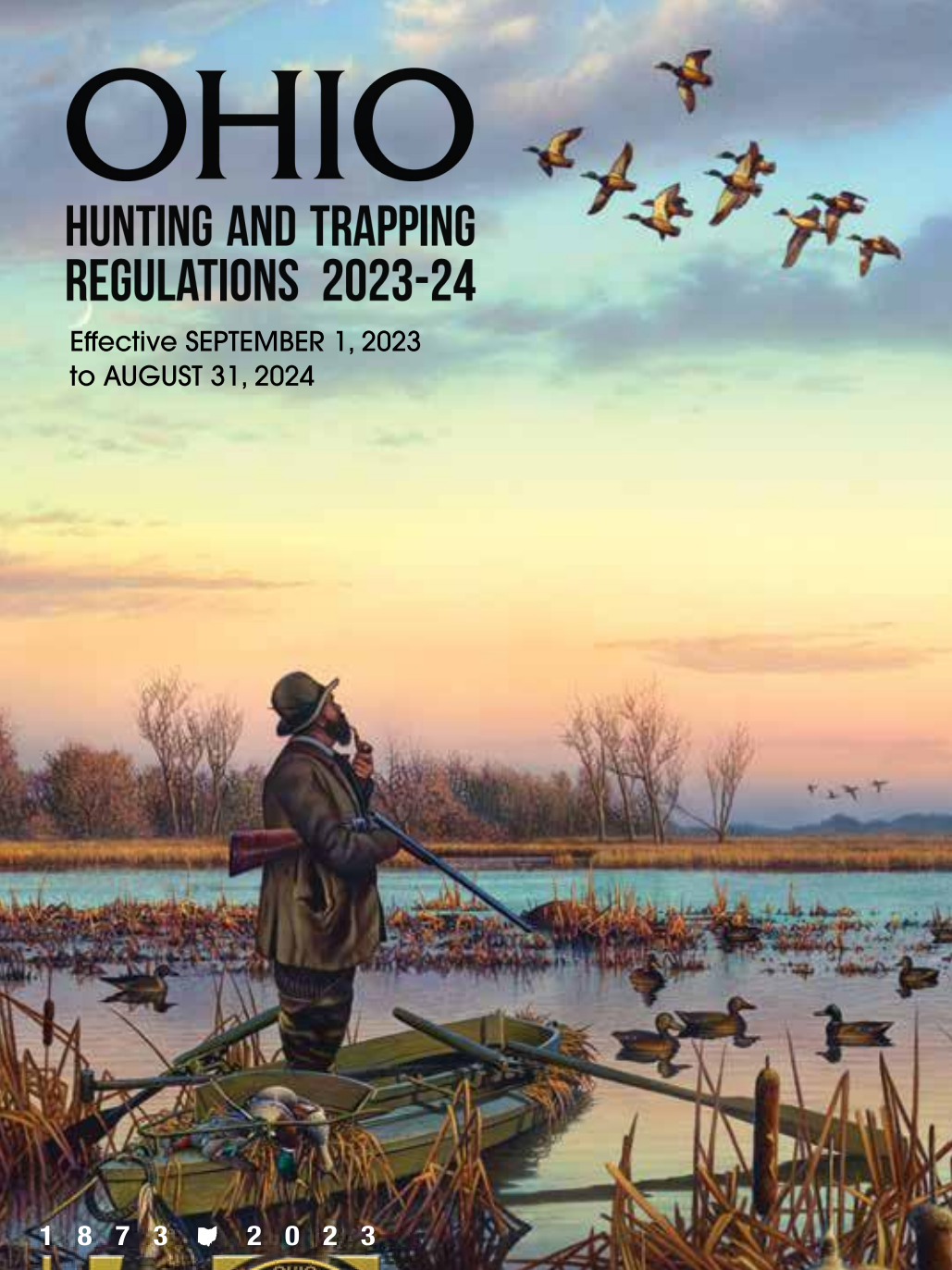


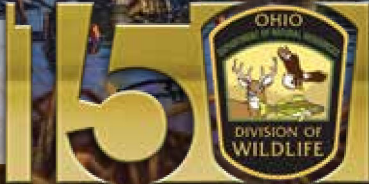
# OHIO

## HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS 2023-24

Effective SEPTEMBER 1, 2023  
to AUGUST 31, 2024



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OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**  
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

OHIO FISH COMMISSION EST. 1873

# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF WILDLIFE

VISIT US ON THE WEB  
**WILDOHIO.GOV**

FOR GENERAL INFORMATION  
**1-800-WILDLIFE**  
(1-800-945-3543)

TO REPORT WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS  
**1-800-POACHER**  
(1-800-762-2437)  
**\*\*AVAILABLE 24 HOURS\*\***

OHIO GAME CHECK  
**OHIOGAMECHECK.COM**  
**1-877-TAG-IT-OH**  
(1-877-824-4864)

HIP CERTIFICATION  
**1-877-HIP-OHIO**  
(1-877-447-6446)

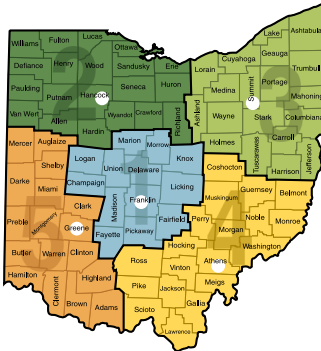
## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 Like us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife](https://facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife)

 Follow us on Twitter  
[twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife](https://twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife)

 Follow us on Instagram  
[instagram.com/your\\_wild\\_ohio](https://instagram.com/your_wild_ohio)

The Division of Wildlife's mission is to conserve and improve fish and wildlife resources and their habitats for sustainable use and appreciation by all.



## DIVISION OF WILDLIFE DISTRICT OFFICES

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT ONE**  
1500 Dublin Road  
Columbus, OH 43215

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT TWO**  
952 Lima Avenue  
Findlay, OH 45840

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT THREE**  
912 Portage Lakes Drive  
Akron, OH 44319

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT FOUR**  
360 E. State Street  
Athens, OH 45701

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT FIVE**  
1076 Old Springfield Pike  
Xenia, OH 45385

### 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  
Diversity & 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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**KENDRA S. WECKER**

# 2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS

THIS SUMMARY is intended for the convenience of hunters and trappers and IS NOT INTENDED to cover all laws and regulations. THIS SUMMARY is not intended for use as evidence or as a defense in a criminal or civil case. Because of possible changes, this summary may not be an accurate reflection of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code, which contains the details of these regulations. Copies of the actual laws are available for review at each Division of Wildlife district office and online at [codes.ohio.gov](http://codes.ohio.gov).

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## 2023-24 CHANGES

- **County limits for deer hunting are changing in Belmont, Butler, Gallia, Geauga, Harrison, Jefferson, and Monroe counties. See page 8.**
- **Nonresident students who are actively enrolled in an Ohio college or university qualify for a resident Ohio license. See page 34.**

The primary source of funding for the Ohio Division of Wildlife comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, federal excise taxes on hunting, fishing, and shooting equipment, capital bond dollars, and donations from the public. We care about all wildlife and maintaining stable, healthy wildlife populations. Our challenge is to balance the needs of wildlife, habitat, and people.

On the cover: **A FORGOTTEN DAY TO REMEMBER**  
painting by **Adam Grimm**

# CELEBRATING 150

OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CELEBRATES 150 YEARS 🇺🇸 1873 - 2023



1943 – Ohio’s First deer hunting season since their extirpation in 1909.



1956 – Ohio Division of Wildlife begins endorsement of Hunter Education Course.



1980 - Ohio’s Turn in a Poacher program (TIP) is established

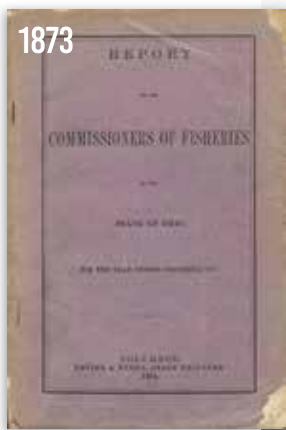
The Ohio Division of Wildlife is celebrating 150 years of wildlife conservation! This milestone would not be possible without the support and dedication of Ohio’s sportsmen and women and partnering organizations. With deep gratitude, we say thank you to the wildlife conservation community for your many years of service and hard work that have helped to conserve and re-establish vulnerable species, create and expand critical wildlife habitats, and make Ohio a premier outdoor recreation destination.

Established in 1873 as the Ohio Fish Commission, our agency has remained devoted to managing and improving wildlife populations and habitats for the people of Ohio. Over the years, the state has seen many incredible wildlife success stories. From bringing bald eagles back from a low of just four nests in 1979 to more than 800 in 2022, to the recoveries of river otters, white-tailed deer, and trumpeter swans, Ohio’s wildlife future looks bright.

Work is ongoing, and in 2022 the Ohio Division of Wildlife contributed funds to partnering organizations to progress their inspiring work with species such as eastern hellbenders, lake sturgeon, freshwater mussels, and more. We have also partnered with local and state-wide organizations to ensure critical habitats such as wetlands and prairies are protected and expanded in the state.

As we celebrate our past, we look forward to the future with the goal of improving wildlife populations and habitats and providing more opportunities for the state’s many outdoor enthusiasts to hunt, fish, trap, bird, and enjoy Ohio’s plentiful wildlife resources. We are proud to work and recreate alongside such a passionate group of outdoorsmen and women. Spending time in the outdoors brings people together and we look forward to sharing the importance of wildlife conservation for another 150 years.





1873

Ohio Fish Commission established

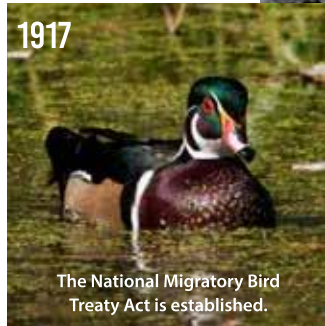


1886  
First game wardens appointed and a statute provided a game warden in every county in 1888.



1913

Ohio's first resident hunting license was issued



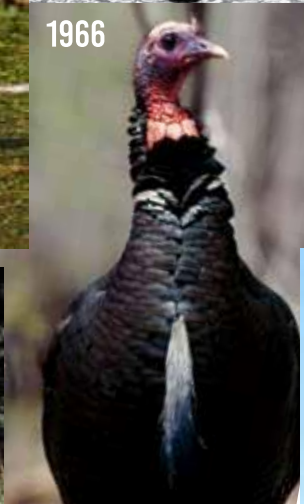
1917

The National Migratory Bird Treaty Act is established.



1956

First Statewide Deer Season



1966

First Statewide Turkey Season



1922

Roosevelt Game Reserve Dedicated



1995

First Statewide Dove Season



**ABOUT THE COVER:** A Forgotten Day to Remember was painted by renowned wildlife artist and Ohio native Adam Grimm to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Ohio Division of Wildlife. In his painting, A Forgotten Day to Remember, Grimm wanted to pay tribute to this anniversary with the portrayal of a traditional waterfowl hunter from years past, specifically 1873. It can be difficult to imagine past waterfowl hunters in old wooden boats traversing some of the same wetlands we see today. Wetlands have been and always will be an essential part of ecosystems because they provide valuable wildlife habitat, filter excess nutrients, and provide erosion and flood control. Through Governor Mike DeWine's H2Ohio program, the Ohio Division of Wildlife continues to make wetland restoration a priority. Learn more at [h2.ohio.gov](http://h2.ohio.gov).

2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS  
**SEASONS & DATES**

SEASON		OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	PAGE
<b>White-tailed Deer HUNTING</b>	Deer Archery	Sept. 30, 2023	Feb. 4, 2024	8
	Youth Deer Gun	Nov. 18, 2023	Nov. 19, 2023	8
	Deer Gun	Nov. 27, 2023	Dec. 3, 2023	8
		Dec. 16, 2023	Dec. 17, 2023	
Deer Muzzleloader	Jan. 6, 2024	Jan. 9, 2024	8	
<b>DSA Deer HUNTING</b>	DSA Deer Archery	Sept. 9, 2023	Feb. 4, 2024	13
	DSA Early Deer Gun	Oct. 7, 2023	Oct. 9, 2023	13
<b>Wild Turkey HUNTING</b>	Fall Turkey (select counties)	Oct. 14, 2023	Nov. 12, 2023	16
	Youth Spring Turkey	April 13, 2024	April 14, 2024	16
	Spring Turkey: South Zone	April 20, 2024	May 19, 2024	16
	Spring Turkey: Northeast Zone	April 27, 2024	May 26, 2024	16
<b>Small Game &amp; Furbearer HUNTING</b>	American Crow (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday only)	June 2, 2023	March 3, 2024	20
	Squirrel (red, gray, and fox)	Sept. 1, 2023	Jan. 31, 2024	20
	Ruffed Grouse (public land)	Oct. 14, 2023	Nov. 26, 2023	20
	Ruffed Grouse (private land)	Oct. 14, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	20
	Cottontail Rabbit	Nov. 3, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	20
	Ring-necked Pheasant and Chukar Partridge	Nov. 3, 2023	Jan. 14, 2024	20
	Bobwhite Quail (select counties and wildlife areas)	Nov. 3, 2023	Nov. 26, 2023	20
	Fox (red and gray), Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum, and Weasel	Nov. 10, 2023	Jan. 31, 2024	20
	Coyote	No closed season		20
	Feral Swine (wild boar)	No closed season		20
	Groundhog	No closed season		20
	Youth Small Game	Oct. 21, 2023 Oct. 28, 2023	Oct. 22, 2023 Oct. 29, 2023	20
<b>Furbearer TRAPPING</b>	Fox (red and gray), Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum, and Weasel	Nov. 10, 2023	Jan. 31, 2024	29
	Mink, Muskrat	Nov. 10, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	29
	Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel (select counties)	Nov. 10, 2023	March 15, 2024	29
	Beaver	Dec. 26, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	29
	River Otter	Dec. 26, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	29

# SEASONS & DATES

SEASON		OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	PAGE
Early Waterfowl HUNTING	Canada Geese	Sept. 2, 2023	Sept. 10, 2023	22
	Teal (Blue-winged, Green-winged, and Cinnamon)	Sept. 2, 2023	Sept. 17, 2023	22
Youth Waterfowl HUNTING	Hunters 17 years old or younger	Sept. 30, 2023	Oct. 1, 2023	23
Military Waterfowl HUNTING	Active duty military and veterans	Sept. 30, 2023	Oct. 1, 2023	23
Lake Erie Marsh Zone Waterfowl HUNTING	Geese (Canada, White-fronted, Snow, Blue, Ross's), Brant	Oct. 14, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023	23
		Nov. 4, 2023	Dec. 17, 2023	
	Ducks, Coots, and Mergansers	Dec. 31, 2023	Feb. 4, 2024	23
		Oct. 14, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023	
		Nov. 4, 2023	Dec. 17, 2023	
North Zone Waterfowl HUNTING	Geese (Canada, White-fronted, Snow, Blue, Ross's), Brant	Oct. 21, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023	23
		Nov. 11, 2023	Feb. 5, 2024	
	Ducks, Coots, and Mergansers	Oct. 21, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023	23
		Nov. 11, 2023	Dec. 31, 2023	
South Zone Waterfowl HUNTING	Geese (Canada, White-fronted, Snow, Blue, Ross's), Brant	Oct. 21, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023	23
		Nov. 18, 2023	Feb. 12, 2024	
	Ducks, Coots, and Mergansers	Oct. 21, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023	23
		Dec. 9, 2023	Jan. 28, 2024	
Migratory Bird HUNTING	Dove (Mourning and Eurasian collared)	Sept. 1, 2023	Nov. 5, 2023	22
		Dec. 9, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	
	Rail (Virginia, Sora)	Sept. 1, 2023	Nov. 9, 2023	22
	Common Gallinule	Sept. 1, 2023	Nov. 9, 2023	22
	Wilson's Snipe	Sept. 1, 2023	Nov. 22, 2023	22
Dec. 9, 2023		Jan. 1, 2024		
American Woodcock	Oct. 13, 2023	Nov. 26, 2023	22	

## HUNTER ORANGE REQUIRED



Hunting any wild animal (except waterfowl) from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset during the **youth deer gun season, deer gun seasons, and the deer muzzleloader 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.**





## HUNTING PERMITS

In addition to a valid Ohio hunting license, hunters are required to purchase an either-sex deer permit or a deer management permit to hunt deer in Ohio, unless exempt.

- The either-sex deer permit is valid statewide from Sept. 30, 2023 to Feb. 4, 2024.

In the disease surveillance area, the either-sex deer permit is valid from Sept. 9, 2023 to Feb. 4, 2024.

- The deer management permit is valid from Sept. 30 to Nov. 26, 2023.

In the disease surveillance area, the deer management permit is valid from Sept. 9 to Nov. 26, 2023.

### EITHER-SEX DEER PERMIT

The either-sex deer permit may be used to hunt an antlered or antlerless deer. This permit may be used during any of the deer hunting seasons and controlled hunts. This permit may be purchased individually throughout the entire deer season.

Only one antlered deer may be taken during the 2023-24 season. An antlered deer has at least one antler 3 inches or longer in length.

### DEER MANAGEMENT PERMIT

Deer management permits may only be used to take antlerless deer. The permits are valid on **private land** from Sept. 30 to Nov. 26, 2023. In the disease surveillance area, deer management permits are valid from Sept. 9 to Nov. 26, 2023. Deer management permits are not valid on public lands, except Andreoff, Big Island, Killdeer Plains, Lake La Su An, and Wyandot wildlife areas, and authorized controlled hunts.



## YOUTH DEER GUN SEASON

- Deer taken by youth hunters during the youth deer gun season count toward the county and statewide bag limits.
- All youths and nonhunting adults must visibly wear the required hunter orange clothing.

## HUNTING OTHER GAME DURING DEER FIREARM SEASONS

### WATERFOWL

Waterfowl hunters are not required to wear hunter orange clothing and may use any shot size.

### COYOTE AND FERAL SWINE

Coyote and feral swine (wild boar) hunters are required to wear hunter orange clothing and may only hunt during legal deer season hours, using hunting implements legal for that deer firearm season, with a hunting license and valid deer permit.

### FURBEARERS (EXCEPT COYOTE)

During legal deer season hours, furbearer hunters may only hunt with a shotgun using No. 4 shot size or smaller and are required to wear hunter orange clothing. No such restrictions apply from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.

### ALL OTHER GAME

Hunters may hunt with a shotgun using No. 4 shot size or smaller and are required to wear hunter orange clothing.

**A DEER HUNTER MAY DO THE FOLLOWING:**

1. A successful deer hunter may aid or assist another hunter who is hunting deer if the deer permit has been filled in, he or she does not carry any hunting implement 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 off of their property or hunt deer off of their property.
2. Take more than one deer per day as long as the harvested animal's information has been recorded on the permit or submitted to game check.
4. Hunt deer over bait, except on public land and in the Disease Surveillance Area. Restrictions apply, see pages 13, 14, 40, and 43.
3. Leave a deer or deer parts with a taxidermist, fur buyer, cold storage, locker plant, or meat processing plant as long as the confirmation code is attached to the animal and all of its separate parts. Persons receiving a deer from another person must keep the confirmation code with the animal and all of its separate parts.
5. Carry a printed or electronic copy of the deer permit.
6. Possess a communication device.
7. Use a leashed dog to recover a wounded deer.
8. Archery hunt during the youth deer gun season, if the archery hunter is not accompanying a hunter participating in the youth deer gun season and is wearing hunter orange.

**A DEER HUNTER MAY NOT DO THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Hunt with a shotgun or specific straight-walled cartridge rifle loaded with more than three shells in the chamber and magazine combined.
2. Possess a loaded firearm during any of the deer firearms seasons at any time other than 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. 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.
3. Use a muzzleloading handgun to hunt deer.
4. Have more than one hunting firearm while hunting deer.
5. Carry a firearm while deer hunting with a longbow or crossbow.
6. Have attached to a longbow or crossbow any mechanical, electrical, or electronic device capable of projecting a visible beam of light. This does not include a device such as a range finder that utilizes nonvisible light.
7. Use dogs to hunt deer.
8. Possess shotshells containing shot during any deer gun season.
9. Pursue wounded deer or recover dead deer from private property without the written permission of the landowner.
10. 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.
11. Check a deer as a landowner if the hunter is a tenant of the property, unless the tenant is an individual who resides on land for which he or she pays rent and whose annual income is primarily derived from agricultural production conducted on that land.
12. Submit a game check under the account of anyone other than the hunter who harvested the animal.



## LEGAL DEER HUNTING EQUIPMENT

### ARCHERY SEASON

**Longbow or Bow:** The minimum draw weight is 40 pounds. This includes compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip needs a minimum of two cutting edges, which may be exposed or unexposed and a minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal.

**Crossbow:** The minimum draw weight is 75 pounds. The arrow tip needs a minimum of two cutting edges, which may be exposed or unexposed and a minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal.

### 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).

**Straight-walled cartridge rifles:** All straight-walled cartridge calibers from a minimum of .357 to a maximum of .50 (includes .350 Legend).

#### Straight-Walled Cartridge

LEGAL

Shotguns and straight-walled cartridge rifles can be loaded with no more than three shells in the chamber and magazine combined.

#### Cartridge with Shoulder

ILLEGAL

**Archery equipment:** See Archery Season, above.

**Muzzleloading rifle:** .38 caliber or larger.

**Muzzleloading shotgun:** 10 gauge or smaller using one ball per barrel.

**Handgun:** With a 5-inch minimum length barrel, using straight-walled cartridges .357 caliber or larger. The barrel is measured from the front of the cylinder or chamber to the end of the barrel.

### MUZZLELOADER SEASON

**Muzzleloading rifle:** .38 caliber or larger.

**Muzzleloading shotgun:** 10 gauge or smaller using one ball per barrel.

**Archery equipment:** See Archery Season, above.

You can carry only one HUNTING implement while hunting deer. (See Concealed Handguns on page 39)

# Ohio Landowner-Hunter ACCESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

OLHAP



The Ohio Landowner-Hunter Access Partnership Program is a new way for Ohio hunters to get access to private properties. Public access will be granted through an online check-in system from September 1st to June 1st each year between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. All hunting opportunities, except deer gun hunting and trapping, are permitted.

**For more information,  
visit [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov) or scan the QR code.**



## Turn In a Poacher, Inc.



**TIP**

## TURN IN A POACHER

IF YOU OBSERVE A WILDLIFE VIOLATION

**1-800-POACHER**  
**(1-800-762-2437)**  
**OR WILDOHIO.GOV**

**CALL 1-800-POACHER**

You do not have to give your name.  
JUST GIVE THE FACTS • ACTIVE 24/7

## OHIO HUNTER EDUCATION

The Division of Wildlife offers three types of hunter certification courses:

- Instructor-led training.
- Home-study courses for Ohio residents.
- Online testing for residents 12 and older.

While hunter education is a vital part of becoming an Ohio hunter, new hunters also have the option of hunting with an apprentice license before taking a hunter education course.

Call **1-800-WILDLIFE** (1-800-945-3543) or visit **wildohio.gov** for information on courses in your area.

# CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

## KNOW THE FACTS

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal neurological disease of white-tailed deer. There is no strong evidence that CWD is transmissible to humans. In December 2020, Ohio confirmed its first CWD-positive wild deer in Wyandot County. Since then, 22 additional positive cases have been confirmed.

To monitor the prevalence and implement regulations to slow the spread of the disease, a Disease Surveillance Area (DSA) has been established and includes all of Wyandot, Hardin, and Marion counties. Special rules apply to deer hunting in these counties.



### DSA RULES INCLUDE:

- The placement of or use of bait (salt, minerals, or any food) to attract or feed deer within the Disease Surveillance Area (DSA) boundaries is prohibited, as is the hunting of deer by the aid of bait.
- Normal agricultural activities, including feeding domestic animals, as well as hunting deer over food plots, naturally occurring or cultivated plants, and agricultural crops are not prohibited in the DSA.



### PROTECT OHIO'S DEER HERD

- Properly dispose of a deer carcass. Be sure to double-bag all high-risk parts (brain, spinal cord, eyes, and lymphoid tissues) and dispose of them with your household trash.
- It is illegal to bring high-risk carcass parts into Ohio from anywhere outside the state, or to remove high-risk carcass parts from a disease surveillance area, unless the animal is delivered to a Division of Wildlife certified processor or taxidermist within 24 hours (see Deer Carcass Regulations on page 15).
- Contact a Division of Wildlife district office or state wildlife officer if you see a deer that appears sick, is acting abnormally, or has a visible ear tag.
- The Division of Wildlife has a Disease Surveillance Area (DSA), 2021-01, which includes all of Hardin, Marion, and Wyandot counties.

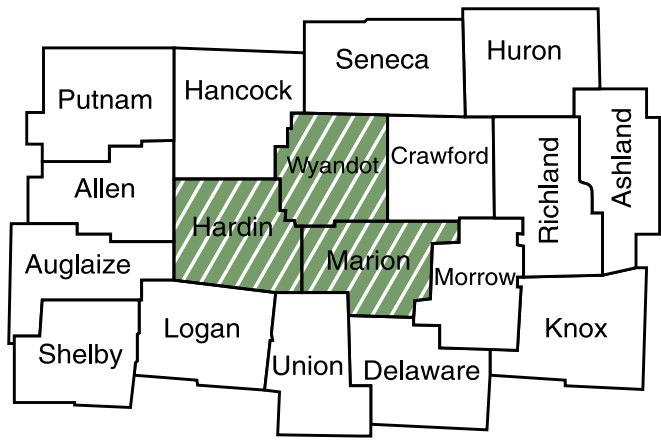
### PRECAUTIONS FOR HUNTERS

A deer infected with CWD typically does not immediately show signs of the disease. As the disease progresses, the animal begins to lose body condition and stagger, carry its head and ears lowered, drool excessively, and show little fear of humans. They will eventually lose body condition and appear weak and emaciated.

- Wear rubber gloves when field-dressing and thoroughly wash your hands and instruments after field-dressing and butchering.
- Bone out the meat from your animal and minimize the handling of brain and spinal tissues.
- Do not eat the brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils, and lymph nodes.
- Do not consume meat from any animal that tests positive for CWD.
- Hunters that have successfully harvested a deer may have it tested for CWD at the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. Call (614) 728-6220 for more information.

# DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREA (DSA)

COUNTIES: HARDIN, WYANDOT, AND MARION



SEASON	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE
DSA Archery	Sept. 9, 2023	Feb. 4, 2024
DSA Early Gun	Oct. 7, 2023	Oct. 9, 2023



Scan the QR code with your mobile device for current information or visit [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov).

### MANDATORY SAMPLING FOR DEER HARVESTED WITHIN THE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREA (DSA)

- Mandatory sampling is required for ALL deer harvested Oct. 7-9, Nov. 4-5, and 11-12 as well as the entire seven-day gun season. Staffed sampling locations will ONLY be available during the seven-day gun season and ONLY at the addresses below.

Hunters can utilize self-serve kiosks to drop their deer off for testing throughout the deer season. Participation is voluntary outside of the 14 mandatory days noted above. Kiosk locations and dates of operation are available at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov) and instructions for sample submission will be provided at the kiosk.

**BIG ISLAND**  
**Wildlife Area Headquarters**  
 5389 Larue-Prospect Rd West,  
 New Bloomington, OH 43341

**KILLDEER PLAINS**  
**Wildlife Area Headquarters**  
 19100 CH 115  
 Harpster, OH 43323

**WYANDOT COUNTY**  
**Fairgrounds**  
 10171 OH 53  
 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

**RURAL KING**  
 233 American Blvd  
 Marion, OH 43302

**HARDIN COUNTY**  
**Fairgrounds**  
 14134 County Road 140  
 Kenton, OH 43326

**MCGUFFEY**  
**Conservation Club**  
 6950 Township Road 55  
 Ada, OH 45810



## DEER CARCASS REGULATIONS

To minimize risk of spreading CWD, possessing high-risk carcass parts from Cervids (deer, moose, elk, and caribou) harvested anywhere outside of Ohio or removed from a disease surveillance area is prohibited.

**Only the following parts may be possessed from any Cervid imported from anywhere outside of Ohio or removed from a disease surveillance area:** deboned meat; meat that is cut and securely 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 and capes without any part of the head or lymph nodes attached; finished taxidermy mounts; and 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 a carcass), provided the carcass or parts are not off-loaded from the vehicle.

Hunters returning to Ohio with a complete cervidae carcass or parts NOT on the list above, as well as hunters who wish to move a complete carcass or parts NOT on the list above, out of Disease Surveillance Areas, may do so provided that they present the complete carcass or parts not listed above to a certified taxidermist or processor within 24 hours of entering the state or leaving a Disease Surveillance Area.

## EPIZOOTIC HEMORRHAGIC DISEASE (EHD) IN DEER

The Division of Wildlife is seeking reports of sick or dead deer to help track potential disease outbreaks. If you observe a deer that is behaving abnormally, call your county wildlife officer or 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543).

Common symptoms of EHD include disorientation, fever, pronounced swelling of the head, neck, tongue, and eyelids, and respiratory disease. EHD-positive deer are often found dead near a water source. EHD updates can be found by scanning the QR code.



2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS  
**WILD TURKEY HUNTING**

SEASON	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	BAG LIMIT
Fall Wild Turkey: Select Counties	Oct. 14, 2023	Nov. 12, 2023	1 (either sex)
Youth Spring Wild Turkey	April 13, 2024	April 14, 2024	1 bearded turkey
Spring Wild Turkey: South Zone (except for Lake La Su An Wildlife Area)	April 20, 2024	May 19, 2024	
Spring Wild Turkey: Northeast Zone	April 27, 2024	May 26, 2024	

**WILD TURKEY HUNTING**

It is unlawful to hunt or take wild turkeys with the aid or use of bait. An area is considered baited for 10 days after the complete removal of any bait.

It is unlawful to use a live decoy while hunting wild turkeys.

It is unlawful to possess or use an electronic calling device while hunting wild turkeys.

It is unlawful to take or attempt to take a wild turkey while it is in a tree.

It is unlawful to possess more than one hunting implement while turkey hunting. See Concealed Handgun License on page 43.

A successful wild turkey hunter may aid or assist another hunter who is hunting wild turkeys if the turkey permit has been filled in, he or she does not carry any hunting implement commonly used to kill wild animals, and has a valid hunting license. Those persons exempted from having a hunting license and wild turkey permits for turkey hunting on their property are required to have a hunting license and turkey permit to aid another hunter off of their property or hunt turkey off of their property.

**BAG LIMITS**

- It shall be unlawful for any person to take or possess a wild turkey during the spring wild turkey season that does not have a visible beard.
- A harvested wild turkey must be checked by 11:30 p.m. on the day of kill.

**TAG AND CHECK**

A hunter is required to complete the game check process following the harvest of a wild turkey. See page 18 for information.

**FALL WILD TURKEY SEASON**

- A valid Ohio hunting license and fall turkey permit are required, unless exempt.
- A wild turkey of either sex may be hunted during the fall season. The bag limit is **one turkey**.
- Fall wild turkey hunting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.
- It is legal to use dogs to assist in taking wild turkeys during the fall season only.

**YOUTH WILD TURKEY SEASON**

- A valid hunting license and wild turkey permit are required, unless exempt.
- Hunting hours for youth turkey season are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.



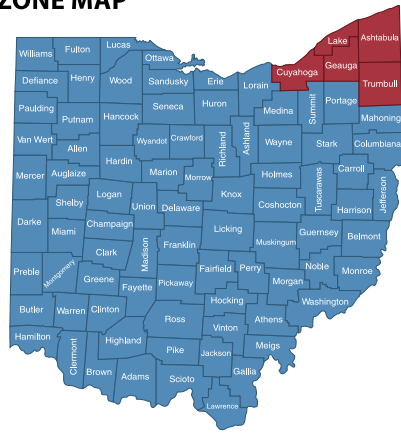


## 2023 FALL WILD TURKEY OPEN COUNTIES MAP



Counties open for fall hunting

## 2024 SPRING WILD TURKEY ZONE MAP



South Zone Northeast Zone

WILD TURKEY HUNTING

2023-24

### SPRING WILD TURKEY SEASON

- The bag limit for the 2024 spring season is one bearded wild turkey.
- A valid Ohio hunting license and spring turkey permit are required, unless exempt.
- It is legal to use a leashed dog to recover wounded wild turkeys in the spring turkey season.
- The Northeast Zone is Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Trumbull counties. The South Zone is the remainder of the state.
- South Zone wild turkey hunting hours from April 20-28, 2024 are 30 minutes before sunrise to noon.
- South Zone wild turkey hunting hours from April 29-May 19, 2024 are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.
- Northeast Zone wild turkey hunting hours from April 27-May 5, 2024 are 30 minutes before sunrise to noon.
- Northeast Zone wild turkey hunting hours from May 6-26, 2024 are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.
- Lake La Su An Wildlife Area is open only to wild turkey controlled permit holders during the spring season.

## LEGAL WILD TURKEY HUNTING EQUIPMENT

SEASON	EQUIPMENT
FALL AND SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS	<b>Shotgun:</b> 10 gauge or smaller shotgun using shot, includes muzzleloading shotguns.
	<b>Longbow or Bow:</b> The minimum draw weight is 40 pounds. This includes compound bows and recurve bows. The arrow tip needs to have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed, and a minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal.
	<b>Crossbow:</b> The minimum draw weight is 75 pounds. The arrow tip needs to have a minimum of two cutting edges which may be exposed or unexposed, and a minimum 3/4-inch width. Expandable and mechanical broadheads are legal.

# GAME CHECK

All hunters who harvest a white-tailed deer or wild turkey are required to complete the game check process.

For deer, the hunter must complete the game check process and receive a confirmation code by noon the day after the kill. If the deer is killed on the last day of a season, it must be checked in by 11:30 p.m. on the day of the kill. For wild turkey, the hunter must complete the game check process and receive a confirmation code by 11:30 p.m. on the same day it was killed.

## FILL IN THE PERMIT OR TAG

■ Fill in the deer or wild turkey permit immediately upon harvest and prior to moving the carcass with the date, time and county of kill. Submitting through the Division of Wildlife's mobile application fulfills this requirement. A temporary tag or mobile photo of a permit does not fulfill this requirement. The game must be tagged once the hunter leaves the animal unattended or arrives at a residence or temporary lodging.

■ Exempt landowners are required to make a tag and include their name, date, time, and county of kill. Submitting through the Division of Wildlife's mobile application fulfills this requirement. The tag may remain unattached until the hunter leaves the animal unattended or arrives at a residence or temporary lodging.

■ Once the hunter leaves the game unattended, the completed permit or tag, or confirmation code, must be attached. The permit or confirmation code is required to remain with the game at all times.

Regardless of game check method, the hunter must provide the 10-digit permit number, which is printed in large numbers on every permit. Exempt landowners do not need to provide a permit number.

The hunter must answer a series of questions. The hunter will be issued a confirmation code at the end of the process.



The confirmation code may be written on the corresponding permit or tag and attached to the game. When a hunter checks a deer or wild turkey by internet, agent, or mobile application, they will receive a game check receipt with their confirmation code printed on it. Hunters using the telephone game check method will receive the confirmation code over the phone. Hunters using the Division of Wildlife's mobile application will receive their confirmation code once their phone has service.

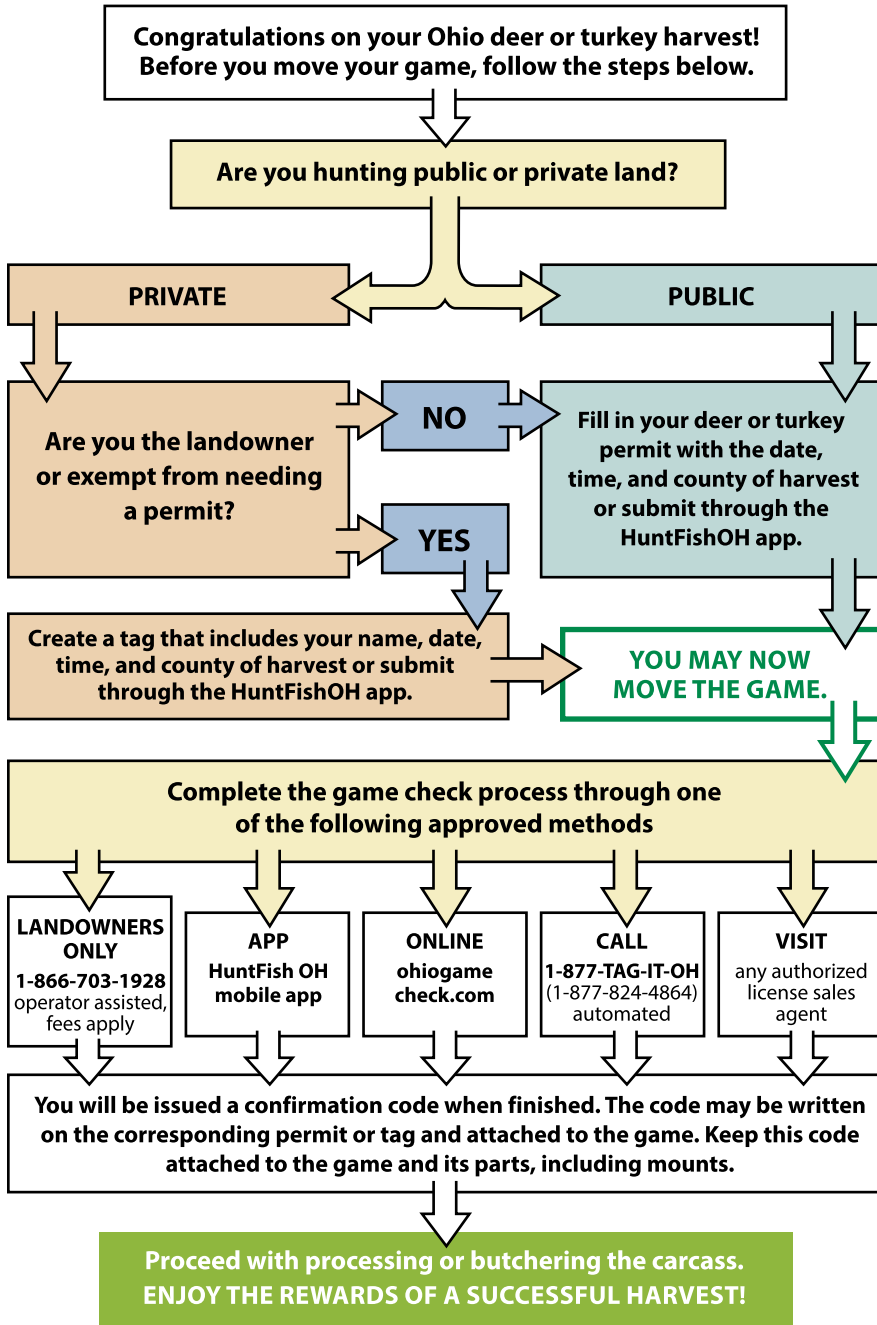
The confirmation code must remain attached to the game and its parts. The code may be written on the back or bottom of a mount.

A game check receipt may be printed by accessing Ohio's Wildlife Licensing System at [ohiogamecheck.com](http://ohiogamecheck.com) after the game check process is complete.

The game check process must be completed prior to butchering or processing the carcass. This does not include field dressing.

# COMPLETING THE GAME CHECK PROCESS

## WHITE-TAILED DEER & WILD TURKEY



## SMALL GAME &amp; FURBEARER HUNTING

SEASON	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	DAILY LIMIT
Squirrel (red, gray, black, fox)	Sept. 1, 2023	Jan. 31, 2024	6
Ruffed Grouse (public land)	Oct. 14, 2023	Nov. 26, 2023	1
Ruffed Grouse (private land)	Oct. 14, 2023	Jan. 1, 2024	1
Cottontail Rabbit	Nov. 3, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	4
Ring-necked Pheasant and Chukar Partridge	Nov. 3, 2023	Jan. 14, 2024	2 (males only for pheasant)
Bobwhite Quail: Select counties and wildlife areas	Nov. 3, 2023	Nov. 26, 2023	2
Fox, Raccoon, Skunk, Opossum, Weasel	Nov. 10, 2023	Jan. 31, 2024	No Limit
Crow: Friday, Saturday, & Sunday only	June 2, 2023	March 3, 2024	No Limit
Coyote	No closed season		No Limit
Feral Swine (wild boar)	No closed season		No Limit
Groundhog	No closed season		No Limit
Youth Small Game	Oct. 21, 2023 Oct. 28, 2023	Oct. 22, 2023 Oct. 29, 2023	Same as the regular season

**SQUIRREL HUNTING**

Red, gray, black, and fox squirrels are legal game. Hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

**PHEASANT HUNTING**

Hours are sunrise to sunset. Only male pheasants may be killed.

The Division of Wildlife will release pheasants for the youth small game weekends, Oct. 21 and Oct. 28. Additional releases will occur for Nov. 3, Nov. 10, and Nov. 23.

Releases will take place at the Ringneck Ridge Wildlife Area (by permit only, find additional information at sanduskycountyparks.com), Charlemont Metro Park (Lorain County), and the following wildlife areas during pheasant hunting season: Appalachian Hills, Berlin, Caesar Creek, Camp Belden, Darke, Delaware, Fallsville, Grand River, Highlandtown, Indian Creek, Killdeer Plains, Oxbow Lake, Pleasant Valley, Resthaven, Rush Run, Salt Fork, Spencer, Spring Valley, Tiffin River, Tri-Valley, West Branch, Wyandot, and Zepernick.

**GROUSE HUNTING**

Hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset. Hunting dates vary for private land and public hunting land. The daily bag limit is 1 statewide.

**RABBIT HUNTING**

Hours are sunrise to sunset. Snowshoe hares are a protected species and not legal game.

**FOX, RACCOON, SKUNK, OPOSSUM, AND WEASEL**

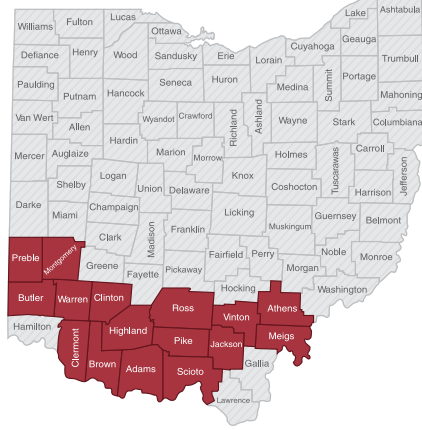
No restrictions on hours. Hunters must purchase a hunting license and a fur taker permit to hunt these species.

**COYOTE HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

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 and night hunting between 30 minutes after sunset and 30 minutes before sunrise are prohibited during any deer gun and deer muzzleloader seasons.

## 2023 BOBWHITE QUAIL OPEN COUNTIES MAP



**Counties open for quail hunting on private land only**

### QUAIL HUNTING

Hours are sunrise to sunset on private land in open counties, Tri-Valley Wildlife Area, and Crown City Wildlife Area (Crown City offers controlled hunts only). Quail hunting is closed on all other public hunting areas.

### FERAL SWINE (WILD BOAR)

Feral swine are a non-native, invasive species. Feral swine are also known as wild boar, feral hogs, and feral pigs. Hunters are encouraged to report all sightings to the Division of Wildlife at [wildohio.gov/reportwildlife](http://wildohio.gov/reportwildlife).

You must possess a valid hunting license to hunt feral swine. 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 feral swine hunting; however, rifles and night hunting between 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise are prohibited during any deer gun and deer muzzleloader seasons.

It is illegal to transport a trapped feral swine in Ohio. It is legal to live trap feral swine at any time, provided the feral swine are immediately euthanized at the trap location. It is illegal to use a foothold trap or snare for feral swine.

### YOUTH SMALL GAME SEASON

Youth hunting is open for rabbit, pheasant, and all other legal game which is in season.

- Quail may be taken only in those counties and wildlife areas which are open to quail hunting.
- Pheasant releases will occur for youth hunts on the following wildlife areas: Appalachian Hills, Berlin, Caesar Creek, Camp Belden, Darke, Delaware, Fallsville, Grand River, Killdeer Plains, Ox-bow Lake, Resthaven, Ringneck Ridge (by permit only, find additional information at [sanduskycountyparks.com](http://sanduskycountyparks.com)), Rush Run, Spencer, Spring Valley, Tiffin River, Tri-Valley, and Charlemont Metro Park (Lorain County). Daily bag limits are the same as during the regular hunting season.

## LEGAL SMALL GAME & FURBEARER HUNTING EQUIPMENT

SEASON	EQUIPMENT
SQUIRREL, GROUSE, RABBIT, PHEASANT, CHUKAR, QUAIL, FOX, RACCOON, SKUNK, OPOSSUM, WEASEL, CROW, COYOTE, FERAL SWINE, GROUNDHOG	<b>Longbow or Bow:</b> This includes compound bows and recurve bows.
	<b>Crossbow</b>
	<b>Handgun:</b> Any caliber.
	<b>Rifle:</b> Any caliber.
	<b>Shotgun:</b> 10 gauge or smaller.
	<b>Airgun</b>

2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS  
**WATERFOWL & MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING**

SEASONS	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	DAILY LIMIT
Dove (Mourning and Eurasian collared)	Sept. 1, 2023 Dec. 9, 2023	Nov. 5, 2023 Jan. 1, 2024	15
EARLY: Canada Goose	Sept. 2, 2023	Sept. 10, 2023	5
EARLY: Teal (Blue-winged, Green-winged, & Cinnamon)	Sept. 2, 2023	Sept. 17, 2023	6
Rail (Virginia, Sora)	Sept. 1, 2023	Nov. 9, 2023	25
Common Gallinules	Sept. 1, 2023	Nov. 9, 2023	15
Wilson's Snipe	Sept. 1, 2023 Dec. 9, 2023	Nov. 22, 2023 Jan. 1, 2024	8
American Woodcock	Oct. 13, 2023	Nov. 26, 2023	3

Hunting hours are sunrise to sunset, unless posted.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sets the frameworks for waterfowl and other migratory game birds. Migratory bird hunting is governed by both state and federal regulations. Waterfowl hunting is permitted when seasons are open during the youth deer gun season, the deer gun season, and the deer muzzleloader season. **The possession limit for waterfowl and migratory birds after the second day is three times the daily bag limit.**

**OPENING DAY OF A SEASON**

No person on the opening day of the season shall possess any freshly killed migratory game birds in excess of the daily bag limit, or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies.

**MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING**

To hunt migratory birds in Ohio, you must have the following:

- A valid Ohio hunting license.
- Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification.

In addition to the requirements above, to hunt waterfowl in Ohio, you must also have the following:

- An Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp endorsement is required of all persons 18 or older.
- A signed federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp (Duck Stamp) is required of all persons age 16 and older.

**HIP SURVEY**

All hunters, including landowners, who plan to hunt migratory game birds, including mourning doves, ducks, geese, woodcock, rails, coots, and snipe must have a Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification number on their hunting license. To complete the HIP certification requirement, call 1-877-HIP-OHIO (1-877-447-6446) or go to wildohio.gov and answer the survey questions. After the survey you will be given a certification number. Write the certification number on your annual hunting license in the space provided.

Multiyear license and lifetime license holders are required to complete the HIP certification requirement annually. The certification number is required to be carried while hunting.

WATERFOWL SEASONS	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	DAILY LIMIT
Youth Waterfowl Season	Sept. 30, 2023	Oct. 1, 2023	Same as the regular season
Military Waterfowl Season	Sept. 30, 2023	Oct. 1, 2023	Same as the regular season
<b>LAKE ERIE MARSH ZONE:</b> Geese	Oct. 14, 2023 Nov. 4, 2023 Dec. 31, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023 Dec. 17, 2023 Feb. 4, 2024	<b>GEESE</b> 5 combined: Canada goose, white-fronted goose, and no more than 1 brant. 10 combined: snow goose, blue goose, Ross's goose.
<b>LAKE ERIE MARSH ZONE:</b> Ducks, Coots, & Mergansers	Oct. 14, 2023 Nov. 4, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023 Dec. 17, 2023	<b>DUCKS</b> The daily bag limit is 6 ducks, which may include no more than 4 mallards (only 2 hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 1 pintail, 2 black ducks, or 1 mottled duck. One scaup during the first 15 days of the season; two scaup during the next 45 days.
<b>NORTH ZONE:</b> Geese	Oct. 21, 2023 Nov. 11, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023 Feb. 5, 2024	
<b>NORTH ZONE:</b> Ducks, Coots, & Mergansers	Oct. 21, 2023 Nov. 11, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023 Dec. 31, 2023	
<b>SOUTH ZONE:</b> Geese	Oct. 21, 2023 Nov. 18, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023 Feb. 12, 2024	
<b>SOUTH ZONE:</b> Ducks, Coots, & Mergansers	Oct. 21, 2023 Dec. 9, 2023	Oct. 29, 2023 Jan. 28, 2024	

Hunting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset during the regular waterfowl season, unless posted.

### FEDERAL REGULATIONS AND FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP (DUCK STAMP)

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

For additional information on federal regulations, go to [fws.gov](http://fws.gov) or [ecfr.gov](http://ecfr.gov)

#### Hunters should know:

- Federal Duck Stamps are valid from July 1 through the following June 30.
- You must sign the front of your Duck Stamp in order for it to be valid. Remember: only you may use your Federal Duck Stamp.
- If you bought an E-Stamp, you must carry your 45-day receipt with you at all times while hunting. Once the receipt has expired, you must carry your current, signed Federal Duck Stamp. If you purchased your E-Stamp at a retail store, you must carry the E-Stamp/45-day receipt. Your purchase/credit card receipt from the store is not valid as a Duck Stamp.

Hunters 16 years of age and older are required to purchase this stamp to hunt waterfowl. These stamps are available at many U.S. post office branches, [usps.com](http://usps.com), or [duckstamp.com](http://duckstamp.com).

The E-Stamp available through [duckstamp.com](http://duckstamp.com) is valid immediately for up to 45 days with the receipt of the e-stamp purchase.

### OHIO WETLANDS HABITAT STAMP

The Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp will not be issued at the time of purchase. A license will be issued stating Ohio Wetlands Stamp. The stamp will be mailed later in the year. The stamp does not need to be carried while hunting.

### MILITARY WATERFOWL HUNTING

Active duty military and veterans may hunt waterfowl on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 2023. Bag limits are the same as the regular season. Active duty military and veterans and youth may hunt waterfowl together during this special season.

The hunter must be a veteran or a member of the armed forces on active duty.

**YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING**

Hunters 17 years old or younger may hunt waterfowl statewide (on public and private lands) on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 2023. Ducks, geese, and coots may be taken under bag limits established for the regular season. Hunting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

**NONTOXIC SHOT**

No person may take ducks, geese (including brant), rail, snipe, gallinules, or coots while possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than approved nontoxic shot. For a list of approved nontoxic shot, see fws.gov.



**DOVE HUNTING**

Hours for dove are sunrise to sunset. Doves may be hunted with lead shot. Dove field maps are available at wildohio.gov.

Doves may be hunted on areas that have been manipulated (for example, mowed or 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 a Division of Wildlife district office or a state wildlife officer for clarification on baiting regulations before you hunt.

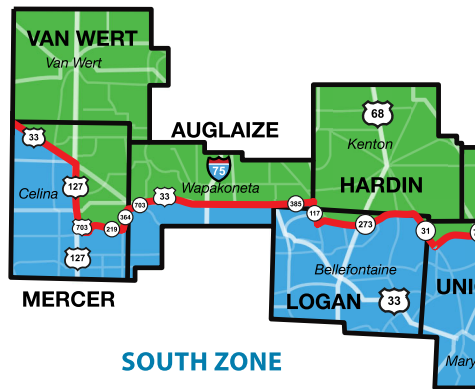
Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification is required to dove hunt. To complete the HIP certification requirement, call 1-877-HIP-OHIO (1-877-447-6446) or go to wildohio.gov and answer the survey questions. After the survey you will be given a certification number. Write the certification number on your annual hunting license in the space provided.

Multiyear license and lifetime license holders are required to complete the HIP certification requirement annually. The certification number is required to be carried while hunting.

**2023-24 WATERFOWL HUNTING ZONES MAP**



Lake Erie Marsh Zone  
 North Zone   
  South Zone

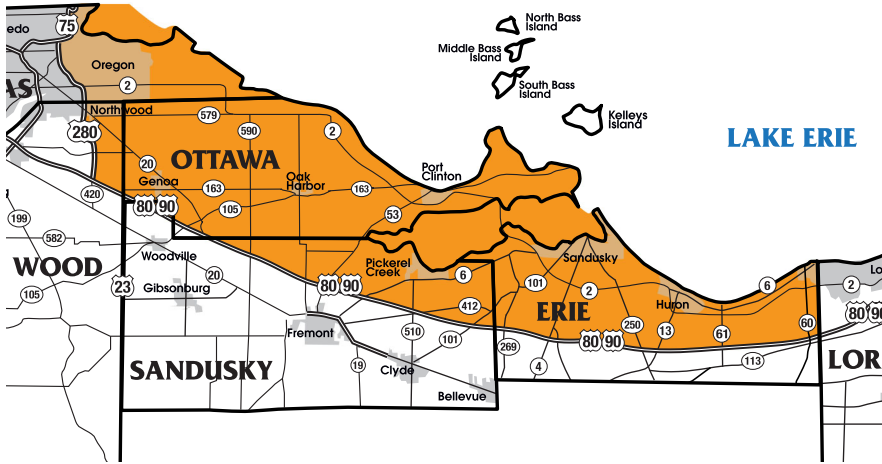


**TAGGING REQUIREMENT**

No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at his personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter, stating their address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed. Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.

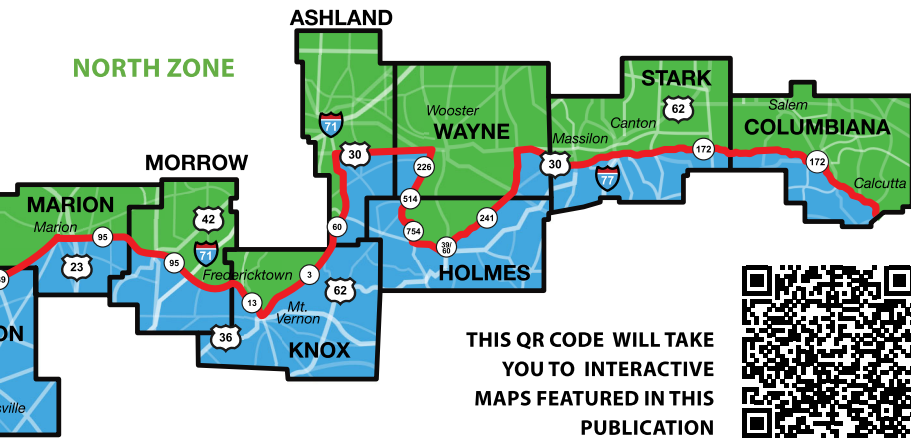


LAKE ERIE MARSH ZONE



LAKE ERIE

NORTH ZONE



THIS QR CODE WILL TAKE YOU TO INTERACTIVE MAPS FEATURED IN THIS PUBLICATION



ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

It is legal to take migratory game birds including waterfowl and coots on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas:

- Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics);
- Standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice;
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of grain or other feed; or
- Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

## ILLEGAL HUNTING METHODS

### NO PERSONS SHALL TAKE MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS:

1. With a crossbow, trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine-gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance;
2. From or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low-floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water;
3. From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind;
4. From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased;
5. By the use or aid of live birds as decoys; although not limited to, it shall be a violation of this paragraph for any person to take migratory waterfowl on an area where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking, confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl;
6. By the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area.
7. With any device that emits recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. It is illegal to possess such devices while hunting waterfowl in Ohio;
8. By means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird;



THIS QR CODE  
WILL TAKE YOU TO  
DOWNLOADABLE  
MAPS OF OHIO'S  
PUBLIC HUNTING &  
WILDLIFE AREAS



## LEGAL WATERFOWL & MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING EQUIPMENT

SEASON	EQUIPMENT
<p><b>WATERFOWL AND MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING</b></p>	<p><b>Shotgun:</b> 10 gauge or smaller shotgun using nontoxic shot, includes muzzleloading shotguns. In order to hunt migratory game birds, your shotgun cannot be capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.</p> <p>Only nontoxic shot may be used to take waterfowl, rail, snipe, and common gallinule. Dove and woodcock may be taken with lead shot.</p> <p><b>Longbow:</b> This includes compound bows and recurve bows.</p>

# Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp

CREATING OHIO WETLAND AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR OVER 40 YEARS.



ALONG WITH A COLLECTIBLE STAMP, LICENSE SALES FUND WETLAND HABITAT RESTORATION AND PROVIDE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

GO TO [WILDOHIO.GOV](http://WILDOHIO.GOV) TO PURCHASE YOUR OHIO WETLANDS HABITAT STAMP.



## H2Ohio

The filtering process of wetlands improves water quality.

[H2.OHIO.GOV](http://H2.OHIO.GOV)

The H2Ohio Fund will help ensure safe and clean water across Ohio by providing the resources necessary to plan, develop, and implement targeted long-term water solutions.

## 2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS

# FURBEARER TRAPPING

SEASON	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE	BAG LIMIT
Fox, Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel	Nov. 10, 2023	Jan. 31, 2024	No limit
Mink, Muskrat	Nov. 10, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	No limit
Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel: Erie, Ottawa, Sandusky, & Lucas counties east of Maumee River	Nov. 10, 2023	March 15, 2024	No limit
Beaver	Dec. 26, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	No limit
River Otter	Dec. 26, 2023	Feb. 29, 2024	See page 29

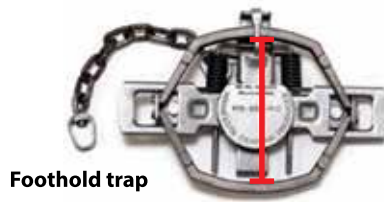
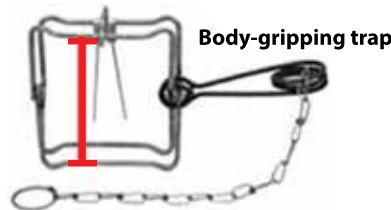
A fur taker permit is required to hunt or trap furbearing animals (except coyote) in Ohio.

### TRAPPING REGULATIONS

- Except for river otters, there are no restrictions on bag limits.
- All traps and snares must be checked and all animals removed once every calendar day.
- All foothold or foot-encapsulating traps set on land must have at least two swiveling points.
- Foothold traps set on land must be covered.
- Foothold traps that are submerged may not have an inside jaw spread greater than 8-1/4 inches.
- Deadfalls are illegal.
- Foothold traps set on land may not have an inside jaw spread greater than 5-3/8 inches, except foothold traps greater than 5-3/8 inches but 6 inches or less may be utilized provided they have a minimum of three swiveling points and the gripping surface is 5/16 inch or greater.
- Except for cage traps, no traps or snares may be set within 150 feet of another person's occupied residence without advising the resident.
- Body-gripping traps set on land, or in a tile, den, or burrow on land may 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 or equal to 7 inches must be set in a natural body of water.

- Body-gripping traps with an inside jaw spread greater than 7 inches must be completely submerged in water and may only be utilized during the beaver or river otter season.
- All furbearers are required to be killed immediately and reduced to the person's possession, or released immediately at the capture site.
- No person may disturb a legally set trap or snare or remove a furbearing animal from a trap or snare of another person without permission.
- All flesh baits must be totally covered.
- Traps with teeth in the gripping surface are prohibited.

### HOW TO MEASURE JAW SPREAD



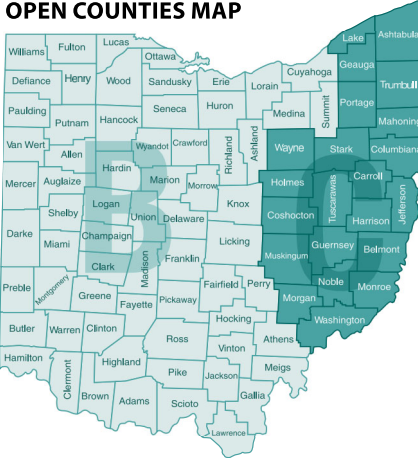
**FIRST-TIME TRAPPERS**

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

**RIVER OTTER BAG LIMITS**

No more than one river otter may be taken by any trapper in Zone B. No more than three river otters may be taken by any trapper in Zone C. The total season bag limit is three.

**2023-24 RIVER OTTER TRAPPING OPEN COUNTIES MAP**



**OTTER TRAPPING TOTAL SEASON BAG LIMIT – 3**



**RIVER OTTER CHECKING AND TAGGING REQUIREMENTS**

The pelt of each harvested river otter is required to be checked in and tagged within five business days of take. The pelt may be checked and tagged by a wildlife officer (by appointment), at a designated otter check station (by appointment, go to wildohio.gov for locations), or at a district office during business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). All state offices are closed on holidays.

Each trapper must personally present their own river otter, and may not present a river otter taken by another person. Trappers must also provide a copy of their fur taker permit at the time of checking, and provide information about the date and location in which the river otter was trapped.



**AVOIDANCE TECHNIQUES**

Trappers who have reached the river otter bag limit are encouraged to implement river otter avoidance techniques while beaver trapping.

If you catch an otter in excess of your season bag limit and it is still alive, carefully release it without causing injury to yourself or the animal. If the otter is dead, leave it in the trap and contact the wildlife officer assigned to that county.

**BEAVER AND OTTER TRAPPING ON PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS**

Beaver and river otter trapping is prohibited on state managed areas, including state wildlife areas, state parks, and state forests without a special beaver and/or river otter trapping permit from the Division of Wildlife.

**RIVER OTTER AND GRAY FOX CARCASS COLLECTION**

The Division of Wildlife is partnering with The Ohio State University to research and monitor population trends in river otters and gray foxes in Ohio. Harvested or roadkill carcasses are requested to be turned in to aid in this research. Carcasses also provide valuable information on age and reproductive patterns, disease prevalence, diet, and other factors. Contact 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) for more information.

**TRAPPERS MAY 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 less than 2½ 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.

**TRAPPERS MAY NOT 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 1/4-mile. However, persons hunting fox, coyote, or raccoon with a call from a stationary position may use a continuous single beam of light of any color. When two or more people are hunting or trapping together for these animals only one light is required and may be carried by any member of the party.
2. Use or possess climbers or any other device, except climbing tree stands, that may be used for climbing trees while hunting, trapping, or pursuing furbearing animals.
3. Erect, post, or place any stake, flagging, or any other type of marker for the purpose of identifying a potential trap set location on any area designated as a public hunting area, unless authorized by the chief of the Division of Wildlife.
4. Set, use, or maintain a trap or snare in or upon any path or road ordinarily used by domestic animals or humans.
5. 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 or the unique Division of Wildlife Customer ID Number of the user in English that is legible at all times, or which has the name and mailing address or the unique Division of Wildlife Customer ID Number of the user stamped into the trap in English that is legible at all times.
6. Attach a snare to a drag. Snares must be staked or otherwise attached to an immovable object.
7. Set traps on state public hunting areas, including state parks and state forests, for beaver or river otter without a permit (See Beaver and Otter Trapping on Public Hunting Areas).
8. Set, use, or maintain a snare on public hunting areas, except for beaver and river otter (See Beaver and Otter Trapping on Public Hunting Areas).
9. Use any snare constructed of any material other than multi-strand steel cable.
10. Set a snare with a loop diameter of more than 15 inches.
11. Have attached to a snare any spring-loaded or mechanical device to assist the snare in closing.
12. Set, use, or maintain any snare that does not comply with the requirements listed above.
13. Set, use, or maintain a foot-encapsulating trap that has an opening greater than 2 inches in diameter or 2 inches along one side.
14. Game birds and game quadrupeds (except feral swine) may not be taken by trapping.





## REPORT SIGHTINGS

### REPORT WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

Report your wildlife sightings and help Division of Wildlife biologists better understand population trends, species distributions, and other important information about Ohio's wildlife. Photographs or videos are encouraged, as are latitude and longitude coordinates, which help wildlife biologists quickly verify the sighting.

#### Species to report include:

- Badger
- Bald Eagle Nest
- Barn Owl
- Black Bear
- Black-crowned Night-Heron
- Bobcat
- Feral Swine
- Fisher
- Gray Fox
- Peregrine Falcon
- Porcupine
- River Otter
- Ruffed Grouse
- Sandhill Crane
- Snowshoe Hare
- Trumpeter Swan
- Weasel
- Wild Turkey

Scan the QR code to report your Ohio wildlife sightings!



Remember to always view wildlife from a respectful distance for your safety as well as the safety of the animal.



### NEW TO OHIO'S HUNTING COMMUNITY?

Let us provide you with the resources and information you need to safely and responsibly harvest your own local food.

VISIT US AT  
[OHIODNR.GOV/WOHC](http://OHIODNR.GOV/WOHC)  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION OR  
SCAN THE QR CODE



## STAY CONNECTED



Check us out online through these social media outlets!



[facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife](https://facebook.com/ohiodivisionofwildlife)



[instagram.com/your\\_wild\\_ohio](https://instagram.com/your_wild_ohio)



[twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife](https://twitter.com/OhioDivWildlife)



[linkedin.com/company/ohio-division-of-wildlife](https://linkedin.com/company/ohio-division-of-wildlife)

# CONTROLLED HUNTING & TRAPPING OPPORTUNITIES

TYPE	SPECIES	APPLICATION METHOD	APPLICATION PERIOD
Hunting	Turkey	online/phone	March 1 - March 31, 2024
	Deer, Small Game, Dove, Waterfowl, and Waterfowl Blind	online/phone	July 1 - July 31, 2023
Trapping	Beaver, Otter, and Furbearer	in-person	October 7, 2023 (1-day)

Controlled access lotteries offer a unique opportunities for you to pursue several different species across the state on areas not normally open to hunting and trapping. Successful applicants will receive a permit, rules, and a hunting area map. Permits are offered for mourning dove, quail, waterfowl, white-tailed deer, ring-necked pheasant, small game, turkey, and furbearer trapping.

## CONTROLLED HUNTING

Controlled hunting permits are selected through a **computer-generated** random lottery system. Hunters may apply at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov), on the HuntFish OH app, or by calling 1-866-703-1928 with a convenience fee. A non-refundable \$3 application fee applies to each hunt. Customers may apply for more than one hunt but can only apply for each hunt once per year.

All applicants, youth and adult, are required to possess a valid Ohio hunting license and meet age requirements. Youth hunters must be under 18 at the time of the hunt to participate. Adults must be 18 or older at the time of the application.

## CONTROLLED DEER HUNTS

Those wishing to apply for controlled deer hunts are required to have a valid deer permit, along with a valid hunting license, at the time of applying. Participants may use a deer management permit during controlled deer hunts. Deer management permits may also be used in controlled hunts not administered by the Division of Wildlife if the entity holding the hunt has received authorization from the chief of the Division of Wildlife. It is the hunter's responsibility to check with the agency administering the hunt to see if deer management per-

mits may be used. A deer harvested during a controlled hunt does not count toward a county and statewide bag limit. Up to 6 total additional deer may be taken during controlled hunts. Only one antlered deer maybe be taken per seasons across all regular season dates and controlled hunts.

## DEER ARCHERY HUNTS

Deer archery hunts will be open to all applicants, except the Deer Creek SP and Steinen WA youth archery hunts which will be open for youth applicants only, and the Buck Creek SP Veterans archery hunt which will be open to veterans only. Permittee and one hunting partner will be allowed to hunt. The hunting partner must remain the same for the duration of the permit. Permits will be issued for 2-week periods throughout the season generally starting on a Sunday and ending on a Saturday. This may vary at the beginning and end of the season. If permitted refer to the dates listed on the permit.

## DEER FIREARM HUNTS

Hunts will be offered for adults, youth, mobility impaired, and mentor/mentees. Permittee and one hunting partner will be allowed to hunt. Permits will be issued for one day, on a Saturday or Sunday. If permitted refer to the date listed on the permit.



**TURKEY**

Turkey hunts are open to all applicants. Permittee and one hunting partner will be allowed except for youth hunts. For youth turkey hunts only the permitted youth may hunt and must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult. Youth permits will be issued for one day during the youth weekend. Throughout the season, permits will be issued for three day periods: Thursday-Friday-Saturday for mentor hunts and Sunday-Monday-Tuesday for regular hunts.

**WATERFOWL HUNTS**

Waterfowl hunts will be open to all applicants. Youth hunts will be offered for the youth waterfowl weekend. Permittee and two hunting partners will be allowed to hunt. Youth hunts allow the permittee, one youth hunting partner, and one non-hunting adult. Permits will be issued for Tuesdays and Saturdays throughout the season. Permits will be offered online on Wednesdays starting at 10 a.m. on a first come-first served basis for Thursday hunts at select locations.

**WATERFOWL BLIND LOTTERIES**

Waterfowl blind lotteries will be open to all applicants. Permits will be issued for August 19, 2023. Permittees are responsible for arriving at the address listed on the permit at 8 a.m. on August 19, 2023 to make their blind selection.

**MOURNING DOVE HUNTS**

Dove hunts will be open to all applicants. Youth and mentor hunts will be offered at select locations. Permittee and one hunting partner will be allowed to hunt. One-day permits will be issued for either September 1 or September 2.

**SMALL GAME**

Pheasant, squirrel, and quail hunts will be available at select locations. Refer to the Controlled Hunting Access Lotteries webpage at wildohio.gov for more information.

**CONTROLLED TRAPPING**

Controlled trapping permits are issued via **in-person** lotteries held annually on the first Saturday in October at each Division of Wildlife district office. Trappers will be randomly drawn from submitted applications and successful applicants will be announced at that time.

Each permittee may select one partner to accompany them for the duration of the season. Beaver and river otter trapping lotteries are grouped by region; trappers may apply in only one district (central, northeast, northwest, southeast, southwest). Beaver and river otter trapping permits are valid from Dec. 26, 2023, to Feb. 29, 2024.

**HOW TO APPLY**

You must be fully licensed and permitted to hunt the species for which you are applying. Hunters may apply for each hunt once annually. Apply online in March for turkey hunts, October for trapping, and July for all other species. Each application is \$3 and is non-refundable. Applications can also be taken over the phone at 1-866-703-1928 for a service fee of \$5.50.

**HOW WILL I KNOW IF I'M DRAWN?**

Lotteries will be drawn the week after the application period ends. Applicants will receive an email with their results once the lotteries are drawn. Visit the Ohio Wildlife Licensing System or the Hunt-Fish OH mobile app. Hunters are required to have a printed or digital copy of their permit on the day of the hunt.

**WHAT DO I DO AFTER BEING SUCCESSFULLY DRAWN?**

Each permit includes the name of the hunt, the date, and the unit for which you are permitted. Hunt rules and maps are provided along with the permit. It is your responsibility to know and follow the rules of the hunt and to study the map and know to which unit you are assigned. Failure to follow controlled hunt rules and conditions could result in dismissal from the hunt, in addition to criminal charges pursuant to OAC 1501:31-9-01(T).

Should you have any questions about your permit, contact information for the hunt for which you are permitted is provided in the rules sheet. Additionally, you can call 1-800-WILDLIFE.

2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS  
**LICENSES AND PERMITS**

**CATEGORIES**

<b>Youth</b>	For anyone 17 years old and younger.
<b>Resident Adult</b>	For Ohio residents age 18-65.
<b>Nonresident Adult</b>	For all nonresidents 18 years old and older.
<b>Apprentice</b>	For residents and nonresidents accompanied by a licensed hunter.
<b>Resident Senior</b>	For Ohio residents age 66 and older born on or after January 1, 1938.
<b>Resident Free Senior</b>	For Ohio residents born on or before December 31, 1937.

**OHIO RESIDENCY STATUS**

An Ohio resident is a person who has resided in the state of Ohio for the past six consecutive months. All others are considered nonresidents and must purchase a nonresident license. **Nonresident students who are actively enrolled in an Ohio college or university also qualify for a resident Ohio license.**

**HUNTING LICENSES**

Ohio's annual hunting licenses are valid from March 1 to the last day in February. Multiyear licenses are valid from the date of purchase to the same date in three, five, or ten years, whichever applies. All costs include a writing fee. All sales are final. No refunds.

All hunters, regardless of age, must carry a valid hunting license to hunt or trap game in Ohio. Hunting deer, turkey, waterfowl, or hunting or trapping of furbearers requires the hunter to possess an additional game-specific permit.

Licenses and permits purchased at retail outlets or at home will be printed on plain white paper. The paper may be trimmed and folded down. It is highly recommended to protect your licenses and permits from the elements. Customers must be present to purchase a license or permit.

**LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

A permanent customer identification number will be assigned to all applicants of hunting or fishing licenses.

Every customer who applies for a license or permit is required to provide their Social Security Number (SSN). Federal Statute 42 requires the SSN of any individual to whom the state issues a recreational hunting or fishing license. Applicants who do not have

an active SSN must affirm their status at the time of application. Applicants must also declare their residency and provide their full name, date of birth, gender, mailing address, height, weight, hair color, and eye color. Once provided and recorded in the licensing system, applicants will only be required to update their information on file if it changes.

**PURCHASE A HUNTING LICENSE**

Visit an authorized agent, the HuntFish OH mobile app, or wildohio.gov to purchase a license or permit. Authorized agents are located in every county in Ohio. Visit wildohio.gov or call 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) to find an agent.

**ELECTRONIC LICENSES**

Licenses and permits may also be purchased on a mobile device or through the Division of Wildlife's mobile application, HuntFish OH. Hunters must carry their licenses and permits at all times while hunting, and must present their license upon request. Licenses and permits may be displayed on a mobile device.

**DUPLICATE LICENSES & PERMITS**

Lost, stolen, or destroyed licenses and permits may be re-issued at any license sales location or at wildohio.gov. Reprints are free at wildohio.gov and cost \$4 at a license agent.

**THE OHIO CONSERVATION CARD**

The Ohio Conservation Card is available with the purchase of a lifetime or multiyear license. Lifetime licenses are only sold at Division of Wildlife offices, online at wildohio.gov, and through a mailed application. Multiyear licenses are available for purchase at license agents.

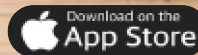
LICENSES		COST
Youth LICENSES	Resident & Nonresident Youth 1-Year Hunting License	\$10.00
	Resident & Nonresident Youth 1-Year Apprentice License	\$10.00
	Resident Youth 3-Year Hunting License	\$27.04
	Resident Youth 5-Year Hunting License	\$45.07
	Resident Youth 10-Year Hunting License	\$90.14
	Resident Youth Lifetime Hunting License	\$430.56
Adult LICENSES	Resident 1-Year Hunting License	\$19.00
	Resident 1-Year Apprentice License	\$19.00
	Resident 3-Year Hunting License	\$54.08
	Resident 5-Year Hunting License	\$90.14
	Resident 10-Year Hunting License	\$180.27
	Resident Lifetime Hunting License	\$449.28
	Nonresident 1-Year Hunting License	\$180.96
	Nonresident (Tourist) 3-Day Hunting License <small>Nonresident 3-day license not valid for deer, turkey, or furbearers</small>	\$40.56
	Nonresident 1-Year Apprentice Hunting License	\$180.96
Senior LICENSES <small>RESIDENTS ONLY</small>	Resident Senior 1-Year Hunting License	\$10.00
	Resident Senior 1-Year Apprentice License	\$10.00
	Resident Senior 3-Year Hunting License	\$27.04
	Resident Senior 5-Year Hunting License	\$45.07
	Resident Senior Lifetime Hunting License	\$84.24
	Resident Free Senior Hunting License	Free

LICENSES AND PERMITS

2023-24



Get our free app!  
**HuntFish OH**



- Purchase hunting and fishing licenses, permits, and stamps, then display them without connection.
- Submit game check even without a connection and obtain confirmation code once service is reestablished.
- Purchase Wild Ohio magazine, apply for controlled hunts, and report wildlife sightings.
- Interact with maps of Ohio's public lands, boat ramps, lakes, shooting ranges, and license agents.
- Access hunting and fishing digests, calendar of events, and other popular resources for outdoor enthusiasts.
- Check current weather conditions and sunrise/sunset tables before heading out on the water or in the field.



*Official licensing app of the Ohio Division of Wildlife*

PERMITS & STAMPS		COST
<b>Either-Sex DEER PERMITS</b>	Adult Permit: Resident	\$31.20
	Adult Permit: Nonresident	\$76.96
	Youth Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$16.00
	Senior Permit: Resident Only	\$12.00
	Free Senior Permit: Resident Only	FREE
<b>Deer Management PERMITS</b>	Adult and Youth Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$15.00
	Senior Permit: Resident Only	\$15.00
	Free Senior Permit: Resident Only	FREE
<b>Fall Turkey PERMITS</b>	Adult Permit: Resident	\$31.20
	Adult Permit: Nonresident	\$38.48
	Youth Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$16.00
	Senior Permit: Resident Only	\$12.00
	Free Senior Permit: Resident Only	FREE
<b>Spring Turkey PERMITS</b>	Adult Permit: Resident	\$31.20
	Adult Permit: Nonresident	\$38.48
	Youth Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$16.00
	Senior Permit: Resident Only	\$12.00
	Free Senior Permit: Resident Only	FREE
<b>Migratory Bird &amp; Waterfowl STAMPS</b>	Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp	\$25.00
	Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp: Resident & Nonresident	\$15.00
	Free Senior Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp: Resident Only	FREE
<b>Fur Taker PERMITS</b>	Adult Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$15.00
	Youth Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$8.00
	Senior Permit: Resident Only	\$8.00
	Free Senior Permit: Resident Only	FREE
	Apprentice Adult Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$15.00
	Apprentice Senior Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$8.00
	Apprentice Youth Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$8.00
<b>Shooting Range PERMITS</b>	One-Year Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$24.00
	One-Day Permit: Resident & Nonresident	\$5.00
	Annual Permit & Hunting License Combo: Resident <small>Valid until Feb. 29, 2024</small>	\$29.12
	Annual Permit & Apprentice Hunting License Combo: Resident <small>Valid until Feb. 29, 2024</small>	\$29.12

**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 reduce the number of hunting related injuries and incidents.

Anyone applying for a hunting license is required to successfully complete a hunter education course. Applicants must do one of the following:

- Present a previously held hunting license.
- Present evidence of having successfully completed a hunter education course (from any state).
- Attest they are 21 years of age or older and previously held a legal hunting license (from any state).
- Obtain an apprentice license.

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 another person to hunting and trapping and to share the excitement that goes with it. To obtain a fur taker permit for trapping, applicants must do one of the following:

- Present a previously held trapping license (from any state).
- Present evidence of having successfully completed a trapper education course.
- Attest they are 21 years of age or older and previously held a legal trapping license (from any state).
- Obtain an apprentice permit.

**APPRENTICE LICENSE PROGRAM**

Ohio residents and nonresidents may purchase an apprentice hunting license or apprentice fur taker permit without having taken a hunter or trapper education course.

Apprentice hunting licenses and apprentice fur taker permits allow new hunters and trappers, both adults and youth, to sample the experience of hunting and trapping 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 old or older. The licensed hunter may not accompany more than two 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.

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 successfully completed. To obtain a regular fur taker permit, a hunter education course and trapper education course must be successfully completed. Apprentice licenses and fur taker permits are available to both Ohio residents and nonresidents, youth and adults.

**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.

## LICENSE EXEMPTIONS

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

1. Ohio resident landowners, spouses, and their children are not required to have a hunting license, fur taker permit, either-sex deer permit, deer management permit, spring or fall turkey permit, or Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp when hunting or trapping on land they own.
2. A nonresident landowner, and the spouse and children living with the landowner, may hunt on that property without a license, either-sex deer permit, deer management permit, spring or fall turkey permit, Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp, or fur taker permit if the nonresident's home state allows residents of Ohio owning property in the nonresident's home state, and the spouse and children living with the Ohio property owner, to hunt without a license, deer permit, spring or fall turkey permit, wetlands habitat stamp, or fur taker permit.
3. A member of a limited liability company or partnership is a landowner provided the member is an Ohio resident and the limited liability company or limited liability partnership consists of three or fewer individual members or partners, or the beneficiary or trustee of a trust that has three or fewer trustees and beneficiaries.
4. Tenants and their children on land on which they reside, pay rent, and from which they derive the majority (more than 50 percent) of their income from agricultural production on that land are not required to have a hunting license, fur taker permit, either-sex deer permit, deer management permit, spring or fall turkey permit, or Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp when they are hunting or trapping on land where they reside.
5. Ohio resident landowners' grandchildren who are under 18 years of age are not required to have a hunting license or an Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp while hunting on their grandparents' land. All other licenses and permits are required.
6. Members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty while on leave or furlough are not required to purchase a hunting

license, Ohio Wetlands 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 and trapping furbearers, and an Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp for hunting waterfowl.

## FREE HUNTING LICENSE ELIGIBILITY

Free licenses may be obtained from a license agent and must be carried while hunting. License applications are available at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov) or by calling 1-800-WILD-LIFE (1-800-945-3543).

1. Ohio residents born on or before Dec. 31, 1937 will receive a free fishing license, hunting license, either-sex deer permit, deer management permit, spring and fall turkey permits, Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp, and fur taker permit. Ohio residents age 66 and older who were born on or after Jan. 1, 1938 are eligible for reduced-cost licenses and permits.
2. Ohio residents who are holders of a veteran's license plate displaying the international wheelchair symbol must apply in writing for a free hunting license, fur taker permit, either-sex deer permit, spring or fall turkey permit, and an Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp endorsement. Applications must be certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
3. Permanently and totally disabled veterans who receive pension or compensation due to their service-related injuries and who are Ohio residents must apply in writing for a free hunting license, fur taker permit, either-sex deer permit, turkey permit, and Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp. Applications must be certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
4. Ohio residents who are former prisoners of war must apply in writing for a free hunting license, fur taker permit, and Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp. All other licenses and permits are required to be purchased. Applications must be certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

# AUDUBON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Thursday, December 14, 2023 through Friday, January 5, 2024



**Audubon Society volunteers across Ohio will be conducting their annual Christmas Bird Count.**

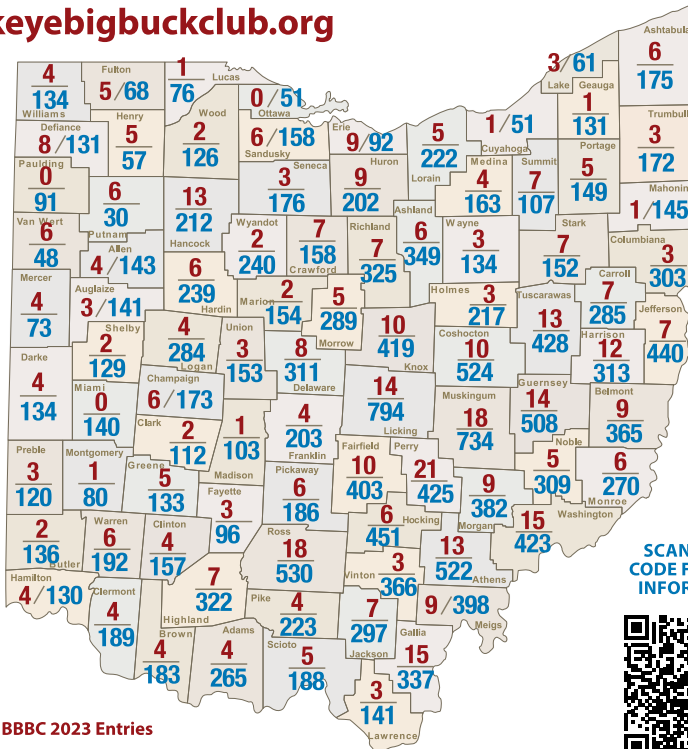
For more information, visit [audubon.org](http://audubon.org)

## Ohio's Buckeye Big Buck Club

The Buckeye Big Buck Club establishes and maintains a record of Ohio's trophy white-tailed deer. Since 1957, the not-for-profit organization has annually honored hunters who harvest mature bucks that meet a minimum scoring threshold.

Hunters who wish to submit a record of their trophy harvest can visit [buckeyebigbuckclub.org](http://buckeyebigbuckclub.org) to find information on scoring and entry. The club recognizes deer taken within Ohio by all legal methods of hunting.

[buckeyebigbuckclub.org](http://buckeyebigbuckclub.org)



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



- ## BBBC 2023 Entries
- ### BBBC Entries to Date

## 2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS 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.

**ACTIVE DUTY** means full-time duty in the Armed Forces (U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof), other than active duty for training; Service as a cadet at the U.S. Military, Air Force, or Coast Guard Academy, or as a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy.

**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.



**BAITED AREA** means any area where shelled or unshelled, shucked, or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed whatsoever capable of luring, attracting, or enticing game animals or birds is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered. Such area is considered a baited area for 10 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 or unshelled corn, wheat, or other grain, salt, or other feed so as to constitute for 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.

**CROSSBOW** means a device for propelling an arrow by means of limbs and a string, with a shoulder-mounted stock, and having a working safety.

**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.

**MUZZLELOADING RIFLE AND MUZZLELOADING SHOTGUN** means a primitive weapon that shoots a projectile or projectiles loaded exclusively from the muzzle and that is incapable of firing modern-day ammunition.

**TENANT** means an individual who resides on land for which he or she 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 Ohio 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.

**VETERAN** means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

**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:

- In a closed package, box, or case.
- 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 farthest 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 which the action will not stay open or which cannot easily be stripped, in plain sight.

A person may carry a concealed handgun 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.

**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**

DATE(S): \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE:

- DAILY
- SEASONAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Sportsperson's Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Today's Date*

SPORTSPERSON'S ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPORTSPERSON'S TELEPHONE No: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE LICENSE No: \_\_\_\_\_ RESTRICTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE & MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Landowner or Agent's Signature*

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

2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS  
**GENERAL INFORMATION**

- 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.
- 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 raccoons with a call from a stationary position may use a single beam of light of any color.
- All hunting from motor vehicles, except boats and machinery being used in farm operations, is prohibited. Hunting small game and furbearers except mink, muskrat, otter, and beaver is lawful from a boat or powercraft if the motor has been completely shut off and the powercraft has come to rest.
- Aircraft or drones are prohibited in hunting or the aid of hunting for all game. Drones may be used to recover a harvested deer.
- 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 visible beam of light. This does not include a device such as a range finder that utilizes nonvisible light.
- All hunters younger than 16 years old need to be accompanied by an adult. It is unlawful for the responsible adult to allow a person under 16 years of age to hunt alone.
- It is unlawful to possess a hunting device while training or working a dog pursuing coyotes from sunset to sunrise.
- The holder of an all-purpose vehicle permit may hunt wild quadrupeds or game birds from a vehicle while on private property. Go to [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov) for more information.
- It is unlawful to shoot from, on, across, or along a public road or highway, including the berm, shoulder and road right of way.
- It is unlawful to 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 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 do not require a certificate of ownership or receipt by a wildlife officer.

### **DOG TRAINING**

The 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 Aug. 31 of each year, 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 pursuing furbearing animals is permitted only from 6 p.m. to 6 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 Appalachian Hills, Berlin, Caesar Creek, Delaware, Fallsville, Indian Creek, Killdeer Plains, Lake La Su An, Magee Marsh, Oxbow Lake, Resthaven, Rush Run, Salt Fork, Spencer, and Tri-Valley wildlife areas.

**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 Division of Wildlife district offices, at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov), by calling 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543), and on page 41 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 41) 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.

**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 Division of Wildlife except while lawfully trapping or hunting wild animals, or target practicing on a designated Division of Wildlife target range.

It is unlawful for any person to distribute, place, or scatter salt, grain, or other feed capable of luring, enticing, or attracting wild birds or deer on lands owned, controlled, or maintained by the Division of Wildlife, including the Wayne National Forest and other lands managed by the division by virtue of a lease or an agreement.

A tree stand on Division of Wildlife public hunting areas is legal as long as it is portable and uses no nails, steps, or any other device placed or inserted into a tree. The tree stand may be installed from Sept. 1 to the last day in February, annually.

**ON ALL WILDLIFE AREAS**

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, Wood-

bury, Spring Valley, and Fallsville wildlife areas will be open for persons with severe mobility impairments to drive their cars, trucks, or an all-purpose vehicle to designated interior areas for hunting. Disabled persons are required to have an all-purpose vehicle permit. Find more information or download a permit application at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov).

Camping is prohibited on state wildlife areas, except within posted designated camping areas at Appalachian Hills and Woodbury wildlife areas. All campers at Woodbury Wildlife Area must possess a valid hunting license, fishing license, or fur taker permit. Call 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) for more information.

All wildlife areas are closed to all activity other than hunting, trapping, and fishing from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sept. 1 through May 1, and from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. May 2 through Aug. 31 of each year.

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.

It is unlawful to operate or park any vehicle on properties administered by the Division of Wildlife, except on designated roads and parking areas.

SCAN THIS QR  
CODE FOR MAPS  
OF OHIO'S PUBLIC  
HUNTING &  
WILDLIFE AREAS

**CONCEALED HANDGUN**

A person legally allowed to possess a concealed handgun may carry it while hunting. They may also hunt with their concealed handgun as long as it meets all of the requirements for the game that is being hunted.

**FIREARM SUPPRESSOR**

A person authorized through state and federal law to own a firearm noise suppressor is permitted to use it to hunt legal game animals. A valid hunting license is required to hunt with a suppressor. A suppressor is also called a silencer.

**POSSESSION**

Live furbearing animals, amphibians, reptiles, game quadrupeds, or game birds may not be held in captivity or sold except by propagation permit.

Hides of furbearing animals taken legally during the open season may be sold during that open season or may be held for sale until June 15 following the close of the season.

Furbearers may not be taken alive during open hunting and trapping seasons.

Those who buy green or dried fur must have a fur dealer's permit.

It is unlawful to buy, sell, or possess non-game birds or their parts, dead or alive.

A hunter may not 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 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 do not require a certificate of ownership or receipt by a wildlife officer.

**GINSENG**

It shall be unlawful to dig, harvest, cut, root up, gather, or otherwise collect wild ginseng from its natural habitat except during the season of September first through December thirty-first of each year without written authorization from the chief of the division of wildlife. Full details are available in section 1501:31-40.

Scan the QR code to learn more about Ohio's Green Gold or visit [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov).

**YOUTH HUNTING**

All youth hunting opportunities are available to anyone who is 17 years old or younger during the season dates. All hunters are required to have the appropriate licenses and permits. All youth hunters participating in youth hunts, regardless of age, must be accompanied by a nonhunting adult. A nonhunting adult is any person age 18 or older who accompanies the youth hunter to and from the field and is present with the youth hunter while the youth hunter is engaged in hunting. The nonhunting adult may not possess any hunting implements and a hunting license is not required.



# WILD OHIO MAGAZINE

Go to [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov) to sign up online, or visit any store that sells hunting licenses and sign up to have the magazine mailed to you.

**ORDER ONLINE TO GET SIX ISSUES FOR ONLY \$5**

# 2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGES

The Ohio Division of Wildlife provides public shooting ranges in state parks, fish hatcheries, wildlife areas, and other locations across Ohio to get you ready for upcoming hunting seasons.

Division of Wildlife shooting ranges are categorized by class, which will help you decide which range best fits your needs; Class A are supervised, rifle and pistol target ranges; Class B are unsupervised, rifle and pistol target ranges; Class C are unsupervised, clay target shotgun ranges; Class D are unsupervised, archery target ranges; and Class O are other public ranges not classified by the Division of Wildlife.

All Class A ranges have fully accessible parking, shooting benches, and restroom facilities and are staffed by knowledgeable range attendants. Not all Class B, C, or D ranges have a range attendant or restroom facilities. Anyone age 18 and older who is shooting on Class A, B, and C ranges is required to purchase a shooting range permit. You do not need a permit to visit any of the Division of Wildlife's public archery ranges. Range rules will be posted at the front of the range or shared with you during check-in at Class A, B, and C ranges.

Safety is a priority regardless of which implement you are using. Basic safety rules should be followed at all times when handling firearms or archery equipment. Basic firearm safety rules include:

- Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
- Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- Keep your finger outside of the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.

#### **BASIC ARCHERY SAFETY RULES INCLUDE**

- Only point the bow and arrow in a safe direction.
- Don't nock an arrow until it is safe to shoot.
- Avoid dry firing a bow (releasing it without a nocked arrow), which can cause damage to the bow and injure the user.



Those new to gun ranges should consider visiting a Class A range first as there is staff available to assist you. At Class A ranges, you will need to check in and show your range permit. This is also a great time to ask any questions! Choose a bench in the appropriate area of the range. A range attendant or range safety officer can help you determine when to load and unload your implement.

Understanding some basic range terminology will help keep you and others safe. This includes:

- **HOT** - People are actively firing, do not go down range.
- **COLD** - Everyone is to put their implement's safety on, unload their gun, leave the action visibly open, keep the muzzle pointed down range, and safely put their implement down.
- **CEASE FIRE** - Everyone is to immediately stop what they are doing, make their implement safe, and place it on the shooting bench pointed down range.

Each year, the Ohio Division of Wildlife offers a free range day which allows anyone to try out Class A, B, and C ranges without purchasing a range permit. On-site instruction by trained firearms staff is also available at select locations.

Scan the QR code to learn more about public shooting ranges and permits or visit [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov).



2023-24 OHIO HUNTING & TRAPPING REGULATIONS  
**PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGES**

**RANGE CLASS DEFINITIONS**

- A** = Supervised Rifle & Pistol Target Range
- B** = Unsupervised Rifle & Pistol Target Range
- C** = Unsupervised Clay Target Shotgun Range
- D** = Unsupervised Archery Target Range
- O** = Other Public Ranges; not classified by the Division of Wildlife

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RANGES 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543)		
PUBLIC AREA	COUNTY	CLASS
Deer Creek Wildlife Area	Fayette	<b>A C D</b>
Delaware Wildlife Area	Delaware	<b>A C D</b>
Spring Valley Wildlife Area*	Greene	<b>A C D</b>
Woodbury Wildlife Area*	Coshocton	<b>A C D</b>
Grand River Wildlife Area	Trumbull	<b>A C</b>
Indian Creek Wildlife Area	Brown	<b>B C D</b>
Wolf Creek Wildlife Area	Morgan	<b>B C D</b>
Monroe Lake Wildlife Area	Monroe	<b>B</b>
Tranquility Wildlife Area	Adams	<b>B</b>
Oxbow Lake Wildlife Area	Defiance	<b>C</b>
Resthaven Wildlife Area	Erie	<b>C</b>
Rush Run Wildlife Area	Preble	<b>C</b>
Salt Fork Wildlife Area	Guernsey	<b>C</b>
Wyandot Wildlife Area	Wyandot	<b>C</b>
Berlin Lake Wildlife Area	Portage	<b>D</b>
Cooper Hollow Wildlife Area	Jackson	<b>D</b>
District Two Office	Hancock	<b>D</b>
District Five Office	Greene	<b>D</b>
Fallsville Wildlife Area	Highland	<b>D</b>
Hebron State Fish Hatchery	Licking	<b>D</b>
Spencer Lake Wildlife Area	Medina	<b>D</b>
St. Marys State Fish Hatchery	Auglaize	<b>D</b>
Tri-Valley Wildlife Area	Muskingum	<b>D</b>

(\*) Supervised Trap & Skeet Range; Unsupervised Hand Trap Range (call for details)

### CLASS A, B, AND C RANGES

All persons age 18 and older are required to purchase a shooting range permit. Those age 17 and younger are not required to purchase a permit, but must be accompanied by an adult (age 18 and older) holding a valid range permit.

These permits can be purchased at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov), on the HuntFish OH app, at all license agents, and at Division of Wildlife district offices.

1-year and one-day range permits may be printed or displayed on a mobile device.

Select ranges have handicap accessible parking, shooting benches, and restrooms. If interested, please contact the individual location for details.

### CLASS D SHOOTING RANGES

No permit is required to shoot at Class D ranges.



### SUPERVISED HOURS OF OPERATION

Hours of operation vary and can be found at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov). All Class A ranges are open Wednesday through Sunday. All Class A ranges are closed on the following dates: New Year's Day, Easter, Memorial Day, June-teenth, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day.

### OTHER STATE AGENCY RANGES

PUBLIC AREA	COUNTY	CLASS	CONTACT
Fernwood State Forest	Jefferson	C O	(330) 339-2205
Barkcamp State Park	Belmont	D	(740) 484-4064
Beaver Creek State Park	Columbiana	D	(330) 385-3091
Caesar Creek State Park	Warren	D	(513) 897-3055
East Harbor State Park	Ottawa	D	(419) 734-4424
Geneva State Park	Ashtabula	D	(440) 466-8400
Hocking Hills State Park	Hocking	D	(740) 385-6842
Hueston Woods State Park	Butler, Preble	D	(513) 523-6347
Lake Hope State Park	Vinton	D	(740) 596-4938
Lake Vesuvius/ Wayne National Forest	Lawrence	D	(740) 534-6500
Paint Creek State Park	Highland, Ross	D	(937) 393-4284
Punderson State Park	Geauga	D	(440) 564-2279
Salt Fork State Park	Guernsey	D	(740) 439-3521
Shawnee State Park	Scioto	D	(740) 858-6652
Veto Lake	Washington	D	(740) 589-9930
Wingfoot Lake	Portage	D	(330) 962-2048
Dillon Lake	Licking, Muskingum	O	(740) 452-3529
Harrison State Forest	Harrison	O	(614) 262-5671
Zaleski State Forest	Vinton	O	(740) 596-5781

# OHIO WILDLIFE OFFICERS BY COUNTY

ADAMS Gus Kiebel (937) 776-0688	GUERNSEY Taylor Combs (614) 563-2355	MORROW Tyler Eldred (614) 400-0756
ALLEN Craig Barr (419) 429-8379	HAMILTON Vacant (513) 446-7028	MUSKINGUM Jeffrey Berry (740) 447-0570
ASHLAND Evan Huegel (330) 245-3044	HANCOCK Ryan Burke (419) 429-8384	NOBLE Caitlin Perry (614) 563-7705
ASHTABULA Mark Williams (330) 802-9171	HARDIN Ryan Kennedy (419) 429-8385	OTTAWA Reid Van Cleve (419) 429-8389
ATHENS Ryan Donnelly (740) 541-8266	HARRISON Nick Turner (330) 245-3049	PAULDING Levi Farley (419) 429-8390
AUGLAIZE Mark Schemmel (937) 728-4192	HENRY Matthew R. Smith (419) 429-8386	PERRY Mark Basinger (614) 565-0137
BELMONT Logan Ambrister (614) 563-1680	HIGHLAND Matt Roberts (937) 205-3020	PICKAWAY Josh Elster (614) 203-3406
BROWN Micah Collier (513) 646-4014	HOCKING Chris Dodge (614) 257-7792	PIKE Matt Van Cleve (614) 565-0140
BUTLER Andrew Dowdell (513) 403-6591	HOLMES Cory Burroughs (330) 245-3045	PORTAGE Marino Pellegrini (330) 245-3040
CARROLL Scott Cartwright (330) 802-9163	HURON Matthew D. Smith (419) 429-8387	PREBLE Brad Turner (937) 510-1154
CHAMPAIGN Nick Oliver (614) 902-4209	JACKSON Ted Witham (614) 563-4138	PUTNAM Jason Porinchok (419) 429-8391
CLARK Mathew Bourne (937) 206-9321	JEFFERSON Craig Porter (330) 245-3050	RICHLAND Nathan Kaufmann (419) 429-8392
CLERMONT Vacant (513) 673-1566	KNOX Austin Levering (614) 400-0731	ROSS Bob Nelson (614) 565-9754
CLINTON Isaiah Gifford (937) 776-1850	LAKE Ryan Pawlus (330) 245-3034	SANDUSKY Charles McMullen (419) 429-8393
COLUMBIANA Jesse Janosik (330) 245-3039	LAWRENCE Darin Abbott (614) 563-3946	SCIOTO Tyler Fields (614) 565-9064
COSHOCTON Jerrod Allison (740) 502-4586	LICKING Antoinette Freet (614) 902-4214	SENECA Brock Williamson (419) 429-8394
CRAWFORD Nathan Cass (419) 429-8380	LOGAN Adam Smith (937) 441-5224	SHELBY Houston Wireman (937) 545-5849
CUYAHOGA Zachary Hillman (330) 245-3033	LORAIN Randy White (330) 802-9172	STARK Scott Traver (330) 245-3041
DARKE Jeff Wenning (937) 621-5779	LUCAS Anthony Lemle (419) 429-8388	SUMMIT Daniel Shroyer (330) 245-3042
DEFIANCE Austin Dickinson (419) 429-8381	MADISON Matt Teders (614) 309-3465	TRUMBULL Marty Cisine (330) 245-3037
DELAWARE Maurice Irish (614) 902-4221	MAHONING Tom Frank (330) 245-3038	TUSCARAWAS Michael Budd (614) 230-6347
ERIE Michele Butler (419) 429-8382	MARION Chad Grote (614) 902-4217	UNION Brian Motsinger (614) 315-4999
FAIRFIELD Jade Heizer (614) 902-4210	MEDINA Eric Moore (330) 245-3043	VAN WERT Nathan Robinson (419) 429-8395
FAYETTE John Coffman (614) 565-2538	MEIGS Chris Gilkey (614) 563-4492	VINTON Cole Tilton (614) 565-0805
FRANKLIN Brad Kiger (614) 902-4212	MERCER Brad Buening (419) 236-8787	WARREN Jason Keller (513) 520-9896
FULTON Mike Ohlrich (419) 429-8383	MIAMI Jasmine Grossnickle (937) 470-1917	WASHINGTON Scot Gardner (740) 412-9184
GALLIA Vacant (614) 563-1843	MONROE Vacant (614) 563-5033	WAYNE Aaron Brown (330) 323-2554
GEAUGA Matthew Madgar (330) 245-3035	MONTGOMERY Trent Weaver (937) 545-6768	WILLIAMS Ethan Bingham (419) 429-8396
GREENE Vacant (937) 545-6327	MORGAN Ben Smith (614) 563-5338	WOOD Eric VonAlmen (419) 429-8397
		WYANDOT Vacant (419) 429-8398

To report a wildlife violation: 1-800-POACHER (1-800-762-2437)