

Summary of Federal Regulations

NOTICE: The material below is only a summary. Each hunter should also consult the actual Federal Regulations which may be found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations Part 20. In addition to State regulations, the following Federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting, and storing of migratory game birds:

Restrictions

No person shall take migratory game birds

- with a trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- from or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease or injury to the spinal cord.
- from or by means of any motor boat or sail boat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- by 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.
- using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- by driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- by the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation.

Closed Season

No person shall take migratory game birds during the closed season.

Shooting and Hawking Hours

No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and hawking as prescribed.

Daily Bag Limit

No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

Field Possession Limit

No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.

Wanton Waste

All migratory game birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.

Tagging

No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information: (a) the hunter's signature, (b) the hunter's address, (c) the total number of birds involved, by species, and (d) the dates such birds were killed. No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

Possession of Live Birds

Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

Dressing

No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves and band-tailed pigeons) 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 migratory bird preservation facility.

Shipment

No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

Importation

For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between the port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required in 20.63), drawn, and the head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp

The law requires that each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age and over must carry on his person a valid Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, or duck stamp, signed in ink across the face. A "Duck Stamp" is not needed to hunt doves, coots, rails, gallinules, snipe, or woodcock.

Dual Violation

Violation of State migratory bird regulations is also a violation of Federal regulations.

Reference

Federal regulations related to migratory game birds are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

Sunrise and Sunset Time Table						
	September		October		November	
Day	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1	5:56	6:56	6:22	6:09	6:53	5:27
2	5:57	6:55	6:23	6:08	6:54	5:26
3	5:58	6:53	6:24	6:06	6:55	5:25
4	5:59	6:51	6:25	6:04	6:56	5:24
5	6:00	6:50	6:26	6:03	6:57	5:22
6	6:01	6:48	6:27	6:01	6:58	5:21
7	6:02	6:47	6:28	6:00	7:00	5:21
8	6:02	6:45	6:29	5:58	7:01	5:20
9	6:03	6:44	6:30	5:57	7:02	5:19
10	6:04	6:42	6:31	5:56	7:03	5:18
11	6:05	6:41	6:32	5:54	7:04	5:17
12	6:06	6:39	6:33	5:53	7:05	5:16
13	6:07	6:37	6:34	5:51	7:06	5:15
14	6:07	6:36	6:35	5:50	7:07	5:15
15	6:08	6:34	6:36	5:48	7:08	5:14
16	6:09	6:33	6:37	5:47	7:09	5:13
17	6:10	6:31	6:38	5:46	7:10	5:12
18	6:11	6:30	6:39	5:44	7:11	5:12
19	6:12	6:28	6:40	5:43	7:13	5:11
20	6:13	6:26	6:41	5:41	7:14	5:11
21	6:13	6:25	6:42	5:40	7:15	5:10
22	6:14	6:23	6:43	5:39	7:16	5:09
23	6:15	6:22	6:44	5:37	7:17	5:09
24	6:16	6:20	6:45	5:36	7:18	5:09
25	6:17	6:18	6:46	5:35	7:19	5:08
26	6:18	6:17	6:47	5:34	7:20	5:08
27	6:19	6:15	6:48	5:32	7:21	5:07
28	6:20	6:14	6:49	5:31	7:22	5:07
29	6:21	6:12	6:50	5:30	7:23	5:07
30	6:22	6:11	6:51	5:29	7:24	5:07
31			6:52	5:28		

	December		January	
Day	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1	7:25	5:06	7:44	5:17
2	7:26	5:06	7:44	5:18
3	7:27	5:06	7:44	5:19
4	7:28	5:06	7:44	5:19
5	7:29	5:06	7:44	5:20
6	7:29	5:06	7:44	5:21
7	7:30	5:06	7:44	5:22
8	7:31	5:06	7:44	5:23
9	7:32	5:06	7:44	5:24
10	7:33	5:06	7:44	5:25
11	7:34	5:06	7:43	5:26
12	7:34	5:06	7:43	5:27
13	7:35	5:07	7:43	5:28
14	7:36	5:07	7:43	5:29
15	7:36	5:07	7:42	5:30
16	7:37	5:07	7:42	5:31
17	7:38	5:08	7:41	5:32
18	7:38	5:08	7:41	5:33
19	7:39	5:09	7:41	5:34
20	7:40	5:09	7:40	5:35
21	7:40	5:10	7:40	5:37
22	7:41	5:10	7:39	5:38
23	7:41	5:11	7:38	5:39
24	7:41	5:11	7:38	5:40
25	7:42	5:12	7:37	5:41
26	7:42	5:12	7:36	5:42
27	7:43	5:13	7:36	5:43
28	7:43	5:14	7:35	5:44
29	7:43	5:15	7:34	5:46
30	7:43	5:15	7:33	5:47
31	7:43	5:16	7:33	5:48

Add one (1) hour for daylight savings time.

NOTE:

To compensate for time variations, corrections indicated for the following cities should be added or subtracted (as indicated) to both sunrise and sunset time.

	Minutes
Grafton	- 5
Grantsville	- 1
Hurricane	+ 1
Huttonsville	- 6
Keyser	- 9
Logan	- 1
Marlinton	- 7
Martinsburg	- 15
Morgantown	- 5
Princeton	- 5
Romney	- 12
Sistersville	- 1


7M




SEPTEMBER
thru
JANUARY
**2005
2006**

Migratory Bird Hunting

September 2005
- January 2006

Regulations Summary



www.wvdnr.gov

September 2005 - January 2006 Hunting Seasons for Migratory Game Birds in West Virginia

Species	Area	Open Seasons (All Dates Inclusive)		Daily Bag Limits (b)	Possession Limits (c)
Mourning Dove <i>3-way Split Season</i>	Statewide	September 1 - October 8	October 24 - November 5	12	24
		December 20 - January 7			
Sora and Virginia Rails	Statewide	September 1 - November 9		25	25
Common Snipe	Statewide	September 1 - December 16		8	16
Woodcock	Statewide	October 21 - November 19		3	6
Youth Waterfowl Season	Statewide	September 24		(d)	(d)
Ducks - <i>Split Season except canvasback (g)</i>	Zone 1	October 1 - 15	December 8 - January 21	6(e)	12(e)
	Zone 2	October 1 - 15	November 24 - January 7		
Gallinules and Coots <i>Split Season</i>	Zone 1	October 1 - 15	December 8 - January 21	15	30
	Zone 2	October 1 - 15	November 24 - January 7		
Mergansers <i>Split Season</i>	Zone 1	October 1 - 15	December 8 - January 21	5(f)	10(f)
	Zone 2	October 1 - 15	November 24 - January 7		
Canada Goose <i>Split Season</i>	Statewide	September 1 - 17		5	10
	Zone 1	October 1 - 15	December 8 - January 31	3	6
	Zone 2	October 1 - 29	December 22 - January 31		
Snow and Blue Geese <i>Split Season</i>	Zone 1	October 1 - 15	December 8 - January 31	5	10
	Zone 2	October 1 - 29	December 22 - January 31		
Brant	Zone 1	December 23 - January 21		2	4
	Zone 2	December 9 - January 7			

Shooting hours for dove are from 12:00 noon to sunset on opening day of the first segment and from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset during the remainder of the season. Shooting hours for rails, snipe, woodcock and waterfowl are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. There is no open season on swans, king and clapper rails, eiders, whistling ducks, mottled ducks, and harlequin ducks.

- See map.
- The daily bag limit for falconry hunting is three (3) migratory game birds in the aggregate and the possession limit is six (6) migratory game birds in the aggregate.
- After first day.
- The bag limit for the youth waterfowl day is the same as the daily limit of the regular duck and goose seasons.
- The daily duck bag limit of six (6) can include only one (1) pintail, one (1) canvasback, four (4) long tailed duck (old squaw), two (2) scaup, one (1) black duck, two (2) wood ducks, two (2) redheads, four (4) scoters, and four (4) mallards of which only two (2) may be hens. The duck possession limit can include only twice the daily bag limit.
- The daily merganser bag limit can include only one (1) hooded merganser, with a possession limit of two (2).
- Canvasback hunting is permitted only during the last 30 days of the second segment of the duck season in each Zone. Bag limit is one (1) per day and two (2) in possession.

Sunday Hunting

Waterfowl hunting is prohibited on Sundays except on privately owned lakes, ponds or impoundments and on private land in those counties where Sunday hunting has not been prohibited by local election.

Rules and Regulations for Hunting on National Wildlife Refuges may be obtained from:

Ohio River Islands NWR

P.O. Box 1811 • Parkersburg, WV 26102
(304) 422-0752

Canaan Valley NWR

HC 70 Box 200 • Davis, WV 26260
(304) 866-3858

Many game birds are banded with leg bands and other markers annually in North America. Please report any such birds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 1-800-327-BAND (2263) during regular business hours or online at www.pwrc.usgs.gov (select Bird Banding Lab).

Special State Regulations

- A West Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Stamp is required of every person sixteen (16) years of age and over when hunting or taking any migratory waterfowl, except that the stamp is not required for any person who is exempt from payment of hunting license fees. Neither the state nor federal duck stamp is required to hunt doves, coots, rails, gallinules, snipes or woodcock. **A West Virginia migratory waterfowl stamp will not be required beginning 1/1/06.**
- All licensed hunters (including lifetime) must possess a valid HIP registration card to hunt any migratory game birds.
- Youth waterfowl hunting season is open to youth ages 15 and younger for taking ducks, geese, coots, gallinules and mergansers. Youth hunters must be accompanied by a licensed adult age 21 or older. The accompanying adult may not hunt or possess a firearm.
- It is lawful to hunt waterfowl on major waterways, lakes, and reservoirs of the state during the gun season for deer should the waterfowl season be open.
- Only nontoxic shot size T or smaller approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be used or be in the hunters possession while hunting waterfowl.
- McClintic Wildlife Management Area**
 - Hunting hours for waterfowl within the controlled waterfowl hunting area will be from legal shooting time until 12:00 noon (prevailing time) October 1 - October 15, 2005 (except Sundays).
 - Waterfowl hunting in the controlled hunt area will be by permit only. This area is designated by signs, and includes Ponds 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 36, 39, and 40. Applications for a permit must be received at the Division of Natural Resources, Route 1, Box 484, Point Pleasant, West Virginia 25550, by September 9, 2005.
- Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area**
 - Hunting hours for waterfowl will be from legal shooting time until 12:00 noon during the first half of the split waterfowl season October 1 - October 15, 2005 (except Sundays).
 - Waterfowl hunting will be by permit only. Permits will be issued between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. each day of the hunting season at the area headquarters.
- Deed restrictions prohibit all hunting, including waterfowl, at Warden Lake WMA.

West Virginia Waterfowl Zones

Zone 1

Entire state except Zone 2.

Zone 2

Beginning at the West Virginia state line the eastern boundary extends south along U.S. Route 220 through Keyser, WV to the intersection of U.S. Route 50, and follows U.S. Route 50 to the intersection with State Route 93. The boundary follows State Route 93 south to the intersection with State Route 42 and continues south on State Route 42 to Petersburg. At Petersburg, the boundary follows State Routes 28 and 92 south to Minnehaha Springs and then follows State Route 39 west to U.S. Route 219 and follows 219 south to the intersection of Interstate 64. The southern boundary follows I-64 west to the intersection with U.S. Route 60, and follows route 60 west to the intersection of U.S. Route 19. The western boundary follows Route 19 north to the intersection of I-79, and follows I-79 north to the intersection of Interstate 68. The northern boundary follows I-68 east to the Maryland state line.

