowed). You may not possess any other type of firearm for the purpose of hunting wild turkey.
- No. 4 shot is the largest shot that may be used while hunting turkey with a shotgun.
- Legal vertical bow types are long, recurved or compound bows with a minimum pull of 30 pounds at some point within a 28-inch draw. Minimum arrow length for all vertical bow types is 20 inches (not including point).
- To use a crossbow it must have a minimum draw weight of 125 pounds; minimum overall length of 24 inches; a working safety; and used with fletched bolts or arrows of not less than 14 inches (not including point).
- Broadheads must be used for archery turkey hunting. Broadheads may have fixed (must be metal or flint-, chert or obsidian-knapped) or expandable (must be metal) cutting surfaces, but they must have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened.
- All other bows and arrows, including electronic arrow-tracking systems utilizing radiotelemetry, are illegal.
- You can legally carry a shotgun and bow and arrow during spring season. However, you cannot legally have any firearm in possession while hunting turkey with any type of bow and arrow during fall season (but see Statewide Regulations on concealed carry handguns).

Decoys and Other Attractants

You cannot legally:

- use live or electronic decoys, dogs or recorded calls.
- possess or use any net or trap for harvesting turkeys.
- harvest wild turkeys by the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. "Bait" means any material, whether liquid or solid, including food, salt, minerals and other products that can be ingested, placed or scattered in such a manner as to attract or lure wild turkeys. "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract wild turkeys. An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of the bait.

For the purposes of taking wild turkeys, nothing in this Section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation, including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots, or normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting, and maintenance such as cultivating.

TYPES OF HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

There are different opportunities for hunting turkey on state, federal and private lands. The primary types of turkey hunting include:

- 1) **IDNR sites** – public state land sites require a permit issued by a lottery to hunt turkey during spring (any method) or fall (only if using shotgun), see Turkey Permit Process section hereafter. Also, see tables in Hunting Areas Information at the end of the digest. Special Hunt Areas (SHAs) require their own specific permit, but many IDNR sites can be hunted with a county permit. These are denoted with either "S" or "C" in the Public Hunting Areas tables.
- 2) **Private lands** – lands are open to turkey hunting for landowners but require attaining a pertinent landowner permit. Non-landowners will need a lottery-based or OTC turkey permit for the pertinent county of the property and permission of landowner.
- 3) **Federal sites** – see Public Hunting Areas information for links to sites with open or lottery-based hunting opportunities.



Photo by Ryan Risley



Mandatory Turkey Harvest Reporting

Successful hunters must register their harvest by 10 pm on the same calendar day the turkey was harvested by calling toll-free 1-866-452-4325 (1-866-ILCHECK) or by accessing the online check-in system at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/HarvestReporting.aspx>. See separate Spring and Fall Wild Turkey Hunting Information sections below for more specific requirements. Hunters must provide all information requested by the telephone check-in system and will be provided with a confirmation number to verify that they checked in their harvest. The confirmation number must be written by the hunter onto the leg tag.

TURKEY PERMIT PROCESS

- Apply online at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/TurkeyHunting.aspx> or with a hardcopy application. To receive hardcopy applications for a wild turkey hunting permit, contact the Springfield Permit Office at (217) 782-7305. See sections on the permit application process for spring and fall hereafter.
- Applicants please allow approximately 4 weeks after the respective application deadline dates for Lottery Drawing results.

Turkey Permit Applications

Application Period	Methods	Lottery opens	Lottery closes	Notes
Spring Archery/Gun Hunting Season				
First lottery (residents only)	Internet/Hard Copy	6 Oct 2020	1 Dec 2020	https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR/Pages/TurkeyPermits.aspx
Second lottery	Internet/Hard Copy	2 Dec 2020	11 Jan 2021	
Third lottery	Internet/Hard Copy	19 Jan 2021	9 Feb 2021	
Over-the-Counter	Vendors	9 Mar 2021	As available	
Fall Gun Hunting Season				
First lottery (residents only)	Internet/Hard Copy	1 May 2020	6 Jul 2020	https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR/Pages/TurkeyPermits.aspx
Second lottery	Internet/Hard Copy	7 Jul 2020	24 Aug 2020	
Over-the-Counter	Vendors	21 Sept 2020	As available	
Spring Site-specific Youth Opportunities				
Special Hunt Areas	Internet Only	19 Jan 2021	15 Feb 2021	https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/LPR/Pages/YouthPermitsFees.aspx
Spring County-Specific Youth Permits				
Over-the-Counter	Vendors	2 Mar 2021	4 Apr 2021	
Special Hunt Areas	Internet only	19 Jan 2021	15 Feb 2021	
Disabled Hunter Opportunities				

See the following link for opportunities: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/D00/Pages/events.aspx>. Additional hunts may be available, contact Jay Williams at jay.d.williams@illinois.gov.



Turkey Hunting Season Information (Additional to Statewide Regulations)

Spring Season Regulations

Turkeys Legal to Harvest

- Only toms and jakes (males) or a hen with a visible beard are legal to harvest during the spring season.

Clothing Requirements

- Hunters may wear all camouflage clothing during the spring turkey season. No blaze orange or blaze pink clothing is required, but hunters are encouraged to wear at least a blaze orange or blaze pink hat or vest when not actively hunting to maximize visibility to other hunters.

Spring Permit Application Process

- **First Lottery:** Only resident hunters may apply for one turkey hunting permit. This excludes hunters who have received or will receive a landowner property-only hunting turkey permit for the spring season. Applications are accepted through 1 December.
- **Second Lottery:** All hunters are eligible to apply for one turkey hunting permit, but hunters who have not already been awarded a permit will receive preference. Applications are accepted through the first working day after 10 January.
- **Third Lottery:** All hunters are eligible to apply. Hunters may apply for up to three permits during this period, except that no one may exceed the limit of three permits in total for spring turkey hunting. Applications are accepted through the first working day after 8 February.
- **Over-the-Counter Sales Period:** Permits remaining after the Third Lottery Drawing will be available over-the-counter from license vendors throughout the state on a first-come, first-served basis beginning the second Tuesday in March. Permits will be sold until quotas are exhausted, or until the close of the specific turkey season for which the permit is being requested. Hunters may purchase one or more permits during this period, subject to availability, except that no one may exceed the limit of three permits in total for spring turkey hunting, including youth and landowner permits.
- **Permit Limit:** Three wild turkey hunting permits may be obtained for the spring season, subject to availability.

Turkey Calling Prior to Season

You cannot legally use a turkey call that imitates sounds made by a turkey, or attempt to call a turkey by making these sounds, while in the field in the Southern Zone from 15 March through the day before turkey season, and in the Northern Zone from 22 March through the day before turkey season. This prohibition applies only in counties open to spring turkey hunting and does not apply to hunters while participating in the Youth Turkey Season. Note: This does not prohibit the use of locator calls that imitate other species such as owls, crows, hawks, etc.

Shooting Turkeys in Trees

You cannot legally shoot a wild turkey while it is in a tree before 7 a.m.

Mandatory Harvest Reporting

Turkeys harvested during the spring hunting season must be checked in by **10 p.m. the day of harvest.**

Non-Hunting Activities During Spring Seasons

At IDNR sites offering spring wild turkey hunting, mushroom hunting and other non-hunting activities are prohibited during legal shooting hours for wild turkey hunting (1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.).

Photo by Jared Duquette



Youth Wild Turkey Hunting Season

- The spring youth turkey hunt is open only to young hunters (resident or non-resident) who have not reached their 18th birthday before the first day of the hunt.
- Participants must have a current valid Youth Turkey Hunt permit and a valid hunting license or apprentice hunting license.
- Each youth must be accompanied by a supervising, non-hunting adult.
- Each hunter participating in the youth turkey hunt while using an Apprentice hunting license must be accompanied by a non-hunting (resident or non-resident) parent, guardian or grandparent who possesses a valid Illinois hunting license.
- All other youth hunters participating in the youth turkey hunt must be accompanied by a non-hunting (resident or non-resident) adult supervisor who has a valid Illinois hunting license.
- An Illinois resident serving as a youth supervisor must have a valid F.O.I.D. card regardless of whether he/she has a valid Illinois hunting license. Non-residents are exempt from F.O.I.D. card requirements.

Fall Gun and Archery Season Regulations

Clothing Requirements

- No special clothing requirements, but hunters are encouraged to wear at least a blaze orange or blaze pink hat or vest when not actively hunting to maximize visibility to other hunters.

Turkeys Legal to Harvest

- Turkeys of any sex are legal to harvest during the fall gun and fall archery seasons.

Fall Gun Permit Application Process

- **First Lottery:** Residents may apply for one turkey hunting permit. This excludes applicants who have received or will receive a landowner property-only hunting turkey permit for the fall gun season.
- **Second Lottery:** Residents who were rejected for a wild turkey permit during the first lottery, who are applying for their first permit, or non-residents may apply for one permit. Eligible Illinois residents have preference over non-residents in this lottery. This excludes applicants who have received or will receive a landowner property-only hunting turkey permit for the fall gun season.
- **Over-the-Counter Sales Period:** Permits remaining after the Second Lottery Drawing will be available over-the-counter from license vendors throughout the state on a first-come, first-served basis beginning the second Tuesday in March. Permits will be sold until quotas are exhausted, or until the close of the Fall Gun turkey season. Hunters may purchase one or more permits during this period, subject to availability, except that no one may exceed the limit of two permits in total for fall gun turkey hunting, including landowner permits.

Fall Gun Permit

A limit of two wild turkey hunting permits may be obtained for the Fall Gun season, subject to availability.

Archery Permit Application Process and Limit

Fall archery permits do not require lottery drawing and are available over-the-counter from license vendors only. Two wild turkey hunting permits may be obtained for the fall season.

Shooting Turkeys in Trees

You cannot legally shoot a wild turkey while it is in a tree before 7 a.m.

Mandatory Harvest Reporting

Turkeys harvested during the fall gun or fall archery hunting season must be checked in by **10 p.m. the day of harvest.**



Photo by Jared Duquette

WATERFOWL SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Teal (early season)	Statewide	5-20 Sep 2020	Sunrise to Sunset	6	18	Blue-winged teal, green-winged teal and cinnamon teal are the only legal duck species during this season. Daily and possession limits are for all teal species combined (in the aggregate).
Rail (Sora and Virginia only)	Statewide	5 Sep - 13 Nov 2020		25	75	Daily and possession limits are for both rail species combined (in the aggregate).
Snipe (Wilson's snipe)	Statewide	5 Sep - 20 Dec 2020		8	24	
Ducks (but see Scaup below)	North	17 Oct - 15 Dec 2020	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	6	18	Basic daily limit is 6 ducks of any species. However, daily limit can consist of no more than the following: 4 mallards (of which no more than 2 can be hen mallards), 3 wood ducks, 2 Scaup for the first 45 days in each zone, 1 Scaup for the last 15 days in each zone , 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 2 black ducks, 1 pintail and 1 mottled duck. Possession limit for ducks is three times the daily limit by species and sex.
	Central	24 Oct - 22 Dec 2020				
	South Central	14 Nov - 12 Jan 2021				
	South	26 Nov - 24 Jan 2021				
Mergansers	Same as ducks	Same as ducks		5	15	
Coots	Same as ducks	Same as ducks	15	45		
Scaup (Bluebills)	North	17 Oct - 30 Nov 2020	First Season 2/day	First Season 6	FWS regulations require 45 days with 2/day bag limit, 15 days with 1/day bag limit. Will be different in each zone.	
		1 Dec - 15 Dec 2020				
	Central	24 Oct - 7 Dec 2020	Second Season 1/day	Second Season 3		
		8 Dec - 22 Dec 2020				
South Central	14 Nov - 28 Dec 2020					
	29 Dec - 12 Jan 2021					
South	26 Nov - 9 Jan 2021					
	10 Jan - 24 Jan 2021					

WATERFOWL SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS		
Canada Geese <i>(early season)</i>	North and Central	1-15 Sep 2020	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	5	15			
	South Central and South			2	6			
Canada Geese	North	17 Oct 2020 - 14 Jan 2021		1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	20		Unlimited	Daily bag limit is for both species combined (in the aggregate).
	Central	24 Oct- 1 Nov 2020 and 12 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
	South Central	14 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
	South	26 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
Light Geese <i>(Snow/Blue/Ross' Geese)</i>	North	17 Oct 2020 - 14 Jan 2021		1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	20		Unlimited	Daily bag limit is for both species combined (in the aggregate).
	Central	24 Oct 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
	South Central	14 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
	South	26 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
Brant	Same as light geese	Same as light geese	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	1	3			
White-fronted Geese <i>(Specklebellies)</i>	North	19 Oct 2020 - 14 Jan 2021		2	6			
	Central	5 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
	South Central	14 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
	South	26 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021						
Conservation Order Light Geese <i>(Snow/Blue/Ross' Geese)</i>	North	15 Jan - 30 Apr 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Unlimited	Unlimited	The following apply to the Conservation Order only: 1) unplugged shotguns may be used and there is no limit to the number of shells that may be placed in a shotgun, 2) electronic calling devices may be used, 3) federal duck stamp not required, 4) Illinois duck stamp and hunting license is required.		
	Central, South Central, South	1 Feb - 30 Apr 2021						
Youth waterfowl	North	10-11 Oct 2020	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Same as during regular duck, goose, and coot seasons	Same as during regular duck, goose, and coot seasons	The following apply to the Youth season only: 1) youth hunters must be 17 years of age or younger and must have a hunting license and HIP registration/certification unless hunting on property where they reside; 2) no stamps are required for youths under age 16; 3) federal waterfowl stamps are required for all hunters age 16 and older; 4) hunters aged 18 years and older may not hunt waterfowl and coots during the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days, even if hunting with a Youth License.		
	Central	17-18 Oct 2020						
	South Central	7-8 Nov 2020						
	South	14-15 Nov 2020						



Waterfowl Hunting Zone Descriptions

North Duck Zone: That portion of the state north of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Peotone-Beecher Road to Illinois Route 50, south along Illinois Route 50 to Wilmington-Peotone Road, west along Wilmington-Peotone Road to Illinois Route 53, north along Illinois Route 53 to New River Road, northwest along New River Road to Interstate Highway 55, south along I-55 to Pine Bluff-Lorenzo Road, west along Pine Bluff-Lorenzo Road to Illinois Route 47, north along Illinois Route 47 to I-80, west along I-80 to I-39, south along I-39 to Illinois Route 18, west along Illinois Route 18 to Illinois Route 29, south along Illinois Route 29 to Illinois Route 17, west along Illinois Route 17 to the Mississippi River, and due south across the Mississippi River to the Iowa border.

Central Duck Zone: That portion of the state south of the North Duck Zone line to a line extending west from the Indiana border along I-70 to Illinois Route 4, south along Illinois Route 4 to Illinois Route 161, west along Illinois Route 161 to Illinois Route 158, south and west along Illinois Route 158 to Illinois Route 159, south along Illinois Route 159 to Illinois Route 3, south along Illinois Route 3 to St. Leo's Road, south along St. Leo's road to Modoc Road, west along Modoc Road to Modoc Ferry Road, southwest along Modoc Ferry Road to Levee Road, southeast along Levee Road to County Route 12 (Modoc Ferry entrance Road), south along County Route 12 to the Modoc Ferry route and southwest on the Modoc Ferry route across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

South Duck Zone: That portion of the state south and east of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Interstate 70, south along U.S. Highway 45, to Illinois Route 13, west along Illinois Route 13 to Greenbriar Road, north on Greenbriar Road to Sycamore Road, west on Sycamore Road to N. Reed Station Road, south on N. Reed Station Road to Illinois Route 13, west along Illinois Route 13 to Illinois Route 127, south along Illinois Route 127 to State Forest Road (1025 N), west along State Forest Road to Illinois Route 3, north along Illinois Route 3 to the south bank of the Big Muddy River, west along the south bank of the Big Muddy River to the Mississippi River, west across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

South Central Duck Zone: The remainder of the state between the south border of the Central Zone and the North border of the South Zone.

Geese North Goose Zone: That portion of the state north of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Interstate 80 to I-39, south along I-39 to Illinois Route 18, west along Illinois Route 18 to Illinois Route 29, south along Illinois Route 29 to Illinois Route 17, west along Illinois Route 17 to the Mississippi River, and due south across the Mississippi River to the Iowa border.

Central Goose Zone: That portion of the state south of the North Goose Zone line to a line extending west from the Indiana border along I-70 to Illinois Route 4, south along Illinois Route 4 to Illinois Route 161, west along Illinois Route 161 to Illinois Route 158, south and west along Illinois Route 158 to Illinois Route 159, south along Illinois Route 159 to Illinois Route 3, south along Illinois Route 3 to St. Leo's Road, south along St. Leo's road to Modoc Road, west along Modoc Road to Modoc Ferry Road, southwest along Modoc Ferry Road to Levee Road, southeast along Levee Road to County Route 12 (Modoc Ferry entrance Road), south along County Route 12 to the Modoc Ferry route and southwest on the Modoc Ferry route across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

South Goose Zone: Same zones as for ducks.

South-central Goose Zone: Same zones as for ducks.

Hunting Credentials and Requirements

- **To hunt migratory waterfowl, residents and non-residents will need** a hunting license, State Waterfowl Stamp, Federal Waterfowl Stamp and HIP Certification. Exemptions to these requirements are specified in table. For residency qualification, see Resident definition in Statewide Regulations (page 4) hereafter.
- See waterfowl hunting maps for associated zones.

Waterfowl Hunting Credentials (does not include vendor fees)

License/Permit/Stamps	Price		How to apply for or purchase					Specifications
	Resident	Non-Resident	Lottery	Online	Vendors	Phone	Paper Application	
Base Hunting License	Variable	Variable		X	X	X	X	See Statewide Regulations section for license types.
State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp	\$15.00	\$15.00		X	X	X		Required for any person 18 years of age or older, including lifetime license holders, to hunt migratory waterfowl except toe-clipped, hand-reared mallards on licensed Game Breeding and Hunting Preserve Areas. Disabled individuals, servicemen, and landowners may be exempt from this stamp (see qualification definitions below table).
Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp	\$25.00	\$25.00		X	X			Required for any person 16 years of age or older, including lifetime license holders, to hunt migratory waterfowl except toe-clipped, hand-reared mallards on licensed Game Breeding and Hunting Preserve Areas. Must be signed in ink across the face of the stamp. E-stamps are now available from many states and are legal nationwide. https://www.fws.gov/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp/e-stamp.php
HIP Certification	Free	Free		X	X	X		To hunt migratory birds, all licensed hunters, including lifetime license holders, must register with HIP, see HIP Registration description hereafter. Not required to hunt crows in Illinois.
Site-specific Duck and Goose Hunting Permits	Variable	Variable	X	X				See permit applications hereafter for details. Some permits require in-person drawing. Fee may be charged at sites.



*Arjaa Raghu - Aurora
A Mother's Love
National Junior Duck
Stamp Competition.*

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting & Conservation Stamp

Each year waterfowl hunters purchase Migratory Waterfowl Stamps, or “duck stamps” as a requirement to hunt migratory waterfowl. Authorization for a federal duck stamp came in 1934 from passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, which was largely driven by waterfowl hunters’ concern over habitat loss and declining waterfowl populations. Funds from the purchase of these stamps are directed towards the purchase or lease of lands for inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System, providing critical breeding, migration and wintering habitat for waterfowl and a variety of other species, and recreation opportunity in many areas. With an initial cost of \$1 and current cost of \$25, Federal Duck Stamp funds to date have totaled over \$800 million to protect more than 5.7 million acres of wildlife habitat nationwide.

State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp

Similar to the federal duck stamp, Illinois hunters initiated the Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp Fund, which was established in 1975. The stamps originally cost \$5, increasing to \$15 in 2011. Over the life of the fund, stamp purchases have led to over

\$24 million deposited in this fund, with current average sales of about 60,000 stamps annually, leading to nearly \$1 million annual revenue. Physical paper Illinois stamps affixed to hunters’ licenses were discontinued in 2011 and now only appear as a line item on printed licenses. Half of the funds generated annually are used within Illinois to manage, maintain and acquire waterfowl and wetland habitat and hunting areas. The remaining funds are used to conserve critical grassland and wetland habitat on the Canadian breeding grounds, where many of the ducks that visit Illinois and the Mississippi Flyway originate.

HIP Registration

Free registration with HIP (National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program) is required by law every year to hunt migratory game birds. Any licensed hunter who plans to hunt any species of migratory game bird must register with HIP before hunting. Get your HIP certification when purchasing your hunting or sportsman license or register for HIP by calling 1-888-6PERMIT (record the transaction number on your license). Lifetime license holders also need to register with HIP on an annual basis. HIP is a nationwide program and you must register separately in every state where you hunt waterfowl, coots, doves, rails, snipe, woodcock and other migratory game birds except American crow. <https://www.fws.gov/birds/surveys-and-data/harvest-surveys/harvest-information-program.php>. Cooperation and support from hunters make sound resource management possible.

Waterfowl Bands

The U.S. Geological Survey’s Bird Banding Laboratory maintains a website for reporting all migratory bird bands, including waterfowl. If you harvest a banded bird, please visit www.reportband.gov and provide information about when and where you shot the bird. The 1-800 call-in number is no longer available for reporting bird bands. The phone number will direct you to the www.reportband.gov website. All federal bird bands, even those without a web address printed on them, can be reported online. Old bands with numbers worn off may still be reported by emailing: bandreports@usgs.gov for instructions. The band may need to be sent in, but the process does not destroy the band, and it will be returned to you. Band reporters will be emailed a Certificate of Appreciation with information about when and where the bird was banded. Your cooperation on reporting band numbers gives waterfowl biologists a wealth of information useful in managing the resource to provide hunters with maximum recreational opportunities while protecting waterfowl populations.

Waterfowl Permit Applications

Application Period	Methods	Opens	Closes	Notes
Regular Season				
First (residents only)	Internet	16 Aug	31 Aug	
Second	Internet	1 Sep	14 Sep	
Third	Internet	15 Sep	28 Sep	https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/WaterfowlHunting.aspx
First-come-first-served	Internet	1 Oct	See website	
Youth (ages 10-17)	Paper application	31 Aug	1 Oct	

Site-Specific Hunting Permits

Waterfowl hunting permits for specific dates on several IDNR sites are available through a lottery system. Applications from Illinois residents only will be accepted for inclusion in the first lottery. A second lottery will be held for unsuccessful resident applicants, non-residents or anyone who did not apply in the first lottery. A third lottery will be held for applicants to receive either a first and/or second permit. Additional permits, up to five total, may be obtained from unfilled quotas on a first-come, first-served basis ending 72 hours prior to the hunt date by visiting <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/WaterfowlHunting.aspx> beginning Oct. 1.

Waterfowl and Wetland Management

See the IDNR Waterfowl Hunting website here:
<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/WaterfowlHunting.aspx>

Other Hunting Opportunities

Public waterfowl hunting opportunities exist at over 100 sites in Illinois covering a broad range of access and management. Please see the regional site maps at the end of this digest for sites offering waterfowl hunting Check Hunter Fact Sheets or call sites directly for details on hunting opportunities and regulations.

Waterfowl Hunting Outlook

See the IDNR Waterfowl Hunting website here:
<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/WaterfowlHunting.aspx>

TOM ROSTER'S 2016 NONTOXIC SHOT LETHALITY TABLE[®]

Proven Nontoxic Loads For Waterfowl, Doves, & Upland Game Birds ¹ <i>Vel. Range Tested: 1,225 – 1,700 FPS</i> ACTIVITY	Observed Hunters' Typical Shooting Range During Activity (Yards)	Most Effective Nontoxic Shot Size(s) For Birds Listed Under ACTIVITY At The Distances Listed In The Second Column	Minimum Load Weight (Ounces)	Minimum Pellet Hits Needed on Lethal Areas for Clean Kills	Minimum Pattern Count Needed at Any Distance for Clean Kills (# of Pellets in 30" Circle)	Most Effective Choke(s) at Distance (Given in Lead Shot Choke Designations)	NOTE: The pellets in the steel shot loads listed in this table were traditional, highly spherical ball-shaped pellets of ~ 7.86 g/cc density and 90-95 DPH hardness. The HEVI-Shot pellets were of 12.0 g/cc density and are harder than traditional steel pellets.
Large Geese At Long Range <i>Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas</i>	50-65	Steel BBB to T	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified	
	50-70	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
Medium/Small Geese Long Range <i>Snow, White-fronted, Lesser Canadas</i>	50-65	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified	
	50-65	HEVI-Shot 2	1-1/2	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified, Full	
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel 2 to BB	1-1/8	1-2	60-65	Light Modified, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 4 to 2	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
Large Ducks At Long Range <i>Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall</i>	45-65	Steel 2 to 1	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
	45-65	HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/4	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 2	3/4 - 1	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
Medium Ducks Over Decoys <i>Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler</i>	20-45	Steel 6 to 3	1	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
Small Ducks Over Decoys <i>Teal, Ruddy, Buffhead</i>	20-45	Steel 6 to 4	1	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/8	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)	
Ring-Necked Pheasants	20-50	Steel 3 to 2	1	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)	
	20-50	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)	
Turkeys (Head and Neck Shots)	20-40	Steel 4; HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/4	3-4	210-230	Full or Extra Full	
Mourning Doves	20-45	Steel 8 to 7	3/4 - 3/4	1-2	200-210	IC-8's/LM-7's (20-30 Yds); Mod>30 Yd	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 7 1/2	3/4	1-2	200-210	I.C. (20-30 Yds); Light Mod (30-45 Yd)	
Northern Bobwhite Quail	20-30	Steel 8 to 7	3/4 - 3/4	1-2	200-210	Imp. Cyl., Light Modified	
Swatter Load For Wounded Birds	20-30	Steel 7 to 6	1	1	175	Improved Modified, Full	

This table summarizes Tom Roster's analyses to date of the lethality data bases for certain of the 16 U.S. steel vs lead waterfowl & dove shooting tests published between 1988 & 2014 & one steel-only pheasant shooting test (1999) plus lethality data bases owned by ammunition companies for birds taken with nontoxic shotshell loads Roster tested for them & the CONSEP Org. Note: Steel #BBB (.190") & HEVI-Shot #2 (.150") have exhibited the best all-around performance for taking geese; steel #3 (.140") & HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ducks; steel #2 & HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ring-necked pheasants; & steel 7's (.100") the best all-around performance for taking doves.

¹These findings are derived from testing 2 1/2" 28 gauge; 3" 20 ga.; 2 1/2", 3" & 3 1/2" 12 ga.; & 3 1/2" 10 ga. steel loads; plus 2 1/2" 28 ga.; 2 1/2" & 3" 20 ga.; and 2 1/2" & 3" 12 ga. HEVI-Shot loads. © Copyright 2016 by Tom Roster. For answers to questions on this table contact: Tom Roster, 1190 Lynnewood, Klamath Falls, OR, USA 97601. tomroster@charter.net

Virginia Rail *Rallus limicola*



A chicken-like bird of the marsh, Virginia rails are infrequently seen but commonly heard by those recognizing their call. Larger than a sora, but smaller than an American coot, this rusty-colored rail has a gray face; long, curved bill; short, up-turned tail; and a laterally compressed body. Their strong legs are reddish in color and, along with long toes, allow the bird to walk on floating aquatic vegetation.

Length: 7.9-10.6 inches

Wingspan: 12.6-15 inches

Weight: 2.3-3.4 ounces

Song: kik, kik, kik, kidik, kidik, kidik

Habitat Preference: Marshes with cattails and bulrushes.

Food Preferences: Small fish, crayfish, snails, frogs, beetles and flies, with the addition of plants and seeds in winter.

Flight: Weak and short except during migration.

Illinois Abundance: A fairly common migrant and rare to uncommon summer resident.

Illinois Status: Game bird.



Virginia Rail



Mallard

Migratory Waterfowl Regulations

The following state and/or federal rules apply to the taking, possessing, shipping, transporting and storing of migratory birds. This material is only a summary and hunters also should consult Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20 <http://www.ecfr.gov>, and Chapter 520 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, or talk with a Conservation Police Officer.

Prohibited Devices and Methods

You cannot legally:

- use a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance to harvest waterfowl.
- hunt by driving, rallying or chasing waterfowl with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, UNLESS it is plugged with a one-piece filler which limits total shell capacity to three and which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun. This does not apply during Conservation Order light goose seasons (snow/blue and Ross' geese) that occur after Canada goose season has closed.

Non-toxic Shot Requirements for Waterfowl, Snipe and Rail

You cannot legally have in possession while attempting to harvest waterfowl (including coots and captive-reared mallards), snipe or rail any shotgun shells not approved as non-toxic by federal regulations. Most commercially available shot shells from major manufacturers are approved non-toxic options. A list of non-toxic shot currently approved by the USFWS can be found at: <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/hunting/nontoxic.php>

Also see Tom Roster's Nontoxic Shot Lethality Table© (page 33).

Blinds

You cannot legally:

- hunt from a floating blind that is not anchored except a scull boat may be used on certain public waters and waterfowl may be harvested from a boat not mechanically powered (see Hunting From Vehicles and Boats in Statewide Regulations) and not camouflaged or disguised.
- hunt waterfowl from a moving watercraft propelled by mechanical power or sails.
- hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).

Attractants

You cannot legally:

- hunt waterfowl with the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- use a recording or electronic calling device to hunt migratory waterfowl. Such electronic calling devices may be used to hunt snow, blue and Ross' geese during Conservation Order light goose seasons that occur after Canada goose seasons close.

Retrieval of Downed Birds (Wanton Waste)

You cannot legally

- fail to retrieve, if possible, and retain in the custody of the hunter in the field, all waterfowl killed or crippled. Note: You need permission to enter private property.
- have or carry an uncased or loaded shotgun in a motorized boat. Waterfowl hunters may have an uncased and unloaded gun in their boats for pursuing crippled waterfowl incapable of normal flight to reduce said bird to possession, provided that the attempt is made immediately upon downing the bird and is done within 400 yards of the blind from which the bird was downed. The gun cannot be loaded unless the motor has been completely shut off and crippled birds may not be shot from the boat until the motor has been completely shut off and the boat's progress has ceased.
- wantonly waste or destroy the useable meat (defined as the breast meat of a migratory game bird) of any game bird or migratory game bird that has a bag limit, and to leave, dump or abandon a wildlife carcass or its parts along or upon a public right-of-way or highway or on public or private property, including a waterway or stream without permission.

Possession and Tagging

You cannot legally:

- possess more than one daily limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.
- completely field dress any migratory waterfowl and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a commercial preservation facility.
- give, put or leave any waterfowl at any place other than his/her personal abode, or in the custody of another person, unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the hunter's signature and address, the total number of birds involved, by species, and the dates such birds were killed.
- receive or have in custody any waterfowl belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged. Tags available at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/Documents/WaterfowlGiftTags.pdf>
- receive, possess or give to another any freshly-killed waterfowl as a gift, except at the personal abode of the donor or donee, unless such birds have a tag attached (see tagging requirements above).
- consider termination of bird possession by the hunter, until the hunter delivers the birds to another person as a gift or to a post office, common carrier or migratory bird preservation facility and consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

Exporting and Importing

You cannot legally:

- ship migratory waterfowl unless the package is marked on the outside with the name and address of the person sending the birds, the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent and the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.
- import migratory waterfowl killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory waterfowl being transported between a port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility), drawn and the head and feet are removed. For information regarding the importation of migratory waterfowl killed in another country, consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66.
- import migratory waterfowl belonging to another person.

Federal Baiting Regulations

You cannot legally take migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited (see <https://www.fws.gov/le/waterfowl-hunting-and-baiting.html>). An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of the bait. However, nothing prohibits:

the taking of any migratory game bird, including waterfowl and coots, on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas—

- (i) Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics); standing, flooded or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice;
- (ii) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;
- (iii) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed; or
- (iv) Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys or retrieving birds.

Hunters MAY:

- hunt ALL legal migratory game birds, including waterfowl and coots.
- hunt over natural vegetation that has been mowed or manipulated in other ways. There is no restriction on when manipulation may occur. In other words, the manipulation may occur before, during or after any season where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of "normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice." over surface-mined lands being reclaimed where seeds or grains are scattered solely as a result of a "normal soil stabilization practice."
- hunt ALL legal migratory game birds over standing crops, standing flooded crops and flooded harvested croplands.
- use natural vegetation to conceal a blind.

- use vegetation from agricultural crops to conceal a blind provided that the crop seed is not exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered in the process. For example, corn stalks may be used to camouflage a blind as long as the attached ears remain tightly in the husk.
- continue hunting over standing or flooded standing agricultural crops if they inadvertently scatter grain solely as a result of entering or leaving the field, placing decoys or retrieving downed birds.
- be charged with hunting over bait or a baited area if they “know or reasonably should know” that the area is baited.
- be fined up to \$15,000 and spend 6 months in jail if convicted of hunting over bait or a baited area.
- be fined up to \$100,000 as an individual or \$200,000 as an organization and spend 1 year in prison if convicted of placing or directing the placement of bait.

With respect to federal prohibitions, hunters MAY NOT:

- place, expose, deposit, distribute, or scatter salt, grain or other feed that could lure or attract migratory game birds, except crows, to, on or over an area where hunters are attempting to harvest them.
- hunt migratory game birds, except crows, with the aid of bait or on or over any baited area.
- hunt over any baited area until all salt, grain or other feed has been completely removed for at least 10 days.
- hunt waterfowl and coots over manipulated planted millet. Planted millet is not considered natural vegetation unless it becomes naturalized and grows (volunteers) on its own in subsequent years.
- hunt waterfowl and coots over seed or grain from manipulated agricultural crops or normal agricultural operations except where seed or grain is present solely as a result of “normal planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation” or “normal agricultural soil stabilization practices.”
- hunt migratory game birds, other than crows, if the use of vegetation from agricultural crops to conceal a blind exposes, deposits, distributes or scatters grain or other crop seed.

Hunters also should remember that:

- they are responsible for ensuring that the hunting area has not been baited before they start hunting.
- they should physically inspect the field or marsh; question landowners, guides and caretakers; and take other reasonable steps to verify the legality of the hunting area.
- they must know and obey all applicable federal and state hunting regulations.
- when making agricultural determinations, the Fish and Wildlife Service relies on the official recommendations of state extension specialists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Cooperative Extension Service.

Don’t Shoot a Swan!

Don’t make a mistake!

All wild swans are protected in Illinois.

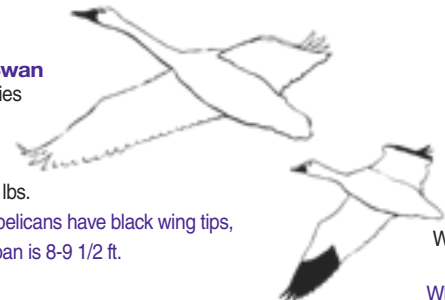
Several Midwestern states are reintroducing the native trumpeter swan to the region. Some of these birds are migrating through and wintering in Illinois. You can help bring back this magnificent swan by:

- Learning the difference between swans and snow geese.
- Reporting observations of swans having wing tags, neck collars or leg bands.
- Protecting wetland habitat.
- Reporting any harassment of trumpeter swans.

Trumpeter Swan

Protected Species
Long neck
Length: 4 ft.
Wingspan: 7 ft.
Weight: 20 - 30 lbs.

Caution-White pelicans have black wing tips, but their wingspan is 8-9 1/2 ft.



Snow Goose

Legally Hunted
Short neck
Length: 1 1/2 ft.
Wingspan: 3 1/2 ft.
Weight: 3 - 6 lbs.

White plumage, but BLACK WING TIPS.

Report swan sightings to:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Waterfowl Program
700 South 10th Street, Havana, IL 62644
(309) 543-3065



Photo by Jared Duquette



Photo by Adele Hodde

Upland Birds:

Pheasant, Bobwhite quail, Hungarian partridge, Doves (migratory), Woodcock (migratory), and Crows (migratory).

Upland Mammals: Squirrels, Rabbits

Non-toxic shot:

any shot type that does not cause sickness and death when ingested by animals or humans. Shot types:

<https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/hunting/nontoxic.php>

Lead Ammunition: a projectile containing one or more percent lead by weight.

UPLAND GAME SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Doves (mourning and white-winged)	Statewide	1 Sep–14 Nov 2020 and 26 Dec 2020–9 Jan 2021	Sunrise to Sunset	15	45	No limits on Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle doves, but they may be harvested only during the established season dates and hours and using only legal methods for mourning/white-winged doves. Hunters may not remain in the field for taking Eurasian-collared doves or ringed turtle doves after they reach their daily limit for mourning/white-winged doves.
Pheasants (roosters only)	See zones map	7 Nov 2020-8 Jan 2021 (North zone) or 7 Nov 2020-15 Jan 2021 (South zone)		2	6	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit. Hen pheasants are illegal to harvest or possess, except as specified on controlled hunting areas.
Quail (Bobwhite)	See zones map	7 Nov 2020-8 Jan 2021 (North zone) or 7 Nov 2020-15 Jan 2021 (South zone)		8	20	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Hungarian Partridge	See zones map	7 Nov 2020-8 Jan 2021 (North zone) or 7 Nov 2020-15 Jan 2021 (South zone)		2	6	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Rabbits (cottontail and swamp)	Statewide	7 Nov 2020 - 15 Feb 2021		4	10	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Woodcock	Statewide	17 Oct - 30 Nov 2020		3	9	
Squirrels (gray and fox)	Statewide	1 Aug 2020–15 Feb 2021 Closed 20-22 Nov and 3-6 Dec 2020 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	10	
Crow	Statewide	28 Oct 2020 - 28 Feb 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	No limit	No limit	



Upland Game zones:

Zones for rooster pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge are divided by U.S. Route 36 from the Indiana state line to Springfield, Illinois Route 29 from Springfield to Pekin, and Illinois Route 9 from Pekin to Dallas City, then due west to the Mississippi River.

Hunting Credentials and Requirements

- To hunt upland game, residents and non-residents will need a hunting license and a habitat stamp listed below. Individuals intending to hunt doves or woodcock will also need HIP Certification. Exemptions to these requirements are specified in table. For residency qualification, see Resident definition in Statewide Regulations.
- Individuals wanting to hunt upland birds and/or rabbits on specific IDNR sites may also need to apply for a free Upland Game Permit.
- See upland game hunting map for associated upland bird and rabbit hunting zones.

License Qualification Definitions

- 1) Disabled individuals are disabled American veterans with at least 10% service-related disabilities or disabled persons certified under the Illinois Identification Card Act as having a Type 1 or Type 4, Class 2 disability.
- 2) Serviceman are persons on leave from the Armed Services, having entered the military as an Illinois resident
- 3) Landowner (or tenant) are persons and their children, parents, brothers and sisters permanently residing on their land and hunting on that land.

HIP Registration

Free registration with HIP (National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program) is required by law every year to **hunt mourning doves and woodcock** in Illinois. Crow hunting does not require HIP Certification. Get your HIP certification when purchasing your hunting or sportsman license or register for HIP by calling 1-888-6PERMIT (record the transaction number on your license). Lifetime license holders also need to register with HIP on an annual basis. HIP is a nationwide program and you must register separately in every state where you hunt migratory birds. Cooperation and support from hunters make sound resource management possible.

Types of Hunting Opportunities

There are different opportunities for hunting upland game on state, federal and private lands. The primary types of upland hunting include:

- 1) Open hunting on state sites - some IDNR sites do not require a lottery permit to hunt upland game but may require a windshield card or signing in and out when you hunt. Check the Hunter Fact Sheets or call site for hunting opportunities and regulations in your area.
- 2) Upland Game Permit for IDNR sites – require a FREE permit issued by a lottery that takes place in August, see Upland Game Permit Process section hereafter.
- 3) Controlled Pheasant hunting on IDNR sites – application period and stand-by hunt info found in the ‘controlled pheasant hunting’ section
- 4) Open hunting on federal sites – see Public Hunting Areas information for links to potential opportunities.
- 5) Open hunting on private lands – provided permission from landowner.

Non-toxic Shot Requirement

- Hunters should be aware that several IDNR sites now require use of non-toxic shot, such as steel.
- For ease of this conversion, note that steel shot #3 is ballistically similar to lead shot #5, and steel shot #6 is ballistically similar to lead shot #7.5 or #8.
- For comparison of shot size and effectiveness, see Tom Roster’s Nontoxic Shot Lethality Table© (page 33).
- If .22 caliber is permitted at a site requiring non-toxic shot, it must also be non-toxic.

Upland Game Hunting Credentials (does not include vendor fees)

License/Permit/Stamps	Price		How to apply for or purchase					Specifications
	Resident	Non-Resident	Lottery	Online	Vendors	Phone	Paper Application	
Hunting License	Variable	Variable		X	X	X	X	See Statewide Regulations section for license types.
State Habitat Stamp	\$5.00	\$5.00		X	X	X		Required for all hunters 18 years or older. Not required to hunt hand-reared game birds on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas as well as hand-reared pheasants on Department-controlled pheasant hunting areas. Purchasers of a lifetime hunting license prior to 1993 and legally disabled veterans are exempt from this stamp.
Super Senior Habitat Stamp	Free	n/a		X	X	X		Must be 75 or older, and pay \$0.50 issuing fee.
HIP Certification	Free	Free		X	X	X		Before hunting doves or woodcock , all licensed hunters, including lifetime license holders, must register with HIP. See the HIP Registration section on page 32.
Upland Game Management Areas	Free	Free	X	X				
Controlled Pheasant Areas	Site Fee	Site Fee			X			See Upland Game Permit Process section for details. Fee may be charged at sites.
Dove Management Areas	Free	Free	X	X				

Upland Game Hunting Regulations (Additional to Statewide Regulations)

Legal Firearm and Archery Equipment

- Upland birds, including migratory species, can be hunted with shotgun or vertical-style bow and arrow (flu-flu arrows only; no broadheads) under regulations outlined in Statewide Regulations.
- Rabbits and squirrels can only be hunted with a gun or bow and arrow (including crossbow), but equipment regulations vary by site.
- Many IDNR sites require non-toxic shot, such as steel, but some do not. Check Hunter Fact Sheets or call site for site-specific regulations.

Clothing Requirements

- A solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink cap/hat and an upper outer garment displaying at least 400 square inches of solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink material must be worn while hunting pheasant, quail, partridge, woodcock or rabbits on IDNR lands or when accompanying youth on controlled pheasant or firearm deer hunts.
- On non-IDNR land, a solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink hat/cap must be worn to hunt upland birds (except doves) or rabbits with a firearm.
- Camouflage blaze orange or camouflage blaze pink material does not meet the solid orange or solid pink requirement.
- No blaze orange or blaze pink clothing is required for hunting doves, crows and squirrels, unless simultaneously hunting other types of upland birds or rabbits which requires blaze orange or blaze pink clothing noted above.

Additional Hunting Regulations

Below are several pertinent regulations when hunting upland birds in Illinois. Numerous other state and/or federal regulations apply to the taking, possessing, shipping, transporting and storing of upland game birds, especially migratory species. Hunters should also consult Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20 <http://www.ecfr.gov>, and Chapter 520 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs.asp>, or talk with a Conservation Police Officer for questions on specific regulations.

You can legally:

- use dogs to hunt upland birds, rabbits and squirrels.
- use all types of non-toxic shot, such as steel and bismuth, at all IDNR sites.
- use stationary or spinning-wing decoys to hunt doves.

You cannot legally:

- use lead shot at many IDNR sites, but some allow lead shot. Check Hunter Fact Sheets or call site for site-specific regulations.
- use a recording or electronic calling device to hunt migratory birds other than crows.
- possess or use any net or trap for harvesting upland birds.
- trap rabbits and squirrels.
- attempt to harvest any other squirrel species beside gray and fox.
- harvest doves or woodcock by the use or aid of bait or baiting of any kind. "Bait" means any material, whether liquid or solid, including food, salt, minerals and other products that can be ingested, placed or scattered in such a manner as to attract or lure upland birds. "Baiting" means the placement or scattering of bait to attract upland birds. For the purposes of harvesting upland birds, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the manipulation, including mowing or cutting, of standing crops as a normal agricultural or soil stabilization practice, food plots, or normal agricultural practices, including planting, harvesting, and maintenance, such as cultivating, or the use of products designed for scent only and not capable of ingestion, solid or liquid, placed or scattered, in such a manner as to attract or lure upland birds. An area is considered as baited during the presence of and for 10 consecutive days following the removal of the bait.
- harvest upland birds, unless they are flying, except for harvesting pheasants that are not flying when crippled and not capable of normal flight and otherwise irretrievable. However, doves, woodcock and crows may be harvested while not in flight.
- remove plumage of pheasants in the field or while being transported to one's home, taxidermist or food processor.
- transport doves and woodcock unless the head or one fully-feathered wing is attached.

Dove Banding

If you harvest a leg-banded dove, we encourage you to report information about when and where you harvested the bird. You will be emailed a Certificate of Appreciation with information about when and where the dove was banded. Your cooperation on reporting band numbers gives dove biologists a wealth of information useful in managing the resource to provide hunters with maximum recreational opportunities while protecting dove populations. **Reporting banded birds will only be available through the internet at: www.reportband.gov**

Lead Poisoning in Game Birds

The hazards of lead poisoning in game birds consuming spent shotgun pellets have been well-publicized. Research has determined that doves and other birds also are at risk from acute lead poisoning due to consuming spent shotgun pellets in hunted fields, and that many more doves may be dying each year than waterfowl did prior to the lead shot ban. While non-toxic shot is not required on all hunting areas, **upland game hunters are encouraged to use steel or other non-toxic shot types to spare doves and other wildlife from potential lead poisoning.** No. 6 or 7 steel shot used with shotgun chokes one size more open than typically used for lead are very effective in harvesting doves. Improved cylinder or skeet is the best choke to use with steel shot for doves. For pheasant, No. 2 or 3 steel will perform like lead No. 4 or 5 lead shot. Even though non-toxic shot is a little more expensive than lead, the cost is justified to help conserve our valuable wildlife resources.

Upland Game Permit Process

- Apply for FREE site-specific upland game and dove hunting permits (see tables p.40 for drawing information and website link and sites offering hunting opportunities). Residents receive application preference.
- Permit holding hunters can bring a number of hunting partners depending on the site but hunting partners cannot hunt without the permit holder being present to hunt.
- Hunting dates depend on each site. Check the [Upland Game website](#) or contact site directly for details.
- Tables hereafter show permit application information and a list of IDNR sites with Upland Game or Dove Hunting Permits.

Photo by Mike Budd



2020 Upland Game Permit Applications

Application Period/Location	Methods	Hunt period	Opens	Closes	Specifications
Upland Game Hunt Permits (Free)					
One drawing only	Internet	Vary by site	1 Aug	31 Aug	These free hunts limit the number of hunters, via permit, pursuing wild birds and rabbits on habitat areas and select state sites. https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/UplandGame.aspx Upland Game Hunting is for rooster pheasant, quail, Hungarian partridge, and rabbits. Applicants can receive only one permit per year.
Site-specific Dove Permit Hunts (Free)					
First (residents only)	Internet	1-5 Sep	1 June	30 June	These permit holder only hunts occur on managed dove fields. https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/Pages/DoveHunting.aspx
Second	Internet	1-5 Sep	6 July	20 July	Applicants can apply for up to five different sites and can apply with a partner who will receive a permit for the same site and date. Non-residents can apply for the second lottery and receive over-the-counter permits.
Over-the-counter	Internet	1-5 Sep	27 July	25 Aug	Applications accepted for first or second permit during over-the-counter period. Youth hunters must be accompanied by supervising adult.
Youth (ages 10-17)	Internet	5 Sep 20			
Controlled Pheasant Hunts (Fee charged)					
First	Internet	Vary by site	3 Aug	10 Aug	These application-based hunts allow a controlled number of hunters to pursue released captive-raised pheasants on state and public/private partnership sites.
Second	Internet	Vary by site	10 Aug	17 Aug	
Third	Internet	Vary by site	17 Aug	24 Aug	
Youth (ages 10-17)	Internet	Vary by site	3 Aug	24 Aug	https://dnr.illinois.gov/controlledhunt/ have same three application periods as regular controlled pheasant hunts.

Upland Game Permit Sites

Check Hunter Fact Sheet for site-specific information
<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/factsheets/Pages/default.aspx>

Site	County	Non-toxic shot required
Birkbeck PHA	DeWitt	No
Bradford PHA	Stark	Yes
Chatsworth SHA	Livingston	Yes
Clifton PHA	Iroquois	No
Coffeen Lake SFWA	Montgomery	No
Dublin Highlands PHA	Stephenson	No
Edward R. Madigan SP	Logan	Yes
Finrock SHA	DeWitt	No
Freeman Mine SWA	Montgomery	No
Franklin Creek SNA	Lee	No
Gifford PHA	Champaign	No
Green River SWA	Lee	Yes
Hallsville PHA	DeWitt	No
Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA	Vermillion	No
Herschel Workman PHA	Vermillion	No
Hindsboro PHA	Douglas	No
Ilo Dillin HA	Tazewell	Yes
Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA	Cass	Yes
Larry D. Closson HA	Douglas	No
Little Rock Creek HA	Carroll	No
Loda PHA	Iroquois	No
Mackinaw River SFWA	Tazewell	Yes
Manito PHA	Tazewell	No
Mautino SFWA	Bureau	Yes
Maxine Loy Land and Water Reserve	Marion	Yes
Maytown PHA	Lee	No
Milks Grove PHA	Iroquois	No
Nachusa Prairie c/o Franklin Creek SNA	Ogle	No
Paul C. Burrus HA	Coles	No
Perdueville PHA	Ford/Champaign	No
Pyramid SP	Perry	No
Ramsey Lake SP	Fayette	Yes
Sand Prairie PHA	Lee	No
Sand Ridge SF	Mason	Yes
Sangchris Lake SP	Christian/Sangamon	No
Saybrook PHA	McLean	No
Sibley PHA	Ford	No
Steward PHA	Lee	No
Victoria PHA	Knox	Yes
Whitefield PHA	Marshall	Yes
Willow Creek HA	Edgar	No



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WILD GAME RECIPE

Pheasant White Lightning Chili

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. boneless, skinless pheasant breast, cubed
- 1 medium onion
- 1 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder (fresh garlic is better)
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 (15 oz.) cans great northern beans drained & rinse
- 1 (14.5 oz.) chicken broth
- 2 (4 oz.) cans chopped green chilies
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup whipping cream



DIRECTIONS

1. Sauté pheasant, onion and garlic until the pheasant is no longer pink.
2. Add beans, broth, chilies and seasonings and bring to a boil.
3. Reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes.
4. Stir in sour cream and whipping cream and serve immediately.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.learn-to-hunt-il.com

Dove Hunting Permit Sites

Site	County	Specifications
Dove Permit Hunting Areas		
Big Bend SFWA	Whiteside	<p><i>For all sites listed to the left:</i></p> <p>Lottery permit required first 5 days of season (1-5 Sept.)</p> <p>See Hunter Fact Sheets for check-in times.</p> <p>Non-toxic shot required at all sites.</p>
Clinton Lake SRA	DeWitt	
Coffeen Lake SFWA	Montgomery	
Des Plaines SFWA	Will	
Edward R. Madigan (Railsplitter) SP	Logan	
Fox Ridge SP	Cole	
Green River SWA	Lee	
Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA	Vermilion	
Hidden Springs SF	Shelby	
Horseshoe Lake SP	Madison	
Iroquois County SWA	Iroquois	
Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA	Cass	
Johnson Sauk Trail SP	Henry	
Kankakee River SP	Kankakee/Will	
Mackinaw River SFWA	Tazewell	
Matthiessen—Starved Rock SP	LaSalle	
Middle Fork SFWA	Vermilion	
Moraine View SRA	McClellan	
Ramsey Lake SP	Fayette	
Sangchris Lake SP	Christian	
Shelbyville FL	Moultrie	
Shelbyville SFWA	Moultrie	
Silver Springs SFWA	Kendall	
Snakeden Hollow SFWA / Victoria PHA	Knox	

Youth Dove Permit Hunting Areas		
Jubilee College SP	Peoria	<p>Youth hunts at these sites occur 1 Sep with youth and supervisor allowed to hunt.</p> <p>Check-in 10-11 a.m. No standbys available.</p> <p>Hunter or supervising adult must possess a Firearm Owner's Identification Card.</p> <p>Non-toxic shot required at all sites.</p>
Kankakee River SP	Kankakee/Will	
Mackinaw River SFWA	Tazewell	
Mt. Vernon Game Farm	Jefferson	
Ramsey Lake SP	Fayette	
Sam Parr SFWA	Jasper	
Sangchris Lake SP	Christian/Sangamon	
Silver Springs SFWA	Kendall	
Horseshoe Lake SP	Madison	
Stephen A. Forbes SP	Marion	



Controlled Pheasant Hunting

- On controlled pheasant hunting areas State Habitat Stamps are not required when hunting captive-reared pheasants. State Habitat Stamps are required when hunting quail, Hungarian partridge and woodcock on controlled pheasant hunting areas where these species can be harvested during the controlled pheasant hunting season.
- Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations is available at: <https://dnr.illinois.gov/controlledhunt/>
- Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations for the public/private partnership areas is available through T. Miller, Inc. at www.tmillerrinc.com or (217) 793-6146.
- Thanksgiving Day hunting hours at all controlled pheasant hunting sites are 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Permits Required for Leased Lands & Commercial Clubs

See 520 ILCS 5/3.27 in the Wildlife Code for more information on permits: <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1729&ChapterID=43>

Disabled Hunters

Disabled hunters with Standing Vehicle Permits may obtain Controlled Pheasant Hunting Permits for Eldon Hazlet, Des Plaines and Moraine View where special vehicles are available to assist with the hunt. Disabled hunters, as defined by law (520 ILCS 5/2.33), may apply to the IDNR Office of Law Enforcement (217/782-6431) for a Standing Vehicle Permit. Information about controlled pheasant hunting permit reservations for disabled hunters is available at www.dnr.illinois.gov.

Upland Game Hunting FAQs

How do I check on the status of my Free Upland Permit?

A: Check the status of your Free Upland Permit here: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/uplandgame/Pages/OnlinePermitApplication.aspx>

Is there a second lottery for leftover permits for the Free Upland Game Permit sites?

A: No, there are rarely any permits leftover.

How do I check on the status of my Controlled Pheasant Hunting Permit?

A: You may check the status of your Controlled Pheasant Hunting Permit here: <https://dnr.illinois.gov/controlledhunt/>

Can I use an air rifle to take upland game?

A: An air rifle can only be used to take rabbits and squirrels.

What do I do if I was drawn for a permit?

A: A link to download and print your permit will be provided in your email confirmation.

Why aren't there as many pheasant, quail and rabbits as there used to be?

A: Changes in habitat are the primary reasons and includes a decrease in the quantity and quality of habitat. There is less suitable habitat because of changes in the landscape including fewer fencerows, pastures, hayfields, small grains (wheat, oats, etc). Second, the existing habitat quality has decreased because of introduced grasses like fescue and brome that are too thick for upland game

On some of your Habitat Areas, there is nothing but 'weeds', why doesn't IDNR plant more food plots?

A: Game animals rarely (if ever) starve to death in Illinois. We have ~23 million acres of corn and soybeans in Illinois so wildlife can almost always find waste grain nearby. Annual weeds provide great food and cover for broods and great structure for wildlife.

Is it true that hawks and coyotes are killing all the upland game?

A: While predators do eat some game birds and rabbits, this is not what is causing our long-term decline. If we had adequate habitat (quantity and quality), there would be more game on the landscape.

Why did IDNR add more sites to the list requiring non-toxic shot?

A: Lead shot is highly toxic to most bird species when ingested. Birds do not seem to be able to distinguish small weed seeds from small shot pellets. We are making these changes to reduce the amount of lead being deposited (and subsequently ingested by wildlife) on hunting areas with a high volume of shooting and/or sensitive areas adjacent (e.g. wetlands) to them.



Photo by Matthew Williams



Furbearer Trapping and Hunting Credentials (does not include vendor fees)

License/Permit/Stamps	Price		How to apply for or purchase				Specifications	
	Resident	Non-Resident	Lottery	Online	Vendors	Phone		Paper Application
Trapping	\$10.00			X	X	X		First-time trappers born on or after Jan. 1, 1998 are required to complete a trapper education course before purchasing a license. Residents with at least 39.5 acres do not need a license to trap.
Youth Hunting and Trapping	\$7.00			X	X	X		Any hunter/trapper under 18 years of age may purchase this license. Hunters/trappers with this license must be supervised by an adult who is 21 years of age or older and has the appropriate Illinois hunting or trapping license. The youth hunter shall not hunt or trap or carry a hunting device, unless the youth is accompanied by and under close personal supervision of that adult.
Trapping (with state reciprocity)		\$175.00		X	X	X		Reciprocity means your state of residence allows Illinois residents to trap.
Trapping (without state reciprocity)		\$250.00		X	X	X		See reciprocity specification above.
Base Hunting License	Variable	Variable		X	X	X	X	See Statewide Regulations section for license types.
State Habitat Stamp	\$5.00	\$5.00		X	X	X		
Species-specific Permits								
Otter Registration Permit	\$5.00	\$5.00		X	X	X		Purchase within 48 hours after otter harvest.
Bobcat Hunting & Trapping Lottery Application	\$5.00	\$5.00	X	X				See lottery section for details.
Bobcat Registration Permit	\$5.00	\$5.00		X				Purchase within 48 hours after bobcat harvest.

General Furbearer Regulations (Additional to Statewide Regulations)

Definitions

Furbearing Mammals: badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, gray fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, red fox, river otter, striped skunk and weasel.

Trap: To capture, or attempt to capture, by setting or placing a leg-hold trap, body-gripping trap, cage or live-trap or other similar device permitted by the Illinois Wildlife Code to capture, hold or kill any protected wildlife.

Water Set: Any trap or similar device that is placed or set in contact with flowing or impounded water.

Land Set: Any trap or similar device not placed or set in contact with flowing or impounded water.

Green Hide: Any hide or pelt which has not been tanned.

Trapping and Hunting Credentials and Requirements

- To trap furbearers, residents and non-residents will need an appropriate trapping license and habitat stamp listed below. Exemptions to these requirements are specified in table. For residency qualification, see Resident definition in Statewide Regulations.
- To hunt furbearers residents and non-residents will need an applicable hunting license and state habitat stamp listed below.
- See bobcat trapping and hunting map for associated zones.

Possession of Furbearers and Parts

- Road-kill** - Furbearing mammals that are found dead or unintentionally killed by a vehicle along a roadway may only be salvaged if the season for that species is open and you possess all appropriate licenses, stamps and permits required to salvage that species. (see credentials table above) NOTE: Bobcats may only be salvaged by permit holders during the open season. Salvage of weasel, mink, muskrat, beaver, badger and river otter requires a trapping license and state habitat stamp if required; salvage of all other species requires a hunting or trapping license and state habitat stamp if required. Salvaged badgers, bobcats and river otters become part of your harvest limit. River otters and bobcats are subject to registration and tagging requirements.
- Green Hides** - Green hides may be possessed year-round with valid hunting or trapping license.
- Live** - Contact IDNR for more specific regulations dealing with possession of live furbearing animals under Chapter 520 5/3.25 of the Wildlife Code.

- Breeding** - Persons within Illinois who hold, possess or engage in the breeding or raising of live furbearing mammals protected by the Wildlife Code must have a valid Furbearing Mammal Breeder Permit. No permits will be issued for the breeding or raising of striped skunks or coyotes.

Furbearing mammal breeders shall keep a record for two years from the date of acquisition, sale or other disposition of each live furbearing mammal or its green hide so raised or propagated (contact IDNR for more specific regulations dealing with possession of live furbearing animals under Chapter 520 5/3.25 of the Wildlife Code).



Furbearer zones:

Trapping (Badger): Divided by U.S. Route 36.



Bobcat zones:

Taking bobcats is prohibited in an area bounded by Interstate 39/Route 51 on the west side and U.S. Route 36 on the south side. Bobcats may be harvested with a valid permit in the remainder of the state.

Trap Tagging and Checking Requirements

You cannot legally

- fail to mark or tag with metal tags or inscribe in lettering the name and address of the owner or customer identification number issued by the Department of Natural Resources, all traps used in the taking of furbearing mammals.
- fail to visit and remove all animals from traps at least once each calendar day.

Trap Size Restrictions

You cannot legally:

- on land use a leghold trap that has a jaw spread larger than 6 ½ inches or a body-gripping trap that has a jaw spread larger than 7 inches on a side, if square, and 8 inches, if round.
- in water use a leghold trap that has a jaw spread larger than 7 ½ inches or a body-gripping trap that has a jaw spread larger than 10 inches on a side, if square, and 12 inches, if round.
- trap beaver or river otter with a leghold trap or one of similar construction having a jaw spread of less than 5 ½ inches or more than 7 ½ inches, except that these restrictions shall not apply during the open season for trapping raccoons.
- trap beaver or river otter with a body-gripping trap or one of similar construction having a jaw spread of less than 7 inches or more than 10 inches on a side, if square, and 12 inches, if round, except that these restrictions shall not apply during the open season for trapping raccoons.
- NOTE: diameter of traps is measured from the inside edges of the jaws.

Closed Trapping Season

You cannot legally set or place any trap in the field, set or unset, during the closed trapping season. Setting out stakes or floats before the season opens, if no traps are attached to them, is permissible.

Illegal traps

You cannot legally:

- use any trap with saw-toothed, spiked or toothed jaws.
- use or possess a deadfall, net or pit trap to take any protected wildlife.
- use any colony traps or cage, box or stove-pipe trap designed to harvest more than one mammal at a single setting. Single catch cage or box traps are legal.

Snares

You cannot legally:

- place, set, use or maintain a snare unless at least half of the loop is underwater at all times. When set, the snare loop must be 15 inches or less in diameter. Snares must be constructed of cable that is at least 5/64 inch, but no more than 1/8 inch in diameter, and must be equipped with a mechanical lock, anchor swivel and stop device that prevents the snare loop from closing to less than 2 ½ inches in diameter.
- use or possess cable or wire snares constructed of stainless steel metal.

Dens, Nests and Feed Beds

You cannot legally:

- destroy, disturb or in any manner interfere with dams, lodges, burrows or feed beds of beaver while trapping for beaver or to set a trap inside a muskrat house or beaver lodge.
- set traps closer than 10 feet from any hole or den which may be occupied by a game mammal or furbearing mammal except that this restriction does not apply to water sets. Traps may be legally set within 10 feet of dens in water, but such sets are unlawful on land.

FURBEARER TRAPPING REGULATIONS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon	Statewide	10 Nov 2020– 15 Feb 2021	None	
Opossum				
Striped Skunk				
Weasels				
Mink				
Muskrat				
Fox <i>(Red and Gray)</i>				
Coyote				
Badger	North		2 per person per season	
	South		1 per person per season	
Bobcat	See Bobcat Zone map		One by permit only	Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of taking a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
Beaver	Statewide	10 Nov 2020–31 Mar 2021	None	
River Otter	Statewide	10 Nov 2020–31 Mar 2021	5 per person per season	Must purchase Otter Registration Permit within 48 hours after each otter is trapped. Must affix official CITES tag to each pelt.
Woodchuck <i>(Groundhog)</i>	Statewide	1 Jun–30 Sep 2020	None	

Exposed Bait

You cannot legally place, set or maintain any leghold trap within 30 feet of bait placed in such a manner or position that is not completely covered and concealed from sight, except that this shall not apply to water sets.

Bait means any bait composed of mammal, bird or fish flesh, fur, hide, entrails or feathers. Leghold traps set on land may not be placed around exposed bait, such as animal carcasses.

Beaver, Badger, River Otter, Weasel, Mink and Muskrat — Trapping Only

You cannot legally harvest beaver, badger, river otter, weasel, mink or muskrat except by trapping. However, beaver, river otter, weasel, mink, and muskrat can be shot with a firearm, pistol, or airgun of a caliber not larger than a .22 long rifle to remove the animal from the trap.

Trapper Education

Illinois Trapper Education Manual

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Documents/TrapperEducationManual.pdf>

Illinois Trapper Education Classes

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/safety/Pages/Counties.aspx>

Rabbits and Squirrels Cannot Be Trapped

It is only legal to trap furbearing mammals and woodchucks. No other game mammals or birds may be trapped.

Trapping Near Dwellings

You cannot legally trap within 100 yards of an inhabited dwelling without first obtaining permission from the owner or tenant.

Written Authorization to Handle Traps of Another Person

You cannot legally remove furbearing mammals from, move or disturb in any manner, traps owned by another person without written authorization of the owner to do so.

Permission from Landowner

You cannot legally trap furbearers on another person's property without his or her permission. This includes waters flowing over or standing on the land of another person.

Damaging Property While Trapping

You cannot legally destroy or damage another person's property while trapping on his or her land.

Furbearer Trapping Reporting Requirements

The Department conducts an annual survey of trappers to estimate the number of furbearing mammals trapped and sold during the regular trapping season. Approximately 20% of trappers are surveyed annually and if you receive a survey form, you **must** complete and return it.

River Otter Harvest and Possession

- No more than five otters may be harvested or possessed during the season. Possession limits do not apply to fur buyers, tanners, manufacturers or taxidermists. Possession limits do not apply to tanned pelts, mounted specimens or manufactured products.
- Trapping is the only legal method of harvest. Licensed trappers may salvage otters found dead along a roadway during the open season; such animals become part of the person's harvest limit and are subject to permit and tagging requirements.
- Trappers must purchase an Otter Registration Permit within 48 hours after harvesting a river otter. The cost of a permit is \$5 plus a vendor's fee. Permits are available anywhere you can purchase a hunting or trapping license, including DNR DIRECT. You will be mailed an official CITES pelt tag within 2-3 weeks after purchasing a permit. Otter registration permits must be purchased by the individual who captured the otter and cannot be transferred to another person. NOTE: Do not purchase a permit before you harvest an otter.
- An official CITES tag must be permanently affixed to the green hide of each otter (including a whole, un-skinned carcass) before it is exported outside the United States or transferred to a fur buyer, fur tanner, taxidermist or manufacturer (a manufacturer is an individual who dresses and fabricates green hides into fur garments or products). Unsealed CITES tags cannot be transferred to another person.

Bobcat Hunting and Trapping

Hunters and trappers must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE taking or attempting to harvest a bobcat. Applications will be available online only at <https://www.il.wildlifelicense.com/start.php> during 1-30 Sep. Applicants must submit a \$5 non-refundable fee. Available permits will be allocated during a lottery and mailed to successful applicants.

- If you receive a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit, you may harvest one bobcat by hunting, trapping or salvaging a road-kill during open seasons. Examples of legal methods of hunting include archery, predator calling, stalking, and treeing with dogs. The hunting season for bobcats is closed during firearm deer seasons.

- Taking bobcats is prohibited in the closed zone.
- If you harvest a bobcat, you must purchase a \$5 Bobcat Registration Permit at www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/Pages/Furbearers.aspx within 48 hours. (Code 306 under "Permits") The Department will mail you a federal CITES tag within 2-3 weeks. NOTE: Bobcat Registration Permits are not available at license vendors or DNR DIRECT.
- A federal CITES tag must be permanently affixed to each bobcat pelt before it is exported from the United States or transferred to a fur buyer, taxidermist, fur tanner, or garment manufacturer. If you plan to have a bobcat mounted, we recommend making a slit between the inner lip and eye hole then placing a piece of wood or plastic in the slit before freezing the bobcat. This will make it easier to insert the federal tag when you receive it.
- Applicants who received a bobcat permit in the previous years lottery are not eligible to receive a permit the following year (regardless of whether they harvested a bobcat).

Attention Trappers and Hunters

Researchers at two Illinois Universities are continuing their work with the Department of Natural Resources to study bobcat populations and abundance in Illinois. At Western Illinois University, researchers will use both trail cameras and traditional traps to safely capture and collar bobcats to learn more about population dynamics, abundance and habitat use in north-central Illinois (Bureau, Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Tazewell, and Woodford counties). Researchers would benefit from the help of the trapping community across the 6-county area in capturing bobcats and collecting tissue samples from road-kill bobcats in north-central Illinois. Contact Dr. Chris Jacques (309)-298- 2155 at WIU for more information.

In addition, researchers at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale are continuing their research on bobcats and river otter and are seeking lower jaws from hunter/trapper harvested animals. They will use the information to update the population estimate for bobcats and river otter in Illinois. Recolonization of central and northern Illinois by these species is a conservation success story made possible by conservation programs and the sportsmen and women throughout Illinois. For more information about the bobcat research at SIUC or if you have a bobcat or otter jaw you would like to donate, please contact Stefano Anile (618) 527-0001 for more information.



Photo by Michael Jeffords

This will be the 5th year for bobcat hunting and trapping in Illinois since the season was reopened in 2016. The bobcat and many other game mammals in Illinois were nearly extirpated from the state in the early 1900's because of habitat loss and unregulated harvest. Bobcats, like white-tailed deer, wild turkey, river otter, and beaver made remarkable recoveries as habitat quantity and quality improved and conservation strategies were implemented by wildlife managers. Much of this work was funded by hunters and trappers through license fees and the Pittman-Robertson Act, which taxes sporting goods, firearms, and ammunition. Funds are used for wildlife conservation including: research, habitat improvements, and acquisition of habitat.

FURBEARER HUNTING

SPECIES	DATES	HOURS	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon Opossum Fox <i>(Red and Gray)</i> Bobcat	10 Nov 2020–15 Feb 2021 Closed during the first and second firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	Open 24 hours and season begins 1/2 hour before sunrise on 10 Nov 2020 and closes 1/2 hour after sunset 15 Feb 2021. *see archery restrictions	During Archery Deer Season bow hunting hours for raccoon, opossum, fox, coyote and striped skunk will be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Limit one bobcat per person per season. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of harvesting a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
Woodchuck <i>(groundhog)</i>	1 Jun 2020-31 Mar 2021. Closed during the first and second firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Hunters with unfilled firearm deer permits may harvest coyotes during firearm deer seasons with weapons legal for deer hunting from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
Coyote Striped Skunk	Year round, Closed during the first and second firearm deer seasons in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No time restriction 10 Nov 2020–15 Mar 2021	There is no limit on foxes, coyote, opossum, raccoon, striped skunk or woodchuck.

Tree Climbing or Cutting Devices

You cannot legally use or possess any tree climbing or tree cutting device (i.e., saw or axe) when hunting furbearing mammals, except coyotes.

Furbearer Running Season

Furbearers may be pursued or chased with dogs, but not killed, during the running season. The running season for coyote, gray and red fox, opossum, raccoon and striped skunk is open year-round. Exception: You cannot legally pursue any furbearer with a dog or dogs between the hours of sunset and sunrise during the 10-day period preceding the opening date of the raccoon hunting season and the 10-day period following the closing date of the raccoon hunting season. Note: Competitive hunts licensed by U.K.C., N.K.C., P.K.C. or A.K.C./A.C.H.A. may be held during the 10-day closed periods under authority of a IDNR Field Trial Permit.

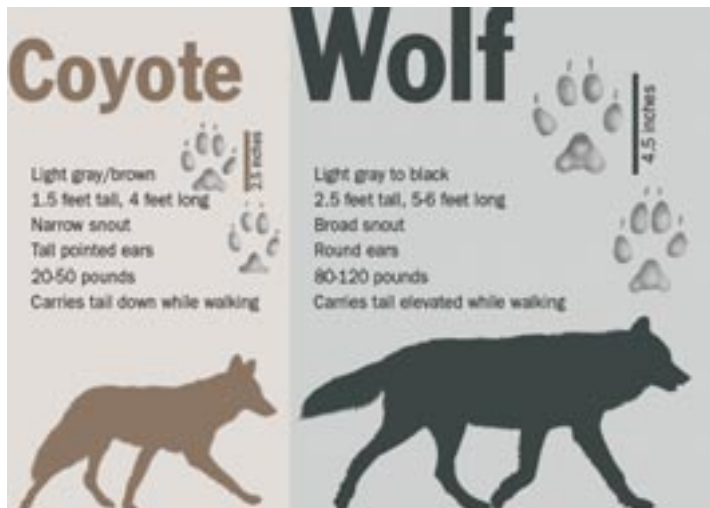
You cannot legally possess any firearm or ammunition other than a pistol loaded with blank cartridges while training dogs during the time when hunting seasons are closed except on an authorized field trial or dog training area.

When training dogs from sunset to sunrise, no person in, along with or accompanying the dog training party shall be in possession of a firearm or live ammunition, except pistols capable of firing only blank cartridges.

Non-residents are prohibited from hunting furbearers or running their dogs in Illinois during any time when Illinois residents would not be allowed to hunt furbearers or run dogs in the non-resident's state.

Coyote Hunting

- Coyotes can be hunted 24 hours from 10 November through midnight on 15 March. During the rest of the year, hunting hours for coyotes are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Closed during shotgun deer seasons - see restrictions below.
- Hunters need a hunting license and habitat stamp unless exempt.
- Coyotes may be hunted on private property using dogs, archery devices, any type and caliber of handgun, any type of legal rifle including large capacity semi-automatic rifles, and shotguns using any type of shell. During firearm deer seasons, coyotes may be harvested only by hunters with valid, unfilled deer permits using the same types of firearms that are allowed for deer. When hunting with a shotgun, make sure that the magazine has been fitted with a plug which makes the shotgun incapable of firing more than three consecutive shots.
- Electronic calling devices are legal for coyote hunting.
- It is legal to bait coyotes for hunting as long as any wild game used was legally harvested.
- Illinois does not restrict the type of sights or scopes used for coyote hunting (including laser sights and night vision scopes).
- Lights with any color of lens can be used while hunting coyotes as long as the lights are not used from or connected to any vehicle or conveyance (including ATVs and horses).
- It is illegal for a coyote hunter to wantonly allow a dog to hunt on another person's land without first obtaining permission of the landowner or tenant. If a hunting dog crosses onto property in which the coyote hunter has no permission to hunt, the hunter has no legal right to follow the dog. Illinois Animal Control Laws or other local animal control ordinances could apply to dogs running at large.
- Coyote hunters are required to keep their guns unloaded and in a case while in a vehicle or on a conveyance (including but not limited to ATVs and horseback) unless exempt by special IDNR permit.
- Guns must remain unloaded until the hunter is clear of the road and right-of-way alongside the road.
- Deer hunters with an unfilled firearm deer permit may hunt coyotes during the first and second firearm deer seasons, but must wear a cap and 400 square inches of solid blaze orange or solid blaze pink outer clothing when hunting.
- Before coyote hunting at public hunting areas, check with the site office for [site specific regulations](#).
- It is legal to hunt coyotes while using or possessing a tree climbing device.



IDNR gets many reports of wolf sightings each year, but wolves are very rare and sightings are almost always coyotes. Help us teach others the physical differences between coyotes and wolves.

Deer Accidentally Killed/Injured by Motor Vehicles and Methods Other Than Lawful Hunting

To report and claim road-killed deer online, visit:

<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer/Pages/Claim-a-Road-Kill.aspx>. There is no limit to the number of deer that may be

possessed under these circumstances. No part of a deer so killed can be bartered or sold. Except for law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties it is illegal to kill a deer:

- crippled by a collision with a motor vehicle.
- crippled by methods other than lawful hunting unless permission has been obtained from a Conservation Police Officer (see phone numbers on page 1).

The state of Illinois is absolved of any and all liability associated with the handling or utilization of vehicle-killed deer and deer killed by methods other than lawful hunting. Motorists are also reminded to report deer-related traffic accidents to appropriate law enforcement agencies when such reporting is required.

Collision with a motor vehicle

An Illinois resident/driver of a motor vehicle involved in a vehicle-deer collision has priority in legally possessing white-tailed deer killed/injured as a result of a collision with a motor vehicle. If the driver does not take possession of the deer before leaving the collision scene, any citizen of Illinois who is not delinquent in child support may possess and transport the deer. Non-residents may not claim a road-killed deer. Individuals claiming such a deer must report the possession within 24 hours at www.dnr.illinois.gov. Individuals without Internet access can report such possession by calling (217) 782-6431 no later than 4:30 p.m. the next business day.

Killed/injured by methods other than lawful hunting or a vehicle/deer accident

Any individual finding a dead or crippled deer, other than those killed/injured in a vehicle/deer collision or legally harvested by hunting methods, may not transport said deer parts until permission is obtained from a Conservation Police Officer. Permission will be granted if it is determined that the person requesting possession did not illegally kill or injure the deer. When retained, the head/antler and hide shall be properly tagged with an irremovable tag obtained from a Conservation Police Officer. The salvage tag shall remain attached to the deer until its parts are consumed or no longer possessed by any person.

Nuisance Wildlife Issues

As much as we all love wildlife, there are times when wildlife can cause a threat to human health and safety or cause property damage. There are things you can do to try and resolve the issues legally and responsibly:

- 1) Wildlife Illinois website (www.wildlifeillinois.org) provides information on ways to mitigate conflict.
- 2) If the suggestions on wildlife Illinois are tried and not effective, you may speak with a District Wildlife Biologist or Conservation Police Officer to see if there are other ways to reduce the conflict, including a Nuisance Animal Removal Permit when/where applicable.
- 3) The Wildlife Illinois website has a list of licensed Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators that specialize in resolving conflict and may be hired to help resolve wildlife issues (These are private businesses and will charge for their services).



Feral Swine Laws in Illinois

Feral swine (wild pigs) are escaped animals from free range livestock operations, dumped pets and/or illegal releases. Feral swine negatively impact wildlife and wildlife habitat. These animals have a high reproductive potential and populations must be reduced by 70 percent each year simply to keep them from expanding.

The Department regulates the transport, release, and harvest of feral swine. Specifically:

- Hunters may only shoot feral swine during the firearm, muzzleloader, late-winter, and CWD deer seasons if the hunter possesses a valid firearm, muzzleloader, late-winter, or CWD deer permit. It is illegal to harvest feral swine outside of those dates, unless the individual has been issued a Nuisance Wildlife Permit from a District Wildlife Biologist. Pigs are considered feral swine if they are unrestrained and have adapted to living in a wild or free-roaming environment. Hunters who mistakenly or purposely shoot a domestic pig or someone's pet may be subject to civil and/or criminal charges.
- Hunter-killed feral swine must be reported to the Department by contacting the Wildlife Disease and Invasive Animals Program Manager at 815-369-2414. Hunters may keep the legally harvested feral swine.
- It is illegal to provide outfitting or guide services for feral swine hunting in Illinois.
- It is illegal to hunt feral swine in an enclosure.
- It is illegal to release, transport, and/or possess feral swine.

Successful deer and turkey hunters who check in their harvest will be asked to report the number of feral swine they had observed during the hunting season in the county in which they were successful. These data will assist wildlife biologists in determining where feral swine are located and allow for removal of these animals before extensive agricultural and environmental damage occurs. The Department and United States Department of Agriculture have recently eliminated feral swine from the two areas known to have free ranging feral swine populations.

Report feral swine sightings to: IDNR, 8916 Wilmot Road, Spring Grove, IL 60081. Phone: 675-2386 ext. 215.

Birds Doing Damage

Grackles, blackbirds and cowbirds may not be hunted as a game species or for recreational purposes. However, in nuisance wildlife cases, red-winged blackbirds, Brewer's blackbirds, cowbirds, grackles and crows found causing serious injuries to agricultural crops, horticultural crops, livestock feed, or wildlife recognized by the Department or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as species that are endangered, threatened, candidates for listing, or special concern, or a health hazard or structural property damage may, without a permit, harvest the above listed species provided the person:

- has familiarized themselves with reporting requirements and federal rules set forth in 50 CFR 21.43
 - has authorization from the landowner or tenant
 - has tried non-lethal control methods prior to lethal control
 - uses a shotgun (only non-toxic shot), air gun or traps
 - uses no calls, decoys, etc.
 - employs legal techniques only on or over the threatened area
- Rusty and yellow-headed blackbirds are protected and cannot be killed.

Crows may be hunted as game by properly licensed hunters using shotguns, calls, decoys, etc. during the crow hunting season (page 37). It is illegal to recreationally hunt crows with airguns, rifles or handguns.

Do Not Spread Exotic Invasive Plants

Wildlife habitat throughout Illinois is being degraded and destroyed by invasive plants such as Russian olive, multiflora rose, bush honeysuckle and garlic mustard. Native vegetation supports a much greater variety of wildlife than a habitat of exotic plants. Invasive plants reduce the number and variety of forest wildlife by reducing the availability of food and suitable cover. For instance, bush honeysuckle will shade out oak tree seedlings and, over time, reduce the oak component of a forest. Fewer acorn-producing trees mean lower food availability and reduced habitat quality for white-tailed deer, squirrel, and turkey. Invasive plants in wetland areas and along lake shores, such as common reed, have a negative effect on a host of water birds. If invasive plants win, native plants and wildlife lose, and so do the people who enjoy them.

Here is what you can do to help:

1. Clean your boots and gear after each hunting trip to ensure you are not spreading invasive seeds to new locations.
2. Do not plant invasive plants for wildlife. Native species provide much better food and cover for native wildlife.
3. Do not use exotic plants for cover on blinds. This can spread them to new areas.
4. Learn to identify invasive plants and report any new sightings to local land managers.

Public Hunting Areas Region 1

Site-specific information and regulations may be obtained by contacting
The site or visiting the department of natural resources website:

[HTTPS://WWW2.ILLINOIS.GOV/DNR/HUNTING/FACTSHEETS/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](https://www2.illinois.gov/DNR/HUNTING/FACTSHEETS/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX)

Please contact the site or obtain a hunter fact sheet from the website prior to hunting.

Name	Mailing Address	Huntible Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	CWD Deer Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opussum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping	
1	Anderson Lake SFWA	647 N. State Highway 100, Astoria, 61501; (309) 759-4484	1900	x	x/@	x					c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e	
2	Apple River Canyon SP Salem and Thompson Units	8763 E. Canyon Rd., Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	1052	x		x	s	x	s	s	s	c	x	x					x	x	x		
3	Argyle Lake SP	640 Argyle Park Rd., Colchester, 62326; (309) 776-3422	950	x		x	s	x		c	c	c	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	e	
4	Banner Marsh SFWA	19721 N. U.S. 24, Canton, 61520; (309) 647-9184	3000	x	@			x							x	x	x	x				x	e
5	Big Bend SFWA	P.O. Box 181, Prophetstown, 61277; (815) 772-4708	2338	x	x	x	x				s		x	x	s	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
6	Big River SF	RR1, Box 118, Keithsburg, 61442; (309) 374-2496	2970	x	x	s	x		c	s	c	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	
7	Bradford PHA	c/o Hennepin Canal Parkway; (815) 454-2328	103	x				x						@		@	@						
8	Buffalo Prairie PHA	c/o Snakeden Hollow SFWA; (309) 879-2607	300	x										x		x	x						e
9	Buffalo Rock SP	1300 N. 27th Rd., Ottawa, 61350; (815) 433-2220	310	x				x															
10	Castle Rock SP	1365 W Castle Rd, Oregon, 61061; (815) 732-7329	1620	x		x	s	x	s	s	s		x										
11	Donnelley SFWA	c/o DePue SFWA; (815) 447-2353	676	x	@																		
12	Double "T" SFWA	19721 N. U.S. 24, Canton, 61520; (309) 647-9184	460	x	@										x								e
13	Dublin Highlands PHA	c/o Lake Le-Aqua-NA SP; (815) 369-4282	122	x				x						@		@	@						
14	Franklin Creek SNA	1872 Twist Rd, Franklin Grove, 61031; (815) 456-2878	635	x			s	x		x			x										
15	Franklin Creek-Nachusa Prairie SNA	c/o Franklin Creek SNA; (815) 456-2878	72	x										@		@	@						
16	French Bluff SNA	c/o Mississippi Palisades SP; (815) 273-2731	342	x		x	s	x	s	s	s		x										
17	George S. Park SNA	c/o DePue SFWA; (815) 447-2353	80	x		c	x	c	c	c													
18	Green River SWA	375 Game Rd, Harmon, 61042; (815) 379-2324	2515	x		x	s	x		s	s		x	@	x	@	@		x	x	x		
19	Hanover Bluff SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	332	x		x	s	x	s	s	s	c	x	x					x	x	x	e	
20	Henderson Creek SFWA	RR1 Box 118 Keithsburg, 61442; (309) 374-2496	800	x	x																		
21	Hennepin Canal ST	16006 875 E St., Sheffield, 61361; (815) 454-2328	350	x				x					x		x					x		x	e
22	Ilo Dillin SHA	c/o Mackinaw River SFWA; (309) 963-4969	75	x				x						@		@	@						e
23	Johnson-Sauk Trail SRA	28616 Sauk Trail Rd., Kewanee, 61443; (309) 853-2425	862	x		x	@	x			s		x	x	s	x	x			x	x	e	
24	Jubilee College SP	13921 West Rt., 150, Brimfield, 61517; (309) 446-3758	2900	x		x	@/s	@	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	e
25	Kishwaukee River SFWA	c/o Shabbona Lake; (815) 824-2106	484	x			s	x		s	s		x										e
26	Lake DePue SFWA	Box 52, DePue, 61322; (815) 447-2353	1700	x	x																		
27	Lake Le-Aqua-NA SP	8542 N Lake Rd, Lena, 61048; (815) 369-4282	560	x			s	x		x	x				x								x
28	Little Rock Creek SHA	c/o Morrison Rockwood SP; (815) 772-4708	148	x				x						@		@	@						e
29	Lost Mound Unit FL	7071 Riverview Rd., Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	6000				s/c																
30	Lowden-Miller SF	c/o Castle Rock SP; (815) 732-7329	2225	x		x	s	x		s	s		x										
31	Lowden SP	1411 N. River Rd, Oregon, 61061; (815) 732-6828	80	x				x															
32	Mackinaw River SFWA	15470 Nelson Rd., Mackinaw, 61755; (309) 963-4969	1400	x		x	s	x			s		x	@	x	@	@						e
33	Manito PHA	7982 S. Park Rd., Manito, 61546; (309) 968-7135	70	x										@		@	@						
34	Marseilles SFWA	2660 E. 2350th Rd, Marseilles, 61341; (815) 795-2448	2239	x		x	s	x	s	s	s		x	x	x	x	x					x	
35	Marshall SFWA	236 State Rt. 26, Lacon, 61540; (309) 246-8351	5804	x	x/@	x	s	x	c	c	s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			e
36	Matthiessen SP	c/o Starved Rock SP, Box 509, Utica, 61373; (815) 667-4726	1500	x	x	x	s	x	s	s	s		x		x							x	
37	Mautino SFWA	c/o Hennepin Canal Parkway; (815) 454-2328	891	x				x			x		x	@	x	@	@						e
38	Maytown PHA	c/o Green River SWA; (815) 379-2324	159	x				x						@		@	@						
39	Miller Anderson Woods SNA	c/o DePue SFWA; (815) 447-2353	524	x		c	x	c	c	c													
40	Mississippi Palisades SP	16327A IL Rt., 84, Savanna, 61074; (815) 273-2731	1500	x			s	x		s	@/s		x										
41	Mississippi River (pool 12) FL*	7071 Riverview Road, Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	7990	x		x	c	x		c	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
42	Mississippi River (pool 13) FL*	7071 Riverview Road, Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	10482	x		x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
43	Mississippi River (pool 14) FL*	7071 Riverview Road, Thomson, 61285; (815) 273-2732	1472	x		x	c	x	c	x	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
44	Mississippi River (pool 16) FL*	Rock Island County near Rock Island; (815) 273-2733	4492	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
45	Mississippi River (pool 17) FL*	Mercer County near New Boston; (309) 879-2169	2883	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
46	Mississippi River (pool 18) FL*	Henderson County near Oquawka; (309) 879-2169	5173	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
47	Mitchell's Grove SNA	c/o Starved Rock SP; (815) 667-4726	185	x			s	x	s	s													
48	Morrison-Rockwood SP	18750 Lake Rd., Morrison, 61270; (815) 772-4708	950	x		x	s	x			s				x								e
49	Pekin Lake SFWA	c/o Spring Lake SFWA; (309) 968-7135	1200	x	x			x															e
50	Powerton Reservoir SFWA	c/o Spring Lake SFWA; (309) 968-7135	855	x	x																		
51	Rail Woods SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	283	x		x	s	x	s	s	s	c	x	x						x	x	x	
52	Rice Lake SFWA	19721 N. U.S. 24, Canton, 61520; (309) 647-9184	2500	x	x/@										x								e
53	Rock Cut SP	7318 Harlem Rd, Loves Park, 61111; (815) 885-3311	2570	x			@					@											e
54	Rockton Bog SNA	c/o Rock Cut SP; (815) 885-3311	103	x				x															
55	Sand Prairie PHA	c/o Green River SWA; (815) 379-2324	316	x										@	x	@	@						
56	Sandy Ford SNA	c/o Starved Rock SP; (815) 667-4726	203	x		x	s	x	s	s	s		x										
57	Shabbona Lake SP	4201 Shabbona Grove Rd, Shabbona, 60550; (815) 824-2106	776	x	@			@					@		@								e
58	Sinnissippi Lake SFWA	Lee & Whiteside counties near Sterling; (815) 454-2328	700	x	x																		x
59	Snakeden Hollow SFWA	P.O. Box 295, Victoria, 61485; (309) 879-2607	2497	x	@	@		x						x	@	@			x				e
60	Spoon River SF	c/o Snakeden Hollow SFWA; (309) 879-2607	1680	x		x	s	x	s	c	s	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
61	Spring Lake SFWA	7982 S. Park Rd., Manito, 61546; (309) 968-7135	1500	x	x/@	x		x						x									e
62	Starved Rock SP	Box 509, Utica, 61373; (815) 667-4726	2817	x	x		@/s	x	s	s	s		x		x								
63	Steward PHA	c/o Shabbona Lake SRA; (815) 824-2106	80	x										@		@	@						

HUNTING AREAS INFORMATION

Public Hunting Areas Region 1

Site-specific information and regulations may be obtained by contacting the site or visiting the department of natural resources website:

[HTTPS://WWW2.ILLINOIS.GOV/DNR/HUNTING/FACTSHEETS/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/hunting/factsheets/pages/default.aspx)

Please contact the site or obtain a hunter fact sheet from the website prior to hunting.

Name	Mailing Address	Huntable Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	CWD Deer Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opussum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping
64 Tapley Woods SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River, 61001; (815) 745-3302	259	x	x	x	s	x	s		s	s	c	x	x					x	x	x	
65 Victoria PHA	c/o Snakeden Hollow SFWA; (309) 879-2607	241	x	x										@	x	@	@	x				e
66 Wards Grove NP	c/o Apple River Canyon SP; (815) 745-3302	337	x			s	x	s		s												
67 White Pines SP	6712 W. Pines Rd., Mt. Morris, 61054; (815) 946-3717	300	x			s	x			s												
68 Whitefield PHA	c/o Marshall SFWA; (309) 246-8351	117	x				x							@		@	@					
69 Winston Tunnel SNA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP; (815) 745-3302	207	x		x	s	x	s		s	s	c	x	x					x	x	x	
70 Witkowsky SFWA	c/o Apple River Canyon SP, Apple River; 61001; (815) 745-3302	1069	x		x	s	x	s		x	s	s	x	x								x
71 Woodford SFWA	c/o Marshall SFWA; (309) 246-8351	1350	x	x	x		x												x			

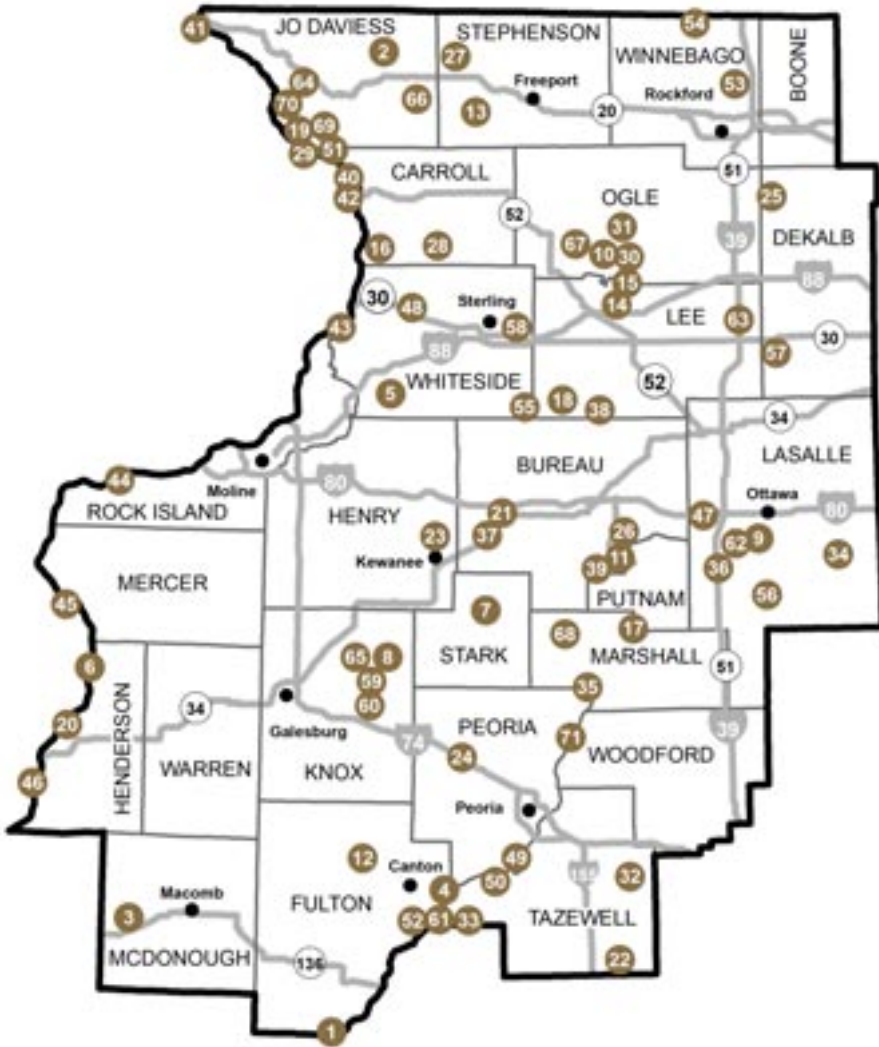
Site Classification and Symbol Key:

CA - Conservation Area
 FL - Federal Land
 NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
 PHA - Pheasant Habitat Area
 SF - State Forest
 SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area
 SHA - State Habitat Area

SHS - State Historic Site
 SNA - State Natural Area
 SP - State Park
 SRA - State Recreation Area
 ST - State Trail
 SWA - State Wildlife Area
 SWMA - State Wildlife Mgmt. Area

⊗ - Opportunities available for disabled hunters
 ⊠ - Rare on site, but legal to take cocks only
 @ - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be available for waterfowl hunting. Horseshoe Lake also has some areas open to statewide regulations.
 * - Mostly boat accessible only
 ** - Deer and turkey hunting for residents only

a - Included in Mississippi River Wildlife Area Fact Sheet.
 b - Included in Mississippi River Pool 21, 22 and 24 Fact Sheets.
 c - County permit required.
 d - Web Page - https://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_river/
 e - Contact site office for site-specific permit.
 s - Special Hunt Area permit required from the Springfield permit office.
 x - Available at site



Public Hunting Areas Region 1
 Map Locations



Public Hunting Areas Region 2

Site-specific information and regulations may be obtained by contacting The site or visiting the department of natural resources website:

[HTTPS://WWW2.ILLINOIS.GOV/DNR/HUNTING/FACTSHEETS/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX](https://www2.illinois.gov/DNR/HUNTING/FACTSHEETS/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX)

Please contact the site or obtain a hunter fact sheet from the website prior to hunting.

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1 Adeline Jay Geo-Karis Illinois Beach SP	Lake Front-Park Office, Zion, 60099; (847) 662-4811	900	x				e														
2 Black Crown Marsh SNA	c/o Moraine Hills SP 1510 S River Rd McHenry, IL 60051 815-385-1624	136	x	@																	
3 Braidwood Lake SFWA	PO Box 126, Braceville, 60407; (815) 237-0063	1100	x	x																	
4 Chain O'Lakes SP	8916 Wilmot Rd., Spring Grove, 60081; (847) 587-5512	2578	x	x	x	s	x					x	x	x		x					
5 Des Plaines SFWA	24621 N. River Rd., Wilmington, 60481; (815) 423-5326	3500	x	x		s	x						x	x	x	⊗				x	
6 Des Plaines Game Propagation Center	30550 S. Boathouse Rd, Wilmington, 60481; (815) 476-6741	134	x				x														e
7 Goose Lake Prairie SNA	5010 N Jugtown, Morris, 60450; (815) 942-2899	3127	x			s	x	s	s												
8 Heidecke Lake SFWA	5010 N Jugtown, Morris, 60450; (815) 942-6352	1800	x	x	x	s	x	s	s												
9 I & M Canal ST	402 Ottawa St., Morris, 60450; (815) 942-0796		x																		e
10 James Pate Philip SP	2050 W. Stearns Rd., Bartlett, 60103; (847) 608-3100	415	x				e														
11 Kankakee River SP	5314 W. Rt. 102, Bourbonnais, 60914; (815) 933-1383	2017	x	x	x		⊗		s	x			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	e
12 Mazonia SFWA	PO Box 126, Braceville, 60407; (815) 237-0063	2250	x	x			x						x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
13 Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie	30239 South State Rt. 53, Wilmington, 60481; (815) 423-6370	9117	x			s	x	s	s												
14 Momence Wetlands	c/o Kankakee River SP; (815) 933-1383	460	x	x	x	s	x		s												x
15 Moraine Hills SP	1510 S. River Rd, McHenry, 60051; (815) 385-1624	2400	x	@			s	e													
16 Redwing Slough/Deer Lake SNA	c/o Chain O'Lakes SP; (847) 587-5512	155	x	x																	
17 Silver Springs SFWA	13608 Fox Rd, Yorkville, 60560; (630) 553-6297	900	x		x		x						x	x	x	x					x
18 Vesely/Wilmington Shrub Prairie SNA	c/o Des Plaines SFWA; 24621 N. River Rd., Wilmington, 60481; (815) 423-5326	300	x			s	x		s												
19 Volo Bog SNA	28478 West Brandenburg, Ingleside, 60041; (815) 344-1294	1000	x				e														
20 William W. Powers SRA	12949 S Ave. O, Chicago, 60633; (773) 646-3270	419	x	x																	

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- SF - State Forest
- SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area
- SHA - State Habitat Area

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HUNTING AREAS INFORMATION



Public Hunting Areas Region 2

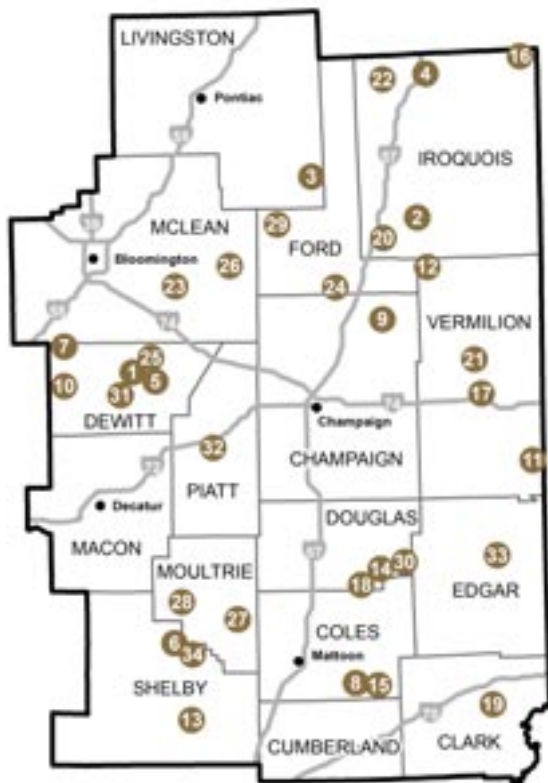
Map Locations



Public Hunting Areas Region 3

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Name	Mailing Address	Huntable Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opussum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping	
1 Birkbeck PHA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	80	x										@		@	@					e	
2 Butterfield Trail SRA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	120	x	x		s	x	s		s		x						x				e
3 Chatsworth SHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	160	x										@		@	@						
4 Clifton PHA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	79	x										@		@	@						
5 Clinton Lake SRA	7251 Ranger Rd., DeWitt, 61735; (217) 935-8722	4125	x	⊗	x	⊗/s	x	s		s		x	x	e/x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
6 Eagle Creek SRA	RR1, Box 198-B, Findlay, 62534; (217) 756-8260	520	x				⊗			s		x	x		x	x	x	x				
7 Finrock PHA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	365	x				e						@		@	@						e
8 Fox Ridge SP	18175 State Park Road, Charleston, 61920; (217) 345-6416	1082	x	x	x	s	x			s			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
9 Gifford PHA	c/o Kickapoo SRA; (217) 442-4915	100	x										@		@	@						x
10 Hallsville PHA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	82	x				e						@		@	@						e
11 Harry "Babe" Woodyard SNA	c/o Kickapoo SRA; (217) 442-49157	1150	x		x	s	x			s		x	@	s/x	@	@		x	x	x	x	e
12 Herschel Workman PHA	c/o Kickapoo SRA; (217) 442-4915	141	x										@		@	@						x
13 Hidden Springs SF	RR1, Box 200, Strasburg, 62465; (217) 644-3091	963	x	x	x	s	x	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
14 Hindsboro PHA	c/o Walnut Point SP; (217) 346-3336	88	x		x		x						@		@	@						x
15 Hurricane Ck. (Paul C. Burrus) SHA	c/o Fox Ridge SP; (217) 345-6416	376	x		x	s	x			s			@		@	@						x
16 Iroquois County SWA	2803 East 3300 North Rd., Beaverville, 60912; (815) 435-2218	2185	x		x	s	x			s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
17 Kickapoo SRA	10906 Kickapoo Rd, Oakwood, 61858; (217) 442-4915	1253	x		x	s	x	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
18 Larry D. Closson SHA	c/o Shelbyville SWMA; (217) 665-3112	130	x	@	x		x						@		@	@						x
19 Lincoln Trail SP	16985 E 1350th Rd., Marshall, 62441; (217) 826-2222	875	x				x						x	x		@	@		x			e
20 Loda PHA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	160	x										@		@	@						
21 Middle Fork SFWA	c/o Kickapoo SP; (217) 442-4915	2628	x		x	s	x	s		s		x	x	s/x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
22 Milks Grove PHA	c/o Iroquois County CA; (815) 435-2218	78	x										@		@	@						
23 Moraine View SRA	27374 Moraine View Pk. Rd., Leroy, 61752; (309) 724-8032	1191	x		x		x			s		x	x	e/x	x	e	x	x			x	e
24 Perdueville PHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	120	x										@		@	@						e
25 Salt Creek WMA	c/o Clinton Lake SRA; (217) 935-8722	60	x	⊗	@																	
26 Saybrook PHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	646	x										@		@	@						e
27 Shelbyville FL	RR4, Box 128B, Shelbyville, 62565; (217) 774-3951	9000	x		x	⊗/s	x	x		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
28 Shelbyville SFMA	562 Ste Hwy 121, Bethany, 61914; (217) 665-3112	6343	x	x	x	s	x	x		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
29 Sibley PHA	c/o Moraine View SP; (309) 724-8032	630	x										@		@	@						e
30 Walnut Point SP	2331 E. County Rd 370 North, Oakland, 61943; (217) 346-3336	571	x		x		x															x
31 Weldon Springs SP	4734 Weldon Springs Rd., Clinton, 61727; (217) 935-2644	100	x																			e
32 Weldon Springs—Piatt County Unit	c/o Weldon Springs SP; (217) 935-2644	770	x		x	s	x			s			x		x	x						
33 Willow Creek SHA	c/o Walnut Point SP; (217) 346-3336	87	x		x		x						@		@	@						x
34 Wolf Creek SP	RR1, Box 99, Windsor, 61957; (217) 459-2831	500	x			⊗/s	x			s		x	x		x	x			e			



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Public Hunting Areas Region 3 Map Locations



HUNTING AREAS INFORMATION

Public Hunting Areas Region 4

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1* Batchtown SFWA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	2436	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
2 Beaver Dam SP	14548 Beaver Dam Lane, Plainview, 62685; (217) 854-8020	430	x	x		⊗			s		⊗									x	e
3 Bohm Woods NP	c/o Horseshoe Lake SP; (618) 931-0270	90	x			x															
4 Calhoun Point FL	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	2215	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
5 Carlyle Lake SFWA	RR2, Box 233, Vandalia, 62471; (618) 425-3533	9868	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
6 Cedar Glen SNA	P.O. Box 246 Nauvoo, 62354; (217) 453-2512	1150	x			s	x	s													
7* Clear Lake SWMA	c/o Sand Ridge SF; (309) 597-2212	200		x																	
8 Coffeen Lake SFWA	P.O. Box 517, Coffeen, 62017; (217) 537-3351	3063	x	x	x	s	x		s		x	@	x	@	@					x	e
9 Copperhead Hollow SWMA	13112 Visitor Center Lane, Grafton, 62037; (618) 786-3323	1344	x	x	x	s	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	e
10 East Fork Management Unit SFWA	c/o Carlyle Lake SFWA; (618) 425-3533	394			x			e	s				x				x	x	x	x	e
11 Edward R. Madigan SFWA	R.R. #3 Lincoln, 62656; (217) 732-1552	220	x										@	s	@	@					
12 Eldon Hazlet SRA	20100 Hazlet Park Rd., Carlyle, 62231; (618) 594-3015	1699	x	x	x		⊗		c	⊗/s	⊗	x	x	x	⊗	⊗	x	x	x	x	e
13 Freeman Mine SHA	c/o Sangchris Lake SP; (217) 498-9208	24	x	x									@	x	@	@					
14 Ft. DeChartres SHS (muzzleloading only)	1260 State Highway 155, Prairie du Rocher, 62277; (618) 284-7230	800	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
15 Ft. Kaskaskia SHS	4372 Park Rd. Ellis Grove, 62241; (618) 859-3741	140	x				x					x									
16 Frank Holten SP	4500 Pocket Rd, East St. Louis, 62205; (618) 874-7920	300	x				e					e									e
17* Fuller Lake SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	1817	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
18* Glades - 12 Mile Is. SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	1814	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
19 Goode's Woods NP	c/o Beaver Dam SP; (217) 854-8020	40	x			x															
20* Godar-Diamond/Hurricane Is. SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	2617	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
21 Henry A. Gleason NP	c/o Sand Ridge SF; (309) 597-2212	220	x			s	x														
22 Horseshoe Lake SP (Madison County)	3321 Highway 111, Granite City, 62040; (618) 931-0270	2000	x	x			x	s	s					x				x	x	x	e
23 Horseshoe Lake SP (Gaberet, Mosenstein and Chouteau Island Unit)	c/o 3321 Highway 111, Granite City, 62040; (618) 931-0270	2329	x	x	x		x			c	c	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	e
24 Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA	10149 Co. Highway 11, Chandlerville, 62627; (217) 452-7741	16400	x	x	x	s	x	s		s	s	x	@	s	@	@	x	x	x	x	e
25 Kaskaskia River SFWA	10981 Conservation Rd, Baldwin, 62217; (618) 785-2555	14000	x	⊗	x	c/s	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
26 Kidd Lake SNA	c/o Randolph County SRA; (618) 826-2706	465	x	@			x														e
27 Meredosia Lake	700 S. 10th, Havana, 62644; (309) 543-3288	690	x	x																	
28* Mississippi River (pool 21)	Adams County near Quincy ; (217) 285-2221	8536	b	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
29* Mississippi River (pool 21) Great River NWR (Long Island & Bear Creek Division)	P.O. Box 88 Annada, MO 63330; (573) 847-2333	6300	d	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
30* Mississippi River (pool 22) (Saverton Pool) FL	Adams County near Quincy; (217) 285-2221	6861	b	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
31* Mississippi River (pool 24) (Clarksville Pool) FL	Pike County near Pleasant Hill and Rockport; (217) 285-2221	10211	b	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
32 Nauvoo SP (Max Rowe Unit)	P.O. Box 246, Nauvoo, 62354; (217) 453-2512	30			x		x			c	c	x	x	x	x						
33 Oakford SHA	Menard County near Oakford; (309) 597-2212	115	x	x	x	c	x	c	c			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
34 Peabody River King SFWA	10981 Conservation Rd, Baldwin, 62217; (618) 785-2555	1500	x	x	x	e	x		c			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
35 Pere Marquette SP	13112 Visitor Center Lane, Grafton, 62037; (618) 786-3323	5000	x		x	c	x	c	c	c/s	c	x		x				e	e	e	e
36* Piasa Island SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	400	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
37 Randolph County SRA	4301 S. Lake Dr, Chester, 62233; (618) 826-2706	820	x		x				s			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
38 Ray Norbut SFWA	P.O. Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	1290	x	x	x	s	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
39 Ray Norbut SFWA Dutch Creek Unit	P.O. Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	410	x		x	s	x	c	c	s	c	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	e
40 Ray Norbut SFWA East Hannibal Unit	P.O. Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	46	x				x					x									e
41 Red's Landing SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	737	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
42 Revis Springs Hill Prairie	c/o Sand Ridge SF; (309) 597-2212	420	x			s	x														
43 Riprap Landing SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	2949	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
44 Sand Ridge SF	25779 E. Co. Rd. 2300 N., Box 111, Forest City, 61532; (309) 597-2212	6300	x	x	x	s	x	c		s	s	x	@	x	@	@	x	x	x	x	e
45 Sangamon County State CA	Sangamon County near Salisbury c/o Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA; (217) 452-7741	178	x		x	s	x	s		s		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
46 Sanganois SFWA	3594 Co. Rd. 200 N., Box 80, Chandlerville, 62627; (309) 546-2628	7000	x	⊗	x	s	x	s	c/s			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
47 Sangchris Lake SP	9898 Cascade Rd., Rochester, 62563; (217) 498-9208	2480	x	x	x		x	s		s		x	@	x	@	@				x	e
48 Siloam Springs SP	938 E. 3003 Lane, Clayton, 62324; (217) 894-6205	3095	x	x	⊗/s	⊗/x	⊗/s	⊗/c	⊗/s	⊗/s	c	x		x					e		e
49 Siloam Springs SP (Buckhorn Unit)**	c/o 938 E. 3003 Lane, Clayton, 62324; (217) 894-6205	2272	x	x	⊗/s	⊗/x	⊗/c	⊗/c	⊗/s	c	c	x	x	x	x				e		e
50 Siloam Springs SP (Fall Creek Unit)	c/o 938 E. 3003 Lane, Clayton, 62324; (217) 894-6205	190	x																		e
51 Sparks Pond	c/o Sand Ridge SF; (309) 597-2212	400	x				x					x	x	@	x	@	@				
52* Stump Lake SWMA	17836 State Hwy. 100 North, Grafton, 62037; (618) 376-3303	3580	a	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
53 Turkey Bluffs SFWA	c/o Randolph County SRA; (618) 826-2706	2250	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
54 Washington County SRA	18500 Conservation Dr, Nashville, 62263; (618) 327-3137	750	x		x				s			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
55 Weinberg-King SP	PO Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	760	x		x	s	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	e			e
56 Weinberg-King SP (Cecil White Unit)	PO Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	30			x					c	c	x	x		x						
57 Weinberg-King SP (Spunky Bottoms Unit)	PO Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	822	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	e
58 Weinberg-King SP (Scripps Unit)**	PO Box 203, Augusta, 62311; (217) 392-2345	747	x		x	s	x	c	c	s	c	x	x	x	x			e	x	x	e
59 Zoeller SNA c/o Frank Holton SP; 4500 Pocket Rd, East St. Louis, 62205; (618) 874-7920.		160					x			x		x									

HUNTING AREAS INFORMATION

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Public Hunting Areas Region 4

Map Locations



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1 Alvah Borah SHA	102 Park Office Rd., McLeansboro, 62859; (618) 773-4340	87	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2 Beall Woods SP	9285 Beall Woods Ave., Mt. Carmel, 62863; (618) 298-2442	516	x				c														e
3 Bluff Lakes FL	Union County near Jonesboro; (618) 833-8576	516		x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
4 Burning Star SFWA	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 993-7148	4508	x	x	s	x	s		s		x						x	x	x	x	x
5 Cache River SNA	930 Sunflower Lane, Belknap, 62908; (618) 634-9678	15392	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
6 Campbell Pond SHA	Perry & Jackson counties, c/o Pyramid SP; (618) 357-2574	520	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	
7 Cape Bend SFWA	c/o Union County SFWA; (618) 833-5175	1380	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
8 Cedar/Draper Bluff HA	P.O. Box 10 Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	1275	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	c	x					x	x	x	x	e
9 Carlyle Lake SFWA	RR2, Box 233, Vandalia, 62471; (618) 425-3533	9868	x	x	c	x	c		c		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e	
10 Chauncey Marsh SNA	c/o Red Hills SP, near Chauncey in Lawrence Co.; (618) 936-2469	519	x	x	x	c	c	c	c	s	c	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e	
11 Crab Orchard NWR	Williamson County near Carterville; (618) 997-3344	23000	x	x	x	⊗/s	x	c	c	c/s	c	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	
12 Crawford County SFWA	12609 E. 1700th Ave., Hutsonville, 62433; (618) 563-4405	1129	x		x	c	c	c	c	s	s	c	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
13 Cretaceous Hills SNA	c/o Ft. Massac SP; (618) 524-4712	254	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	x
14 Cypress Creek NWR	137 Rustic Campus Dr., Ullin, 62992; (618) 634-2231	16,000		x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
15 Cypress Pond SNA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP, Box 10, Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	1047	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
16 Deer Pond SNA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP, Box 10, Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	190	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
17 Devil's Island SWMA	c/o Union County SFWA, 2755 Refuge Rd., Jonesboro, 62952; (618) 833-5175	2741	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
18 Dixon Springs SP	RR2, Golconda, 62938; (618) 949-3394	567	x		⊗	x			⊗/s		x		x								
19 Dog Island SWMA	c/o Dixon Springs SP, RR2, Box 178, Golconda, 62938; (618) 949-3394	220	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
20 Embarras River Bottoms SHA	c/o Red Hills SP; (618) 936-2469	535	x	@	x	s	c	s		s	s	c	x		x	☒	x	x	x	x	x
21 Ferne Clyffe SP	Box 10, Goreville, 62939; (618) 995-2411	450	x		x	s	x	c		s	x	x	x	x	x	☒	x				
22 Flag Pond SNA	c/o Prairie Ridge SNA, 4295 N. 1000th St. Newton, 62448; (618) 783-2685	255	x		x	s	c			c	c	c									
23 Fort Massac SP	1308 East 5th St., Metropolis, IL 62960; (618) 524-4712	1287	x	x	x	s	x	s	s	⊗/s		x	x	x	x	☒	x				
24 Giant City SP	235 Giant City SP, Makanda, 62958; (618) 457-4836	2891	x		x	c	c	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
25 Hamilton County SFWA	102 Park Office Rd., McLeansboro, 62859; (618) 773-4340	1530	x		x	c	x	c	c	s	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
26 Horseshoe Lake SFWA (Alexander Co.)	Box 85, Miller City, 62962; (618) 776-5689	4190	x	@/⊗	x	c/s	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
27 Kinkaid Lake SFWA	52 Cinder Hill Dr, Murphysboro, 62966; (618) 684-2867	3700	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	x

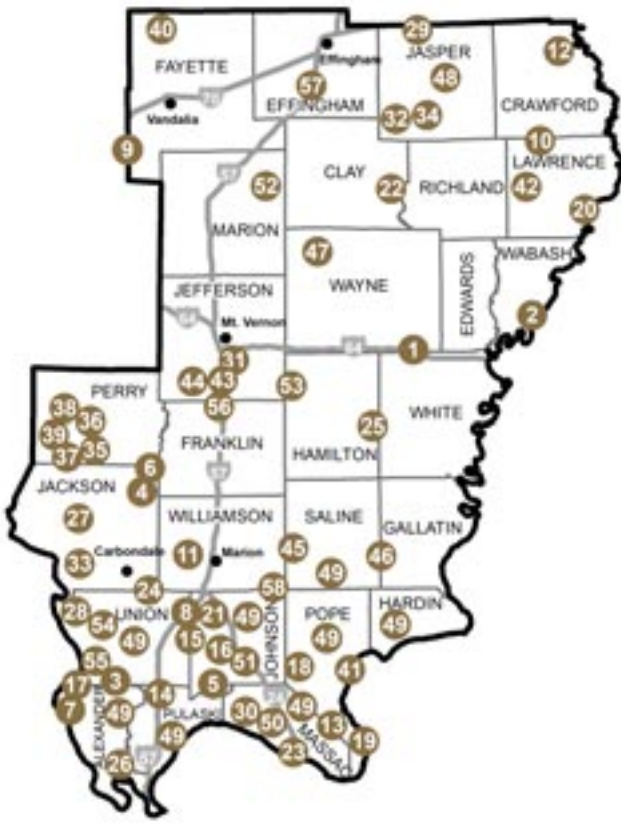
HUNTING AREAS INFORMATION

Public Hunting Areas Region 5

Site-specific information and regulations may be obtained by contacting The site or visiting the department of natural resources website:
WWW.DNR.ILLINOIS.GOV/HUNTING/PAGES/PUBLICHUNTINGAREAS.ASPX
 Please contact the site or obtain a hunter fact sheet from the website prior to hunting.

Name	Mailing Address	Huntable Acres	Hunter Fact Sheet	Waterfowl	Squirrel	Deer-Firearm	Deer-Archery	Deer-Muzzleloader	Deer-Late Winter Antlerless Season	Turkey-Spring	Turkey-Fall Gun	Turkey-Fall Bow	Rabbit	Dove	Quail	Pheasant	Woodcock	Raccoon-Opossum	Gray/Red Fox	Coyote	Trapping
28 LaRue Swamp FL	Union County near Wolf Lake; (618) 833-8576	1000	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
29 Meeker SHA	c/o Sam Parr SFWA, 13225 E. Hwy. 33, Newton 62448; (618) 783-2661	72	x		x	c	x	c		s	s	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
30 Mermet Lake SFWA	1812 Grinnell Rd., Belknap, 62908; (618) 524-5577	2000	x	☒	x	c	x	c		☒/s			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	e
31 Mt. Vernon Game Propagation Center	13995 E. Game Farm Rd., Mt. Vernon, 62864; (618) 242-0830	600	x		x		x			s		x	x	x							e
32 Newton Lake SFWA	3490 E 500th Ave., Newton, 62448; (618) 783-3478	6500	x	x	x	s	c			s	s	c	x	x	x	☒	x				e
33 Oakwood Bottoms FL	Jackson County near Murphysboro; (618) 833-8576	3400	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x
34 Prairie Ridge SNA	4295 N 1000th St., Newton, 62448; (618) 783-2685	2614	x			s	c	s													
35 Pyramid SRA - Park Unit	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	2754	x		x	s	x	c		s		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
36 Pyramid SRA - East Conant Unit @	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	2824	x	x	x	s	x	c		s		x	@	x	@	@	x	x	x	x	e
37 Pyramid SRA - Denmark Unit @	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	4385	x	x	x	s	x		c	s		x	@	x	@	@	x	x	x	x	e
38 Pyramid SRA - Galum Unit	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	2520	x	x	x	s	x		c	s		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
39 Pyramid SRA - Captain Unit @	1562 Pyramid Park Rd., Pinckneyville, 62274; (618) 357-2574	6105	x	x	x	s	x		c	s		x	@	x	@	@	x	x	x	x	e
40 Ramsey Lake SRA	Ramsey Lake Rd., P.O. Box 97, Ramsey, 62080; (618) 423-2215	1610	x		x		x			s		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	x
41 Raufhuss Hill SRA	c/o Dixon Springs SP; (618) 949-3394	150	x									x									
42 Red Hills SP	3571 Ranger Lane, Sumner, 62466; (618) 936-2469	736	x		x		c			s		c	x	x	x	☒	x				e
43 Rend Lake SFWA	10885 E. Jefferson Rd., Bonnie, 62816; (618) 279-3110	7690	x	☒	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	x
44 Rend Lake FL	11981 Rend City Rd, Benton, 62812; (618) 724-2493	7740	x	☒	x	☒	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
45 Sahara Woods SRA	1210 Tipple Road, Carrier Mills; (618) 994-2022	3800	x		x		x			s	x	x	x	x	x	☒	x	s	s	s	x
46 Saline County SFWA	85 Glenn O. Jones Rd., Equality, 62934; (618) 276-4405	1000	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
47 Sam Dale Lake SFWA	620 Cty Rd 1910 N., Johnsonville, 62850; (618) 835-2292	950	x	x	x		x			s		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
48 Sam Parr SFWA	13225 E. St. Hwy. 33, Newton, 62448; (618) 783-2661	840	x		x		c			s	s	c	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
49 Shawnee Nat'l Forest FL	Jackson, Union, Alexander, Johnson, Williamson, Massac, Pope, Hardin, Gallatin & Saline counties; (618) 253-7114	277645	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
50 Sielbeck Forest SNA	c/o Mermet Lake SFWA; (618) 524-5577	385	x	x	x	c	x	c		c		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	x
51 Skinner Farm SHA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP; (618) 995-2411	100	x		x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	
52 Stephen A. Forbes SRA	6924 Omega Rd., Kimmunity, 62854; (618) 547-3381	2580	x	x	x		x			s		x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
53 Ten Mile Creek SFWA	4283 State Route 14, McLeansboro, 62859; (618) 643-2862	4995	x	x	x	c	x	c	c	s	s	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
54 Trail of Tears SF	3240 State Forest Rd., Jonesboro, 62952; (618) 833-4910	4784	x		x	c	x	c	c	c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e
55 Union County SFWA	2755 Refuge Rd, Jonesboro, 62952; (618) 833-5175	2800	x	☒	x	c/s	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x		x				e
56 Wayne Fitzgerald SRA	11094 Ranger Rd., Whittington, 62897; (618) 629-2320	1800	x			☒	x			s		x				x					
57 Wildcat Hollow SHA	c/o Stephen A. Forbes SRA; (618) 547-3381	675	x		x	c	c	c	c	c		c	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	
58 Wise Ridge SNA	c/o Ferne Clyffe SP; (618) 995-2411	550	x	x	x	c	x	c		c	c	x	x	x	x	☒	x	x	x	x	e

HUNTING AREAS INFORMATION



Site Classification and Symbol Key:
 CA - Conservation Area
 FL - Federal Land
 NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
 PHA - Pheasant Habitat Area
 SF - State Forest
 SFWA - State Fish & Wildlife Area
 SHA - State Habitat Area
 SHS - State Historic Site
 SNA - State Natural Area
 SP - State Park
 SRA - State Recreation Area
 ST - State Trail
 SWA - State Wildlife Area
 SWMA - State Wildlife Mgmt. Area

- ☒ - Opportunities available for disabled hunters
- ☒ - Rare on site, but legal to take cocks only
- @ - Lottery permit required for waterfowl & upland game hunting. See section on Special Hunts on Dept Sites. Standby hunting may be available for waterfowl hunting. Horseshoe Lake also has some areas open to statewide regulations.
- * - Mostly boat accessible only
- ** - Deer and turkey hunting for residents only
- a - Included in Mississippi River Wildlife Area Fact Sheet.
- b - Included in Mississippi River Pool 21, 22 and 24 Fact Sheets.
- c - County permit required.
- d - Web Page - https://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_river/
- e - Contact site office for site-specific permit.
- s - Special Hunt Area permit required from the Springfield permit office.
- x - Available at site

Public Hunting Areas Region 5 Map Locations



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