



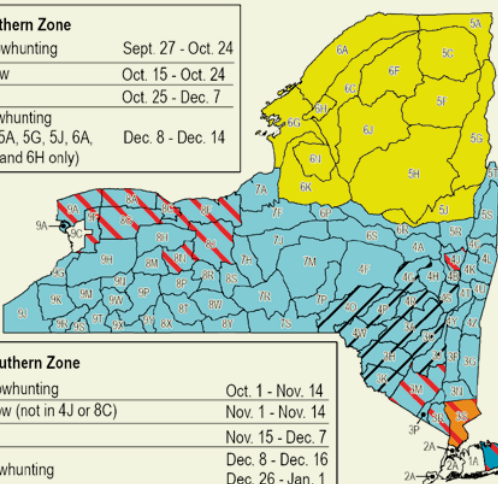
“Supporting the tradition and conservation of hunting in Upstate New York is very important to me. This year, get out to the woods with friends and family, stay safe and have fun!”

Steve Bunde

Regular & Bowhunting Deer Seasons

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset

<b>Northern Zone</b>	
Early Bowhunting	Sept. 27 - Oct. 24
Crossbow	Oct. 15 - Oct. 24
Regular	Oct. 25 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting (WMUs 5A, 5G, 5J, 6A, 6C, 6G, and 6H only)	Dec. 8 - Dec. 14



<b>Southern Zone</b>	
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
Crossbow (not in 4J or 8C)	Nov. 1 - Nov. 14
Regular	Nov. 15 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
	Dec. 26 - Jan. 1
<b>Westchester County (3S)</b>	
Regular - bowhunting only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31
<b>Suffolk County (1C)</b>	
Regular - Bowhunting Only	Oct. 1 - Jan. 31
Special Firearms (Permit Req.)	Jan. 4 - Jan. 31
<b>Early Antlerless Season</b>	
	Sept. 13 - Sept. 21
Tags: DMP and DMAP	
Vertical Bow-Only: 1C, 3S, 4J, 8C	
Firearms, Bow, & Crossbow: 3M, 3R, 8A, 8F, 8G, 8J, 8N, 9A, and 9F	

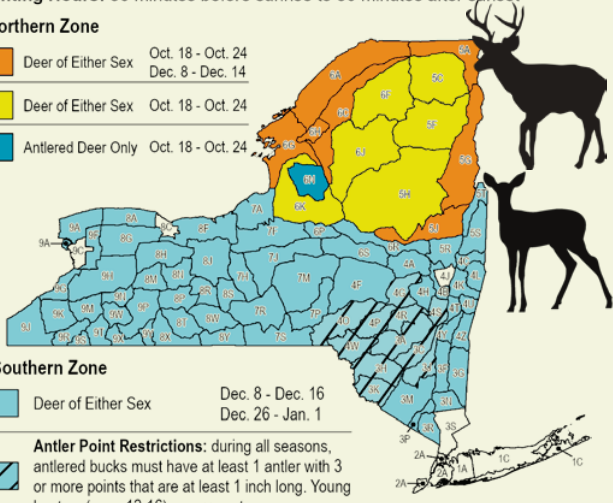
**Youth Firearms**  
**Season Dates**  
Oct. 11 - 13  
**Area Open**  
All open areas, except bowhunting only WMUs  
**Eligible Hunters**  
- Youth 14-15 yrs  
- Youths 12-13 yrs (select counties, see dec.ny.gov)  
**Bag Limit**  
One deer  
**Tags**  
Regular (either sex), DMP and DMAP (antlerless only); Bow/Muzz tags are not valid

**Antler Point Restrictions**  
During all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.  
**Closed**

Muzzleloading Deer Seasons

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset

<b>Northern Zone</b>	
Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
	Dec. 8 - Dec. 14
Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
Antlered Deer Only	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24



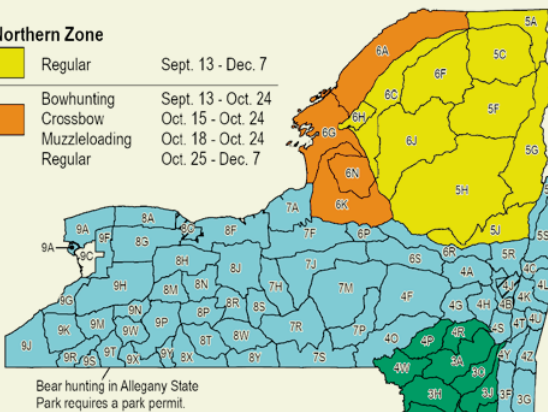
<b>Southern Zone</b>	
Deer of Either Sex	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
	Dec. 26 - Jan. 1
<b>Antler Point Restrictions:</b> during all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.	

**Crossbows** may be used to hunt deer and bear during their respective firearms seasons (early bear, regular and muzzleloading deer & bear seasons). Crossbows may not be used to hunt deer during the youth firearms season, or anytime in WMUs 1C, 3S, 4J or 8C.

Black Bear Hunting

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset

<b>Northern Zone</b>	
Regular	Sept. 13 - Dec. 7
Bowhunting	Sept. 13 - Oct. 24
Crossbow	Oct. 15 - Oct. 24
Muzzleloading	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
Regular	Oct. 25 - Dec. 7

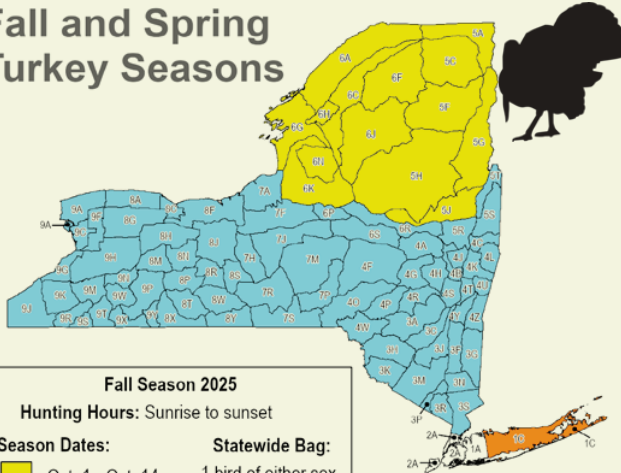


<b>Southern Zone</b>	
Early Firearms	Sept. 6 - Sept. 21
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
Crossbow (Not in WMUs 4J or 8C)	Nov. 1 - Nov. 14
Regular	Nov. 15 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Late Muzzleloading	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
<b>Westchester County (3S)</b>	
Regular - bowhunting Only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31

**Youth Firearms**  
**Season Dates**  
Oct. 11 - 13, 2025  
**Area Open**  
All open areas, except bowhunting only WMUs  
**Eligible Hunters**  
Youth 14-15 yrs

**Bowhunting Only WMUs**  
**Closed**

Fall and Spring Turkey Seasons



<b>Fall Season 2025</b>	
<b>Hunting Hours:</b> Sunrise to sunset	
<b>Season Dates:</b>	<b>Statewide Bag:</b>
Oct. 1 - Oct. 14	1 bird of either sex
Oct. 18 - Oct. 31	
Nov. 15 - Nov. 28	
Closed	
<b>Spring Season 2026</b>	
<b>Hunting Hours:</b> 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon	
<b>Season Dates:</b>	<b>Statewide Bag:</b>
May 1 - May 31	- 2 bearded birds, no more than 1 per day.
in all open areas	- No more than 1 in WMU 1C.
Closed	

**Youth Turkey Season Spring 2026**  
**Hunting Hours:**  
1/2 hour before sunrise to noon  
**Season Dates:**  
April 25 - 26, 2026  
**Statewide Bag Limit**  
1 bearded bird  
**Open Areas:**  
Same as regular spring season



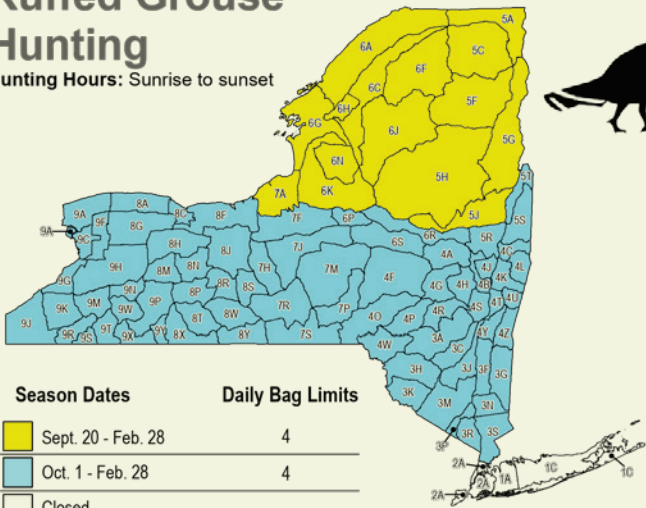
**Remember to Report Your Game Harvest**  
HuntFishNY Mobile App \* 1-866-426-3778 \* [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)

Most regulations are in effect Sept. 1, 2025 through Aug. 31, 2026

# New York State 2025-2026

## Ruffed Grouse Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

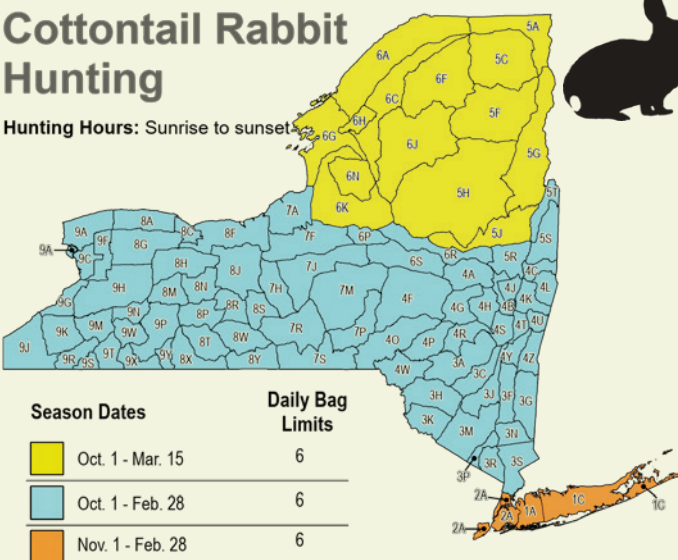


Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Sept. 20 - Feb. 28	4
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	4
Closed	



## Cottontail Rabbit Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



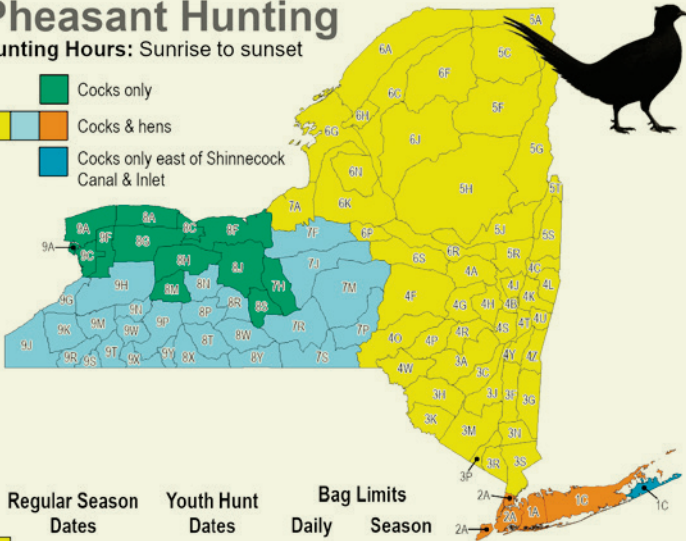
Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Mar. 15	6
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	6
Nov. 1 - Feb. 28	6



## Pheasant Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

- Cocks only
- Cocks & hens
- Cocks only east of Shinnecock Canal & Inlet



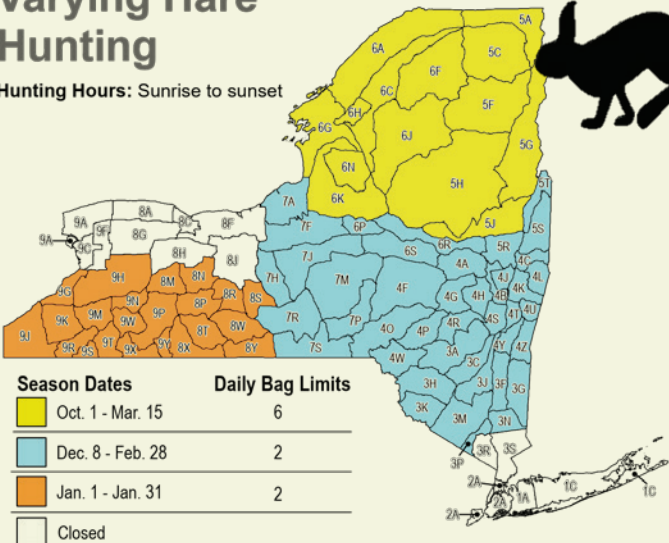
Regular Season Dates	Youth Hunt Dates	Daily Bag Limits	Season
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	Sept. 27 & 28	2	--
Oct. 18 - Feb. 28	Oct. 11 & 12	2	--
Oct. 18 - Dec. 31	Oct. 11 & 12	2	--
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Oct. 25 & 26 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup> /4 <sup>**</sup>	30
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Oct. 25 & 26	2 <sup>1</sup> /4 <sup>**</sup>	30



<sup>1</sup>In WMU 2A no youth hunt; hunting is by falconry only  
<sup>\*\*</sup>Youth hunt  
<sup>\*\*</sup>Regular season

## Varying Hare Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Mar. 15	6
Dec. 8 - Feb. 28	2
Jan. 1 - Jan. 31	2
Closed	



## Bobwhite Quail Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Season Dates	Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	4 10
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	6 40
Closed	



## Raccoon, Fox, Skunk, Opossum & Weasel Hunting

Long Island & NYC: Nov. 1 Feb. 25  
All other areas of New York: Oct. 25 Feb. 15

There are no bag limits for these species. They may be hunted during the day or night, except weasel, which may only be hunted from sunrise to sunset.



## Coyote Hunting

Statewide except Long Island & NYC: Oct. 1 Mar. 29

There are no bag limits for coyotes. They may be hunted during the day or night.



## Gray, Black & Fox Squirrel Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Long Island & NYC: Nov. 1 Feb. 28  
All other areas of New York: Sept. 1 Feb. 28

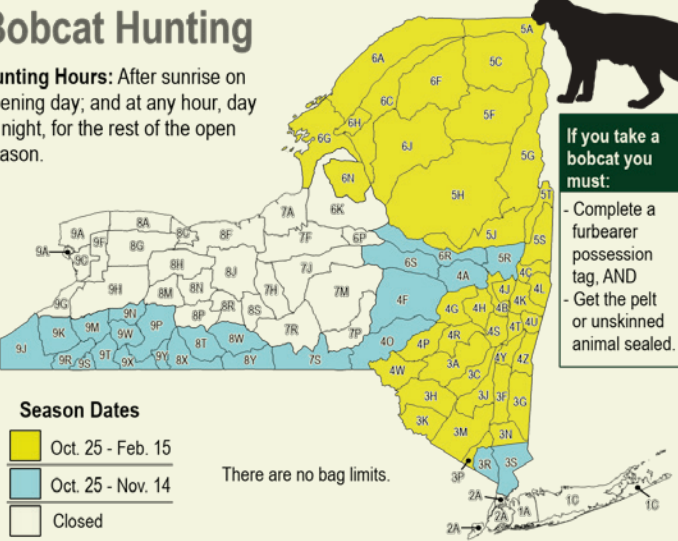
Daily bag limit of 6 total, regardless of species



Red squirrels are unprotected, and may be hunted at any time without limit.

## Bobcat Hunting

Hunting Hours: After sunrise on opening day; and at any hour, day or night, for the rest of the open season.



Season Dates
Oct. 25 - Feb. 15
Oct. 25 - Nov. 14
Closed

There are no bag limits.



If you take a bobcat you must:

- Complete a furbearer possession tag, AND
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.



There are no bag limits for these species.

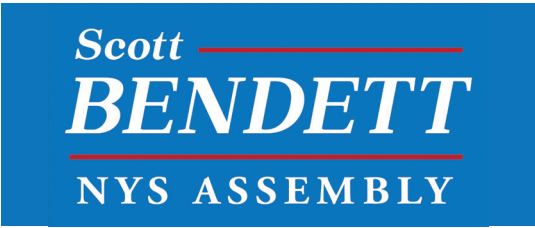
**Lifetime License (Residents Only)**

Ages 12-15	\$5	\$5
Ages 16-69	\$22	\$100
Ages 70+	\$5	\$100
Bowhunting Privilege	Resident	Non-resident
Ages 12-15	\$4	\$4
Ages 16-69	\$15	\$30
Ages 70+	No fee	\$30
Muzzleloading Privilege	Resident	Non-resident
Ages 14-69	\$15	\$30
Ages 70+	No fee	\$30
Turkey Permit	Resident	Non-resident
Ages 12+	\$10	\$20

quality for reduced fees.



Hunting & Fishing (Ages 5-11), \$765 (Ages 12-69), \$65 (Ages 70+)	Hunting	\$535
	Bowhunting	\$235
	Trapping	\$395
	Muzzleloading	\$235
	Fresh Water Fishing	\$460 (Ages up to 69) \$65 (Ages 70+)



New York State Assembly  
Albany, NY 12248

PRSRT STD.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Albany, NY  
Permit No. 75

# Carrying on the Heritage and Tradition of Upstate New York

# A guide for the 2025-26 DEC hunting fees and regulations

