



Big Woods
Wildlife Management Area
2025-2026 Hunting Seasons



Bear dog training/chase season: November 15 – November 29

Deer hunting with dogs is permitted during deer firearm season

Fox squirrels harvesting is prohibited

BIG GAME HUNTING SEASONS

Bear	Youth/Apprentice: October 11 & 12 Archery: October 4 -- November 14	Muzzleloader: November 8 – November 14 Firearm: December 1 – January 3
Deer	Youth/Apprentice: September 27 & 28 Early Archery: October 4 – November 14	Early Muzzleloader: November 1 – November 14 Firearm: November 15 – January 3
Turkey	Fall: Youth/Apprentice: October 11 & 12 Archery: October 4 – November 14 Firearm: October 18 – October 31, November 26 -- 27, & December 1 – December 13	Spring: Youth/Apprentice: April 4 & 5 Firearm: April 11 – April 26 (½ hour before sunrise until 12 noon) April 27 – May 16 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)

SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS

Crow	September 1 – March 9	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, & Saturdays ONLY
Groundhog	September 1 – March 10, April 11 – May 16, June 6 – June 20	
Quail	November 8 – January 31	
Rabbit	November 1 – February 28	
Squirrel	Fall: September 6 – February 28	No Fox Squirrels
		Spring: June 6 – June 20
Grouse	CLOSED	No Fox Squirrels

WEBLESS MIGRATORY GAMEBIRD HUNTING SEASONS

Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Hunting Days: October 25 & February 7

Dove	CLOSED
Woodcock	November 11 – November 30 & December 26 – January 19 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Snipe	September 29 – November 30 & December 19 – January 31 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Rail/Gallinule/ Moorhen	September 6 – October 25 & November 11 – November 30 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset

WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASONS

Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Hunting Days: October 25 & February 7

September Goose and Teal	Goose: September 1 – September 19 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset Goose: September 20 – September 25 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset	Teal: September 20 – September 28 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Duck/ Mergansers/ Coots	October 10 – October 13 (No Black Ducks) November 19 – November 30 December 19 – January 31	Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Hunting Days: October 25 & February 7 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Goose: Atlantic Population Zone & Resident Population Zone	Atlantic Population Zone: December 24 – December 31 & January 10 – January 31 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset	Resident Population Zone: November 19 – November 30 December 19 – February 22 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset
Light Goose	Regular Season: October 18 – January 31 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until sunset Hunter Registration Required	Conservation Order Season: February 1 – April 5 Hours: ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset Hunter Registration Required
Tundra Swan	November 15 – January 31 (Quota Hunt Only)	

FURBEARER HUNTING SEASONS

Bobcat	Archery: October 4 – October 31	Firearm: November 1 – February 28
Coyote/Skunk	September 1 – March 10, April 11 – May 16, & June 6 – June 20	
Opossum	October 15 – March 10	
Fox	Red Fox: November 1 – February 28 Grey Fox: January 1 – February 28 Chase: Continuous open season (Harvesting Foxes is Prohibited Except During Firearm Season)	
Raccoon	Firearm: October 15 – March 10	

TRAPPING SEASONS

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

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