

# Michigan Hunting Seasons

## Small game hunting

Grab your base license and head out for some small game hunting!

- Cottontail rabbit and snowshoe hare: Sept. 15 - March 31, 2022.
- Fox and gray squirrel (black phase included): Sept. 15 - March 31, 2022.
- Quail: Oct. 20 - Nov. 14.
- Ruffed grouse: Sept. 15 - Nov. 14 and Dec. 1 - Jan. 1, 2022.
- Sharp-tailed grouse: Oct. 10-31, in select portions of Zone 1.
- Woodcock: Sept. 15 - Oct. 29.
  - All woodcock hunters must get a free woodcock stamp, which includes registration with the federal Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program.
- Pheasant (male only):
  - Zone 1: Oct. 10-31 (see Hunting Digest for map of open portions).
  - Zone 2 and 3: Oct. 20 - Nov. 14.
  - A \$25 pheasant license is required for all hunters 18 years old and older to hunt pheasants on any public land in the Lower Peninsula or on lands enrolled in the Hunting Access Program. See the 2021 Hunting Digest for exceptions.
  - [Pheasant releases](#) will be conducted during the regular pheasant season, mid-October through mid-November on state-owned public lands with suitable pheasant habitat.

Season dates, bag limits and small game hunting regulations are available in the [2021 Hunting Digest](#) and at [Michigan.gov/SmallGame](https://Michigan.gov/SmallGame).

---

## Waterfowl hunting

Duck and goose seasons are open throughout the state this month. Visit one of Michigan's [managed waterfowl hunt areas](#) for exceptional waterfowl hunting opportunities.

### North Zone

- Duck seasons: Sept. 25 - Nov. 21 and Nov. 27-28.

- Goose season open through Dec. 16.

### **Middle Zone**

- Duck seasons: Oct. 2 - Nov. 28 and Dec. 11-12.
- Goose season open through Dec. 16.

### **South Zone**

- Duck seasons: Oct. 9 - Dec. 5 and Jan. 1-2, 2022.
- Goose season: Now through Sept. 30, Oct. 9 - Dec. 5, Jan. 1-9 and Feb. 5-14, 2022.
  - Allegan County Goose Management Unit: Now through Sept. 30, Nov. 6-13, Nov. 25 - Dec. 5 and Dec. 18 - Feb. 13, 2022.
  - Muskegon County GMU: Oct. 16 - Dec. 23.

Waterfowl hunting information is available in the [2021 Waterfowl Digest](#) and at [Michigan.gov/Waterfowl](https://Michigan.gov/Waterfowl).

---

## **Report banded migratory birds online**

Migratory bird hunters can report bird bands online at [ReportBand.gov](https://ReportBand.gov).

After recent power and server outages, the USGS Bird Banding Lab sent notice that migratory bird hunters can resume reporting bird bands online at [ReportBand.gov](https://ReportBand.gov). Hunters unable to report any bands while the site was down are encouraged to revisit the site, as information received from hunters is critical for management of migratory game birds.

---

## **Deer hunting**

Deer hunting season dates, regulations and more are available in the [2021 Hunting Digest](#), available at [Michigan.gov/Deer](https://Michigan.gov/Deer).

- **Archery deer season: Oct. 1 - Nov. 14 and Dec. 1 - Jan. 1, 2022.**
  - Statewide on public or private lands.
  - Archery deer hunters in the Lower Peninsula have the option to harvest antlerless deer with their deer or deer combo license. In the Upper Peninsula, during the archery season, hunters can take an antlerless deer with either a deer or deer combo license, except in deer management units 007, 031, 042, 048, 066, 127 and 131.

- Check the [2021 Hunting Digest](#) for deer hunting regulations, including information on the types of deer that may be harvested in each season and any antler point restrictions that may be in place.
- **Independence Hunt: Oct. 14-17.**
  - Open to hunters with disabilities.
  - Statewide on private lands and some public lands requiring an access permit.
- **Firearm season: Nov. 13-18**
  - Check the [2021 Hunting Digest](#) for deer hunting regulations, including information on the types of deer that may be harvested in each season and any antler point restrictions that may be in place.
- **Muzzleloader: Dec. 4-19**

## Fur harvesting

### Hunting seasons:

- Coyote hunting: open year-round.
- Fox (gray and red) hunting: Oct. 15 - March 1, 2022.
- Raccoon hunting: Oct. 1 - Jan. 31, 2022.

### Trapping seasons:

- Coyote and fox (gray and red) trapping: Oct. 15 - March 1, 2022.
- Raccoon trapping: Oct. 15 - March 31, 2022.
- Badger, beaver, muskrat, mink and otter trapping opportunities are open in October for some areas; see the Fur Harvester Digest for open units, season dates and bag limits.

Fur harvesting regulations, bag limits and season dates are available in the [2021 Fur Harvester Digest](#) and at [Michigan.gov/Trapping](https://Michigan.gov/Trapping).