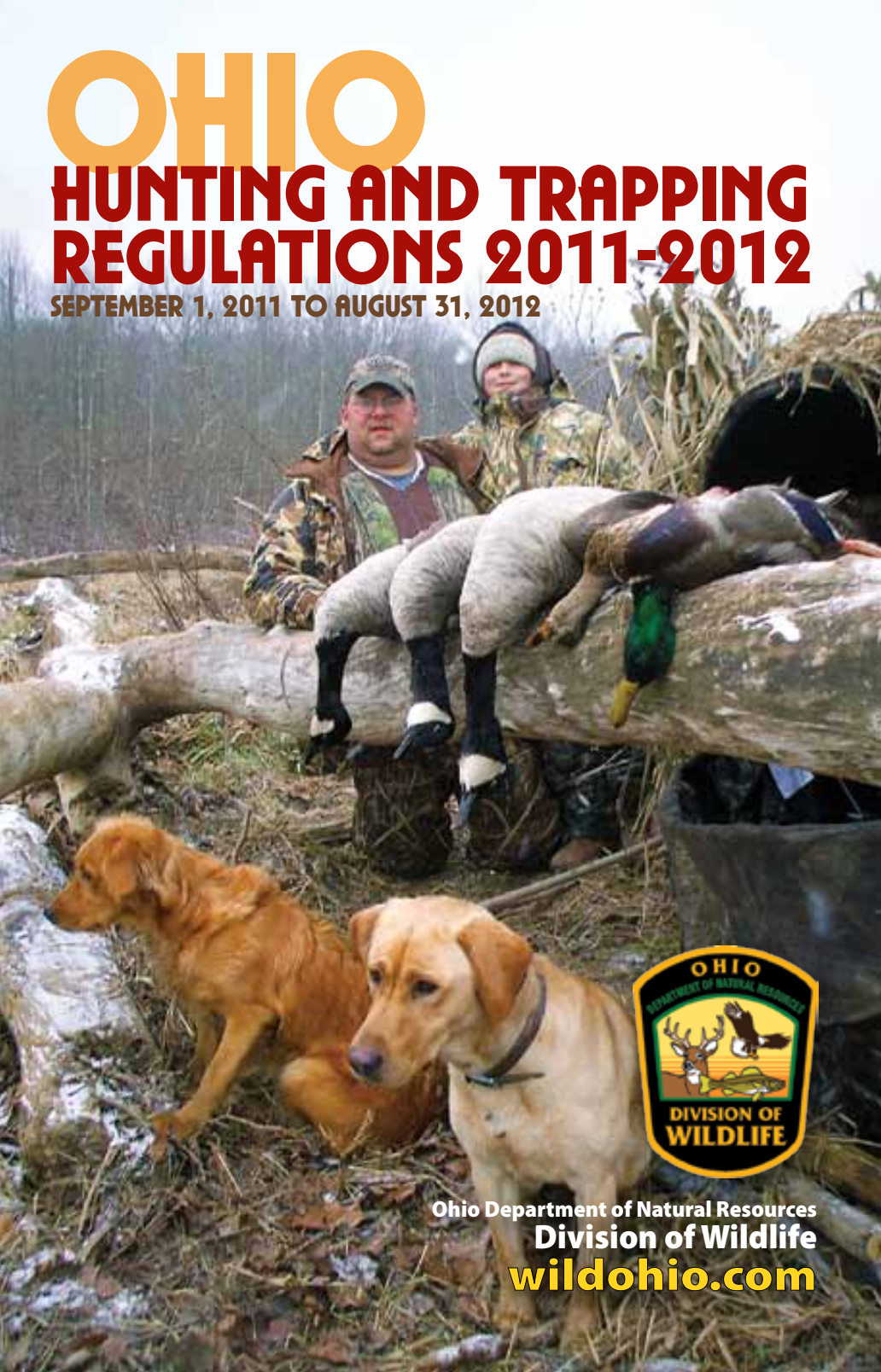
OHIO HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS 2011-2012

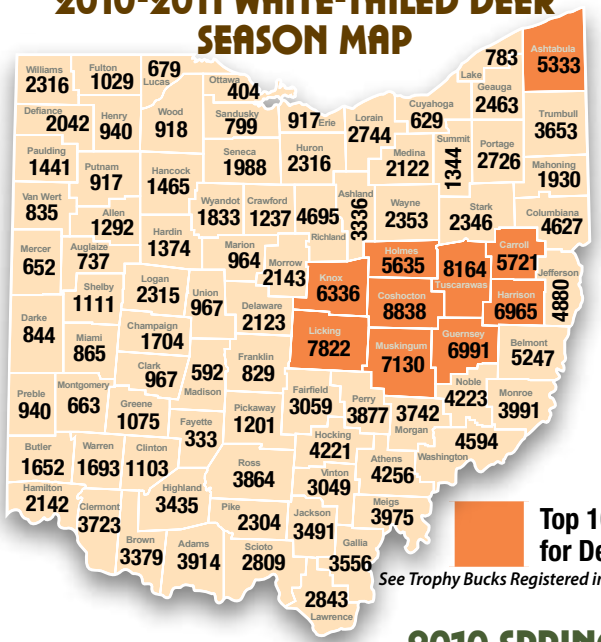
SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 TO AUGUST 31, 2012



Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife
wildohio.com

WHERE SHOULD I HUNT IN OHIO?

2010-2011 WHITE-TAILED DEER SEASON MAP

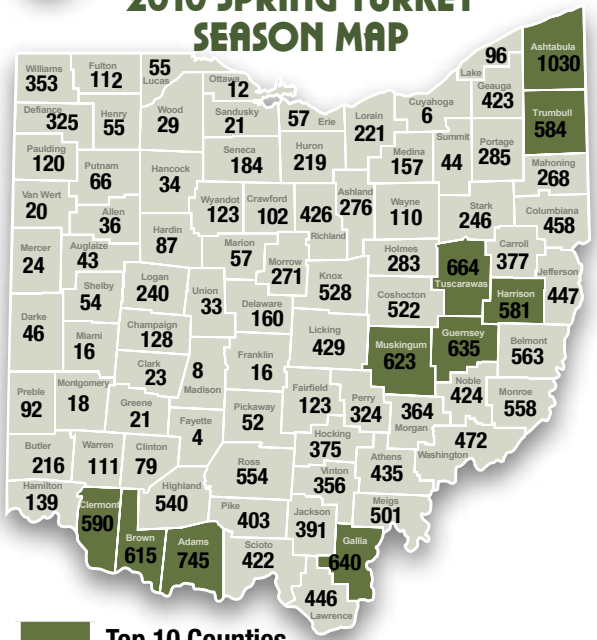


The entire state of Ohio offers great potential for a successful hunt. Included here are maps showing where hunters found the greatest success last year. Maps of state lands open to public hunting can be found at **wildohio.com.**

Top 10 Counties for Deer Season

See Trophy Bucks Registered in Ohio's Buckeye Big Buck Club Page 25.

2010 SPRING TURKEY SEASON MAP



Top 10 Counties for Turkey Season

Audubon Ohio

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Volunteers from Audubon Ohio will be conducting annual Christmas Bird Counts during the deer gun weekend *(Dec. 17 & 18)*. All wildlife enthusiasts are reminded to respect others who are enjoying Ohio's abundant wildlife resources. Remember that wildlife conservation includes hunting and wildlife viewing – please "share the field."

Audubon

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS

1-800-WILDLIFE • wildohio.com

AUTOMATED GAME-CHECK PROCESS

Hunters must still report their harvest of **DEER AND TURKEYS** but they are no longer required to take their **DEER OR TURKEY** to a check station for physical inspection.

Hunters have three options to complete the automated game check:

- On the Internet at **wildohio.com**
- By telephone at **1-877-TAG-ITOH** (1-877-824- 4864) - This option is only available to those who are required to have a deer or turkey permit to hunt deer or turkeys.
- At all license agents

Game check transactions will be available online and by telephone seven days a week and during holidays. See *GAME CHECK AND PERMANENT TAGGING* Section of **Page 14**.

HUNT SMART, HUNT SAFE!

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THIS SUMMARY is for the convenience of hunters and trappers and IS NOT INTENDED to cover all laws and regulations. The Ohio Administrative Code contains the details of these regulations and is available for review at each Ohio Division of Wildlife District Office and online at **wildohio.com.**

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The Ohio Division of Wildlife offers equal opportunity regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex (in education programs). If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, you should contact:

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Office for Diversity and Civil Rights Programs-External Programs, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22203

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, EEO Office

2045 Morse Road, Bldg. D, Columbus, OH 43229-6695.

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PERMISSION FOR HUNTING OR TRAPPING ON PRIVATE LAND

Permission is hereby granted to the undersigned sportsperson for hunting/trapping on land owned by the undersigned landowner or their agent for the date(s) listed.

In accepting this permit, I agree to assume and release the landowner from any or all liability for personal injuries, property damage, or for the loss of life or property resulting from, or in any way connected with the issuance of this permit.

Hunting/Trapping Permission Period:

(check one) _____ Daily _____ Seasonal

Date(s) _____ / _____ / _____ to _____ / _____ / _____

_____ _____

Sportsperson's Signature Today's Date

Sportsperson's Address: _____

_____

_____

_____

Sportsperson's Telephone (_____) _____

Vehicle License No., Make, and Model: _____

_____

_____

Restrictions: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Landowner or Agent's Signature

You may make photocopies of this form and carry with you.

SEASONS, DATES, & BAG LIMITS

Species	Opening Date	Closing Date	Daily Bag	Page
Squirrel *(gray, red, fox)*	Sept 1, 2011	Jan 31, 2012	6	**20**
Mourning Dove	September 1 - See ***Small Game Hunting Section***			**20**
Ruffed Grouse	Oct 8, 2011	Jan 31, 2012	2	**21**
Cottontail Rabbit	Nov 4, 2011	Feb 29, 2012	4	**22**
Ring-necked Pheasant/Chukar	Nov 4, 2011	Jan 8, 2012	2 (cocks only)	**21**
Bobwhite Quail	Nov 4, 2011	Nov 27, 2011	4	**22**
Fox, Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum, Weasel	Nov 10, 2011	Jan 31, 2012	No Limit	**22**
Crow: Fri. Sat. Sun. Only	June 3, 2011	Mar 12, 2012	No Limit	**23**
Coyote	No closed season		No Limit	**23**
Wild Boar	No closed season		No Limit	**23**
Groundhog	Closed for deer gun season only		No Limit	**21**
Waterfowl	See ***Waterfowl Hunting Section*** for details.			**29**
Wild Turkey: Fall	Oct 8, 2011	Nov 27, 2011	Refer to Turkey Hunting Section for bag limits. **(Page 18)**	
Wild Turkey: Spring	April 23, 2012	May 20, 2012		
White-tailed Deer: Archery	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012	Refer to Deer Hunting Section for details on zone & bag limits. **(Page 6)**	
White-tailed Deer: Early Muzzleloader ***(specific areas only)***	Oct 17, 2011	Oct 22, 2011		
White-tailed Deer: Youth Gun	Nov 19, 2011	Nov 20, 2011		
White-tailed Deer: Gun	Nov 28, 2011	Dec 4, 2011		
White-tailed Deer: Gun	Dec 17, 2011	Dec 18, 2011		
White-tailed Deer: Muzzleloader	Jan 7, 2012	Jan 10, 2012		

Youth Hunting Seasons	Opening Date	Closing Date
Youth Hunters Small Game Season	Oct 22, 2011	Oct 23, 2011
	Oct 29, 2011	Oct 30, 2011
Youth Deer Gun Season	Nov 19, 2011	Nov 20, 2011
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Season	April 21, 2012	April 22, 2012
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Hunts: Specific Areas Only	April 23, 2012	May 20, 2012
Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days	Sat. and Sun. in early Oct. See Publication 5295	
Youth Waterfowl Opening Day Hunts	Selected areas only on Waterfowl opening day	
Youth Controlled Deer Hunts: Application Only	Application period is June 1 through July 31	
Youth Controlled Waterfowl Hunts: Application Only		

ALL YOUTH HUNTERS

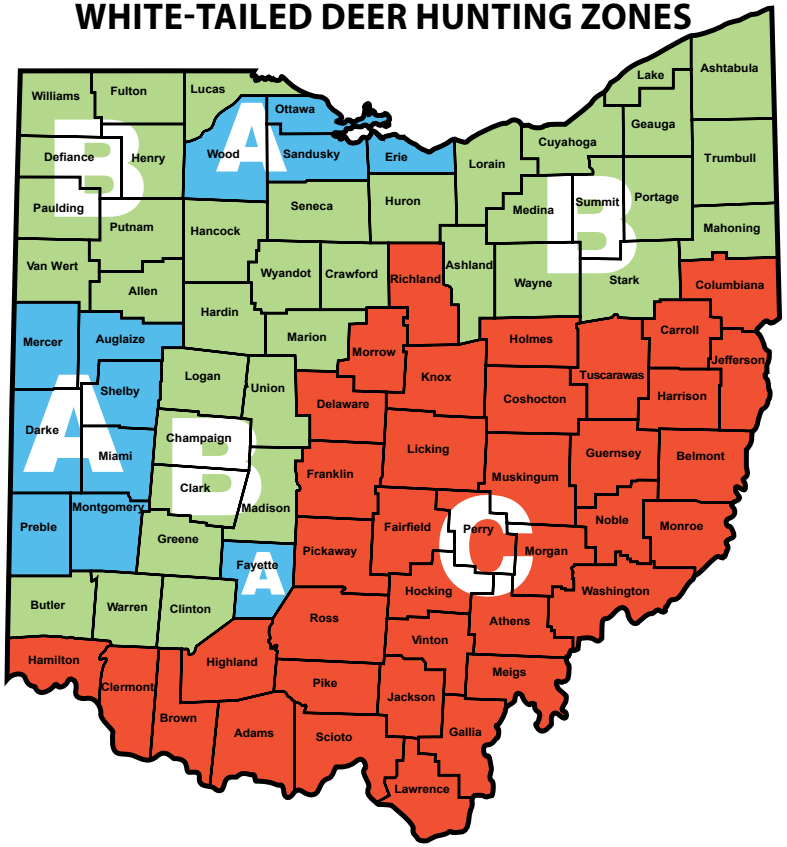
Please refer to the ***Youth Hunting Section*** on **Pages 26-28** for complete details on dates, areas, regulations, and procedures.

DEER SEASONS & ZONE MAP

NO MORE THAN ONE (1) ANTLERED DEER MAY BE TAKEN PER LICENSE YEAR

Season	Opening Date	Closing Date
Archery Season: *Open Statewide*	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012
Early Muzzleloader Season: *(only at) Wildcat Hollow, Salt Fork Wildlife Area, & Shawnee State Forest*	Oct 17, 2011	Oct 22, 2011
Youth Gun Season: *Open Statewide*	Nov 19, 2011	Nov 20, 2011
Gun Season: *Open Statewide*	Nov 28, 2011	Dec 4, 2011
	Dec 17, 2011	Dec 18, 2011
Muzzleloader Season: *Open Statewide*	Jan 7, 2012	Jan 10, 2012

WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING ZONES



A

A hunter may harvest no more than **two (2)** deer in **Zone A** during the 2011-2012 season.

The antlerless deer permit is **NOT** valid in **Zone A** after Nov. 27, 2011.

B

A hunter may harvest no more than **four (4)** deer in **Zone B** during the 2011-2012 season.

The antlerless deer permit is **NOT** valid in **Zone B** after Nov. 27, 2011.

C

A hunter may harvest no more than **six (6)** deer in **Zone C** during the 2011-2012 season.

The antlerless deer permit is **NOT** valid in **Zone C** after Dec. 4, 2011.

NO MORE THAN ONE (1) ANTLERED DEER MAY BE TAKEN PER LICENSE YEAR

DEER HUNTING HOURS

ARCHERY SEASON hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset except during deer gun season.

DEER GUN SEASON, youth deer gun season, the early muzzleloader Season, and Statewide Muzzleloader Season hours for deer hunting are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

DEER PERMIT USE

- A hunter may harvest no more than one (1) antlered deer during the 2011-2012 season regardless of where or how it is taken.
- All deer hunters must possess a valid Ohio hunting license.
- A deer permit or an antlerless deer permit must be purchased and carried by all licensed hunters in order to legally hunt deer.
- **Deer permit means:** deer permit, senior deer permit, youth deer permit, or a free senior deer permit and is valid for an antlered or antlerless deer.
- **Antlerless deer permit means:** antlerless deer permit, youth antlerless deer permit, senior antlerless deer permit, or a free senior antlerless deer permit and is valid for an antlerless deer ONLY.
- Hunters are not required to buy a deer permit before purchasing any antlerless deer permits.

HUNTER ORANGE REQUIRED

Hunting any wild animal (except waterfowl) from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset during the youth deer gun season, deer gun season, deer gun weekend (Dec. 17 & 18), the statewide muzzleloader deer season, and on designated areas during the early muzzleloader deer season is unlawful unless the hunter is visibly wearing a vest, coat, jacket, or coveralls that are either solid hunter orange or camouflage hunter orange. This requirement applies statewide on both public and private land.

A vest, coat, jacket, or coveralls that are either solid hunter orange or camouflage hunter orange is required.

Antlerless Deer Permit & Deer Permit Use by Zones 2011-2012

Zone	Antlerless Deer Permit			Deer Permit			Total Bag Limit
	Opening Date	Closing Date	Use Limit	Opening Date	Closing Date	Use Limit	
A	Sept 24, 2011	Nov 27, 2011	1	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012	1	No More Than Two (2)
B	Sept 24, 2011	Nov 27, 2011	2	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012	2	No More Than Four (4)
C	Sept 24, 2011	Dec 4, 2011	3	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012	3	No More Than Six (6)
Urban Units and Controlled Hunts	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012	6	Sept 24, 2011	Feb 5, 2012	6	No More Than Six (6) Deer Total Using Any Combination

Antlerless Deer Permits will NOT be sold after November 27

DEER HUNTING PERMITS

In addition to your Ohio annual hunting license, you must purchase a deer permit or an antlerless deer permit to hunt deer in Ohio.

- ✦ The deer permit is valid Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ Antlerless deer permits may only be purchased through November 27, 2011.

◈ DEER PERMIT

The deer permit is good for an antlered or antlerless deer and is valid statewide. No more than one (1) antlered deer may be taken per license year. These permits may be used during any of the deer hunting seasons, for controlled hunts or in designated Urban Units. These permits may be purchased individually throughout the entire deer season. Refer to the ***Deer Permit Use and Bag Limits per Zone*** Section to determine the number of deer permits you can use in each deer hunting zone.

◈ ANTLERLESS DEER PERMIT

Antlerless deer permits may be used to take antlerless deer **ONLY**. These permits may be purchased individually until Nov. 27, 2011.

Antlerless deer permits are valid statewide from Sept. 24 through Nov. 27. Antlerless deer permits may be used in **ZONE C** through Dec. 4. These permits are also valid at Ohio Division of Wildlife controlled hunts, the early muzzleloader season, youth deer gun season, and within designated Urban Deer Units (see Urban Deer Units). Refer to the ***Deer Permit Use and Bag Limits per Zone*** Section to determine the number of antlerless deer permits you can use in each deer hunting zone.

◈ WHAT IS AN ANTLERLESS DEER?

Antlerless deer include deer without antlers and deer with antlers less than 3 inches in length.

Antlered deer are deer with at least one antler 3 inches or longer in length.

BAG LIMITS PER ZONE

The state is divided into three zones for deer hunting. Review the ***Deer Zone Map*** to determine the number of deer permits or antlerless deer permits you can use for each zone.

Zone A will have a two-deer (2) bag limit Sept. 24 through Nov. 27, ending the day before gun season begins.

- ✦ Only one (1) deer may be tagged with a deer permit in **Zone A** Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ Only one (1) deer may be tagged with an antlerless deer permit in **Zone A** Sept. 24 through Nov. 27, 2011
- ✦ The antlerless deer permit is not valid in **Zone A** after Nov. 27, 2011.
- ✦ No more than two (2) deer total may be taken from **Zone A** during the 2011-2012 deer season.

Zone B will have a four-deer (4) bag limit Sept. 24 through Nov. 27, ending the day before gun season begins.

- ✦ Up to two (2) deer may be tagged with deer permit(s) in **Zone B** Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ Up to two (2) deer may be tagged with antlerless deer permit(s) in **Zone B** Sept. 24 through Nov. 27, 2011. The antlerless deer permit is not valid in **Zone B** after Nov. 27, 2011.
- ✦ No more than four (4) deer total may be taken from **Zone B** during the 2011-2012 deer season.

Zone C will have a six-deer (6) bag limit Sept. 24 through Dec. 4.

- ✦ Up to three (3) deer may be tagged with deer permit(s) in **Zone C** Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ Up to three (3) deer may be tagged with antlerless deer permit(s) in **Zone C** Sept. 24 through Dec. 4, 2011
- ✦ The antlerless deer permit is not valid in **Zone C** after Dec. 4, 2011.
- ✦ No more than six (6) deer total may be taken from **Zone C** during the 2011-2012 deer season.

ALLOWABLE HUNTING EQUIPMENT - DEER SEASON

Hunters cannot carry more than one firearm while hunting deer. ***(See Concealed Carry on Page 44)***

Archery Season: *Open Statewide*	**Longbow or Bow** - minimum draw weight 40 lbs. This would include compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal. **Crossbow** - draw weight not less than 75 lbs. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal.
Early Muzzleloader Season: *Only at Wildcat Hollow, Salt Fork Wildlife Area, & Shawnee State Forest*	**Muzzleloading rifle** - .38 caliber or larger **Muzzleloading shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller using one ball per barrel **Longbow or Bow** - minimum draw weight 40 lbs. This would include compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal. **Crossbow** - draw weight not less than 75 lbs. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal.
Gun Season and Youth Gun Season:	**Shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller shotgun using one ball or one rifled slug per barrel (rifled shotgun barrels are permitted when using shotgun slug ammunition). Shotguns cannot be capable of holding more than three shells. **Muzzleloading rifle** - .38 caliber or larger **Muzzleloading shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller using one ball per barrel **Handgun** - with 5-inch minimum length barrel, using straight-walled cartridges .357 caliber or larger **Longbow or Bow** - minimum draw weight 40 lbs. This would include compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal. **Crossbow** - draw weight not less than 75 lbs. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal.
Muzzleloader Season: *Open Statewide*	**Muzzleloading rifle** - .38 caliber or larger **Muzzleloading shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller using one ball per barrel **Longbow or Bow** - minimum draw weight 40 lbs. This would include compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal. **Crossbow** - draw weight not less than 75 lbs. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal.

URBAN DEER UNITS

These units include several of Ohio's the larger metropolitan areas. Maps with the boundaries of these areas are available from the Ohio Division of Wildlife or at **wildohio.com** Please refer to ***Ohio Urban Deer Units*** publication.

Hunters may take up to six (6) antlerless deer within the Urban Deer Units using either the antlerless deer permit or deer permit.

Antlerless deer taken within the Urban Deer Units are tallied independently and will not count towards your deer bag limits in **Zones A, B,** or **C**.

The antlerless deer permits are valid in the Urban Units through Feb. 5, 2012.

The designation of an Urban Deer Unit in no way supersedes existing firearms or archery regulations, or community prohibitions. It is the responsibility of the hunter to check with local authorities and obey all existing local ordinances and regulations. Hunters must obtain written permission before hunting on private land.

Landowners, Tenants and anyone who hunts deer, regardless of whether they are exempt from purchasing a hunting license or a deer permit, must abide by the deer hunting zone bag limits.

Urban Deer Units and Ohio Division of Wildlife Controlled Hunts will have a combined six-deer (6) bag limit Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.

- ✦ Up to six (6) deer may be tagged with deer permit(s) in the Urban Deer Units and Ohio Division of Wildlife Controlled Hunts Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ Up to six (6) deer may be tagged with antlerless deer permit(s) in the Urban Deer Units and Ohio Division of Wildlife Controlled Hunts Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ No more than six (6) deer total may be taken and tagged anytime in the Urban Deer Units and at Ohio Division of Wildlife Controlled Hunts combined using any combination of permits.
- ✦ The antlerless deer permit is valid for use in the Urban Deer Units and Ohio Division of Wildlife Controlled Hunts Sept. 24 through Feb. 5, 2012.
- ✦ These bag limits will not count toward the deer bag limits in **Zones A, B,** or **C**.

TEMPORARY TAGGING, GAME CHECK, AND PERMANENT TAGGING

Every person who kills a deer must immediately:

- ✦ Fill out the temporary tag with the date and time of the kill.
- ✦ Attach the completed temporary tag to the deer at the place where it fell.

The hunter must complete the automated game-check and permanent tagging process by 11:30 p.m. on the day of the harvest. See ***Game Check and Permanent Tagging*** Section on **Page 14**.

EARLY MUZZLELOADER DEER SEASON

Hunters are not required to apply for a special permit to participate in this season. Hunters are required to have a valid hunting license and deer permit or an antlerless deer permit to participate in the early muzzleloader deer season (October 17-22, 2011; Wildcat Hollow, Shawnee State Forest, and Salt Fork Wildlife Area only). Persons hunting on these 3 designated areas are required to wear hunter orange except for waterfowl hunters. Bag limit is 1 deer of either sex and deer harvested during this season count towards the hunter's zone bag limit.

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONTROLLED DEER HUNTS

The Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts annual controlled hunts on a number of managed areas that are not normally open to hunting. The dates and locations of these hunts vary from year to year. In an effort to encourage participation by non-traditional user groups, some of the controlled hunts are dedicated to "mobility impaired" persons, youths, or women. However, most of the hunts do not carry any particular designation. For more specific information on controlled hunts, visit **wildohio.com** or call 1-800-WILDLIFE.

Participation is determined by computer-generated random drawings. The application period is June 1 through July 31. Hunters may apply at **wildohio.com** using a credit card. If you prefer to submit an application via U.S. mail, hard copies of the application are available by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543).

OTHER CONTROLLED DEER HUNTS are held at various locations around Ohio, including certain state parks and metro parks. Unless these hunts take place within an Urban Deer Unit the deer taken at these hunts may count towards the hunter's Deer Zone bag limit. The Ohio Division of Wildlife is not involved in the management or administration of many of these hunts. For specific information, hunters must contact the individual areas.

YOUTH DEER GUN SEASON

A youth deer gun season will be open statewide, Nov. 19 and 20, 2011 on public and private land. See the ***Youth Hunting*** Section on **Page 26** for details.

YOUTH DEER HUNTS

- ✦ The Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts several controlled deer hunts for young hunters. New this year, Camp Belden Wildlife Area will have a controlled deer hunt during youth deer gun season. See the ***Youth Hunting*** Section on **Page 26** for details and other youth hunting opportunities.

A DEER HUNTER CAN DO THE FOLLOWING

1. Aid or assist another hunter who is hunting deer if the temporary tag has been removed from their deer permit, he or she does not carry any hunting device commonly used to kill wild animals, and has a valid hunting license. Those persons exempted from having a hunting license and deer permits for deer hunting on their property are required to have a hunting license and deer permit to aid another hunter or hunt deer off of their property.
2. Use certain handguns during the youth deer gun season and deer gun season. These handguns must: (a) have a barrel length of not less than 5 inches, (b) use straight-walled cartridges (no shoulder/neck; straight-tapered wall is acceptable), (c) be .357 caliber or larger, and (d) not be shoulder mounted.
3. Leave a deer or deer parts with a taxidermist, fur buyer, cold storage, locker plant, or meat processing plant as long as a tag or seal is attached to it that lists the owner's name and address and the date and place where the deer was killed. Persons receiving deer from another person must keep records with the owner's name and address, the date, time, and place where the deer was legally taken and the date it was received.
4. Take more than one deer per day as long as each deer has been tagged with a temporary tag before hunting for the next deer.
5. Hunt deer over bait except on public land (restrictions apply, see **Page 43**).
6. Possess a communication device as long as you do not use the device to aid a person in pursuing or taking of deer.
7. Hunt coyote and wild boar during the deer gun season and statewide muzzleloader deer season with a hunting license and a valid deer permit, using firearms legal for deer hunting while visibly wearing a vest, coat, jacket or coverall colored solid hunter orange or camouflage hunter orange. A valid deer permit is a deer permit, with temporary tag attached, and valid for the zone or unit being hunted.
8. Hunt other wild animals other than deer, coyotes, or wild boar during the Saturday, December 17 and Sunday, December 18 gun season, as long as they possess no shot shells larger than number four shot and comply with hunter orange requirements. No one may hunt with a rifle other than a muzzleloading rifle legal for deer or posses rifle ammunition.

9. Use a leashed dog to recover wounded deer.
10. Deer archery hunt during the youth deer gun season, if the archery hunter is not accompanying a hunter participating in the youth deer gun season (See *Youth Deer Gun Season*, **Page 26**).
11. ***Concealed Carry:*** A person possessing a valid Concealed Carry license may carry their concealed weapon while hunting, but it may not be used to shoot, shoot at, or kill any wild animal. For more information go to **ag.state.oh.us.**

A DEER HUNTER CANNOT DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING

1. Hunt or take a deer with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells. This means you may not hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which limits the capacity of the gun to three shells. The filler must be such that it cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.
2. Hunt with any rifle during the deer gun, the youth deer gun, the early muzzleloader hunts (Salt Fork Wildlife Area, Wildcat Hollow, and Shawnee State Forest), and the statewide muzzleloader seasons other than a muzzleloading rifle .38 caliber or larger.
3. Hunt or take a deer with a gun or possess a loaded firearm while going to and from deer hunting during the deer gun, youth deer gun, and the statewide muzzleloader seasons, at anytime other than 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. NOTE: Muzzleloading firearms are considered unloaded when the cap is removed or priming powder is removed from the pan or when the battery is removed on electronic systems.
4. Carry a handgun while hunting deer during the early muzzleloader season, the statewide muzzleloader season, and archery season; have more than one firearm while hunting deer; carry a handgun being used during hunting in a concealed manner.
5. Use a muzzleloading handgun for deer hunting.
6. Hunt deer with a longbow having a draw weight of less than 40 pounds, or with a crossbow having a draw weight of less than 75 pounds. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal.
7. Carry a firearm while deer hunting with a longbow or crossbow.
8. Have attached to a longbow or crossbow any mechanical, electrical or electronic device capable of projecting a beam of light.
9. Use dogs to hunt deer. Leashed dogs may be used to track wounded deer.
10. Possess shotshells containing shot during the deer gun season, unless waterfowl hunting when the season is open or as explained in number eight (8) of the previous section.
11. Hunt coyote or boar between sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise during deer gun season.
12. Use any device capable of transmitting or receiving a person's voice to aid in the hunting or taking of deer.
13. Pursue wounded deer or other wild animals or recover dead deer or other wild animals from private property without the written permission of the landowner.
14. Carry the deer permit of another person.
15. Receive or possess a deer or parts of a deer unless such deer or deer part is tagged as required or unless the deer or part of a deer has a statement showing when and where legally taken, the date received, and from whom received; or a Ohio Division of Wildlife tag, seal, or certificate or other proof of ownership which shows the deer was killed by a motor vehicle in Ohio; or an official tag or seal and valid nonresident license issued by another state if taken from outside Ohio; or certificate of ownership or receipt issued by a law enforcement officer. Shed antlers, if found, do not require a certificate of ownership or receipt by a wildlife officer.
16. Construct, place or use a permanent-type tree stand, or place spikes, nails, wires or other metal objects into a tree to act as steps or to hold a tree stand on public hunting lands. It is also unlawful to make any of these changes to trees on private property without first getting the permission of the landowner or the landowner's authorized agent. Tree stands and deer blinds must be removed from public hunting areas by the last day of the deer archery season.

HUNTING OTHER GAME DURING THE DEER HUNTING SEASONS

◈ YOUTH DEER GUN SEASON

It is lawful to hunt legal game and furbearers (including coyote and wild boar). It is unlawful to use or possess slugs except youth hunters hunting deer. Waterfowl hunting and the night hunting of furbearers are also permitted when the season is open. All persons (except waterfowl hunters) hunting or accompanying a youth hunter during the youth deer gun season are required to wear hunter orange. Archery deer hunters may hunt until 1/2 hour after sunset during the youth deer gun season and are required to wear hunter orange.

◈ DEER GUN SEASON

During the seven-day deer gun season (Nov. 28, 2011 - Dec. 4, 2011) it is unlawful to hunt any wild animal except deer, coyote, wild boar, or waterfowl statewide from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. Hunters must possess a valid deer permit with the temporary tag attached. Hunters may not possess rifle ammunition or shot shells (except waterfowl hunters), however, hunters using a muzzleloading rifle; .38 caliber or larger may possess ammunition for that rifle. Furbearers, except coyote, and wild boar can be hunted from sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise when the deer gun season is open. All persons (except waterfowl hunters) hunting during the deer gun season are required to wear hunter orange.

◈ STATEWIDE MUZZLELOADER DEER SEASON

It is lawful to hunt legal game and furbearers (including coyote and wild boar) with shot shells containing shot no larger than #4 (except waterfowl hunters may use larger non-toxic shot). If you are hunting coyote or boar during the statewide muzzleloader deer season with a device that is lawful for deer hunting, you must also have a valid deer permit with the temporary tag attached. Waterfowl hunting and the night hunting of furbearers are also permitted when the season is open. All persons (except waterfowl hunters) hunting during the statewide muzzleloader deer gun season are required to wear hunter orange.

OUT-OF-STATE HUNTERS CARCASS REGULATIONS

For a list of areas in the United States and Canada where Chronic Wasting Disease has been detected, visit **wildohio.com.**

Ohio hunters who travel out-of-state to hunt cervids (deer, elk, moose, caribou) in areas where Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been detected may only possess the following parts of the carcass in Ohio:

- ✦ De-boned meat;
- ✦ Meat that is cut and securely and completely wrapped either commercially or privately with no part of the spinal column or head attached;
- ✦ Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached;
- ✦ Antlers;
- ✦ Antlers attached to a skull cap from which all soft tissue has been removed;
- ✦ Upper canine teeth from which all soft tissue has been removed;
- ✦ Hides or capes without any part of the head or lymph nodes attached;
- ✦ Finished taxidermy mounts;
- ✦ Any soft body tissue wrapped and packaged for use by a diagnostic research laboratory.

Out-of-state hunters traveling through Ohio may possess any cervidae carcass (or part of carcass), provided the carcass or parts are not off-loaded from the vehicle.

GAME CHECK AND PERMANENT TAGGING

◈ TEMPORARY TAGGING PROCESS FOR HUNTERS WITH DEER AND TURKEY PERMITS

ATTENTION LANDOWNER HUNTERS!

If you are reporting a deer or turkey harvest under the landowner licensing exemption, refer to the LANDOWNERS Section on Page 16.

DEER AND TURKEY permits include a temporary tag and a permanent tag.

NOTE: Deer permits include two (2) permanent tags: one for the antlers/hide, and one for the meat/carcass.

We strongly recommend that hunters protect their **DEER AND/OR TURKEY** permits from the elements by placing them in a plastic bag or protective pouch, before and after they are attached to the animal.

STEP 1 - Every person who kills a **DEER OR TURKEY** must immediately:

- ✦ Fill out the temporary tag with the date and time of the kill.
- ✦ Detach the temporary tag from the **DEER OR TURKEY** permit. Internet license buyers should detach the temporary tag from the permit using scissors or a knife to make a clean cut.
- ✦ Attach the completed temporary tag to the **DEER OR TURKEY** at the place where it fell.

Once finished with **STEP 1**, the hunter legally possesses the **DEER OR TURKEY** and is free to transport it to its final destination.

STEP 2 - The hunter must complete the automated game check and permanent tagging process by 11:30 p.m. on the day of the harvest.

◈ AUTOMATED GAME CHECK & PERMANENT TAGGING WITH DEER AND TURKEY PERMITS

The automated game check and permanent tagging process no longer requires hunters to transport their **DEER OR TURKEY** to an official game check station for permanent tagging. License agents will process game check transactions, but will not visually inspect or permanently tag **DEER OR TURKEY** on behalf of hunters.

Metal tags have been discontinued. Hunters will not receive a metal tag for their **DEER OR TURKEY**.

Hunters are encouraged to complete the automated game check and permanent tagging process in a sheltered area.

Protect your deer and/or turkey permits from the elements by placing them in a plastic bag or protective pouch before you hunt.

Every person who kills a **DEER OR TURKEY** must immediately fill out the temporary tag.

Attach the completed temporary tag to the **DEER OR TURKEY** at the place where it fell.

Hunters must have their permit with the attached permanent tag in hand to complete the game check and permanent tagging process.

Hunters can complete the automated game check and permanent tagging process in one of three ways:

- ✦ Call **1-877-TAGITOH** (1-877-824-4864).
- ✦ Visit **wildohio.com**. Click on ***"Wild Ohio Customer Center"*** and then click on ***"Game Check: Report a Deer or Turkey Harvest."*** To game check a harvest online, make sure to use a computer hooked to a printer. A game check receipt will be issued and **SHOULD** be printed. When using a smartphone for game check you **MUST SAVE** the game check receipt .pdf provided at the end of the transaction to print out later.
- ✦ Visit any authorized license sales agent. A list of sales agents can be found at **wildohio.com**. Hunters do not need take their **DEER OR TURKEY** to the agent for the game check. Authorized license sales agents will be available for game check during normal business hours. Call for exact hours of operation before you go.

Regardless of game check method, the hunter must provide the 10-digit permit number, which is printed in large numbers on every permit.

The hunter must answer a series of questions like those traditionally asked at game check stations. At the end of the process, the hunter will be issued an 18-digit permanent tag number. The first six digits are pre-printed on the permanent tag(s).

When a hunter has game checked their **DEER OR TURKEY** by Web or agent, they will receive a game check receipt with their permanent tag number printed on it. Hunters using the telephone game check method will receive the final 12 digits of the number over the phone. The first six digits are pre-printed on the permanent tag(s).

The 18-digit permanent tag number must be written on the permanent tag(s) in the spaces provided on the permanent tag(s). Remember, the first six digits are pre-printed on the permanent tag(s).

The hunter must write the date and time of kill on the permanent tag and sign it.

DEER HUNTERS must write the permanent tag number on both permanent tags. See ***Butchering/Meat Processing/Taxidermy*** Section **Page 17**.

Like the metal tag, the completed permanent tag must then be attached to the **DEER OR TURKEY**.

The temporary tag can be discarded.

The game check and permanent tagging process is complete.

Complete the automated game-check process.

The 18-digit permanent tag number **MUST** be written on the permanent tag(s) in the spaces provided.

Detach the permanent tag and place the tag in a plastic bag or protective pouch.

The completed permanent tag must then be attached to the **DEER OR TURKEY**.

The temporary tag can be discarded.

GAME CHECK AND PERMANENT TAGGING

◈ LANDOWNERS – TEMPORARY TAGGING, AUTOMATED GAME CHECK, & PERMANENT TAGGING

For hunters who are NOT REQUIRED to have deer and turkey permits:

As in the past, landowners and tenants who take a **DEER OR TURKEY** on their land and any other person not required to have a **DEER OR TURKEY** permit, must make and attach their own temporary tag. The temporary tag must include the name and address of the hunter, and the date and time the animal was killed.

STEP 1 - The landowner hunter must immediately attach the homemade temporary tag to the **DEER OR TURKEY** at the place where it fell.

Once finished with **STEP 1**, the hunter legally possesses the **DEER OR TURKEY** and is free to transport it to its final destination

STEP 2 - The hunter must complete the automated game check and permanent tagging process by 11:30 p.m. on the day of the harvest.

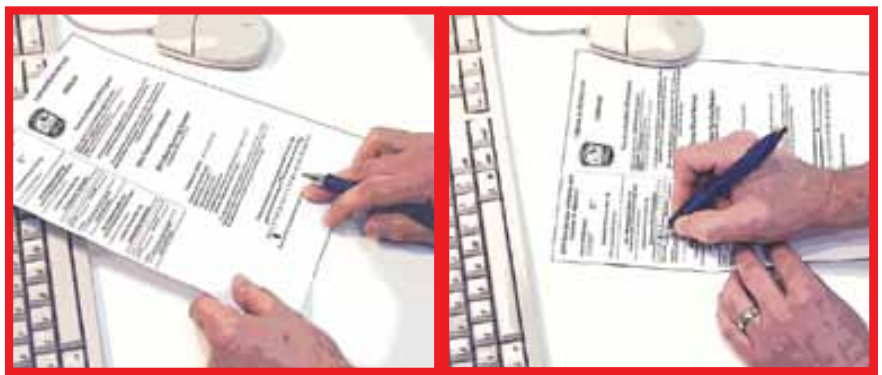
The automated game check and permanent tagging process no longer requires hunters to transport their **DEER OR TURKEY** to an official game check station for permanent tagging. License agents will process game check transactions, but will not visually inspect or permanently tag **DEER OR TURKEY** on behalf of hunters.

Metal tags have been discontinued. Hunters will not receive a metal tag for their **DEER OR TURKEY**.

Landowners CANNOT use the telephone game check option.

Game check options for the landowner are:

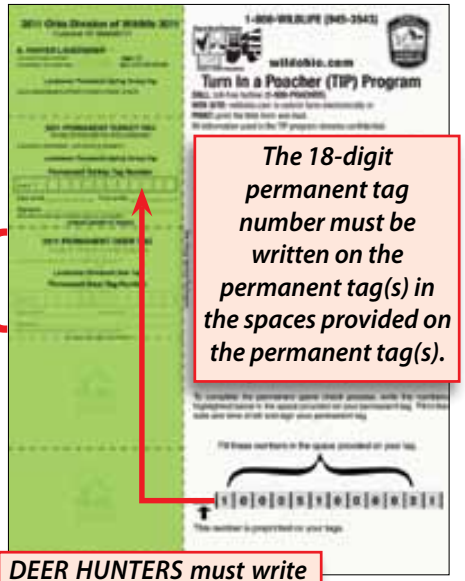
- ✦ Visit **wildohio.com**. Click on ***"Wild Ohio Customer Center"*** and then click on ***"Game Check: Report a Deer or Turkey Harvest."*** To game check a harvest online, make sure to use a computer hooked to a printer. A game check receipt will be issued and **MUST** be printed. When using a smartphone for game check, you ***MUST SAVE*** the game check receipt .pdf provided at the end of the transaction to print out later.
- ✦ Visit any authorized license sales agent. A list of sales agents can be found at **wildohio.com**. Hunters do not need take their **DEER OR TURKEY** to the agent for the game check. Authorized license sales agents will be available for game check during normal business hours. Call for exact hours of operation before you go.



To game check a harvest online, make sure to use a computer hooked to a printer. A game check receipt will be issued and MUST be printed. When using a smartphone for game check, you MUST SAVE the game check receipt .pdf provided at the end of the transaction to print out later.

At the time of the game check, the automated game check system will attempt to determine if the hunter has an existing customer ID using the hunter's last name, date of birth, and the last 4-digits of their SSN. If the system cannot find the hunter's account, a new one will be created.

The landowner hunter must answer a series of questions like those traditionally asked at game check stations. When a landowner hunter has game checked their **DEER OR TURKEY** by Web or agent, they will receive a game check receipt with their permanent tag(s) and permanent tag number printed on it. The landowner hunter will be issued an 18-digit permanent tag number. The first six digits are pre-printed on the permanent tag(s).



The 18-digit permanent tag number must be written on the permanent tag(s) in the spaces provided on the permanent tag(s).

DEER HUNTERS must write the permanent tag number on both permanent tags.

The 18-digit permanent tag number must be written on the permanent tag(s) in the spaces provided. The first six digits are pre-printed on the permanent tag(s).

The hunter must write the date and time of kill on the permanent tag and sign it.

DEER HUNTERS must write the permanent tag number on both permanent tags. See ***Butchering/Meat Processing/Taxidermy*** Section.

Like the metal tag, the completed permanent tag must then be attached to the **DEER OR TURKEY**.

The temporary tag can be discarded.

The game check and permanent tagging process is complete.

◈ BUTCHERING/MEAT PROCESSING/TAXIDERMY

DEER - If a hunter gives a deer to a butcher for processing, the permanent tag marked ***"To be Maintained with Meat/Carcass Only"*** must be given to and kept by the butcher while he or she has the animal and meat.

When the permanent tag is returned to the hunter after processing the hunter must keep the permanent tag until all of the meat is consumed.

If a hunter gives a deer to a taxidermist, the permanent tag marked ***"To be Attached to Antlers or Hide Only"*** must remain attached to the antlers or hide.

The 18-digit permanent tag number can be written on the antler skull plate in lieu of the permanent tag.

TURKEY - If a hunter gives any part of a turkey to a taxidermist, the permanent tag must be given to that taxidermist and kept with the turkey.

All packages of turkey meat must be marked with the turkey's 18-digit permanent tag number.

TURKEY HUNTING SEASON

Season	Opening Date	Closing Date
Fall Wild Turkey: *Open in specific counties,* ***map on next page***	Oct. 8, 2011	Nov. 27, 2011
Youth Spring Wild Turkey: *Open statewide*	April 21, 2012	April 22, 2012
Spring Wild Turkey: *Open statewide except Lake La Su An Wildlife Area*	April 23, 2012	May 20, 2012

FALL AND SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTING

- It is unlawful to take more than one turkey per day.
- It is unlawful to hunt or take turkeys with the aid or use of bait. An area is considered baited for ten (10) days after complete removal of any bait.
- It is unlawful to use a live decoy while hunting turkeys.
- It is unlawful to possess or use an electronic calling device while hunting turkeys.
- It is unlawful to take or attempt to take a wild turkey while it is in a tree.
- It is lawful to aid or assist another hunter who is hunting turkey if the temporary tag has been removed from your turkey permit, as long as you do not carry any hunting device commonly used to kill wild animals, and have a valid hunting license. Those persons exempted from having a hunting license and turkey permit for turkey hunting on their property are required to have a hunting license and turkey permit to aid another hunter or hunt turkey off of their property.

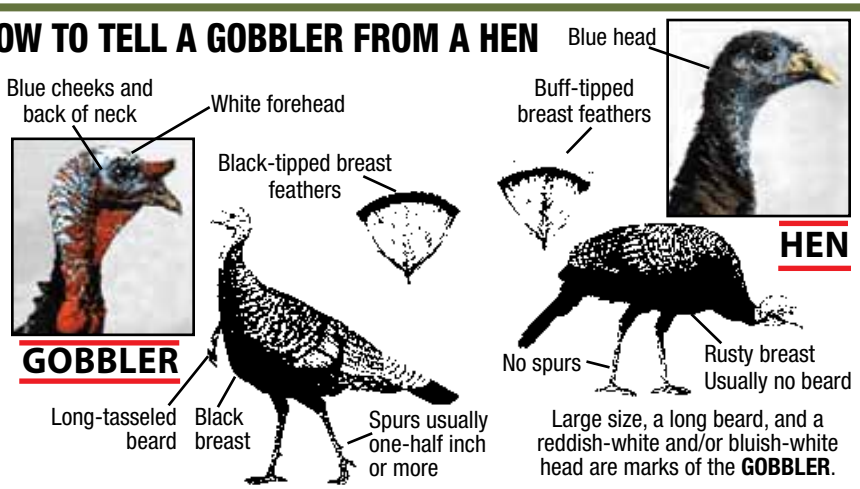
TEMPORARY TAGGING, GAME CHECK AND PERMANENT TAGGING

Every person who kills a turkey must immediately:

- Fill out the temporary tag with the date and time of the kill.
- Attach the completed temporary tag to the turkey at the place where it fell.

The hunter must complete the automated game-check and permanent tagging process by 11:30 p.m. on the day of the harvest. See ***Game Check and Permanent Tagging*** on **Page 14.**

HOW TO TELL A GOBBLER FROM A HEN



Large size, a long beard, and a reddish-white and/or bluish-white head are marks of the **GOBBLER**.

FALL TURKEY SEASON

- **Turkey Hunting Hours** 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset
- **Turkey must be checked** by 11:30 p.m. the day of harvest
- **Bag limit** 1 turkey of either sex
- **A wild turkey of either sex** may be hunted during the fall season.
- **It is legal to use dogs** to assist in taking turkeys during the fall turkey season only.

◈ LICENSE AND PERMIT NEEDED

A valid Ohio hunting license and fall turkey permit are required.

◈ OPEN COUNTIES

Fall Wild Turkey: Open in these counties: Adams, Ashland, Ashtabula, Athens, Belmont, Brown, Carroll, Clermont, Columbiana, Coshocton, Cuyahoga, Defiance, Gallia, Geauga, Guernsey, Harrison, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Lake, Lawrence, Licking, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pike, Portage, Richland, Ross, Scioto, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Vinton, Washington, Wayne, and Williams counties.

SPRING TURKEY SEASON

◈ LICENSE AND PERMIT NEEDED

A valid Ohio hunting license and spring turkey permit are required.

- **Turkey Hunting Hours** April 23 - May 5, 2012 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon
- **Turkey Hunting Hours** May 6 - May 20, 2012 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset
- **Spring Wild Turkey Season:** Open statewide except Lake La Su An Wildlife Area
- **Bag limit** 2 bearded turkeys
- **Only one bearded turkey** may be taken per day. Persons wishing to take a second wild turkey during the spring season must purchase a second spring turkey permit.
- **Turkey must be checked** by 11:30 p.m. on the day of harvest.
- **It is legal to use a leashed dog** to recover wounded turkeys in the spring turkey season.

YOUTH SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTING

A statewide youth wild turkey season will be offered on Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22, immediately prior to the regular spring wild turkey season in 2012.

Special youth wild turkey hunts will be held on selected areas. See the ***Youth Hunting*** Section on **Page 26** for details.

ALLOWABLE HUNTING EQUIPMENT - TURKEY SEASON

Fall and Spring Wild Turkey Hunting Season:	**Shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller shotgun using shot, includes muzzleloading shotguns **Longbow or Bow** - minimum draw weight 40 lbs. This would include compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal. **Crossbow** - draw weight not less than 75 lbs. The arrow tip shall have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed and minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal. Poisoned or explosive arrows are illegal.

SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASON

Species	Opening Date	Closing Date	Daily Bag
Squirrel *(gray, red, fox)*	Sept 1, 2011	Jan 31, 2012	6
Mourning Dove	September 1 - See below **(Page 20)** for details		
Ruffed Grouse	Oct 8, 2011	Jan 31, 2012	2
Cottontail Rabbit	Nov 4, 2011	Feb 29, 2012	4
Ring-necked Pheasant/Chukar	Nov 4, 2011	Jan 8, 2012	2 (cocks only)
Bobwhite Quail (See map **Page 22**)	Nov 4, 2011	Nov 27, 2011	4
Fox, Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum, Weasel	Nov 10, 2011	Jan 31, 2012	No Limit
Crow: Fri. Sat. Sun. Only	June 3, 2011	Mar 12, 2012	No Limit
Coyote	No closed season		No Limit
Wild Boar	No closed season		No Limit
Groundhog	Closed for deer gun season only		No Limit

HUNTING GAME DURING THE DEER SEASONS

It is unlawful to hunt any wild animal except deer, coyote, waterfowl, or wild boar during the seven-day deer gun season from November 28 through December 4, 2011 between 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

It may be lawful to hunt legal game animals and furbearers, but may be unlawful to use or possess slugs under certain circumstances during the youth deer gun season, Deer Gun Season Weekend, and the Statewide Muzzleloader Deer Season. Please refer to **Page 13** under **HUNTING OTHER GAME DURING THE DEER HUNTING SEASONS.**

SQUIRREL HUNTING

Daily bag limit is six (6). Gray, red, and fox, squirrels can be taken. Hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

DOVE HUNTING

The USFWS sets the framework for hunting doves, so refer to Publication 5298, ***Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons*** for details. This publication will be available at wildlife district offices, license agents, and online at **wildohio.com** prior to the season. Maps of dove fields can also be found at **wildohio.com.**

Hours for dove are sunrise to sunset, except for those wildlife areas which have been posted with special regulations.

Doves may be hunted on areas that have been manipulated (i.e., "bush hogged") for wildlife management purposes in addition to areas that have been planted or harvested in a normal agricultural manner. Neither waterfowl nor doves may be hunted on areas where grain or other feed has been distributed once it has been removed from or stored on the field where grown. Contact an Ohio Division of Wildlife district office or a state wildlife officer for clarification on baiting regulations before you hunt.

◈ SPECIAL DOVE HUNTING REGULATIONS!

The Ohio Division of Wildlife is planning to operate controlled dove hunts at Fallsville, Rush Run, Spring Valley, Indian Creek, and Bott wildlife areas, and St. Marys Fish Hatchery. These controlled hunts will occur during the first 2 days of the season (Thursday, September 1st - Friday, September 2nd); hunting hours will be noon to sunset. Please contact the District Five Office (937-372-9261) for dove hunting information. Drawings for opening day dove hunts at these six public hunting areas will be held on Saturday, August 27 (noon) at the respective wildlife area headquarters.

GROUSE HUNTING

Daily bag limit is 2. Hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

GROUNDHOG HUNTING

No daily bag limit. No restriction on hours; closed only during the seven-day deer gun season (November 28 - December 4, 2011).

PHEASANT HUNTING

Daily bag limit is 2. Hours are sunrise to sunset statewide. Only cock pheasants may be harvested. Pheasant hunting is open on public and private land.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife typically releases pheasants on the opening day of pheasant season, the second Saturday of the season, and Thanksgiving Day. The number of pheasants released will depend upon numbers available.

NOTE: Due to the observance of Veterans Day, pheasants will be released the evening of Nov. 10, 2011.

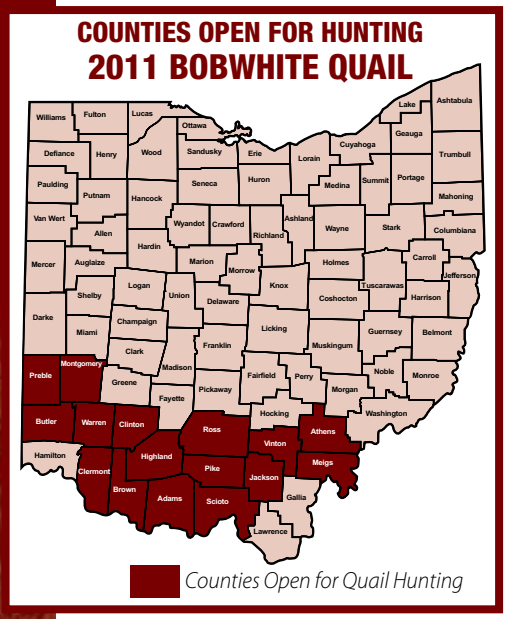
Releases will take place at the Ring-necked Ridge Wildlife Area (by permit only, contact the Sandusky County Park District at 419-334-4495), Charlemont Metro Park, and the following wildlife areas during pheasant hunting season: Beach City, Berlin, Camp Belden (youth only), Caesar Creek, Darke, Delaware, Dillon, Fallsville, Grand River, Highlandtown, Indian Creek, Killdeer Plains, Oxbow Lake, Pleasant Valley, Resthaven, Rush Run, Salt Fork, Shreve, Spencer, Spring Valley, Tiffin River, Wellington, West Branch, Willard Marsh, Wyandot, and Zeppernick.

ALLOWABLE HUNTING EQUIPMENT

Squirrel, Ruffed Grouse, Cottontail Rabbit, Ring-necked Pheasant, Chukar, Bobwhite Quail, Fox, Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum, Weasel, Crow, Coyote, Wild Boar, Groundhog	**Longbow or Bow** - This would include compound bows and recurve bows. **Crossbow** Poisoned or explosive arrows are unlawful. While hunting, it is unlawful to have attached to a longbow or crossbow any mechanical, electrical, or electronic device capable of projecting a beam of light. **Handgun** - any caliber **Rifle** - any caliber It is unlawful for any person to use or hunt with any rifle during the deer gun, the youth deer gun, the early muzzleloader hunts (Salt Fork Wildlife Area, Wildcat Hollow, and Shawnee State Forest), and the statewide muzzleloader seasons other than a muzzleloading rifle .38 caliber or larger. It is unlawful for any person to use or hunt with a rifle, pistol, or revolver from October 15 through January 1 during the daylight hours on any lands owned, administered or under agreement with the Ohio Division of Wildlife, except when properly used on a designated Ohio Division of Wildlife target range or when hunting squirrels with a rimfire rifle, pistol, revolver, or muzzleloading rifle .40-caliber or smaller. **Shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller shotgun **Airgun**
Mourning Dove	**Shotgun** - 10-gauge or smaller shotgun not capable of holding more than three (3) shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which limits the capacity of the gun to three shells. The filler must be such that it cannot be removed without disassembling the gun. May be taken with lead shot. **Longbow or Bow** - This would include compound bows and recurve bows. Poisoned or explosive arrows are unlawful. While hunting, it is unlawful to have attached to a longbow or crossbow any mechanical, electrical, or electronic device capable of projecting a beam of light.

QUAIL HUNTING

Daily bag limit is 4. Hours are sunrise to sunset. Quail hunting will be open only in the following counties: Adams, Athens, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Highland, Jackson, Meigs, Montgomery, Pike, Preble, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Warren counties. See map below.



RABBIT HUNTING

Daily bag limit is 4. Hours are sunrise to sunset statewide. Closed during the seven-day deer gun season (November 28 - December 4, 2011). Rabbit hunters in northeastern Ohio must be aware of the following restriction.

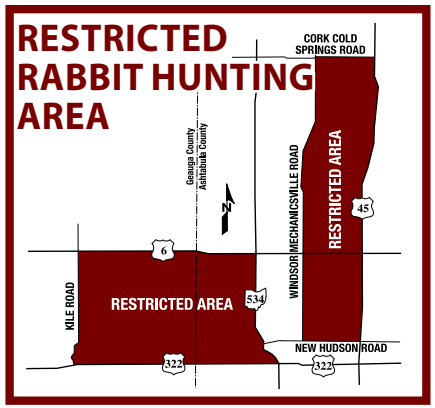
◈ RESTRICTED RABBIT HUNTING AREA

Efforts to restore snowshoe hare populations in northeast Ohio require a later opening date for rabbit hunting in a portion of Geauga and Ashtabula counties. This rule is in effect to prevent rabbit hunters from misidentifying and killing snowshoe hares.

From November 4 through December 4, 2011, the following areas are closed to rabbit hunting.

Geauga & Ashtabula Co.: area bounded on the north by U.S. Route 6, on the west by Kile Road, on the south by U.S. Route 322, and on the east by State Route 534.

Ashtabula Co.: area bounded on the north by Cork-Cold Springs Road, on the west by Windsor-Mechanicsville Road, on the south by New Hudson Road, and on the east by U.S. Route 45.



◈ SNOWSHOE HARES MAY NOT BE HUNTED AT ANY TIME IN OHIO

Cottontail rabbits may be hunted in these areas from December 5, 2011 through February 29, 2012.

Snowshoe hares are protected by Ohio law and may NOT be hunted. Snowshoe hares are slightly larger than the more familiar cottontail rabbit, and unlike the cottontails, hares turn white during the winter. However, both hares and rabbits will be brown in color at the beginning of Ohio's rabbit hunting season in November. Rabbit hunters in northeastern Ohio must make sure they do not mistake a snowshoe hare for a cottontail rabbit.

FOX, RACCOON, SKUNK, OPOSSUM, AND WEASEL

No daily bag limit. No restrictions on hours except during the seven-day deer gun season (November 28 - December 4, 2011). These species may not be hunted between 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset during the deer gun season. Hunters must purchase a hunting license and a fur taker permit to hunt these species.

CROW HUNTING

No daily bag limit. Hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, only. Season dates are listed on **Page 5**. State and federal stamps are not required to hunt crow.

COYOTE HUNTING & TRAPPING

No daily bag limit, no closed season. If hunted during the deer gun season, hours and legal hunting devices are the same as for deer gun season.

Rifles and night vision scopes are legal for coyote hunting; however, rifles are prohibited during daylight hours on public lands from October 15 through January 1 and during any firearm/muzzleloader deer season.

WILD BOAR HUNTING

No daily bag limit. If hunted during the deer gun season, hours and legal hunting devices are the same as for deer gun season.

Wild boar can do extensive damage to the forest habitat, competing with native wildlife species such as wild turkey and deer. Ohio hunters are encouraged to kill wild boar in areas where they have permission to hunt.

Information and a map of the known distribution of wild boar in Ohio may be found at **wildohio.com** under the Hunting Regulations listing. Click on Wild Boar Hunting.

It is unlawful to possess slugs while boar hunting during the Youth Deer Season, except properly licensed youth hunters with a valid deer permit may hunt deer, wild boar, or coyote using any gun and ammunition legal for deer.

Persons hunting coyote or wild boar during the early muzzleloader deer season in Oct. (on the three designated areas), the youth deer gun season, the deer gun season, the deer gun weekend, and during statewide muzzleloader deer season must possess a valid hunting license and valid deer permit with the tag attached if they are using a gun and ammunition legal for deer hunting during that season.

Hunter orange must be worn during the early muzzleloader deer season in Oct. (on the three designated areas), youth deer gun season, deer gun season, and during the statewide muzzleloader deer season.

Wild boar may be hunted over bait. However, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, place, or scatter salt, grain, or other feed capable of luring, enticing, or attracting birds on lands owned, controlled, or maintained by the Ohio Division of Wildlife including those lands managed by the division by virtue of a lease or an agreement. You may use dogs to hunt wild boar.

YOUTH HUNTERS' SMALL GAME SEASON

In an effort to encourage youth participation in hunting, the Ohio Division of Wildlife has established a young hunters' season. See the ***Youth Hunting*** Section on **Page 26** for details.

SUNRISE SUNSET TABLES

WEST

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

SUNRISE SUNSET TABLE FOR WESTERN OHIO

EAST

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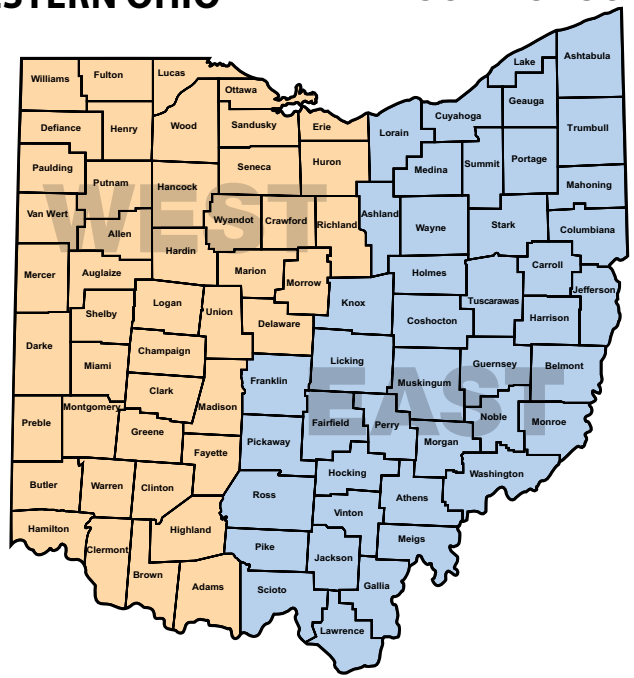
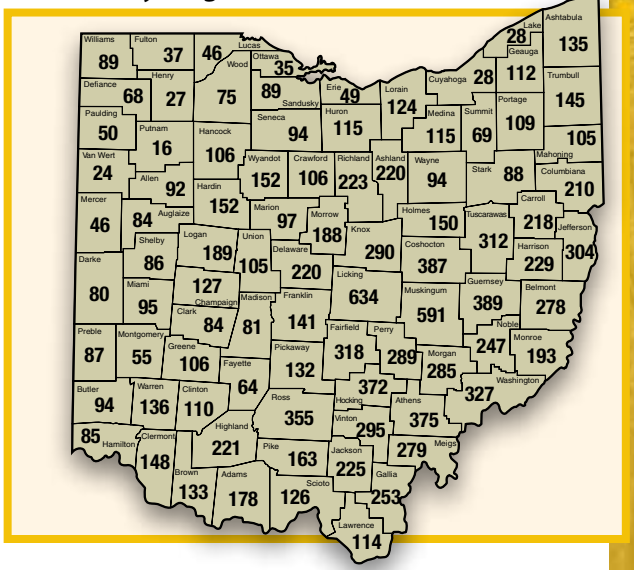
27	7:18	7:16	7:49	6:30	7:25	5:03	7:47	5:08	7:39	5:39	7:03	6:16	6:33	8:19	6:04	8:47
28	7:19	7:14	7:51	6:29	7:26	5:03	7:47	5:08	7:39	5:40	7:02	6:17	6:32	8:20	6:03	8:48
29	7:20	7:12	7:52	6:28	7:27	5:02	7:48	5:09	7:38	5:41	7:01	6:18	6:30	8:21	6:03	8:49
30	7:21	7:11	7:53	6:27	7:28	5:02	7:48	5:10	7:37	5:43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

SUNRISE SUNSET TABLE FOR EASTERN OHIO



Trophy Bucks Registered in Ohio's Buckeye Big Buck Club from 1958-2010



YOUTH HUNTING SEASONS

Season	Opening Date	Closing Date
Youth Hunters Small Game Season	Oct 22, 2011	Oct 23, 2011
	Oct 29, 2011	Oct 30, 2011
Youth Deer Gun Season	Nov 19, 2011	Nov 20, 2011
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Season	April 21, 2012	April 22, 2012
Youth Spring Wild Turkey Hunts: **Specific Areas Only**	April 23, 2012	May 20, 2012
Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days	Sat. and Sun. in early Oct. See Publication 5295	
Youth Waterfowl Opening Day Hunts	Selected areas only on Waterfowl opening day	
Youth Controlled Deer Hunts: **Application Only**	Application period is June 1 through July 31	
Youth Controlled Waterfowl Hunts: **Application Only**		

YOUTH HUNTS

All youth hunting opportunities (except the youth waterfowl hunting season) are available to any hunter that possess a valid youth hunting license. All young hunters participating in youth hunts, regardless of age, must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult. A non-hunting adult is any person (a hunting license is not required) age 18 or older who accompanies the young hunter to and from the field and is present with the young hunter while the young hunter is engaged in hunting. The non-hunting adult may not possess any hunting implements.

Accompany means to go along with another person while staying within a distance from the person that enables uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory communications.

◈ YOUTH HUNTERS' SMALL GAME SEASON

Any hunters possessing a valid youth hunting license may hunt the following Saturdays and Sundays: Oct. 22 & 23, and Oct. 29 & 30 statewide (public and private lands) for rabbit, pheasant, and all other legal game which is in season.

- ✦ Rabbits may not be hunted in the Restricted Rabbit Hunting Area designated on **Page 22.**
- ✦ Quail may be taken only in those counties which are open to quail hunting (see map **Page 22**).
- ✦ Pheasant releases will occur for these hunts on the following wildlife areas: Berlin, Caesar Creek, Camp Belden, Darke, Delaware, Dillon, Fallsville, Grand River, Killdeer Plains, Oxbow Lake, Resthaven, Rush Run, Spencer, Wellington, and Charlemont Metropark (Lorain County). Daily bag limits are the same as during the regular hunting season.
- ✦ Young hunters, regardless of age, must be accompanied at all times by a non-hunting adult, 18 years or older, when hunting during this season. No more than two youths per adult.

◈ YOUTH DEER GUN SEASON

A youth deer gun season will be open statewide, November 19 and 20, 2011 on public and private land. Young hunters 17 years old and younger at the time they purchase their youth hunting license, youth deer permit, and who are accompanied by a non-hunting adult may hunt.

Accompany means to go along with another person while staying within a distance from the person that enables uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory communications.

Youth hunters may take deer of either sex during this season.

- ✦ Deer taken by young hunters during the youth deer gun season count towards the zone and unit bag limits. Regular Zone bag limits apply.
- ✦ Each deer taken must be temporarily tagged before hunting or pursuing another deer.
- ✦ Young hunters who kill a deer during this season must follow all the tagging requirements for the deer hunting season and the deer must be checked by 11:30 p.m. on the day of harvest.
- ✦ All deer hunting implements that are legal during the regular deer gun season are permitted.
- ✦ All youths and non-hunting adults must wear hunter orange.
- ✦ Youths must possess a valid Ohio youth hunting license and deer permit.
- ✦ Youths 17 years old and younger hunting on land their grandparents own are not required to have a hunting license, but must have a deer permit.
- ✦ Youths 17 years old and younger hunting on land their parents own are not required to have a hunting license or deer permit.
- ✦ Youth hunters, regardless of age, must be accompanied at all times by a non-hunting adult, 18 years or older, when hunting during this season. No more than two youths per adult.
- ✦ No more than two youth hunters can be accompanied by one non-hunting adult and it is unlawful for the adult to hunt or possess a device commonly used to take wild animals.

◈ YOUTH CONTROLLED DEER HUNTS

The Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts several controlled deer hunts for young hunters. The dates and locations of the hunts vary from year to year. New this year, Camp Belden Wildlife Area will have a controlled deer hunt during the youth deer gun season. The application period for these hunts is June 1 through July 31. Hunters may apply online at **wildohio.com** using a credit card. Application forms may be mailed and can be obtained by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543).

◈ YOUTH SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

Two opportunities exist for young hunters to participate in the spring wild turkey hunting season.

A statewide youth wild turkey season will be offered Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22, immediately prior to the regular wild turkey season in 2012. Open statewide EXCEPT for Lake La Su An which conducts a controlled youth hunt; contact the District Two (Findlay) Office (419/424-5000 for details).

Special youth wild turkey hunts will be held at Lake La Su An, Killbuck Marsh, and Mosquito Creek wildlife areas and Hueston Woods and Paint Creek state parks during the regular spring wild turkey season. Any person interested in participating in these hunts should contact the Ohio Division of Wildlife district office in Findlay for the La Su An hunts; in Xenia for the Hueston Woods and Paint Creek hunts; and in Akron for the Killbuck and Mosquito Creek hunts during March 2012. Please note that to hunt at Lake La Su An during the 4-week spring turkey season and the special youth only season, youths must possess a controlled hunting permit acquired during the March drawing.

When participating in the special youth or regular spring wild turkey season the following requirements must be met.

- ✦ Youth hunters may take only one bearded turkey during the youth season.
- ✦ Youth turkey hunters may only kill a total of two turkeys during the youth-only and spring turkey seasons combined.
- ✦ All youth hunters must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult and must have their valid youth hunting license and youth spring wild turkey permit to participate.
- ✦ Hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
- ✦ Only shotguns using shot, crossbows, and longbows permitted.
- ✦ Young hunters who bag a turkey during this season must follow all the tagging requirements for the spring turkey hunting season and the turkey must be checked by 11:30 p.m. on the day of harvest.

◈ YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

Federal regulations allow hunters 15 years of age or younger to hunt waterfowl statewide (public and private lands) on a Saturday and Sunday in early October. All hunters, 15 years of age and younger, must be **accompanied** by a non-hunting adult, 18 years or older (no more than two youths per adult). Ducks, geese, and coots can be taken under the bag limits established for the regular season. Special youth hunts will be held on Killdeer Plains and Pickerel Creek wildlife areas at 5:15 a.m. on these days. Contact Wildlife District Two (Findlay) Office at (419) 424-5000 for details.

◈ YOUTH WATERFOWL OPENING DAY HUNTS

Young hunters (17 or younger) that possess a valid youth hunting license and who are **accompanied** by a non-hunting adult are given priority on opening day afternoon hunts at Pickerel Creek, Killdeer Plains, and Mosquito Creek wildlife areas. Youth hunts will also be held on the first Saturday of the regular waterfowl hunting season at the following areas: Magee Marsh, Mercer, Mosquito Creek, and Ottawa NWR. Applications for these hunts are available from Ohio Division of Wildlife offices in June, or online at **wildohio.com**. All applications must be postmarked by July 31 to be entered into the random drawing.

◈ YOUTH CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNTS

The Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts several controlled waterfowl hunts for young hunters. The dates and locations of these hunts vary from year to year. The application period is June 1 through July 31. Hunters may apply online at **wildohio.com** using a credit card. A hard copy of the application may be obtained by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543).

WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASON

WATERFOWL HUNTING

Dates, bag limits, and waterfowl hunting zones were not available prior to the printing of this publication. Refer to Ohio Division of Wildlife Publication 5295, ***Waterfowl Hunting Seasons,*** and Publication 5298, ***Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons,*** for details of dates, bag limits, and zones. These publications will be available at wildlife district offices, license agents, and online at **wildohio.com** prior to the season.

Waterfowl hunting, when the season is open, is also permitted during the youth deer gun season, the deer gun season, the deer gun weekend, and the statewide muzzleloader deer season.

◈ TO HUNT MIGRATORY WATERFOWL IN OHIO, YOU MUST HAVE

- ✦ A resident hunting license, resident youth hunting license, nonresident season license, 3-day non-resident tourist license, or an apprentice hunting license.
- ✦ A printed Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp endorsement is required of all persons 18 or older.
- ✦ HIP certification (Harvest Information Program) is required. To complete the HIP certification requirement, call **1-877-HIPOHIO** *(447-6446)* and answer the survey questions. After the survey you will be given a certification number. Write the certification number on your hunting license in the space provided.
- ✦ A signed federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp, required of all persons age 16 and older. Federal "Duck Stamps" are available at most post offices.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

The USFWS sets the framework for hunting ducks, geese, and other migratory game birds.

Waterfowl hunting is governed by ***BOTH*** state and federal regulations. Summaries of the laws pertaining to migratory game birds (includes all waterfowl) and details on dates, bag limits, regulations, zones, and restrictions for hunting waterfowl and migratory game birds can be found in Ohio Division of Wildlife Publication 5295, *Waterfowl Hunting Seasons*, and Publication 5298, *Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons*. These publications will be available at wildlife district offices, license agents, and online at **wildohio.com** prior to the season.

◈ STATE REGULATIONS

The Ohio Administrative Code containing full details is available for review at each Ohio Division of Wildlife District Office and online at **wildohio.com.**

◈ FEDERAL REGULATIONS

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

For additional information on federal regulations, contact Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 45, Twin Cities, Minnesota 55111.

◈ YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

Federal regulations allow hunters 15 years of age or younger to hunt waterfowl statewide (public and private lands) on a Saturday and Sunday in early October.

Young hunters (17 or younger) are given priority on opening day controlled hunts. See the ***Youth Hunting*** Section on **Page 26** for details.

◈ REPORT ALL WATERFOWL AND BIRD BANDS!

Bird banding programs provide wildlife biologists with valuable information. Bands recovered and reported by hunters unlock important information about survival, migration, harvest rates, and distribution of waterfowl. To report any bird band—not just bands from waterfowl or other game birds—call **1-800-327-BAND** (2263) or on the Internet at **reportband.gov.**

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

WILD OHIO CUSTOMER CENTER @ WILDOHIO.COM

BUY YOUR LICENSES AND PERMITS OR MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT

VISIT YOUR NEW DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CUSTOMER ACCOUNT

All hunters, anglers, and magazine subscribers now have a customer account with the Ohio Division of Wildlife. These accounts are another piece of the new ***Automated License Sales and Game Check System***. You can access your account at **wildohio.com** by clicking on the ***Wild Ohio Customer Center*** button and then selecting "***Manage Your Customer Account.***"

To login to your personal account, use your new Customer ID Number, which is printed on your hunting license, or your last name, date of birth, and last four digits of your SSN, drivers' license number, or alternate ID number.

If you already have a account in the system, you will see a Customer Information page. If you have not purchased a license yet, or did so without using your drivers' license, you may not have a account. In that case, you will be instructed to create a new account. Simply fill in the required information.

Once your customer account is located, you have the following options:

My Customer Account Page - This page shows all of the information that the system has about you. You may update your address, phone number, and email address using this page. Any hunter or trapper education certifications that you have will also be displayed. Be assured that the division uses the best available encryption and security to protect your account information.

My Licenses and Permits – See a list of your current licenses along with the dates you purchased them and their expiration dates.

My Game Check History – In the event that you forgot to print a game check receipt or would like to see which tags you've already filled, you can view your game check history for deer and turkey.

My Lottery Applications & Results – If you applied for a controlled hunt lottery, this page lists all of your applications and will show whether or not you've been drawn when the information is available. If you are drawn, you can print your controlled hunting permit directly from this page.

My Wild Ohio Magazine – Are you a *Wild Ohio* Magazine subscriber? You can check the status of your magazine membership on this page.

Legacy Stamps, Donations, & Gift Certificates – View your donation history and see any Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamps or gift certificates you've purchased.

Print My Customer Card – You can print your personalized Customer Card with your name and Customer ID Number to keep with you and use for any future transactions with the Ohio Division of Wildlife. Using your Customer ID Number is a fast and easy way to access the license sales and game check system.

Visit your customer account or create one so that you can track your license purchases, game check, lotteries, and donations all in one secure location. Visit **wildohio.com** to get started.

TRAPPING SEASON

Season	Opening Day	Closing Day
Fox, Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel	Nov 10, 2011	Jan 31, 2012
Mink, Muskrat	Nov 10, 2011	Feb 29, 2012
Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel *(Erie, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Lucas County east of the Maumee River)*	Nov 10, 2011	Mar 15, 2012
Beaver: Statewide	Dec 26, 2011	Feb 29, 2012
River Otter *Open in specific counties*	Dec 26, 2011	Feb 29, 2012

A fur taker permit is required (except for coyote) to hunt or trap furbearing animals in Ohio.

FIRST-TIME TRAPPERS

All first-time trappers, except apprentice license buyers, must successfully complete a hunter and a trapper education course offered through the Ohio Division of Wildlife before purchasing a hunting license and fur taker permit to trap furbearers.

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

- ✦ Except for river otters, there are no restrictions on bag limits.
- ✦ All traps and snares must be checked and all animals removed every 24 hours.
- ✦ All furbearers shall be killed immediately and reduced to the person's possession.
- ✦ All flesh baits must be totally covered.
- ✦ Foothold traps set on land must be covered.
- ✦ Foothold traps set on land shall not have an inside diameter jaw spread greater than 5-5/8 inches.
- ✦ Body gripping traps set on land, or in a tile, den, or burrow on land shall not have an inside diameter jaw spread greater than 5 inches in diameter.
- ✦ Body gripping traps with an inside diameter jaw spread greater than 5 inches, but less than 7 inches must be set in water; those with a jaw spread greater than 7 inches must be completely submerged in water.
- ✦ Except for cage traps, no traps or snares may be set within 150 feet of another person's occupied residence without advising the resident.
- ✦ No person shall disturb a trap or snare or remove a furbearing animal from a trap or snare of another person without permission.
- ✦ Traps with teeth in the jaws are prohibited.
- ✦ Deadfalls are illegal.

◈ YOU CAN DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Set, use, and maintain snares for the purpose of taking furbearing animals. All snares must have a relaxing lock and a stop to prevent the opening of the snare from closing to a diameter of less than 2 1/2 inches in diameter, or a relaxing lock system with a breaking point of not greater than 350 pounds.
2. Attach a drag to a foothold trap.
3. Trap coyotes without a fur taker permit. However, anyone hunting, trapping or snaring coyotes must have a valid hunting license.

◈ YOU CANNOT DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Pursue, hunt, trap or snare furbearing animals between sunset and sunrise without use of a continuous white light visible for at least a 1/4 mile. Persons hunting fox, coyote, or raccoon with a call from a stationary position may use a continuous single beam light of any color. When two or more people are hunting or trapping together for these animals only one light is required and can be carried by any member of the party.

2. Use or possess climbers, or any other device, except climbing tree stands, that can be used for climbing trees while hunting, trapping or pursuing furbearing animals.
3. Set, use, or maintain a trap or snare to take a wild animal, unless that trap or snare has attached to it a durable, waterproof tag bearing the name and mailing address of the user in English letters that are legible at all times, or which has the name and mailing address of the user stamped into the trap in English letters that are legible at all times.
4. Set, maintain, or use a trap or snare in or upon any cart or wagon road, or in or upon any path ordinarily used by domestic animals or human beings.
5. Attach a snare to a drag. Snares must be staked or otherwise attached to an immovable object.
6. Set, use or maintain a snare on public hunting areas, except for beaver (see ***Beaver Trapping*** regulations).
7. Use any snare constructed of any material other than multi-strand or single-strand steel cable.
8. Set a snare with a loop diameter of more than 15 inches.
9. Have attached to a snare any spring loaded or mechanical device to assist the snare in closing.
10. Set, use, or maintain any snare that does not comply with the requirements listed above.

BEAVER TRAPPING

Beaver trapping is permitted within American Electric Power's recreation area, known as ReCreation Land, Avondale Wildlife Area, and Conesville Coal Lands, with a special beaver trapping permit which is in addition to the normal user's permit. This special beaver trapping permit is issued from the AEP Land Management Office in McConnelsville, Ohio. Beaver trapping on state public hunting areas, including state parks and state forests, without a special beaver trapping permit from the Ohio Division of Wildlife is prohibited. Beaver trapping permits are available only for selected public lands. Otter permits obtained through drawings (See ***River Otter Trapping***) will also be valid for beaver trapping. However, on some areas, permits will be valid for beaver only. The application process and deadlines for beaver only permits on selected public lands is the same as for river otters. For a current list of beaver trapping opportunities in your area, please contact your nearest wildlife district office or visit **wildohio.com** (follow links for Hunting & Trapping, Trapping Regulations, and Controlled Trapping Opportunities). Snares may be set for beavers using these permits. Snares set for beaver on public hunting areas must have a minimum loop diameter of 10 inches and the bottom of the snare must be covered by at least 1 inch of water at all times.

◈ WILDLIFE REFUGE BEAVER/OTTER TRAPPING OPPORTUNITIES

Sealed bids will be accepted in September for furbearer trapping opportunities within the wildlife refuge portions of Killbuck Marsh and Mosquito Creek wildlife areas. For official bid proposal forms and other information contact the Ohio Division of Wildlife District 3 Office in September at (330) 644-2293.

RIVER OTTER TRAPPING

A publication (Publication 5088, ***River Otter Trapping Regulations***) detailing all trapping and tagging requirements for Ohio's river otter trapping season will be available at all wildlife district offices and at **wildohio.com**, or call 1-800-WILDLIFE to obtain a copy.

Otter trapping on state public hunting areas without a special beaver/otter trapping permit from the Ohio Division of Wildlife is prohibited. The Ohio Division of Wildlife will conduct controlled trapping on a number of publicly managed areas. The dates and locations of permitted trapping may change from year to year. Participation is determined by computer-generated random drawings. The application period is Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. Drawing results will be available in late October, and permits and related instructions will be mailed in November to successful applicants. Applications will be accepted online only. In most areas, permits will allow for both river otter and beaver trapping; however, some permits may be limited to beaver only (See ***Beaver Trapping,*** **Page 32**). For more specific information, please visit **wildohio.com** or call your nearest wildlife district office.

◈ RIVER OTTER BAG LIMITS

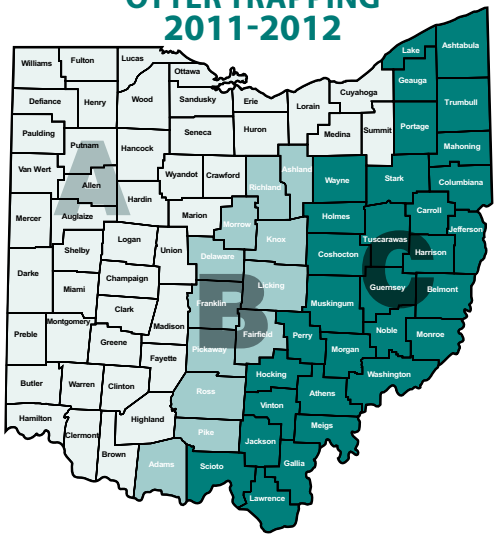
No more than three (3) river otters may be taken by any trapper and no more than one (1) river otter may be taken from **Zone B.**

◈ OPEN COUNTIES

Open counties for trapping river otters are: Adams, Ashland, Ashtabula, Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Gallia, Geauga, Guernsey, Harrison, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Lake, Lawrence, Licking, Mahoning, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Portage, Richland, Ross, Scioto, Stark, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Vinton, Washington, and Wayne counties (see map).

The pelt of each river otter must be checked in with a wildlife officer or taken to a wildlife area headquarters (8 a.m. to 9 a.m. M, W, F or by appointment) or district office during business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) within 72 hours (3 days) of capture. All legally checked otters will receive a CITES tag that allows the pelt to be sold outside Ohio.

OPEN COUNTIES FOR RIVER OTTER TRAPPING 2011-2012



RIVER OTTER BAG LIMITS

- ZONE A - (0) CLOSED
- ZONE B - (1) ONE
- ZONE C - (3) THREE

LICENSES	COST
Hunting Resident Annual License	**$19**
Hunting Youth Annual License: Resident & Non-Resident	**$10**
Hunting Non-Resident Annual License	**$125**
Hunting Resident Reduced Cost Senior License	**$10**
Hunting Resident Free Senior License	**$0**
Hunting Non-Resident (Tourist) 3-day License: Not valid for deer, turkey or furbearers	**$40**
Apprentice Resident Annual License	**$19**
Apprentice Youth Annual License: Resident & Non-Resident	**$10**
Apprentice Non-Resident Annual License	**$125**
Ohio Wetlands Stamp Resident & Non-Resident Waterfowl License	**$15**
Ohio Wetlands Stamp Resident Reduced Cost Senior Waterfowl License	**$15**
Ohio Wetlands Stamp Resident Free Senior Waterfowl License	**$0**

PERMITS

Deer Permit	*Cost*
Resident & Non-Resident Permit	**$24**
Youth Permit: Resident & Non-Resident	**$12**
Resident Reduced Cost Senior Permit	**$12**
Resident Free Senior Permit	**$0**

Antlerless Deer Permit	*Cost*
Resident & Non-Resident Permit	**$15**
Youth Permit: Resident & Non-Resident	**$15**
Resident Reduced Cost Senior Permit	**$15**
Resident Free Senior Permit	**$0**

Fur Taker Permit	*Cost*
Resident & Non-Resident Permit	**$15**
Youth Permit: Resident & Non-Resident	**$8**
Resident Reduced Cost Senior Permit	**$8**
Resident Free Senior Permit	**$0**

Spring Turkey Permit	*Cost*
Resident & Non-Resident Permit	**$24**
Youth Permit: Resident & Non-Resident	**$12**
Resident Reduced Cost Senior Permit	**$12**
Resident Free Senior Permit	**$0**

Fall Turkey Permit	*Cost*
Resident & Non-Resident Permit	**$24**
Youth Permit: Resident & Non-Resident	**$12**
Resident Reduced Cost Senior Permit	**$12**
Resident Free Senior Permit	**$0**

Apprentice Fur Taker Permit	*Cost*
Resident & Non-Resident Permit	**$15**
Youth Permit	**$8**

Shooting Range Permit	*Cost*
Annual Permit	**$24**
1-Day Permit	**$5**

LICENSE CATEGORIES

Resident Adult Licenses	For Ohio residents age 18-65 at the time of purchase.
Youth Licenses	For Ohio residents & non-residents 17 years old and younger at the time of purchase.
Non-Resident Licenses	For non-residents age 18 and older at the time of purchase.
Resident Reduced-Cost Senior Licenses	For Ohio residents age 66 and older, and who were born on or after January 1, 1938.
Resident Free Senior Licenses	For Ohio residents born on or before December 31, 1937.
Duplicate Licenses and Permits	Lost, stolen, or destroyed licenses and/or permits may be re-issued at any license sales location. The cost is $4.00 for each duplicate license and/or permit.

LICENSES AND PERMITS

FOR LICENSE EXEMPTIONS SEE PAGE 36

LICENSE SALES SYSTEM

Hunting licenses and permits are available at all authorized license sales agents and online at **wildohio.com**.

Ohio's license year begins March 1 and ends the last day of February each year.

Regardless of your age, you must have a hunting license to hunt or trap all legal game in Ohio. Additional permits may be required to hunt or trap specific game animals. The license(s) that you are required to purchase is determined by age and residency status.

◈ LICENSE /PERMIT PURCHASE PROCESS

- ✦ A complete list of authorized license sales agents is available at **wildohio.com.**
- ✦ Licenses and permits may be purchased online at **wildohio.com.**
- ✦ Social Security Numbers (SSN) will be required of all individuals, youth and adults, who plan to buy licenses and permits. The federal government requires the Ohio Division of Wildlife to collect your SSN. Federal Statute 42 requires the SSN of any individual to whom the state issues a recreational hunting or fishing license. When you buy a hunting and/or fishing license, you must also give your full name, date of birth, gender, declaration of residency, mailing address, height, weight, hair color, and eye color. Sportsmen and women who have purchased licenses in the past and who provided an Ohio's driver's license or state ID card will most likely be unaffected.
- ✦ Youth hunters and those hunters that have never had a driver's license or state ID swiped during the license buying process must provide their SSN.
- ✦ If you DO NOT have a SSN, then you must submit written verification, on form **DNR 9151**, that you have not been assigned a SSN. Upon receipt of this form, the Ohio Division of Wildlife will issue you an official customer ID number.
- ✦ This customer ID number will be used anytime a SSN would otherwise be required to obtain a recreational hunting or fishing license. Forms are available online at **wildohio.com** under Wildlife Publications, or by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE. Non-U.S. citizens who are also non-residents of Ohio will be asked for an alternative form of identification.
- ✦ A customer identification number will be assigned to everyone using the system. This unique number will be your customer ID number for as long as you obtain licenses, permits, stamps, or apply for a controlled hunt, fishing lottery, or magazine membership. Your customer ID number will be printed on all licenses and permits issued to you.
- ✦ Every person who is issued a license, permit, stamp, applies for a magazine membership, or enters a controlled hunt or fishing lottery must have a customer account.
- ✦ Licenses purchased online or at a retail outlet will be printed on an 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper that can be folded down to credit card size. Licenses and permits will appear on the left column of the document and the remaining space will be printed with information relevant to the license or permit purchased.
- ✦ License paper will not be waterproof and must be protected.

◈ TO PURCHASE A HUNTING LICENSE YOU MUST DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- ✦ present a previously held hunting license, ***or***
- ✦ present evidence of having successfully completed a hunter education course (from any state), ***or***

- swear that you are 21 years of age or older and have previously held a legal hunting license (from any state).

RESIDENCY STATUS - A resident is a person who has resided in the state of Ohio for the past six (6) consecutive months. All others are considered non-residents and must purchase non-resident licenses.

All hunting and fishing licenses and permits can be purchased over the Internet at **wildohio.com**. In addition, there are license agents in every Ohio county. To find a store near you, call 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) or search at **wildohio.com.**

Annual licenses are valid from March 1, through the last day of February (licenses available March 1). All costs include a $1.00 writing fee. All sales are final – no refunds.

- It is unlawful to carry the license or permit of another person.
- All first-time hunting license buyers, except apprentice license buyers, must successfully complete a hunter education course before purchasing a hunting license. Call 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) for information on hunter education requirements.
- Hunters age 15 and under and those of any age hunting with an apprentice license must be accompanied by an adult. Special restrictions apply to certain youth hunts. See ***Youth Hunting*** Section on **Page 26** for details.
- Hunters and trappers must carry a valid hunting license, permit(s) and stamp(s) when hunting or trapping.

LICENSE EXEMPTIONS

Certain categories of persons are exempted from buying various licenses, permits, and/or stamps.

1. **Landowners, spouses, and their children -** Are not required to have a hunting license, fur taker permit, deer permit, antlerless deer permit, spring or fall turkey permit or Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp when they are hunting or trapping on land they own.
2. **Tenants and their children on land on which they reside and from which they derive the majority (more than 50%) of their income from agricultural production on that land -** Are not required to have a hunting license, fur taker permit, deer permit, antlerless deer permit, spring or fall turkey permit or Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp when they are hunting or trapping on land where they reside.
3. **Landowners' grandchildren who are under 18 years of age -** Are not required to have a hunting license or an Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp while hunting on their grandparent's land. All other licenses and permits are required.
4. **Ohio residents who are holders of veteran's license plates displaying the international wheelchair symbol -** Must apply in writing for a free hunting license, fur taker permit, deer permit, spring or fall turkey permits and Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp. Applications are available on our website at **wildohio.com.**
5. **Certain permanently disabled veterans who are Ohio residents -** Must apply in writing for a free hunting license, fur taker permit, deer permit, turkey permit, and Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp. Applications are available at **wildohio.com.**
6. **Ohio residents who are Former Prisoners of War -** Must apply in writing for a free hunting license, fur taker permit, and Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp. All other licenses and permits are required. Applications are available at **wildohio.com.**
7. **Members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty, while on leave or furlough -** Are not required to purchase a hunting license or Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp or fur taker permit. All other licenses and permits are required.

Members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty stationed in Ohio, but NOT on leave or furlough are required to purchase a resident Ohio hunting license and other applicable permits before hunting deer, turkey, or hunting/trapping furbearers, and an Ohio Wetland Habitat Stamp for waterfowl before hunting any migratory waterfowl.

DEER HUNTING PERMITS

In addition to your hunting license you'll need one or more of the following deer permits.

◈ DEER PERMIT

This permit is valid for an antlered or antlerless deer and is valid statewide for the entire deer hunting season. No more than one (1) antlered deer may be taken per license year.

◈ ANTLERLESS DEER PERMIT

Antlerless deer permits are valid for tagging antlerless deer only in any Urban Unit (see ***Urban Deer Units*** **Page 10)**, at any Ohio Division of Wildlife Controlled Hunt, and during the statewide archery season September 24 - November 27 in **Deer Zones A** and **B.** In **Deer Zone C,** antlerless deer permits are valid for tagging deer until December 4, 2011. Antlerless deer permits will not be sold after November 27, 2011. See ***Deer Hunting Permits*** **(Page 8)** to know when and where these permits may be used.

TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS

In addition to your hunting license you need to have the applicable turkey permit to hunt turkey in Ohio.

◈ SPRING TURKEY PERMIT

One bearded turkey per permit during the spring turkey season. No more than two may be used during the spring season. Valid statewide.

◈ FALL TURKEY PERMIT

You can take one turkey of either sex during the fall turkey season. No more than one may be used during the entire fall season. Valid only in open counties.

FUR TAKER PERMITS

A fur taker permit is required (except for coyotes) in addition to a hunting license to hunt or trap fur-bearing animals.

◈ TO PURCHASE A FUR TAKER PERMIT YOU MUST DO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

(apprentice licenses excluded)

- present a previously held hunting license, fur taker or trapping permit, or
- present evidence of having successfully completed a trapper education course, or
- state that you are 21 years of age or older and have previously held a hunting license, fur taker, or trapping permit.

All first-time trappers must successfully complete a trapper education course before purchasing a fur taker permit for trapping. The trapper education course, taken after successful completion of a hunter education course covers detailed information necessary for successful trapping experiences.

WATERFOWL HUNTING

You are required to have a hunting license, Ohio Wetlands Stamp, Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp, and HIP Survey to hunt ducks, geese, or brant.

◈ OHIO WETLANDS STAMP

An Ohio Wetlands Stamp will not be issued at time of purchase. A license will be issued stating, "Wetlands Habitat Stamp." The actual stamp will be mailed later in the year. The actual stamp does not need to be carried while hunting. This stamp is not required for youths younger than 18 years of age.

◈ FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP

Everyone age 16 and older, regardless of where they hunt, is required to purchase this stamp to hunt ducks, geese, and brant. These stamps are available at most U.S. Post Office branches.

Resident and Non-Resident . . .$15.00

◈ HIP SURVEY

Hunters who plan to hunt migratory game birds, including ducks, geese, woodcock, rails, mourning doves, coots, and snipe must have a Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.) certification number on their hunting license. These hunters must call 1-877-HIP-OHIO (1-877-447-6446) and take a short survey. Once the phone survey has been completed, a unique number will be provided to the hunter to write in a designated spot on their hunting license.

It is the responsibility of the license buyer to make sure that the H.I.P. certification has been completed and this certification number is written on their hunting license.

APPRENTICE LICENSE PROGRAM

Residents and non-residents may purchase an apprentice hunting license or fur taker permit without having taken a hunter or fur taker education course.

Apprentice hunting licenses or fur taker permits allow new hunters and trappers, both adults and youth, to sample the experience of hunting under the mentorship of a licensed adult prior to completing a hunter or trapper education course.

To hunt or trap, apprentice license and permit holders must be accompanied by a licensed hunter or trapper 21 years of age or older. The licensed hunter may not accompany more than two (2) apprentice license holders at the same time.

Accompany means to go along with another person while staying within a distance from the person that enables uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory communications.

No one may purchase more than three apprentice hunting licenses (adult or youth) or fur taker permits in his or her lifetime.

Having previously held an apprentice license does not qualify the holder to purchase a regular hunting license or fur taker permit. To obtain a regular hunting license, a hunter education course must be completed successfully. To obtain a regular fur taker permit, a hunter education course and fur taker education course must be successfully completed. Apprentice licenses and fur taker permits are available to both residents and non-residents, youth or adults. No one may purchase more than three apprentice hunting licenses or fur taker permits in his or her lifetime.

SHOOTING RANGE PERMITS

Permits are required of shooters age 18 or older for admission to Class-A ranges operated by the Ohio Division of Wildlife (see **Page 45** for shooting range information). Shooters age 17 and under are not required to purchase a permit, but must be accompanied by and directly monitored by an adult (age 18 years or older) holding a valid shooting range permit.

HUNTER AND TRAPPER EDUCATION

All first-time hunting license buyers, except apprentice license buyers, must successfully complete a hunter education course before purchasing a hunting license. The hunting course is designed to instill a code of ethics and responsibility, as well as provide instruction on guns and how they work, types of ammunition, gun handling, field care of game, wildlife identification, wildlife management, hunting regulations, and other topics. Statistics show that hunter education has helped make a substantial reduction in the number of hunting related injuries and incidents.

The trapper education course, taken after successful completion of a hunter education course, covers trap set making, trapping equipment, pelt preparation, furbearer life history, identification, and management. These courses provide an opportunity for adults to introduce a young person to hunting and trapping and to share the excitement that goes with it.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife offers both traditional instructor-led hunter and trapper education courses along with a home-study option. The home-study hunter education course requires a four-hour hands-on training component. Persons interested in taking a hunter, trapper, or advanced hunting course can call the Ohio Division of Wildlife at 1-800-WILDLIFE (945-3543) or visit **wildohio.com** for information on courses in your area. People who are hearing impaired may call the Ohio Relay Service.

INTERSTATE WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT

Ohio is a member of the agreement between states that if a person loses their hunting, trapping or fishing privileges in one of those states, they may lose those privileges in all of the member states. If you lose your right to hunt, trap or fish in Ohio, it is YOUR responsibility to check with any other state before you hunt, trap or fish there to ensure you have not lost your privileges in that state as well.

SHARE THE BOUNTY

The Ohio Division of Wildlife encourages sportsmen and women to share the bounty of their successful deer hunts by donating deer to charitable organizations that help feed the hungry of our state.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife continues to partner in a program coordinated by Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry. Funding is provided to encourage a 1:1 local dollar match to pay local deer processors so that donated deer will be processed for donation to local food pantries at no cost to the hunter. Additionally, hunters are encouraged to use the $15 antlerless deer permit to take an extra deer for the program, thus helping others at very little cost to themselves.

FARMERS AND HUNTERS FEEDING THE HUNGRY

To make a donation, contact FHFH. Go to the national website (www.fhfh.org), then to (Ohio) and find an active chapter and check out what processors are available for that chapter. Each chapter has a contact person and the processor's name and address.

FARMERS AND HUNTERS Feeding The Hungry www.fhfh.org

SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER

SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER sharing nature's bounty with the hungry

Deer hunters wishing to help fight hunger may donate venison to Ohio food pantries by contacting Safari Club International on their website (www.safariclubfoundation.org) under Sportsmen Against Hunger. Deer meat will be accepted during any of the Ohio deer seasons.

WHITETAILS UNLIMITED

Local WTU chapters use local funds for programs such as venison donation to the needy. To make a donation, go to the national website (www.whitetailsunlimited.com) to find a local chapter. Call 1-800-274-5471 for more information.

WHITETAILS UNLIMITED WWW.WHITETAILSUNLIMITED.COM

LICENSES AND PERMITS

LEGAL DEFINITIONS

As used in **Chapters 1531 and 1533** of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code:

ACCOMPANY means to go along with another person while staying within a distance from the person that enables uninterrupted, unaided visual and auditory communications.

APV USE - In accordance with 4519.40 of the Ohio Revised Code, all-purpose vehicles and snowmobiles may NOT be used:

(A) On any land or waters controlled by the state, except at those locations where a sign has been posted permitting such operation;

(B) While transporting any firearm, bow, or other implement for hunting, that is not unloaded and securely encased;

(C) For the purpose of chasing, pursuing, capturing, or killing any animal or wild fowl.

BAITED AREA means any area where shelled, shucked, or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed whatsoever capable of luring, attracting, or enticing game animals is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered and such area shall remain a baited area for ten days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed.

BAITING means the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of shelled, shucked, or unshelled corn, wheat or other grain, salt or other feed so as to constitute for such wild turkeys, mourning doves, migratory birds, or other game animals a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any area where hunters are attempting to take them.

BAG LIMIT means the number, measurement, or weight of any kind of crayfish, aquatic insects, fish, frogs, turtles, wild birds, and wild quadrupeds permitted to be taken.

CLOSED SEASON means that period of time during which the taking of wild animals protected by Chapters 1531 and 1533 of the Ohio Revised Code is prohibited.

CROSSBOW means a device for propelling an arrow by means of transverse limbs and a string, mounted on a stock at least twenty-five inches in length, and having a working safety.

FURBEARING ANIMALS include minks, weasels, raccoons, skunks, opossums, muskrats, fox, beavers, badgers, otters, coyotes, and bobcats.

GAME BIRDS include ring-necked pheasants, bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, pinnated grouse, wild turkey, Hungarian partridge, Chukar partridge, woodcocks, crows, black-breasted plover, golden plover, Wilson's snipe or jacksnipe, greater and lesser yellowlegs, rail, coots, gallinules, duck, geese, mourning doves, and brant.

GAME QUADRUPEDS include cottontail rabbits, chipmunks, flying squirrels, gray squirrels, black squirrels, fox squirrels, red squirrels, groundhogs, white-tailed deer, wild boar, and black bears.

BOBCAT SIGHTING

If you see a bobcat please call 1-800-WILDLIFE

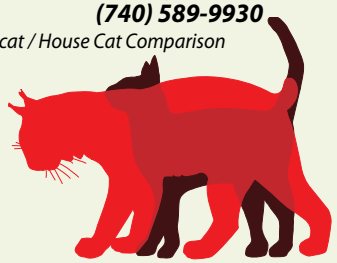
or contact the

WATERLOO WILDLIFE RESEARCH STATION

360 E. State Street, Athens, Ohio 45701

(740) 589-9930

Bobcat / House Cat Comparison



Do not approach or attempt to engage the animal if you are not sure if it is a house cat or bobcat. Though not aggressive, bobcats are a wild animal and may lash out if they feel threatened or cornered.

HUNTING means pursuing, shooting, killing, following after or on the trail of, lying in wait for, shooting at, or wounding wild birds or wild quadrupeds while employing any device commonly used to kill or wound wild birds or wild quadrupeds whether such acts result in such killing or wounding or not. It includes every attempt to kill or wound and every act of assistance to any other person in killing or wounding or attempting to kill or wound wild birds or wild quadrupeds.

LONGBOW or **BOW** means a device for propelling an arrow by means of limbs, and a string which is hand held, hand drawn, and held in a drawn position by hand or a hand-held mechanical release or by a mechanical device with a working safety. This would include compound bows and recurve bows.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS are waterfowl, rails, mourning doves, and shorebirds.

NONGAME BIRDS include all other wild birds not included and defined as game birds.

PLUGGED SHOTGUN means a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells that is plugged with a one-piece filler which limits the capacity of the gun to three shells. The filler must be such that it cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.

PROTECTED SPECIES including yellowlegs, plover, snowshoe hares, bears, badgers, bobcat, and nongame birds may not be hunted or taken at anytime: Hungarian partridge may not be taken except from a shooting preserve, dog training area, or field trial.

TENANT means an individual who resides on land for which he pays rent and whose annual income is primarily derived from agricultural production conducted on that land, as "agricultural production" is defined in Section 929.01 of the Revised Code.

TRAPPING means securing or attempting to secure possession of a wild bird or wild quadruped by means of setting, placing, drawing, or using any device that is designed to close upon, hold fast, confine, or otherwise capture a wild bird or wild quadruped whether such means result in such capturing or not. It includes every act of assistance to any other person in capturing wild birds or wild quadrupeds by means of such device whether such means result in such capturing or not.

WILD ANIMALS include mollusks, crustaceans, aquatic insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, wild birds, wild quadrupeds, and all other wild mammals.

2923.15 ORC No person, while under the influence of alcohol or any drug of abuse, shall carry or use any firearm or dangerous ordnance.

2923.16 and **1547.69 ORC** No person shall knowingly transport or have a firearm in a motor vehicle, unless it is unloaded, and is carried in one of the following ways:

(1) In a closed package, box, or case

(2) In a compartment which can be reached only by leaving the vehicle

(3) In plain sight and secured in a rack or holder made for the purpose

(4) If the firearm is at least 24 inches in overall length as measured from the muzzle to the part of the stock furthest from the muzzle, and if the barrel is at least 18 inches in length in plain sight with the action open or the firearm stripped, or, if the firearm is of a type on which the action will not stay open or which cannot easily be stripped, in plain sight.

(5) A person possessing a valid Ohio issued Concealed Carry license may carry their concealed weapon in compliance with motor vehicle transportation guidelines of the Ohio Revised Code.

As used in this section, "unloaded" means, with respect to a firearm employing a percussion cap, flintlock, or other obsolete ignition system, that the firearm is uncapped, or that the priming charge is removed from the pan.

The above sections also apply to watercraft, except while LAWFULLY engaged in hunting.

HUNTING IN OHIO

HUNTING METHODS

- Unless otherwise indicated, game may be taken with longbow, crossbow, or any caliber handgun, rifle, shotgun (10-gauge or smaller), or airgun. Be safe and choose the appropriate method for the species. See ***Public Hunting Lands,* Page 43**.
- Game birds and game quadrupeds (except wild boar) may not be taken by trapping.
- Electronic callers may be used while hunting, except while hunting migratory game birds (waterfowl, rails, and shorebirds) and wild turkeys. It is lawful to use electronic callers for crow hunting.
- It shall be unlawful to use any device capable of transmitting or receiving a person's voice to aid in the hunting or taking of deer.
- Spotlighting of wild animals from vehicles, including illuminating with headlights, is prohibited. Spotlighting is illegal whether hunting implements are carried in the vehicle or not.
- Persons hunting, trapping, or pursuing furbearing animals at night must carry a continuous white light visible for at least 1/4 mile. When two or more persons are hunting or trapping together for furbearing animals, only one light is required and may be carried by any member of the party. Persons hunting foxes, coyotes, or raccoon with a call from a stationary position may use a single beam light of any color.
- It is unlawful to possess a hunting device while training or working a dog pursuing coyotes from sunset to sunrise.
- All hunting from motor vehicles, except boats and machinery being used in farm operations is prohibited. Hunting small game and furbearers except mink, muskrat, and beaver is lawful from a boat or powercraft. All hunting from aircraft is prohibited.
- It is unlawful to shoot from, on, across, or along a public road or highway.
- During the statewide muzzleloader season and youth deer gun season it is unlawful to hunt legal game with shot shells containing shot larger than #4. Waterfowl hunters must use nontoxic shot of any size.
- During the youth deer gun season, deer gun season, deer gun weekend, and the muzzleloader deer seasons all hunters must visibly wear a vest, jacket, coat, or coveralls that are solid hunter orange or hunter orange camo except waterfowl hunters.
- Longbows and crossbows may be used to take legal game. However, crossbows may not be used to hunt migratory game birds. Longbow hunters may use a hand-held mechanical release or a mechanical device with a working safety. Crossbows may be cocked with a device, but must have a working safety and a stock more than 25 inches long.
- Arrows for longbow and crossbow must be tipped with a broadhead not less than 3/4-inch wide while hunting deer or turkey. The arrow tip must have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed.
- It is unlawful to hunt deer or turkey with a longbow having a draw weight of less than 40 pounds, or with a crossbow having a draw weight of less than 75 pounds.
- Poisoned or explosive arrows are unlawful. While hunting, it is unlawful to have attached to a longbow or crossbow any mechanical, electrical, or electronic device capable of projecting a beam of light.

◈ ON PUBLIC HUNTING LANDS

- It is unlawful for any person to use a rifle, pistol, revolver, shotgun or other firearm at any time on any land or water area controlled or administered by the Ohio Division of Wildlife except while lawfully trapping or hunting wild animals or target practicing on a designated Ohio Division of Wildlife target range.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, place, or scatter salt, grain, or other feed capable of luring, enticing, or attracting birds on lands owned, controlled, or maintained by the Ohio Division of Wildlife including those lands managed by the division by virtue of a lease or an agreement.
- Portions of Deer Creek, Killdeer Plains, Resthaven, Lake La Su An, Berlin Lake, Big Island, Delaware, Grand River, Brush Creek, Waterloo, Cooper Hollow, East Fork, Woodbury, Spring Valley, and Fallsville wildlife areas will be open for persons with severe mobility impairments to drive their cars, trucks, or an Electric Powered All Purpose Vehicle to designated interior areas for hunting. Disabled persons are required to have an Electric Powered All Purpose Vehicle Permit. Find more information or download a permit application at **wildohio.com.**
- It is unlawful to hunt with or possess any shot except nontoxic shot at Metzger Marsh, Mallard Club, Pipe Creek, Magee Marsh, Toussaint, and Little Portage wildlife areas.
- All hunting and trapping on Magee Marsh Wildlife Area is by permit only.

◈ ON ALL WILDLIFE AREAS

- It is illegal to sit, stand, or otherwise be in contact with oil or gas production or transmission wells, pumps, tanks, pipes, and other equipment.
- Roadside camping is prohibited on all state wildlife areas. Primitive campgrounds are located on Woodbury, Tycoon, Wolf Creek, and Monroe wildlife areas.
- It is unlawful for any person to use or hunt with a rifle, pistol, or revolver from October 15 through January 1 during the daylight hours on any lands owned, administered or under agreement with the Ohio Division of Wildlife, except when properly used on a designated Ohio Division of Wildlife target range or when hunting squirrels with a rimfire rifle, pistol, revolver, or muzzleloading rifle .40-caliber or smaller or when deer hunting with a muzzleloading rifle or legal pistol or revolver during the youth deer gun season, deer gun season, statewide muzzleloader season, and the early muzzleloader season.
- On Auburn Marsh Wildlife Area it is unlawful to use a rifle, pistol, revolver, or a shotgun using slugs at any time. Deer hunting at Auburn Marsh Wildlife Area is lawful using archery equipment only.
- All wildlife areas are closed to all activity other than hunting, trapping, and fishing from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. September 1 through May 1 and from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. May 2 through August 31.
- Beaver and river otter trapping are prohibited on all state public hunting areas including state parks and forests without a special permit from the Ohio Division of Wildlife. Consult our district offices or website for information on how these permits can be obtained.
- State parks have special hunting and trapping regulations. Some are not open to hunting or trapping. A permit is required to build a duck blind on state park lakes. Consult the Ohio Division of Parks and Recreation, 2045 Morse Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693; phone (614) 265-6561, or the park manager.
- It is unlawful to operate or park any vehicle on properties administered by the Ohio Division of Wildlife except on designated roads and parking areas.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONCEALED CARRY

A person possessing a valid Concealed Carry license may carry their concealed weapon while hunting, but it may not be used to shoot, shoot at, or kill any wild animal. For more information go to **ag.state.oh.us**.

HUNTING WITH PERMISSION

The landowner's written permission is required for hunting and trapping on private land, regardless of whether the land is posted. Permission slips are available at all Ohio Division of Wildlife district offices, at **wildohio.com**, and on **Page 4** of this publication.

◈ THE PENALTY FOR HUNTING WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION

The maximum penalty for hunting without written permission of the landowner for a first offense is 60 days in jail and a $500 fine. The maximum penalty for a second offense is 90 days in jail and a $750 fine.

A person must carry written permission (see **Page 4**) at all times while engaging in hunting or trapping on private land and exhibit it upon request to a state wildlife officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer, other law enforcement officer, owner of the land, or the landowner's authorized agent.

POSSESSION

- ✦ Live fur-bearing animals, amphibians, reptiles, game quadrupeds, or game birds may not be held in captivity or sold except by propagation permit.
- ✦ Hides of fur-bearing animals taken legally during the open season may be sold during that open season.
- ✦ Furbearers may not be taken alive during open hunting and trapping seasons.
- ✦ Persons desiring to buy green or dried fur must have a fur dealer's permit.
- ✦ It is unlawful to buy, sell or possess nongame birds or their parts, dead or alive.

DOG TRAINING

The Ohio Division of Wildlife has established designated dog training areas on some of its wildlife areas. Dogs may not be trained or exercised on state public hunting areas from May 1 through August 31, except on these designated dog training areas. A nonresident may not train, work, or exercise a dog in Ohio at any time if Ohio residents are not permitted to train, work, or exercise dogs in the nonresident's state. Training dogs while pursing furbearing animals is permitted only from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Firearms may not be carried by persons training or working dogs during the closed season for furbearing animals.

Designated dog training areas are located on portions of the Berlin, Caesar Creek, Delaware, Fallsville, Indian Creek, Killdeer Plains, Lake La Su An, Oxbow Lake, Resthaven, Rush Run, Spencer, and Tri-Valley wildlife areas.

GINSENG

No person shall dig, harvest, or otherwise collect wild ginseng from its natural habitat except during the season of September 1 through December 31 of each year. Ginseng plants with unripened berries or which have less than three-leaf stems (prongs) cannot be harvested. Seeds from wild ginseng plants shall be immediately replanted at the place where the plants were collected. Any person collecting ginseng is required to keep accurate records showing the number of pounds and ounces of ginseng, both green and/or dry weight, collected in each Ohio county by date of collection. Dealers and buyers shall acquire a state dealer's registration permit each year prior to purchasing or otherwise acquiring Ohio ginseng. No person shall harvest wild or cultivated ginseng from private or public property without first obtaining written permission from the landowner or his agent. Collection is prohibited on ODNR property. For more information on ginseng harvest, contact the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

SHOOTING RANGES

The Ohio Division of Wildlife operates five Supervised Class A ranges. All persons age 18 and older shooting on Supervised Class A ranges must purchase a shooting range permit which is available at all hunting and fishing license agents and on the Internet at **wildohio.com.** Permits are not sold at the shooting ranges.

Shooters age 17 and under are not required to purchase a permit, but must be accompanied by and directly monitored by an adult (age 18 years or older) holding a valid shooting range permit.

◈ SUPERVISED HOURS OF OPERATION

CLASS "A" RANGES - Hours of operation vary. All ranges are closed on Monday and Tuesday as well as the following dates: New Year's Day, Easter, Memorial Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. Woodbury shooting range will be closed Sept. 19-30, 2011. Contact the wildlife areas for detailed information:

DELAWARE WILDLIFE AREA*

8589 Horseshoe Rd., Ashley
(614) 644-3925**

DEER CREEK WILDLIFE AREA*

12552 Post Rd., Route 1 • Mt. Sterling
(614) 644-3925**

SPRING VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA

1863 Rox - N Burlington Rd.
Waynesville
(937) 862-5162

GRAND RIVER WILDLIFE AREA*

6686 S.R. 534 • Farmington
(330) 889-3280

WOODBURY WILDLIFE AREA*

23371 S.R. 60 S. • Warsaw
(740) 824-3211

* Closed during January and February
**Call to confirm range is open due to frequent flooding issues.

IF YOU OBSERVE A WILDLIFE VIOLATION

1-800-POACHER or ohiotip.com

Turn In a Poacher

ohiotip.com

POACHERS ARE STEALING FROM YOU!

Ohio's **TIP**, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to curtail poaching throughout the state. **TIP** is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should record the information then call the TIP toll-free hot line

1-800-POACHER *(762-2437)*
or the Web at **ohiotip.com**

You do not have to give your name . . . just give the facts. Active 24/7.

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICES

DOW HEADQUARTERS
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. G
Columbus 43229-6693
(614) 265-6300 (Voice)
1-800-750-0750 (Ohio Relay-TDD)
1-800-WILDLIFE (945-3543)

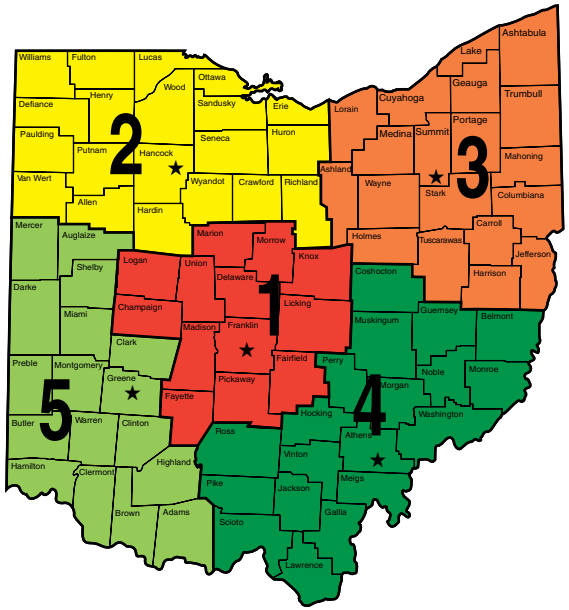
WILDLIFE DISTRICT ONE
1500 Dublin Road
Columbus 43215
(614) 644-3925

WILDLIFE DISTRICT TWO
952 Lima Avenue
Findlay 45840
(419) 424-5000

WILDLIFE DISTRICT THREE
912 Portage Lakes Drive
Akron 44319
(330) 644-2293

WILDLIFE DISTRICT FOUR
360 E. State Street
Athens 45701
(740) 589-9930

WILDLIFE DISTRICT FIVE
1076 Old Springfield Pike
Xenia 45385
(937) 372-9261



SANDUSKY FISHERIES & ENFORCEMENT UNITS
305 E. Shoreline Drive
Sandusky 44870
(419) 625-8062

OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
OPEN HOUSES
SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012

You are invited to any of the locations below on Saturday, March 3, 2012 anytime between noon and 3 p.m. to discuss 2012-2013 hunting season proposals. Division staff will be able to listen to your concerns and answer your questions.

DISTRICT ONE HEADQUARTERS
1500 Dublin Road, Columbus

DISTRICT TWO HEADQUARTERS
952 Lima Ave., Findlay

DISTRICT THREE HEADQUARTERS
912 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron

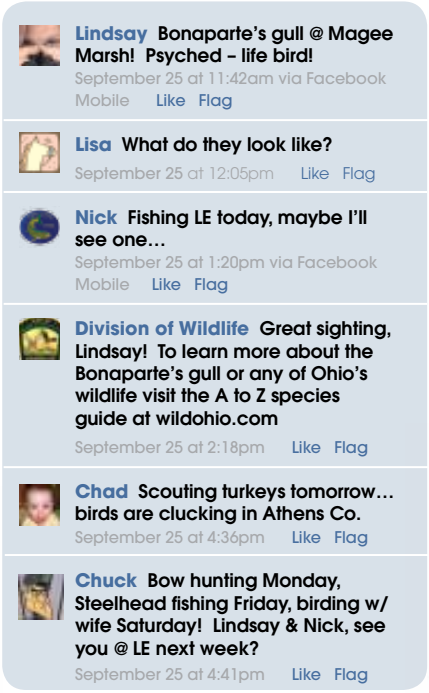
DISTRICT FOUR HEADQUARTERS
360 E. State St., Athens

GREENE CO. FISH & GAME ASSN. CLUBHOUSE
1538 Union Rd., Xenia

Locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons having special needs should contact the local wildlife district office or call 1-800-WILDLIFE at least one week in advance of the open house.

Adams Chris Gilkey (937) 372-5639 X5205	**Fairfield** Tony Zerkle (614) 644-3929 X1203	**Licking** Bill Bullard (614) 644-3929 X1207	**Portage** Barry Hennig (330) 245-3040
Allen Craig Barr (419) 429-8379	**Fayette** John Coffman (614) 644-3929 X1204	**Logan** Adam Smith (614) 644-3929 X1208	**Preble** Brad Turner (937) 372-5639 X5219
Ashland Brian Banbury (330) 245-3044	**Franklin** Brad Kiger (614) 644-3929 X1205	**Lorain** Randy White (330) 245-3032	**Putnam** Jason Porinchok (419) 429-8391
Ashtabula Jason Hadsell (330) 245-3036	**Fulton** Robert Wolfrum (419) 429-8383	**Lucas** Cody Klima (419) 429-8388	**Richland** Gregory Wasilewski (419) 429-8392
Athens Chris Dodge (740) 589-9980	**Gallia** Roy Rucker (740) 589-9983	**Madison** Matt Teders (614) 644-3929 X1209	**Ross** Bob Nelson (740) 589-9995
Auglaize Matt Hoehn (937) 372-5639 X5218	**Geauga** Scott Denamen (330) 245-3035	**Mahoning** Tom Frank (330) 245-3038	**Sandusky** Brian Bury (419) 429-8393
Belmont Brian Baker (740) 589-9981	**Greene** Matthew Hunt (937) 372-5639 X5204	**Marion** Chad Grote (614) 644-3929 X1210	**Scioto** Matt Clark (740) 589-9996
Brown Allan Wright (937) 372-5639 X5220	**Guernsey** Roby Williams (740) 589-9984	**Medina** Eric Moore (330) 245-3043	**Seneca** Matthew Leibengood (419) 429-8394
Butler Aaron Ireland (937) 372-5639 X5207	**Hamilton** Eric Lamb (937) 372-5639 X5217	**Meigs** Josh Shields (740) 589-9988	**Shelby** Tim Rourke (937) 372-5639 X5213
Carroll Dan Shroyer (330) 245-3048	**Hancock** Brent Allan (419) 429-8384	**Mercer** Ryan Garrison (937) 372-5639 X5210	**Stark** Mark Basinger (330) 245-3041
Champaign Jeffrey Tipton (614) 644-3929 X1201	**Hardin** Ryan Kennedy (419) 429-8385	**Miami** Jasmine Grossnickle (937) 372-5639 X5215	**Summit** Brennan Earick (330) 245-3042
Clark Byron Rice (937) 372-5639 X5212	**Harrison** Nick Turner (330) 245-3049	**Monroe** Wes Feldner (740) 589-9989	**Trumbull** Hollie Fluharty (330) 245-3037
Clermont Michael Ohlrich (937) 372-5639 X5209	**Henry** Robert Hesterman (419) 429-8386	**Montgomery** Trent Weaver (937) 372-5639 X5211	**Tuscarawas** Wade Dunlap (330) 245-3047
Clinton Matt Roberts (937) 372-5639 X5206	**Highland** Jim Carnes (937) 372-5639 X5214	**Morgan** Todd Stewart (740) 589-9990	**Union** Chris Rice (614) 644-3929 X1213
Columbiana Scott Angelo (330) 245-3039	**Hocking** Troy Reimund (740) 589-9985	**Morrow** Dirk Cochran (614) 644-3929 X1211	**Van Wert** Brad Buening (419) 429-8395
Coshocton Jerrod Allison (740) 589-9982	**Holmes** Jeremy Carter (330) 245-3045	**Muskingum** Michael Reed (740) 589-9991	**Vinton** Jared Abele (740) 589-9997
Crawford Jason Parr (419) 429-8380	**Huron** Josh Zientek (419) 429-8387	**Noble** Brad St. Clair (740) 589-9992	**Warren** Rick Rogers (937) 372-5639 X5216
Cuyahoga VACANT (330) 245-3033	**Jackson** Ted Witham (740) 589-9986	**Ottawa** Reid Van Cleve (419) 429-8389	**Washington** Eric Bear (740) 589-9998
Darke Jeff Wenning (937) 372-5639 X5208	**Jefferson** Tim Stevens (330) 245-3050	**Paulding** Duane Bailey (419) 429-8390	**Wayne** Jason Warren (330) 245-3046
Defiance Matthew Smith (419) 429-8381	**Knox** Mike Miller (614) 644-3929 X1206	**Perry** Eric Lane (740) 589-9993	**Williams** Thomas Kochert (419) 429-8396
Delaware Steve Harvey (614) 644-3929 X1225	**Lake** Jason Keller (330) 245-3034	**Pickaway** Ken Bebout (614) 644-3929 X1212	**Wood** Martin Baer (419) 429-8397
Erie Kevin Good (419) 429-8382	**Lawrence** Darin Abbott (740) 589-9987	**Pike** Matt Van Cleve (740) 589-9994	**Wyandot** Brad Baaske (419) 429-8398

The Ohio Division of Wildlife is on Facebook and Twitter!



If you love hunting, fishing, birding, and all things Wild Ohio, join the wildlife conversation by "liking" the Ohio Division of Wildlife on Facebook or following the division on Twitter.

On Facebook, you can share insight and feedback with Ohio Division of Wildlife staff and other outdoor enthusiasts. Supporters will also find important information, tips, and activity ideas. To join the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Facebook page, go to

facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife

and click the "***Like***" button at the top of the page.

On Twitter, the division will post news releases, important deadlines and need-to-know messages. To follow the Ohio Division of Wildlife on Twitter, go to

twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife

and click "***Follow***."