

New For 2019-2020

- The mallard daily bag limit has *reduced* from **4 birds (2 hens) per day to 2 birds (1 hen) per day**.
- The Canada goose season length in the Northeast, West Central, East Central, Hudson Valley, and Lake Champlain zones has been *reduced* from **50 days to 30 days** and the bag limit has been *reduced* from **3 per day to 2 per day**.
- The northern pintail bag limit has been *reduced* from **2 per day to 1 per day**.

License Requirements

All migratory game bird hunters must carry a valid New York State hunting license, except for persons not required to have a hunting license. All migratory game bird hunters in New York must also register annually with New York's Harvest Information Program (HIP) and carry proof of compliance whenever going afield. To register, call toll-free 1-888-4ASKHIP (1-888-427-5447) or visit the website: www.newyorkhip.org. **HIP registration is valid from August 1 – June 30 annually.**

Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp

Each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age or older must carry on his/her person a valid federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp ("duck stamp") signed in ink across the face. Stamps do not have to be attached to your license. Duck stamps are not required for hunting coot, rails, gallinules, woodcock or snipe. Duck stamps are not required of minors 12 to 15 years of age hunting migratory waterfowl in New York State.

Hunting Hours

All waterfowl may be taken from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset in all hunting zones. Canada geese may be taken until one-half hour after sunset during the September seasons, except on Youth Waterfowl Hunt days, when hunting hours end at sunset.

Non-Toxic Shot Requirement

Non-toxic shot is required for hunting waterfowl, everywhere in New York State. Possession or use of shells loaded with shot other than steel, bismuth-tin, iron-tungsten, iron-tungsten-nickel, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-tin-iron, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-tin-iron-nickel or other shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is strictly prohibited when hunting waterfowl.

Prohibitions on Methods of Take

No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, crossbow, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun,

machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.

- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun. This does not apply to the taking of Canada geese during September or snow geese in any area or zone, when all other waterfowl seasons are closed; however, during these seasons a semi-automatic shotgun capable of carrying more than 6 shells at one time may not be used.

- From a sink box (a low-floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).

- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may, with a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Conservation, take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease or injury to the spinal cord.

- From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased. Motorboats and sailboats under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds; however, crippled birds may not be shot from such craft under power except in the Special Sea Duck Area.

- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- Using recorded migratory bird calls or sounds or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls, except the taking of snow geese in any area or zone, or taking of Canada geese in September, when all other waterfowl seasons are closed.

- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance (including drones) or any sailboat to put them in the range of hunters.

- By the aid of baiting (placing feed to constitute a lure or enticement) or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation. Migratory game birds may be taken on or over standing crops, flooded harvested crop lands, grain crops properly shocked on the field where grown, or grains found scattered solely as a result of the normal agricultural planting or harvesting.



Waterfowl

Season and Bag Limit Pocket Guide

2019-2020



Print of 2019-2020
Junior Duck Stamp Winner
Nicole Jeon, Artist, Scarsdale, NY

REPORT BANDED BIRDS!



Please report all banded birds you encounter
to www.reportband.gov.

www.dec.ny.gov

Bag Limits

The **daily bag limit** is the maximum number of birds of each species that any person may take or possess in the field during any one day. The **possession limit is three times the daily bag limit** for all migratory game birds except snow geese (no possession limit).

Species	Daily Limit	Possession Limit
Ducks*	6	18
Coot	15	45
Canada geese†	See other panel	See other panel
Snow Geese	25	No limit
Brant	2	6
Youth Hunt**	Same as above, except Canada geese**/**	

*The daily limit of 6 ducks includes all mergansers and sea ducks (scoters, eiders, and long-tailed ducks) but may include no harlequin ducks and no more than **2 mallards (1 of which may be a hen)**, 3 wood ducks, 2 black duck, **1 pintail**, 2 scaup, 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 4 scoters, 4 eiders, 4 long-tailed ducks or 2 hooded mergansers. For all other duck species found in New York, the daily limit is 6.

†Cackling geese and white-fronted geese may be taken as part of the Canada goose daily bag and possession limits. Snow geese and Ross' geese may be taken as part of the snow goose limits.

** Youth Days are additional days for Junior Hunters only. Young hunters, 12 to 15 years of age, possessing a junior hunting license and HIP registration may hunt ducks, coots, mergansers, Canada geese, and brant on 2 special days in each zone. Daily bag limits for all species are the same as those allowed during the regular season for all species (excludes September Canada goose bag limits). Young hunters must be accompanied by a licensed (including current HIP registration and duck stamp) adult hunter. The adult may not shoot any birds unless the respective season is open for hunters of all ages (i.e. the regular Canada goose season).

*** If the youth season is open concurrently with the September Canada goose season, the Canada goose bag limit for youths will be equal to the September Canada goose bag limit for that area.

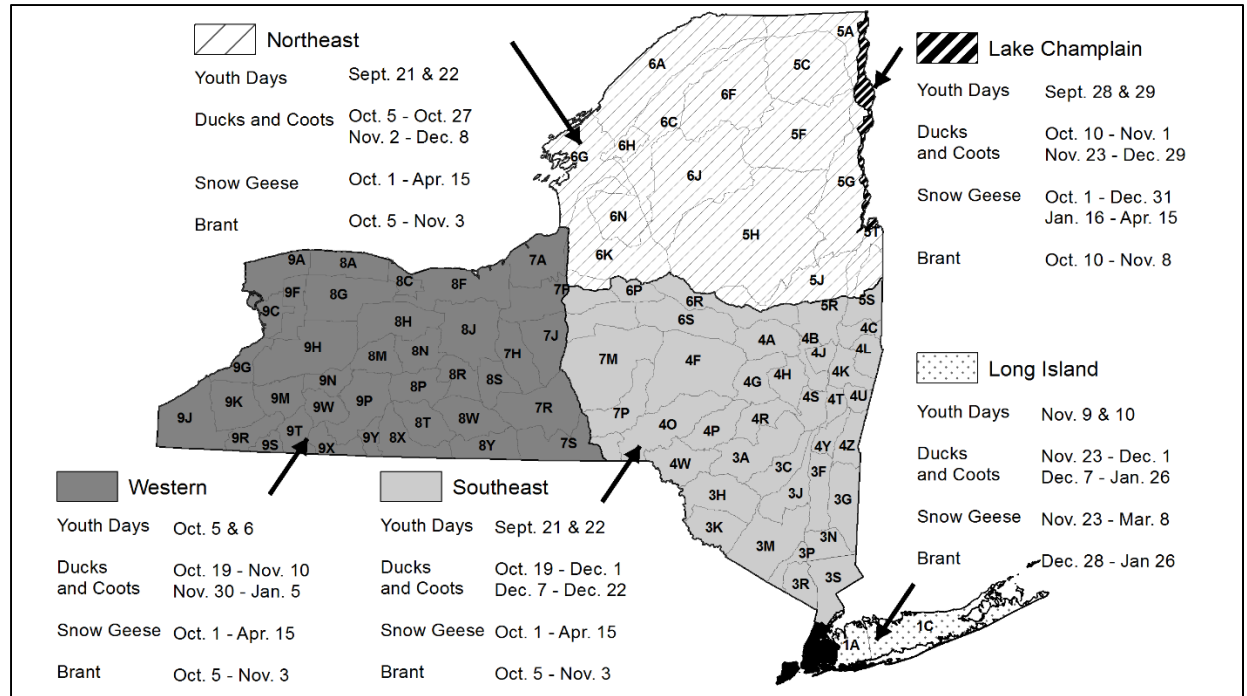
Health Advisory

Mergansers are the most heavily contaminated waterfowl species and should not be eaten. Eat no more than two meals per month of other wild waterfowl; you should skin them and remove all fat before cooking and discard stuffing after cooking.

Hunting Regulations and Zone Boundaries

The full hunting regulations and hunt zone boundary descriptions can be found in the annual hunting guide or online at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28175.html>

2019-2020 Waterfowl Seasons



*Snow goose season includes both the regular hunting season and the special Conservation Order

2019-2020 Canada Goose Seasons

