

Small Game and Upland Hunting Seasons

Species	Season Dates	Shooting Hours	Bag Limits	
			Daily	Possession
Rooster Pheasant (Youth)	Oct. 18-19	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	1	2
Rooster Pheasant	Oct. 25 - Jan. 10, 2026	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	3	12
Bobwhite Quail	Oct. 25 - Jan. 31, 2026	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8	16
Gray Partridge	Oct. 11 - Jan. 31, 2026	8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8	16
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 4 - Jan. 31, 2026	Sunrise to Sunset	3	6
Mourning Dove	Sept. 1 - Nov. 29	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	15	45
Rabbit (Cottontail)	Aug. 30 - Feb. 28, 2026	Sunrise to Sunset	10	20
Rabbit (Jack)	Closed			
Squirrel (Fox and Gray)	Aug. 31 - Jan. 31, 2026	No Restrictions	6	12
Crow	Oct. 15 - Nov. 30 and Jan. 14 - March 31, 2026	No Restrictions	No Limit	No Limit
Pigeon	Continuous Open Season	No Restrictions	No Limit	No Limit

Furbearer Hunting Seasons

Species	Season Dates	Shooting Hours	Daily	Possession
Raccoon ¹ , Coyote & Groundhog	Continuous Open Season	No Restrictions	No Limit	No Limit
Opossum, Fox (Red & Gray), Badger, Bobcat ²	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2026	8 a.m. First Day	No Limit	No Limit
& Raccoon ²	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2026	8 a.m. First Day	*See p. 33	*See p. 33

¹On private land only. ²On public land.

2025-26 Iowa Hunting Seasons & Limits



*Refer to the Iowa Hunting, Trapping & Migratory Game Bird Regulations for species quotas and regulations at www.iowadnr.gov.

2025-26 Iowa Deer Hunting Seasons

Season	Season Dates
Youth	Sept. 20 - Oct. 5
Disabled Hunter	Sept. 20 - Oct. 5
Archery	Oct. 1 - Dec. 5 AND Dec. 22 - Jan. 10, 2026
Muzzleloader	
Early:	Oct. 11-19
Late:	Dec. 22 - Jan. 10, 2026

Season	Season Dates
Shotgun	
First:	Dec. 6-10
Second:	Dec. 13-21
Nonresident Holiday	Dec. 24 - Jan. 2, 2026
¹Pop. Mgmt Jan. Antlerless	Jan. 11-25, 2026
¹Excess Tag Jan. Antlerless	Jan. 11-25, 2026
¹ See 2025-26 Hunting Regulations for more details	

2025 Fall Turkey Hunting

License Types	Season Dates
Gun/Bow	Oct. 13 - Dec. 5
Archery Only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 5 AND Dec. 22 - Jan. 10, 2026

Shooting Hours

Gun: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Bow: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset

Shooting hours for all deer seasons are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

*Hunters are required to report **deer** and **turkey** harvest either at iowadnr.gov or by calling the number printed on the harvest reporting tag.*

2025-26 Iowa Trapping Seasons

Species	Season Dates	Trapping Hours	Daily/Season
Muskrat, Fox (Red and Gray), Coyote, Badger, Mink, Weasel,			
Opossum, Striped Skunk	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2026	8 a.m. First Day	No Limit
Beaver	Nov. 1 - April 15, 2026	8 a.m. First Day	No Limit
Otter*	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2026	8 a.m. First Day	3 / 3
Bobcat*	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2026	8 a.m. First Day	See p. 33
Raccoon ¹	Continuous Open	No Restrictions	No Limit
Civet Cat (Spotted Skunk) & Gray Wolf			
	Closed		

¹Outside the furharvester season, **only** cage traps or dog-proof traps are legal methods of take. During the furharvester season, trappers may use other lawful traps normally allowed during the trapping season.

**Furharvesters must contact a conservation officer within 24 hours of taking an otter or bobcat to receive a CITES tag. See Iowa Hunting, Trapping & Migratory Game Bird Regulations for more information on bobcat harvest restrictions.*

Turn-In-Poachers
1-800-532-2020

