

Maryland Hunting Seasons Calendar for 2023-2024

Migratory Game Birds & Small Game

Species, Season, & Region	August	September	2023 October	November	December	January	February	March	2024 April	May	June	July
Canada Goose, Early Resident Season, Eastern Hunt Zone ⁸		9/1-9/15										
Canada Goose, Early Resident Season, Western Hunt Zone ⁹		9/1-9/25										
Canada Goose, Migratory Atlantic Population ¹⁰				11/21-11/24	12/15-----1/31							
Canada Goose, Late Resident Season ¹¹				11/18-11/24	12/11-----3/5							
Light Goose			10/2-----11/24		12/11-----1/31		2/3					
Light Goose Conservation Order Season ¹²					11/27-12/9		2/1-2/2	2/5-----4/15				
Brant						12/28--1/31						
Teal, September Season ¹³		9/16-9/30										
Ducks, Eastern Zone ¹⁴			10/14-10/21	11/11-11/24	12/15-----1/31							
Ducks, Western Zone ¹⁴			9/30-10/14	11/18-11/24	12/15-----1/31							
Waterfowl- Youth, Veteran & Military Hunt Days				11/4			2/3					
Mourning Doves		9/1-----10/14	10/21-11/24		12/16-1/10							
Rails		9/1-----11/21										
Woodcock			10/21-11/24			1/11-1/27						
Common Snipe			9/29-----1/31									
Squirrel ^{15, 17}		9/2-----2/29										
Rabbit ¹⁷				11/4-----2/29								
Quail ^{16, 17}				11/4-----1/15								
Quail, western counties & eastern DNR lands ¹⁶								Closed Season				
Pheasant ¹⁷				11/4-----2/29								
Ruffed Grouse ¹⁷			10/7-----12/31									
Crow		8/15-----	Wednesday through Saturday only								-----3/15	

Footnotes for 2023-2024 Hunting Season Calendar- Migratory Game Birds & Small Game

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

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

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

11 Canada Goose, Late Resident Goose Hunt Zone- This zone includes Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery and Washington Counties; that portion of Carroll County west of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and west of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; that portion of Prince George’s County west of Route 3 and Route 30; and that portion of Charles County west of Route 301.

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

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

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

15 Closed Season for Delmarva Fox Squirrel

16 Quail- Allegany and Garrett counties are closed to quail hunting. Lands owned or managed by the Department of Natural Resources east of the Susquehanna River are closed to quail hunting. All other private lands are open to quail hunting.

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

SUNDAY SMALL GAME HUNTING 2023-2024		
The following small game species may be hunted on all Sundays during their open seasons with these restrictions, in these counties and locations.		
Eastern cottontail rabbits, gray squirrels, eastern fox squirrels, red squirrels, quail (closed in Garrett and Allegany counties), ruffed grouse and pheasants.		
COUNTY	LOCATION	SHOOTING HOURS
Allegany, Cecil, Garrett, St. Mary’s and Washington	Private and designated public lands*	Shooting hours are the same as Monday through Saturday
Calvert, Caroline, Charles, Dorchester and Queen Anne’s	Private lands only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30am
Somerset	Private lands and public land leased to a hunt club only	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30am
Wicomico and Worcester	Private and designated public lands*	Legal shooting hours on Sundays are from ½ hour before sunrise until 10:30am
* Designated public lands open to Sunday hunting in Allegany (Billmeyer-Belle Grove WMA, Dan’s Mountain WMA, Green Ridge SF, McCoolle FMA, Sideling Hill WMA, Warrior Mountain WMA), Cecil (Earlville WMA, C&D Canal Lands, Grove Farm WMA, Old Bohemia WMA), Garrett (Cunningham Swamp WMA, Garrett SF, Mt. Nebo WMA, Potomac SF, Savage River SF), St. Mary’s (Salem SF, Saint Inigoes SF), Washington (Indian Springs WMA, Prather’s Neck WMA, Sideling Hill WMA), Wicomico (Ellis Bay WMA, Chesapeake Forest Lands, Johnson WMA, Nanticoke WMA, Wetipquin WMA), and Worcester (Chesapeake Forest Lands, E. A. Vaughn WMA, Hickory Pt. Wildlands, Isle of Wight WMA, Pocomoke SF, Pocomoke River WMA)		