Indiana April 2026 – March 2027

HUNTING & TRAPPING SEASONS

DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

FURBEARERS	HUNTING DATES	TRAPPING DATES
Red & Gray Fox	Oct. 15, 2026 – Feb. 28, 2027	Oct. 15, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027
Coyote & Striped Skunk	Oct. 15, 2026 – March 15, 2027	Oct. 15, 2026 – March 15, 2027
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 8, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027	Nov. 8, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027
Dog Running (Raccoon, Opossum) Chasing season only-no hunting	Feb. 1, 2026 – Oct. 25, 2026	---------- (no trapping) ----------
Beaver	Nov. 15, 2026 – March 15, 2027	Nov. 15, 2026 – March 15, 2027
Mink, Muskrat & Long-Tailed Weasel	Nov. 15, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027	Nov. 15, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027
River Otter	---------- (no hunting) ----------	Nov. 15, 2026 – March 15, 2027*
Bobcat	Nov. 8, 2026 – Jan. 31. 2027**	Nov. 8, 2026 – Jan. 31. 2027**

*There is a seasonal bag limit of 2 river otters per person. Season may close earlier if statewide quota of 750 is reached.
** There is a seasonal bag limit of 1 bobcat per person. See the Hunting & Trapping Guide for counties open to bobcat harvest. Season may close earlier if statewide quota of 400 is reached. Bobcat hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

WOODLAND BIG GAME	HUNTING DATES	BAG LIMIT*
Wild Turkey		
Youth	April 18 & 19, 2026	1 bearded or male turkey per hunter in youth/spring season
Spring	April 22 – May 10, 2026	
Fall-Archery*	Oct.1 – Nov. 1, 2026 Dec. 5, 2026 – Jan. 3, 2027	1 bird of either sex per hunter each fall
Fall-Firearms*	Oct. 21 – Nov. 1, 2026	

Turkey hunting hours: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
* See Hunting and Trapping Guide for counties open to fall turkey hunting. No more than one bird of either sex may be taken in the fall turkey season, regardless of equipment. A separate turkey license is needed for the spring and fall turkey season.

Deer		
Reduction Zone*	Sept. 15, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027	See current Hunting & Trapping Guide for deer season bag limits or visit wildlife.IN.gov
Youth	Sept. 26 & 27, 2026	
Archery	Oct. 1, 2026 – Jan. 3, 2027	
Firearms	Nov. 14 – Nov. 29, 2026	
Muzzleloader	Dec. 5 – 20, 2026	

Deer hunting hours: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
*Deer Reduction Zones, previously called Urban Zones, are in designated locations only.

WOODLAND SMALL GAME	HUNTING DATES	DAILY LIMIT*
Gray & Fox Squirrel	Aug. 15, 2026 – Jan. 31, 2027	5
Ruffed Grouse	Suspended	

UPLAND GAME	HUNTING DATES	DAILY LIMIT*
Pheasant (statewide-cock only)	Nov. 1 – Dec. 15, 2026	2
Quail (North of I-74)**	Nov. 1 – Dec. 15, 2026	4
Quail (South of I-74)**	Nov. 1, 2026 – Jan. 10, 2027	8
Rabbit	Nov. 1, 2026 – Feb. 28, 2027	5

MISCELLANEOUS GAME	HUNTING/TRAPPING DATES	DAILY LIMIT*
Crow	July 1 – Aug.15, 2026 Dec.13, 2026 – March 1, 2027	No limit
Green Frog & Bullfrog	June 15, 2026 – April 30, 2027	25
Eastern Snapping Turtle, Smooth & Spiny Softshell Turtles	July 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027	4***

* The possession limit on pheasants, quail, rabbits, squirrels, frogs, and turtles is two times the daily bag limit.
** Quail bag limits vary on some DNR properties (see Hunting & Trapping Guide).
***Limit is singly or in aggregate. These species of turtles must have a carapace length of at least 12 inches.

Indiana Sept. 2026 – Feb. 2027

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MIGRATORY BIRDS	HUNTING DATES	BAG LIMIT
Mourning Dove	Sept. 1 – Oct. 18, 2026 Nov. 1 – 29, 2026 Dec. 19 – 31, 2026	15*
Snipe	Sept. 1 – Dec.16, 2026	8
Woodcock	Oct. 15 – Nov. 28, 2026	3
Sora Rail	Sept. 1 – Nov. 9, 2026	25

Migratory bird hunting hours: sunrise to sunset

* The daily bag and possession limits are for mourning doves and white-winged doves in aggregate.

WATERFOWL	HUNTING DATES	BAG LIMIT
Early Teal	Sept. 5 – 13, 2026	6
NORTH ZONE		
Ducks, Coots, Mergansers	Oct. 24 – Dec. 13, 2026 Dec. 19 – 27, 2026	*
Canada geese, Light geese, & Brant	Sept. 5 – 13, 2026 Oct. 24 – Nov. 1, 2026 Nov. 21, 2026 – Feb. 14, 2027	**
White-fronted geese	Nov. 21, 2026 – Feb. 14, 2027	2***
Youth & Veteran	Oct. 17 – 18, 2026	Same as regular season****
CENTRAL ZONE		
Ducks, Coots, Mergansers	Oct. 31 – Nov. 8, 2026 Nov. 21, 2026 – Jan. 10, 2027	*
Canada geese, Light geese, & Brant	Sept. 5 – 13, 2026 Oct. 31 – Nov. 8, 2026 Nov. 21, 2026 – Feb. 14, 2027	**
White-fronted geese	Nov. 21, 2026 – Feb. 14, 2027	***
Youth & Veteran	Oct. 24 – 25, 2026	Same as regular season****
SOUTH ZONE		
Ducks, Coots, Mergansers	Nov. 7 – 8, 2026 Nov. 28, 2026 – Jan. 24, 2027	*
Canada geese, Light geese, & Brant	Sept. 1 – 13, 2026 Nov. 7 – 11, 2026 Nov. 21, 2026 – Feb. 14, 2027	**
White-fronted geese	Nov. 21, 2026 – Feb. 14, 2027	2***
Youth & Veteran	Oct. 31 – Nov. 1, 2026	Same as regular season***

Waterfowl hunting hours: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset; sunrise to sunset for teal

* The daily bag limit for coots is 15. The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, which may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers. The daily bag limit for ducks is 6, which may include no more than 4 mallards (2 of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 canvasbacks, 3 pintail, 2 redheads, 2 black ducks, 1 mottled duck, and 1 or 2 scaup. Only one scaup may be taken daily on or before Nov. 7 in the North Zone, Nov. 26 in the Central Zone, and Dec. 10 in the South Zone. Only two scaup may be taken daily after those dates. The possession limit is 3 times the daily bag limit.

** The daily bag limit for Canada geese and brant is 5 in the aggregate. The possession limit for Canada geese and brant is 3 times the daily bag limit. The daily bag limit for light geese (snow, blue, Ross) is 20. There is no possession limit for light geese.

*** The daily bag limit is 2. The possession limit is 6

**** For youth and veteran hunting dates, the daily bag for scaup is 1 per day.