

# 2015 Summary of Hunting Season Dates

For further information regarding specific bag, possession, and season limits, please visit the pages noted in the table below. See page 15 for details on Junior Hunter Training Days.

DEER	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
<b>Deer Bowhunting</b>	See page 16 for limit information
Private Land (zones 11–12)	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31
Private Land (all zones)	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land Bowhunting Only Areas	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land	Sep. 15 – Nov. 17 Dec. 23 – Dec. 31
<b>Deer Shotgun – State Controlled Areas</b>	See page 18 for limit information
No Lottery "A" Season	Nov. 18 – Nov. 27
No Lottery "B" Season	Nov. 28 – Dec. 8
<b>Deer State Land &amp; Controlled Hunt Lottery</b>	See page 20 for lottery application and bag limit information
Lottery "A" Season	Nov. 18 – Nov. 27
Lottery "B" Season	Nov. 28 – Dec. 8
<b>Deer Shotgun/Rifle – Private Lands</b>	See page 16 for limit information
Shotgun/Rifle	Nov. 18 – Dec. 8
Landowner	Nov. 2 – Dec. 31
<b>Deer Muzzleloader</b>	See page 17 for limit information
Private Land	Dec. 9 – Dec. 31
State Land	Dec. 9 – Dec. 22

TURKEY	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
<b>Spring Turkey</b>	See page 32 for limit information
State Land Private Land Landowner	Apr. 29 – May 30
<b>Fall Turkey Archery</b>	See page 32 for limit information
Private Land (zones 11–12)	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31
Private Land (all zones)	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land Bowhunting Only Areas	Sep. 15 – Dec. 31
State Land	Sep. 15 – Nov. 17 Dec. 23 – Dec. 31
<b>Fall Turkey Firearms</b>	See page 33 for limit information
State Land Private Land Landowner	Oct. 3 – Oct. 31

BIRDS	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
<b>Upland Birds</b>	See page 34 for limit information
Pheasant <sup>A</sup>	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Chukar Partridge	Jan. 1 – Jan. 10 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 17 – Nov. 30
Quail <sup>B</sup>	Oct. 17 – Oct. 31
Crow <sup>C</sup>	Jan. 10 – Mar. 28 (Mon through Sat) Aug. 8 – Oct. 9 (Wed, Fri, Sat) Oct. 17 – Nov. 28 (Wed, Fri, Sat)
<b>Woodcock – Snipe – Rails</b>	See current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide
<b>Waterfowl (ducks, mergansers, geese, and coot)</b>	See current Migratory Bird Hunting Guide State and federal stamps required

<sup>A</sup> Pheasant Stamp Authorization required.

<sup>B</sup> See page 34 for areas with extended season dates.

<sup>C</sup> Crow hunting occurs only on certain days during the season.

SMALL MAMMALS	
SEASON	SEASON DATES
Gray Squirrel	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28 Sep. 1 – 30 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Cottontail Rabbit European Hare	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Snowshoe Hare	Jan. 1 – Jan. 31 Nov. 21 – Dec. 31
Woodchuck	Mar. 16 – Apr. 28 June 1 – Oct. 9 Oct. 17 – Nov. 17

**FURBEARERS**  
See pages 34 and 35 for limit information and page 44 for trapping seasons and regulations.

SEASON	SEASON DATES
Coyote	Jan. 1 – Apr. 28 June 1 – Dec. 31
Red & Gray Foxes	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31
Raccoon & Opossum	Jan. 1 – Jan. 17 Oct. 17 – Dec. 31

## THE HUNTER'S PLEDGE

Hunting provides unique challenges and rewards. However, the future of this great tradition depends on each hunter being responsible and ethical.

**Therefore, as a hunter, I pledge to:**

- Show respect for the laws.
- Show respect for other hunters.
- Show respect toward landowners and always obtain permission to hunt on private land.
- Show respect for non-hunters.
- Show respect for the land and wildlife resources.
- Familiarize myself with the areas where I plan to hunt and know the activities that occur there.
- Wear at least 400 square inches of fluorescent orange when required for hunting.
- Dress appropriately and be prepared for any sudden weather changes.
- Call out "Hunter here!" loudly to make my location known if I see another hunter.
- Take responsibility for my actions while hunting.

# Licenses & Permits

Licenses and Permits to hunt and trap in Connecticut are available online, at most town clerks, and at some sporting good stores and DEEP offices. Licenses are valid for a calendar year. To buy licenses online, or for a listing of places that sell licenses, go to: [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting)

**Conservation ID#s:** everyone issued a license has been issued a unique Conservation ID# that should be used every time and every year when purchasing licenses and permits. If you log on to the Online Sportsmen Licensing system, or go to a vendor for your licenses, always use your Conservation ID# as a means of identification. You should write your Conservation ID# down and keep it in a safe place. Your Conservation ID# replaces your license number.

**Hunter Education Requirements:** no hunting or trapping licenses will be issued to any person unless proof is provided that they have held a RESIDENT license in the respective sport within the last 5 years OR the person has a certificate indicating successful completion of a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms (CE/FS) course (or recognized equivalent) in the respective sport for which they are applying. "Apprentice" or "Mentored" hunting licenses issued in other states do not qualify. Courses are available during most months. To become certified in firearms or bowhunting, a person must be 10 years or older. All bowhunters must

show proof when purchasing a small game/deer archery permit that they have completed the CE/FS bowhunting course (since 1982) or its equivalent from another state or country. Certifications from another state or country must specify Bowhunter Education. If you have previously purchased a 2002, or later, Connecticut bowhunting license you have already provided such proof. Obtain course listings by visiting the DEEP website at [www.ct.gov/deep/hunting](http://www.ct.gov/deep/hunting) or calling the Wildlife Division at 860-424-3011.

**Age 65+ Annual Licenses:** Firearms hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses are still issued free to residents who meet hunter education requirements. But, these licenses must now be renewed annually.

**Hunting by Minors:** a person must be 12 years of age or older to hunt. Persons 12 through 15 years of age must be licensed and accompanied by a licensed hunter 18 years of age or older while hunting. A person may not supervise more than 2 minors at one time while hunting. Minors are entitled to their own bag limits. Junior license holders do not have to purchase a new license if they turn 16 years of age during the same calendar year.

**Trapping by Minors:** There is no minimum age requirement for trapping, but persons under age 16 must purchase a Junior Trapping License.

**Handicapped License:** a person who has perma-

nently lost the use of a limb may be issued a hunting or trapping license free of charge (permits, tags not included). These licenses are available at town clerk offices. Non-residents are eligible for this free license if their state provides the same privilege to Connecticut residents. Verification of the disability, signed by a licensed physician, must be presented. See page 38 for more information.

**Armed Forces:** any active full-time member of the U.S. armed forces may purchase a Connecticut hunting, fishing or trapping license for the same fees as a resident. These licenses are only issued at DEEP or Town Clerk offices. Proof of full-time membership during the calendar year must be carried while using the license.

**Lost License:** at any time, you can log on to the Online Sportsmen Licensing system and reprint your license. You can also go to a licensing vendor or DEEP office to have your license reprinted.

## PHEASANT STAMPS, WATERFOWL STAMPS & HIP PERMITS

### Pheasant Stamps

- Valid from October through February
  - Fees: \$28 Resident, \$28 Non-Resident  
**NEW** \$14 for resident 16 & 17-year-olds
- Current firearms hunting license or Small Game and Archery Deer Permit required. Tags are no longer required. When purchased, authorization for pheasant hunting will be printed on your license.

### Connecticut Migratory Bird Hunting Authorization

- Valid for Calendar Year
  - Fees: \$13 Resident, \$13 Non-Resident
- Junior hunters ages 12-15 exempt  
**NEW** \$7 for resident 16 & 17-year-olds
- The actual state stamp no longer needs to be signed or carried while hunting. If you want a copy of the actual stamp mailed to you, answer "yes" to the prompt when selecting the stamp for purchase. Physical stamps can also be purchased by mailing a request with the enclosed fee to DEEP Licensing & Revenue, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

### Connecticut Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit

- Valid for Calendar Year
- Fees: \$4 Resident, \$4 Non-Resident  
**NEW** \$2 for resident 16 & 17-year-olds

### Federal Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp

- Valid from July 1 through June 30
  - Fees: \$15 Resident \$15 Non-Resident
- Available at most Post Offices. Also available by telephone and online. Go to [www.fws.gov/duckstamps](http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps) for more information. Stamp must be signed in ink across its face. Junior hunters ages 12-15 exempt.

### SNAPPING TURTLE TRAPPING ENDORSEMENT

- Required when using traps to catch snapping turtles. Available for free online or at DEEP offices.
- Season Dates: July 15 – September 30
- Bag Limits: Daily 5, Possession 30, Season 30
- Size Limit: Minimum 13" shell length

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- Turtle eggs cannot be taken and turtle nests cannot be disturbed without DEEP authorization.
- Legal Methods: Hand capture, dip net, turtle hook, floating or non-floating turtle trap, or hook and line.
- A maximum of 3 turtle traps can be used per individual at any given time, traps must be set in such manner as to allow turtles to surface and breathe and be constructed of 1" minimum mesh size. All traps must have a functional escape hole with minimum diameter of 7.5" to allow passage of fish and smaller turtles. Box-type traps cannot exceed 4'x4'x4' and hoop-style traps cannot exceed 84". Traps must be tagged with a plate or tag visible above the water line bearing the Conservation Identification Number of the trapper. All traps may only be tended by the authorized trapper and must be checked at least once every 24 hours and emptied of catch. Any other wildlife captured must be immediately released at the point of capture.
- Traps cannot be used on any body of water owned, leased or otherwise under control of the DEEP.
- Using a hook and line to capture snapping turtles requires a fishing license.

LICENSES	RESIDENT	16 & 17 YEAR-OLD RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Firearms Hunting	\$19.00	\$10.00	\$91.00
Firearms Hunting & Inland Fishing	\$38.00	\$19.00	\$110.00
Firearms Hunting & All Waters Fishing	\$40.00	\$20.00	\$120.00
Firearms Hunting & Marine Waters Fishing	\$25.00	\$13.00	\$94.00
Firearms Supersport <sup>1</sup> (see below for included items)	\$70.00	\$35.00	—
Firearms Supersport with Muzzleloader <sup>2</sup> (see below for included items)	\$84.00	\$42.00	—
Firearms Supersport Waterfowl <sup>3</sup> (see below for included items)	\$50.00	\$25.00	—
Junior Firearms Hunting (Ages 12 to 15)	\$11.00	—	\$11.00
Age 65+ Annual Hunting License	Free	—	—
Archery Deer/Small Game	\$41.00	\$21.00	\$135.00
Archery Deer/Small Game and All Waters Fishing	\$65.00	\$33.00	—
Archery Supersport <sup>4</sup> (see below for included items)	\$82.00	\$41.00	—
Junior Archery Deer/Small Game (Ages 12 to 15)	\$19.00	—	\$19.00
Trapping	\$34.00	\$17.00	\$250.00
Junior Trapping (Ages 15 and under)	\$11.00	—	—
Age 65+ Annual Trapping License	Free	—	—

- 1 Firearms Supersport License:** Includes Firearms Hunting, Private Land Deer Shotgun/Rifle, Private Land Spring Turkey, and All Waters Fishing.
- 2 Firearms Supersport with Muzzleloader License:** Includes Firearms Hunting, Private Land Deer Shotgun/Rifle, Private Land Deer Muzzleloader, Private Land Spring Turkey, and All Waters Fishing.
- 3 Firearms Supersport Waterfowl License:** Includes Firearms Hunting, CT Migratory Bird Hunting Authorization (CT Duck Stamp), CT HIP Permit, and All Waters Fishing.
- 4 Archery Supersport License:** Includes Archery Deer/Small Game, Private Land Spring Turkey, and All Waters Fishing. With the Private Land Spring Turkey Permit, you can also use a shotgun if you have a firearms hunting license.



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# Licenses & Permits

## FIREARMS DEER HUNTING PERMITS

- A current firearms hunting license is required to apply for firearms deer permits.
- Lottery permits can be applied for starting January 1. See page 20 for details.
- No one may purchase both a State Land Lottery Permit and a State Land No-Lottery Permit. If you are rejected for a lottery permit, you may still purchase a State Land No-Lottery Permit.
- **NEW** Permit fee for resident 16 & 17-year-olds is \$10.

DEER PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
<b>State Land Lottery (includes Controlled Hunt Areas)</b>				
"A" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 18	page 20
"B" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 28	page 20
<b>State Land No-Lottery</b>				
"A" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 18	page 18
"B" Season	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 28	page 18
<b>Private Land Shotgun/Rifle</b>	\$19.00	\$68.00	Nov. 18	page 16
<b>Private Land Muzzleloader</b>	\$19.00	\$68.00	Dec. 9	page 17
<b>State Land Muzzleloader</b>	\$19.00	\$68.00	Dec. 9	page 17

## Revolver Deer Endorsement - Fee: \$5

Allows persons hunting with a Free Landowner Permit or Connecticut residents hunting with a Private Land Shotgun/Rifle Permit to use a revolver rather than a rifle or a shotgun to hunt deer on private lands of at least 10 acres in size.

## FALL TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS

- A current firearms hunting license is required to apply for firearms turkey permits.
- A current Small Game and Deer Archery Permit is required to apply for a Fall Archery Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Firearms Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Firearms Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Archery Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Archery Turkey Permit.
- **NEW** Permit fee for resident 16 & 17-year-olds is \$10.

FALL TURKEY PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
Firearms Private Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	Oct. 3	page 33
Firearms State Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	Oct. 3	page 33
Fall Archery	\$19.00	\$19.00	Sept. 15	page 32

## SPRING TURKEY HUNTING PERMITS

- A current firearms hunting license or a Small Game and Deer Archery Permit is required to apply for spring turkey permits.
- If you obtain a Landowner Spring Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Spring Turkey Permit.
- **NEW** Permit fee for resident 16 & 17-year-olds is \$10.

SPRING TURKEY PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
Private Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	April 29	page 32
State Land	\$19.00	\$19.00	April 29	page 32

## LANDOWNER HUNTING PERMITS (10 OR MORE CONTIGUOUS ACRES REQUIRED)

- If you obtain a Landowner Spring Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Spring Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Firearms Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Firearms Turkey Permit.
- If you obtain a Landowner Fall Archery Turkey Permit, you are not eligible to purchase a Private Land Fall Archery Turkey Permit.

LANDOWNER PERMITS	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	OPENING DAY	INFO
Deer	Free	Free	Nov. 2	page 18
Fall Firearms Turkey	Free	Free	Oct. 3	page 33
Fall Archery Turkey	Free	Free	Sept. 15	page 32
Spring Turkey	Free	Free	April 29	page 32

## Pass on the Tradition

### Hunter Education Needs You!

To become a volunteer instructor, email  
[deep.franklinwildlife@ct.gov](mailto:deep.franklinwildlife@ct.gov)

or call  
 860-424-3011



## SPORTSMEN'S DOLLARS AT WORK

Wildlife management is largely funded through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program. This program was initiated by sportsmen and conservationists in the 1930s to provide states with funding for wildlife programs. Funds are derived from a federal excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. These funds are collected from the manufacturers by the Department of the Treasury and are apportioned each year to the states for wildlife programs.



## To Report a Wildlife Violation

**CALL 24 HOURS TOLL FREE**  
**1-800-842-HELP**

**ALL CALLS CONFIDENTIAL**

CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection