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Maine Hunting and Trapping Laws, 1954 Summary

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game

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MAINE
HUNTING AND TRAPPING LAWS
1954
SUMMARY



ROLAND H. COBB
COMMISSIONER

Department of Inland Fisheries and Game
Augusta, Maine

Game breeders must be licensed, fee \$10.00. Authorized fish and game scientific collectors must make detailed report at end of calendar year.

"Menagerie Permit" required to keep wild animals in captivity for exhibition, fee \$50.00. Prohibited in Hancock County.

Guides must be licensed; must be 18 years of age; fee \$7.50 includes hunting and fishing license. Must be capable person; license may be revoked for game or fish law violations; may be suspended for failure to uphold law. Non-resident fee, \$50.00.

Resident hunting or fishing license not issued unless applicant presents poll tax receipt or driver's license. Applicants for resident licenses must produce poll tax receipt for preceding year on certificate showing that he was exempt on a valid State of Maine driver's license for current year.

Indians of Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes over 16 years may have free hunting and fishing license through their respective Indian Agents.

Resident hunting and fishing licenses may be issued to members of the United States armed forces stationed at any post, station or base in Maine by the clerk of that town upon certification of commander of that post, station or base.

Lumber camps, or camps used in log driving or construction, shall not serve or use any protected birds or animals.

Trappers may obtain permit to take 20 pounds of eels for bait.

Boats not to be operated recklessly, at excessive speed, or in a manner causing injury to person or property. Fine up to \$200.

Boats and canoes for hire shall be properly painted, repaired and fitted with oars or paddles. Wardens shall establish capacity. Each boat or canoe shall be marked to show capacity.

Definitions.

"Hunting" means to hunt for, pursue, catch, take, kill, wound or destroy wild birds or animals. Aliens are non-residents, except one who has resided 2 years in Maine and pays taxes on real estate in the municipality where he lives may procure resident licenses.

"Jack-light" means any artificial light used while hunting. Exception see Sec. 97. United States citizen may obtain resident licenses under this chapter provided he has resided in Maine 3 months and established his domicile here.

Trapping licenses.

Resident, state-wide (including beaver), \$10.00. Resident in organized territory, \$5.00. Fee for sealing beaver skins, \$2.00. Non-resident \$200.00, except bear only \$10.00. Resident under 16 in organized towns no license required (except beaver). In unorganized towns license is required. Trappers must report by December 31st all fur taken that year. Resident or immediate family, on land where domiciled used exclusively for agricultural purposes in organized towns, no license required. Persons aiding in trapping must be licensed. Persons guilty of breaking, entering or of larceny, not eligible.

Traps must be visited every 24 hours (except beaver sets). No traps may be set within 200 yards of occupied dwelling. No trapping $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of any village (except by landowner). Water-sets legal with consent of landowner within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of city or village.

Use of a snare, swivel, pivot, set gun or poison prohibited. Traps must have name and address of owner thereon. Bear traps must be enclosed.

Poison prohibited, except by permit to destroy rodents; penalty, \$200.

Hunting licenses.

Resident (16 years old)	\$2.25	Non-Resident (12 years old, all game)	\$20.25
Combination	4.25	Archery (except Piscataquis county south of Canadian Pacific R. R., and Waldo County)	10.25
Resident archery (except Piscataquis county, south of Canadian Pacific R. R., and Waldo County)	4.25	All game (except deer, exchangeable)	10.25
Resident to transport deer out of State	20.25	Junior (12 to 15), all game except deer	5.25
		Duplicate licenses	.25

Resident or immediate family on land where domiciled used exclusively for agricultural purposes, no license required.

Persons under the age of 10 hunting with firearms — prohibited.

Residents 10 to 16 may hunt without license if accompanied by parent or guardian, or adult approved by parent or guardian.

(1) License may be revoked for any violation.

Hunting while under influence of drugs or liquor prohibited.

Sunday, closed season. Possession of firearms in fields or forests or on waters or ice prima facie evidence of hunting unless firearm is wrapped in a complete cover, fastened in a case or carried in at least 2 separate pieces and clip, magazine or cylinder shall not be considered a piece.

Hunting wild birds from sunset to ½ hour before sunrise, prohibited.

Hunting wild animals ½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise, prohibited. Exception (see skunks and raccoons). First offense \$200-\$400. Migratory birds see regulations Fish and Wildlife Service.

Hunting from automobiles, prohibited. Loaded firearms in automobiles, prohibited.

Hunting from hand car, flat car, or other vehicle on rails prohibited.

Operator of motor vehicle must stop immediately on signal of officer in uniform.

Sound deadening device, sale or possession of any firearm fitted with, prohibited. Automatic firearm, use or possession, prohibited. Auto-loading firearms, magazine capacity more than 5 cartridges, use or possession, prohibited, except .22 calibre.

Non-residents shall not kindle fires in unorganized townships from May 1st to Nov. 30th except at public camp sites without being in charge of a registered guide or unless the ground is covered with snow. No guide shall be employed by more than 3 non-residents. No trailer, tent or shelter shall be erected nearer than 20 feet to a fireplace at a public camp site or luncheon ground. Persons having occupied a camp site or luncheon ground more than one week shall leave on request of fire warden or game warden.

Walls or fences destruction, gate left open, prohibited.

Wild birds and animals importation without written permission of commissioner, prohibited.

Pheasants open season October 1st-November 16th, except no open season in Penobscot County north of C. P. R. R.

Partridge open season October 1st-November 16th.

Woodcock open season October 1st-October 31st.

- Daily and possession limit, 4 partridge, 2 pheasant but not more than 4 in the aggregate of partridge and pheasants. Daily limit 4 woodcock, possession 8.
- Field trials for bird and coon dogs may be held at any time.
- Field trials for beagles and rabbit hounds September 1st-April 10th.
- Hunting with net, traps, snares or other contrivance or firearm larger than 10-gauge, prohibited.
- Pole traps, use of, prohibited (exception permit from commissioner).
- Protected birds other than game birds, possession living or dead; prohibited. Plumage, skin or body sale prohibited. Eggs or nest, destruction or possession, prohibited.
- Sea birds, duck or waterfowl, on inland or tidal waters, hunting from automobile, airplane, power-boat, sailboat, any boat under sail, any floating device towed by power-boat, or any boat propelled by motion, prohibited.
- Stationary blinds in Merrymeeting Bay, from the high tension wires at Chop's Point to the first dam on the Androscoggin River to the first road bridge on the Muddy, Cathance, Abbagadassett and Eastern rivers and the Richmond-Dresden toll bridge on the Kennebec river, between 1 hour after legal shooting time and 1 hour before legal shooting time, prohibited.
- Decoys in waters of Merrymeeting Bay 1 hour after until 1 hour before legal shooting time, prohibited.
- Moose and caribou, hunting or possession, prohibited.
- Deer open season — Androscoggin, Cumberland, Hancock, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Washington and York counties, November only. Aroostook, Penobscot, Somerset, Piscataquis and Franklin counties, October 21st-November 30th.
- Closed season on deer continued on Mount Desert Island, in the town of Deer Isle and Stonington, on Swan Island in Hancock county, on Cross and Scotch Islands in Washington County, Isle au Haut in Knox County and on Swan Island in Sagadahoc County; on Islesboro, in Waldo County, until July 1st, 1959, on Long Island in Long Island Plantation in Hancock County until November 1st, 1956; in the town of Vinalhaven and the islands in that town, in Knox County, until July 1st, 1957. Deer bag limit 1, possession limit 1.
- Unlawful to drive deer by use of horns, whistles or other noise-making devices. Unlawful for more than 8 persons to join in a hunt for deer wherein an effort is made to drive deer.
- Driving or molesting wild birds or animals by airplane, prohibited.
- Use of dogs, lights, snares, traps, swivels, pivot or set gun in taking deer, caribou or moose, prohibited.
- Dogs shall be killed for hunting moose, caribou, deer or elk or other wild animals in closed season, also from worrying or killing any domestic animal.
- Deer selling prohibited. Giving away to be transported out of state prohibited. Residents may transport out of state by purchasing license. (\$20.25) Lawful for owner of a legally registered deer to give away (within state) not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of said deer but parts must be marked with name and address of person who registered deer and person to whom parts were given.
- Deer killed must be presented to registration station by person killing same. Must be tagged as directed by commissioner. Must be accompanied by person who killed same.
- Deer, sale or barter, prohibited.

Deer, after registration, resident may ship to his home by \$2.00 transportation tag.

Deer, after registration, and other game, may be transported to home of non-resident, without transportation tag fee by common carrier.

Aircraft, required to have permit for transportation of fish, game or fur-bearing animals.

Hares and rabbits open season October 1st to March 1st. Daily limit 4, possession limit 8. Somerset County daily limit 2, possession limit 2. May be taken with guns or long bow and arrow. Sale prohibited.

Grey squirrels, open season, month of October. Possession limit 4. Taking on public or private parks or built up areas, prohibited.

Bow and arrow hunting for deer and other game in open season from 1st Monday in October for 15 days. Prohibited in Piscataquis County south of Canadian Pacific R. R., and Waldo County. Cross-Bows prohibited.

Special registration required of deer killed.

Fur bearing animals open seasons.

Otter Month of November and from January 1st-February 7th.

Muskrat Month of November except counties of Washington, York, March 20th-April 20th.

Mink Month of November

Sable No open season

Fisher No open season

Fox No closed season (except nights and Sunday)

Bobcat No closed season (except nights and Sunday)

Lynx No closed season (except nights and Sunday)

Raccoons Trapping November 1st-February 15th.

With dogs—October 16th-December 15th.

Bear No closed season (except nights and Sunday)

All other fur bearing animals November 1st-February 15th.

Dogs may be trained on foxes, raccoons and rabbits—September 1st-October 15th.

Dog training areas may be authorized by commissioner.

Beaver, no open season. Commissioner may open areas. All skins must be tagged, fee \$2.00 each.

Foxes in organized territory, no closed season except nights and Sundays.

Taxidermists must be licensed—fee \$5.00.

Deer skins and heads, dealers in, must be licensed. Fee, \$25.00.

Furs, dealers in, must be citizens of United States; must be licensed. Fee, Residents \$25.00; non-residents \$150.00.

Game, fish or equipment, possessed in violation of law, shall be seized. Officers may arrest, without process, any violator of fish and game laws.

Penalties. License revoked for one year in addition to fines up to \$800.00 and other penalties.

Possession of firearms or fishing tackle in the fields, forests or waters without license is prima facie evidence of violation.

All licenses and permits expire at midnight December 31st each year.

Hunting in game preserves, prohibited.

No hunting or firearms permitted on State Parks.

FROM

**Department of Inland Fisheries and Game
State House
Augusta, Maine**

**Place
2 Cent
Stamp
Here**

TO:
