



Big Woods Wildlife Management Area

2026-2027 Hunting Seasons



All Federal, State, & Local County Rules, Regulations, & Ordinances Apply

BIG GAME HUNTING SEASONS

Bear	Youth/Apprentice: October 10 & 11 Archery: October 3 -- November 13 Chase Season: November 14 – November 28	Muzzleloader: November 7 – November 13 Firearm: November 30 – January 2
Deer	Youth/Apprentice: September 26 & 27 Early Archery: October 3 – November 13	Early Muzzleloader: October 31 – November 13 (Either Sex = Nov. 7 th) Firearm: November 14 – January 2
Turkey	Fall: Youth/Apprentice: October 10 & 11 Archery: October 3 – November 13 Firearm: October 17 – October 30, November 25 -- 26, & November 30 – December 12 (No Rifles)	Spring: Youth/Apprentice: April 3 & 4 Firearm: April 10 – April 25 (½ hour before sunrise until 12 noon) (No Rifles) April 26 – May 15 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset) (No Rifles)

SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS

Crow	September 2 – March 10 (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, & Saturdays ONLY)
Groundhog	September 1 – March 10, April 10 – May 15, June 5 – June 19
Quail	November 7 – January 31
Rabbit	October 31 – February 28
Squirrel	Fall: September 5 – February 28 (No Fox Squirrels) Spring: June 5 – June 19 (No Fox Squirrels)
Grouse	CLOSED

WEBLESS MIGRATORY GAMEBIRD HUNTING SEASONS

Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Hunting Days: October 24 & February 6

Dove	September 5 – October 24, November 21 – 29, & December 19 – January 18 Hours: September 5 (12:00 Noon until sunset), Remainder of season (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Woodcock	November 11 – December 1 & December 26 – January 18 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Snipe	September 28 – November 29 & December 19 – January 31 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Rail & Gallinule	September 5 – October 24 & November 10 – November 29 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset

WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASONS

Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Hunting Days: October 24 & February 6

September Goose and Teal	Goose: September 1 – September 18 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset Goose: September 19 – September 25 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset	Teal: September 19 – September 27 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Duck/Mergansers/Coots	October 9 – October 12 (No Black Ducks) November 18 – November 29 December 19 – January 31	Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Hunting Days: October 24 & February 6 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Canadian Goose: Atlantic Zone & Resident Zone	Atlantic Population Zone: November 24 – November 29 & December 24 – December 31 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset	Resident Population Zone: November 18 – November 29 & December 19 – February 21 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Light Goose	Regular Season: November 25 – March 10 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset	Conservation Order Season: TBA Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset Hunter Registration Required
Tundra Swan	November 15 – January 31 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset Permit Required	

FURBEARER HUNTING SEASONS

Bobcat	Archery: October 3 – October 31 Firearm: November 1 – February 28
Coyote/Striped Skunk	September 1 – March 10, April 10 – May 15, & June 5 – June 19
Opossum	October 15 – March 10
Fox	Red Fox: November 1 – February 28 Grey Fox: January 1 – February 28 Chase: Continuous open season (Harvesting Foxes is Prohibited Except During Firearm Season)
Raccoon	Firearm: October 15 – March 10 Chase: Continuous open season (Harvesting Raccoons is Prohibited Except During Firearm Season)

TRAPPING SEASONS

Beaver/Mink/Muskrat/Otter/Weasel	December 1 – February 28
Bobcat/Red & Gray Fox/Opossum/Raccoon	November 15 – February 28
Coyote/Nutria/Striped & Spotted Skunk	Continuous open Season
Rabbit	October 15 – January 31 (Box Traps Only)

If you have any questions, please contact the Wildlife Area Manager, Noah Hale, at (804) 987-9587 or email at noah.hale@dwr.virginia.gov