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# Maine Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary, 1993-1994

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# MAINE

## HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS SUMMARY



**1993-1994**

Hunting & trapping season dates are revised annually;  
the dates printed in this summary should not be used  
for planning purposes after July 1994  
(This is only a summary and is not law as printed)

**284 State Street  
Station #41  
Augusta, Maine 04333**

## Hunting and Trapping Regulations

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**ALERT US  
POACHERS ARE THIEVES - HELP US  
CATCH THEM**  
**Anti-Poaching Hot Line**  
**1-800-ALERT US (253-7887)**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

**NORMAN E. TRASK, ACTING COMMISSIONER**

### **Members of the Commissioner's Advisory Council**

Gene L. Brown, Lisbon Falls  
Dr. Ogden Small, Caribou  
Wilmot Robinson, Millinocket  
Carroll T. Cutting, East Sebago  
Alanson B. Noble, Otisfield

Eugene Churchill, Orland  
John Crabtree, Warren  
Gary Cobb, N. New Portland  
Joseph P. Robbins, Machias  
C. Thomas Jagger, Sanford

### **REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (Game Wardens and Biologists)**

Ashland 435-3231 or (toll-free) 1-800-624-2512  
Sidney 547-4145 or (toll-free) 1-800-292-7436  
Bangor 941-4440 or (toll-free) 1-800-624-2498  
Gray 657-2345 or (toll-free) 1-800-295-2435  
Greenville 695-3756 or (toll-free) 1-800-624-2538

### **ADDITIONAL REGIONAL BIOLOGISTS**

Sidney	-	547-4165	Machias	-	255-4715
Enfield	-	732-4131	Strong	-	778-3324

If you cannot locate a warden at the above numbers, contact either the Department office in Augusta (287-2766) or the nearest State Police barracks (numbers listed below).

### **STATE POLICE TOLL-FREE NUMBERS**

Augusta 1-800-452-4664 / Houlton 1-800-432-7384  
Skowhegan 1-800-452-4664 / Orono 1-800-432-7381  
Thomaston 1-800-452-4664 / Gray 1-800-482-0730

The above numbers may be used to report a fire, ONLY if a warden or forest ranger cannot be reached.

**For information and questions regarding hunting/  
trapping licenses, contact  
the Licensing Division at 287-2571.**



## **NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS**

It is unlawful for any dog to run at large at any time, except when used for hunting. (AT LARGE means off the premises of the owner and not under the control of any person by means of personal presence or attention). It is unlawful for any dog to chase, wound, or kill a deer or moose at any time, or any other wild animal in closed season.

**TREE STANDS.....**It is unlawful to insert any metallic or ceramic object into a tree on land of another for the purpose of erecting a ladder or tree stand. All ladders or observation stands erected on another person's land must be removed by the beginning of the 10th day following the close of the hunting season, unless written permission is obtained from the landowner.

**AIDING ACCIDENT VICTIMS & REPORTING ACCIDENTS.....**Any person who knows or has reason to believe that he/she has inflicted injury to another person by the use of firearms or bow and arrow is required to make themselves known to the victim and render such first aid and assistance as he/she is capable of under the circumstances. He/she is also required to report the incident, by the quickest means, to a game warden or other law enforcement officer.

**HUNTER ORANGE CLOTHING.....**Anyone who hunts with a firearm during the open firearm season on deer is required to wear **two** articles of solid-colored hunter orange clothing (fluorescent orange) that are in good and serviceable condition and visible from all sides. One article must be a hat. The other article of clothing must cover a major portion of the torso, such as a jacket, vest, coat or poncho. The presence of a decal on an article of clothing that is otherwise solid-colored hunter orange does not disqualify that article of clothing from satisfying the requirements of this subsection. **HUNTER ORANGE** means a daylight fluorescent orange color with a dominant wave length between 595 and 605 nanometers, excitation purity not less than 85% and luminance factor of not less than 40%. (Note: Waterfowl hunters who are hunting from a boat, blind or in conjunction with waterfowl decoys are exempt from this requirement).

**MUNICIPAL FIREARM ORDINANCES.....**Several Maine cities and towns have adopted local ordinances which restrict or prohibit the discharge of firearms. These ordinances have been enacted in the interest of public safety. Prior to hunting near thickly settled communities, hunters should check with local authorities concerning the possible existence of firearm ordinances.

# HUNTING SEASONS

*All dates are inclusive unless they fall on a Sunday  
(NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY)*

## DEER

Firearms season ..... Nov. 1 - Nov. 27

Malne residents only ..... Oct. 30

Special archery season ..... Sept. 30- Oct. 29

Muzzle-loader season ..... Nov. 29 - Dec. 4

Hunting of antlerless deer during the regular firearms season and special muzzle-loading season is prohibited, except by special permit. See Page 7.

**BEAR ..... SEE PAGE 7**

## RUFFED GROUSE, PHEASANT, BOBWHITE QUAIL

W.M.U's 1 & 2 ..... Oct. 1 - Nov. 30

W.M.U's 3,4,5,6,7,8 ..... Oct. 1 - Dec. 10

\*A Pheasant Stamp is required to hunt/possess pheasant in York & Cumberland Counties (available from town clerks). SEE PAGE 13

**SPRUCE GROUSE ..... NO OPEN SEASON**

## RABBIT

(Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare) Oct. 1 - Mar. 31

Season on Island of Vinalhaven Oct. 1 - Feb. 28

It is unlawful to hunt rabbits with dogs during any open firearms season on deer in Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo & Washington Counties

**GRAY SQUIRREL ..... Oct. 1 - Nov. 30**

**RACCOON ..... Oct. 1 - Dec. 31**

**SKUNK, OPOSSUM ..... Oct. 25 - Dec. 31**

**FOX ..... Oct. 25 - Feb. 28**

**BOBCAT ..... Dec. 1 - Jan. 31**

**LYNX & CARIBOU ..... NO OPEN SEASON**

## COYOTE, WOODCHUCK,

**RED SQUIRREL & PORCUPINE .... Jan. 1 - Dec. 31**

**CROW (Split Season) ..... Mar. 14 - Apr. 30**

**..... July 16 - Sept. 29**

**MOOSE: October 4 - October 9, 1993 ( See Page 22)**

**TURKEY: Hunting by permit only - See Page 11**

**NOTE:** Except for migratory game birds, there is no general hunting season on any species of bird or animal which is not listed in the above chart.

<b>BAG LIMITS</b>		
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>DAILY BAG</b>	<b>POSSESSION</b>
<b>DEER</b>	<b>One may be taken annually</b>	
<b>BEAR</b>	<b>One may be taken annually (either by hunting or trapping)</b>	
<b>RUFFED GROUSE</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>BOBWHITE QUAIL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>PHEASANT</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>RABBIT</b> (Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare)	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>GRAY SQUIRREL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Other Legal Species</b>	<b>No limit on the number which may be taken</b>	

**Note: All deer and bear must be registered at the first open game registration station**

<b>TRAPPING SEASONS (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)</b>		
<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>TRAPPING DATES</b>	
	<b>FIRST DAY</b>	<b>LAST DAY</b>
<b>BEAR (2 trap limit)</b>	<b>Oct. 1</b>	<b>Oct. 31</b>
<b>Bobcat, Coyote<sup>1</sup>, Fisher, Fox<sup>1</sup>, Marten<sup>2</sup>, Raccoon, Red Squirrel, Skunk, Weasel, Mink, Muskrat<sup>3</sup>, Otter<sup>4</sup>, Opossum</b>	<b>STATEWIDE</b>	
	<b>Oct 31</b>	<b>Dec. 31</b>
<b>BEAVER<sup>5</sup></b> <b>WMU 1,2*,3,&amp;5</b> <b>WMU 4*,6,7,&amp;8</b>	<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>Mar. 31</b>
	<b>Jan. 1</b>	<b>Feb. 28</b>

There is no open trapping season on any species of animal which is not listed in the above chart.

- 1 See section on special Fox and Coyote Trapping Season on Page 10.
- 2 The harvest of marten will be limited to 25 marten per trapper statewide
- 3 In addition to the regular muskrat trapping season, muskrats may be trapped during the beaver trapping season only in areas which are open to beaver trapping.
- 4 Licensed trappers may lawfully possess any otter taken by accident in a legal beaver or muskrat set.
- 5 Beaver trapping seasons are set by wildlife management unit. A complete list of areas closed to the trapping of beaver is available upon request.

\* Portions of WMU's 2 & 4 have been opened under special regulations - please refer to Trapper Information Book for more information.



<b>BEAR HUNTING INFORMATION</b>		
<b>SEASON</b>	<b>HUNTING DATES</b>	
	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>
<b>General Hunting Seasons</b>	<b>Aug. 30</b>	<b>Sept. 25</b>
<b>Hunting w/Dogs Allowed</b>	<b>Sept. 13</b>	<b>Oct. 29</b>
<b>Hunting <u>ONLY</u> with Dogs</b>	<b>Sept. 27</b>	<b>Oct. 29</b>
<p>From Sept. 27 through Oct. 29, it is unlawful to hunt for bear except as a participant in a bear hunt being carried out by the use of a dog or dogs. It is unlawful during this time to take or attempt to take any bear by hunting unless the bear is being pursued by a dog or dogs or unless the bear is treed or held at bay by a dog or dogs. Non-residents wishing to use a dog or dogs to hunt for bear must <b>employ &amp; hunt with a resident Maine GUIDE</b> (does not apply to non-residents holding a valid Maine guide license).</p>		
<p><b>BEAR BAIT:</b> May be set out July 31 - October 31 and must be cleaned up by November 10.</p>		
<p><b>BEAR HUNTING PERMIT:</b> A special bear hunting permit (in addition to a hunting license) is required to hunt for bear except during the open firearm season on deer. During the open firearm season on deer, the special bear hunting permit is not required, and a person may legally take a bear by virtue of a regular hunting license. The fee for a bear hunting permit is \$2.00 for residents (\$5.00 in 1994) and \$10.00 for non-residents and aliens (\$15.00 in 1994). The special permit is not required when trapping for bear.</p>		

### **ANTLERLESS DEER PROTECTED**

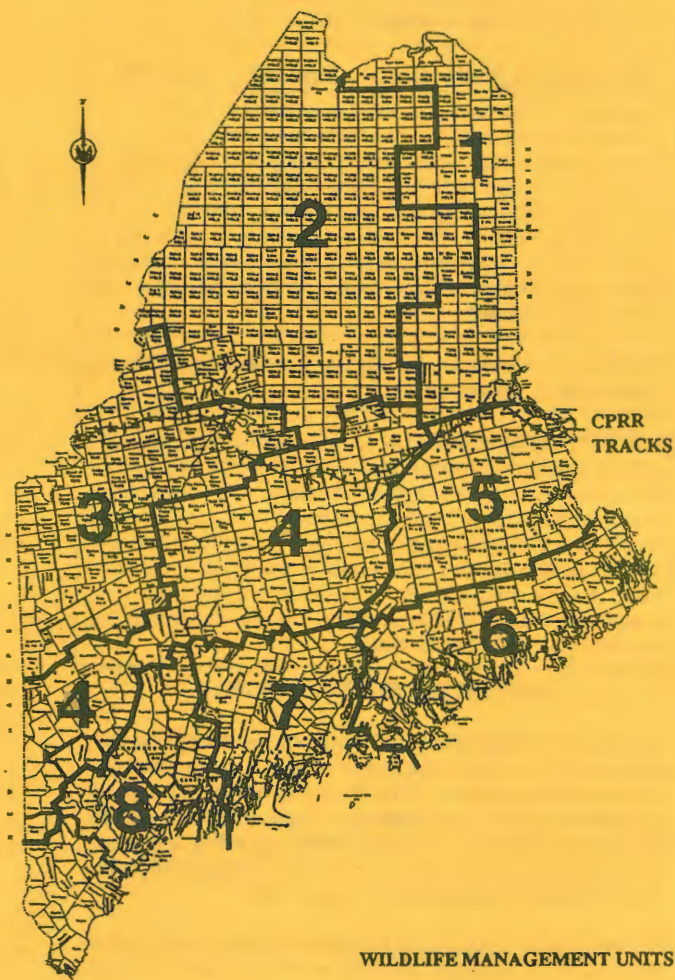
Hunting of **ANTLERLESS DEER** is prohibited except by special permit during both the regular firearms season and the muzzleloading season. (Any Deer Permit holders will be selected through chance drawing in September for the 1993 deer hunting season. For information regarding Any-Deer Permits for the 1994 season, contact the Department after June 1. Application deadline is August 15).

Hunting of **ANTLERED DEER** is allowed throughout the State during both the regular firearms season and the muzzleloading season. Only **ONE** deer may be taken annually.

Deer of either sex may be taken during the special archery season.

"Antlerless deer" means any deer which does not have antlers or any deer which has antlers less than 3 inches in length measured from the skull.





## **MUZZLE-LOADING DEER HUNTING SEASON**

- A.** A muzzle-loading hunting license in the form of a stamp, in addition to a valid license to hunt big game, (16 & older) or junior hunting license (10 to 15 years of age) is required for persons to hunt deer with muzzle-loading rifles during the special muzzle-loading deer season. The stamp must be affixed to the person's big game or junior hunting license.
- B.** If a person takes a deer during any open season, he is prohibited from hunting deer by any means for the remainder of the year.
- C.** For purposes of the special muzzle-loading season, muzzle-loading firearm means a rifled or smooth-bored firearm that is: forty caliber or greater; capable of firing only a single charge; loaded through the muzzle with powder and bullet or ball; and ignited by percussion cap or priming charge of a flint, match, or wheel lock mechanism. (ONLY MUZZLE-LOADING FIREARMS MAY BE USED DURING THE MUZZLE-LOADING SEASON).
- D** Except as specified, all other laws relating to the taking of deer with firearms shall apply to the taking of deer with muzzle-loading firearms.

## **SPECIAL COYOTE SEASON**

Licensed hunters may obtain, at a fee of \$2.00, a permit from the Department to hunt coyotes at night from January 1st to April 30th under the following conditions:

- a.** Hunting is limited to the hours between 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise and shall cease at midnight each Saturday and resume at 12:01 a.m. each Monday.
- b.** Hunters must be in possession of an electronic, hand-held or mouth-operated predator calling device.

## **BOW AND ARROW HUNTING FOR DEER**

- A. An archery hunting license is required for persons 16 years of age or older to hunt any species of wild animal or wild bird with bow and arrow during the special archery season on deer.
  - B. If a person takes a deer with a bow and arrow, he is prohibited from hunting deer by any means for the remainder of the year.
  - C. A person is not allowed to carry a firearm of any kind, excluding handguns, while hunting any species of wildlife with bow and arrow during the special archery season on deer. (When carrying a handgun, must possess a valid firearms hunting license. Handgun may not be used to hunt or dispatch deer.)
  - D. Laws which allow persons to hunt without a license on their own land under certain conditions apply to archery hunting.
  - E. Deer may be taken under the archery provisions only by means of hand bow and broad-head arrow.
  - F. The bow must be capable of shooting an arrow at least 150 yards.
  - G. Arrow heads must be at least 7/8 inch in width.
  - H. It is unlawful to use a crossbow or set bow or to use arrows with poisonous or explosive tips.
  - I. All deer killed by bow and arrow during the special archery season on deer must be inspected and registered at the first open deer registration station.
  - J. During the Special Archery Season on deer, it is lawful to hunt until 1/2 hour after sunset.
  - K. Except as specified, all other laws relating to the taking of deer shall apply to the taking of deer with bow and arrow.
- 

## **SPECIAL FOX & COYOTE TRAPPING SEASON STATEWIDE**

During the special season (October 24 through October 30) it is unlawful to take or possess any furbearing animal other than fox, coyote, raccoon and skunk (any raccoon, skunk or opossum taken incidental to fox and coyote trapping may be lawfully possessed). Any other furbearing animal caught incidentally in a fox or coyote set must be immediately released alive, or, if found dead in the trap, must be reported to a game warden as soon as possible and prior to removal of the animal from the trap and trap site location. Any such incidental catch found dead in the



trap must be turned over to an agent of the Commissioner within 48 hours from the time it was discovered.

During this special season, in addition to Department rules and State laws which affect trapping in general, the following restrictions apply:

- a. All traps must be set at or below ground level;
- b. Killer-type traps are prohibited.
- c. Traps may not be set in the water;
- d. The use of exposed bait or visible attractor at any trap site location is prohibited.

It is the intent of the Department to revoke (pursuant to Title 12, subsection 7077), the trapping license of any person convicted of a violation of any provision in this section.

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### **TURKEY HUNTING SEASON**

The dates for the annual open season on turkeys will be established by December. The turkey hunting zone includes all of York County, most of Cumberland County and small portions of southern Sagadahoc and Androscoggin Counties. No more than 10% of the permits issued may be issued to non-residents. Applicants will be randomly selected. Information regarding zones, number of permits available, application period and other pertinent information may be obtained from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Turkey Permit, 284 State Street, Station # 41, Augusta, ME 04333. APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1.

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### **UPLAND GAME, MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS, AND FURBEARING ANIMALS**

The following shall be considered **upland game**: Cottontail rabbit, Snowshoe hare, Gray squirrel, Red squirrel, Ringnecked pheasant, Ruffed grouse, Spruce grouse, Woodchuck (Note: No open season on spruce grouse). The following shall be considered **migratory gamebirds**: Anatidae or waterfowl, including brant, wild ducks, geese and swans; Gruidae or cranes, including little brown, sandhill and whooping cranes; Rallidae or rails, including coots, gullinules and sora and other rails; Limicolae or shorebirds, including avocets, curlew, dowitchers, godwits, knots, oyster catchers, phalaropes, plover, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, surf birds, turnstones, willet, wood-



cock and yellowlegs; Columbidae or pigeons, including doves and wild pigeons. (Note: Migratory bird hunting regulations are located in a separate publication which is printed in September).

The following shall be considered **furbearing animals**: Beaver, Bobcat, Canada Lynx, Coyote, Fisher, Fox, Mink, Muskrat, Opossum, Raccoon, Skunk, Weasel, Marten (sable), Otter. (Note: NO open season on Canada lynx . NO open HUNTING season on beaver, fisher, marten, mink, muskrat, otter and weasel).

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### **DOG TRAINING SEASON**

Dogs may be trained on foxes, rabbit and raccoons from July 1st through the following March 31st. While training dogs during this period (except during the open hunting season on these species), it is unlawful to use or possess a firearm other than a pistol or a shotgun loaded with blank ammunition.

Residents may train up to 4 dogs on bear from August 1 to the start of the bear hunting season, except south of Route 9 in Washington and Hancock counties.

Sporting dogs (as defined by the American Kennel Club, including pointers, retrievers, setters, spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners and wirehaired pointing griffons) may be trained on wild birds at any time. (During dog training seasons, it is lawful to train dogs on Sunday). The Commissioner may authorize the use of firearms during such training to shoot and kill wild birds propagated or legally acquired by the permittee and possessed in accordance with the laws pertaining to breeders licenses.

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### **LAWS PERTAINING TO LICENSES AND PERMITS**

**ALIEN** means a person who is not a citizen of the United States. **NON-RESIDENT** means a person who does not fall within the definition of **RESIDENT**. **RESIDENT** means a citizen of the U.S. who has been domiciled in this State continuously during the 3 months next prior to the date on which he applies for any license, or an alien who has been so domiciled for one year. No person may be considered a resident if he has not: a) if registered to vote, registered in Maine; b) if licensed to drive a motor vehicle, made application for a Maine motor vehicle license; c) if owning a motor vehicle or vehicles located

within the State, registered each such vehicle in Maine; d) complied with the State income tax laws; and e) if a full-time student at a Maine college or university, resides in Maine continuously for 3 months AND satisfies above requirements.

**1. HUNTING LICENSE:** A person is required to obtain a valid hunting license prior to hunting wild birds or wild animals. All applicants for an adult firearms hunting license must show proof of having previously held an adult license to hunt with firearms or having successfully completed an approved hunter safety course since 1976.

a. A person is required to keep his hunting license with him while hunting or transporting wild game and must show it to any warden, Department employee, guide or landowner upon request.

b. Possession of a firearm in the fields or forests or on the waters or ice of the State without a hunting license is prima facie evidence of hunting in violation of law.

c. Maine residents are required to obtain hunting licenses from the town clerk in the town in which they live or, if they live in an unorganized township, from the town clerk or agent in the nearest town. (NOTE: It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit proof of residency).

d. Non-residents may obtain hunting licenses, in person or by mail, from the Department office in Augusta or from any of the numerous non-resident license agents throughout the State.

e. A Maine resident may hunt without a license on his own land if he lives on that particular piece of land, and the piece of land exceeds 10 acres in size and is used exclusively for agricultural purposes.

**2. PHEASANT STAMP:** Any person 16 years of age or older is required to obtain a pheasant stamp prior to hunting or possessing pheasants in Cumberland & York Counties.

a. A person is required to validate the stamp by

writing their signature across the face of the stamp in ink.

- b. A person is required to have his pheasant stamp with him in order to hunt or possess pheasant in Cumberland and York Counties.

**3. MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP:** Any person 16 years of age or older is required to obtain a State migratory waterfowl stamp prior to hunting waterfowl.

- a. A person is required to validate the stamp by writing his signature across the face of the stamp in ink.
- b. A person is required to have his migratory waterfowl stamp with him in order to hunt or possess waterfowl.

**4. ARCHERY LICENSE:** An archery license allows bow and arrow hunting of legal game throughout the year (except for deer during the muzzleloading season ). (NOTE: A regular hunting license also allows bow and arrow hunting EXCEPT that during the special archery season on deer, an archery license is required to hunt any legal species with bow and arrow).

**5. OTHER HUNTING LICENSE PROVISIONS:**

- a. A resident license to hunt, trap or fish will be issued to any person serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and permanently stationed at a military base in Maine (includes spouse & children if they permanently reside with that person).
- b. A resident license to hunt or fish will be issued to any citizen of a foreign nation under 21 years of age who is living with a family in Maine in connection with any cultural or educational exchange program.
- c. A special combination license to hunt and fish (Serviceman Combination Hunting & Fishing) will be issued to any serviceman who is on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and permanently stationed outside Maine (includes spouse and de-



pendent children), provided he can show proof that his home of record, as recorded in his service record, is Maine.

## **6. COMPLIMENTARY LICENSES:**

- a. A free license to hunt (including special archery and muzzle-loading), fish or trap or a renewal of a license to guide will be issued, upon application, to any Maine resident who is 70 years of age or older. Residents who apply for these complimentary licenses at any time during the calendar year of their 70th birthday shall be issued a license upon application, regardless of the actual date during that calendar year when they attain age 70.
- b. A free license to hunt, fish or trap will be issued, upon application, to any Maine Indian who is a member of the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet or Micmac tribe. (License must be obtained from their respective tribal headquarters).
- c. A free license to hunt (including muzzle-loading and a pheasant permit) or fish, will be issued, upon application, to any Maine resident who is a war veteran and has a service-connected disability of 100%, or has served in a combat zone and has a service-connected disability of 70% or more.
- d. A free license to hunt or fish will be issued, upon application, to Maine residents or non-residents (if reciprocal privileges exist in the home state of the non-resident) who are suffering from the loss, or loss of use of, both lower extremities.

## **7. TRAPPING LICENSE:**

- a. A person is required to obtain a valid trapping license prior to setting or tending traps for wild animals. A license is also required when assisting another person in setting or tending traps. All applicants for an adult trapping license must show proof of having held an adult trapping license after January 1, 1978, or of having successfully completed an approved trapper educa-



tion course.

- b. A Maine resident may trap wild animals, except beaver, without a license on his own land if he lives on that particular piece of land and uses the land exclusively for agricultural purposes.
- c. Trapping licenses are valid from July 1st of one year to June 30th of the following year.
- d. Renewal forms will be mailed to trappers who were licensed the previous year. Others may apply for licenses through the Dept. office in Augusta.

#### **8. GUIDE'S LICENSE:**

- a. Any person who receives any form or remuneration for his services in accompanying or assisting others while hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, snowmobiling or camping at a primitive camping area is required to have a guide's license.
- b. No person may act as a guide until he is 18 years of age.
- c. Any person who wishes to become licensed as a guide must submit an application to the Commissioner on forms provided by the Department.
- d. Any person who has not previously been licensed as a Maine guide will be required to pass an examination before a Board of Examiners. Examination Fee: \$10.00
- e. Qualified applicants may be licensed as guides in either general or specialized classifications.

#### **9. OTHER LICENSES (Obtainable at the Augusta office ):**

**HIDE DEALERS LICENSE** (Valid from July 1 to June 30): Any person who commercially buys, sells or barter any raw, untanned wild animal hide or head is required to have a hide dealer's license. A license is also required when assisting another person in this activity, except that an employee of a licensed hide dealer may, without a license,

assist in this activity only at the dealer's fixed place of business. (Note: This license is not required in order for a person to sell the head, hide, antlers and feet of a deer and moose; head, hide, teeth, gall bladder and claws of any bear or any furbearing animal which he had legally taken).

**SEASONAL HIDE DEALERS LICENSE** (Valid from October 1 to December 31): The Commissioner may issue a special hide dealer's license to any person who maintains a place of business for the butchering of wild animals within this State. The license permits a holder commercially to sell or barter the heads or untanned hides of deer or moose that are butchered in the license holder's place of business.

**TAXIDERMIST LICENSE** (Valid from July 1 to June 30): A taxidermist license will be issued to any applicant who is skilled in the art of taxidermy. This license allows a person to possess, at his place of business, lawfully possessed fish or wildlife for the sole purpose of preparing and mounting them.

**FALCONRY LICENSE:** A falconry license, in addition to a regular hunting license, is required of persons who engage in falconry. Copies of the regulations pertaining to this type of hunting are available upon request.

10. **LICENSE EXPIRATION:** Unless otherwise specifically provided, all licenses and permits expire on December 31st of the calendar year for which they were issued.
11. **UNLAWFUL CONDUCT:** It is unlawful to obtain any license or permit through misstatement or misrepresentation or to possess any license or permit which has been altered, mutilated or tampered with in any manner.
12. **LICENSE REVOCATION:** In addition to any penalty which may be imposed by a court of law, the Commissioner may revoke the license of any person convicted of violating the fish and wildlife laws.

## GENERAL HUNTING PROVISIONS

**TO HUNT** means to hunt for, pursue, molest, shoot, catch, take, kill, wound or destroy wild birds and wild animals.

**SUNRISE and SUNSET** means the time computed and established for sunrise and sunset for Augusta, Maine, by the Nautical Almanac Office of the United States Naval Observatory, converted to the legal standard of time in force in this State on that day. A table is printed in this booklet.

**WILD ANIMAL or WILD BIRD** means a species of mammal or bird which is wild by nature, whether or not bred or reared in captivity and includes any physical part of that species of mammal or bird.

1. **Closed season.** There is a closed season for the hunting of any species of wild animal or wild bird for which an open hunting season is not specifically provided.
2. **Closed season violation.** It is unlawful to hunt any wild animal or wild bird during the closed season on that species or possess any wild animal or wild bird taken during the closed season on that species.
3. **Unlawful conduct.** It is unlawful to hunt, possess, or transport any wild animal or wild bird, or parts thereof, except as provided in the fish and wildlife laws.
4. **Eagles.** It is unlawful to hunt or possess any eagle or parts thereof.
5. **Caribou.** It is unlawful to hunt or possess any caribou. (Note: Violation punishable by a \$10,000 fine and 3-month jail sentence).
6. **Night hunting and twilight hunting.** It is unlawful to hunt wild birds from sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise. It is unlawful to hunt wild animals from 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise, except raccoons. During the open firearm season on deer, all hunting must cease at sunset, except raccoon hunting.
7. **Raccoon hunting.** Raccoons may be hunted at night during the open season only when the hunter meets



certain requirements (see "Raccoon hunting" under Laws Pertaining to Hunting Equipment).

8. **Loaded firearm in motor vehicle.** It is unlawful to have a loaded firearm in or on a motor vehicle or trailer, except as may be specifically allowed. (Note: A loaded clip may be carried in a motor vehicle, but it must not be inserted in a firearm).
  - a. Persons who hold a valid Maine permit to carry a concealed weapon may carry a loaded pistol or revolver.
  - b. For purposes of this law, a muzzle-loading firearm is considered to be loaded **ONLY** if charged with powder, lead and a primed ignition device or mechanism.
9. **Illegal use of lights.** (See section on illegal use of lights under Laws Pertaining to Hunting Equipment).
10. **Hunting from motor vehicle.** It is unlawful to hunt from or with any motor vehicle, trailer or motorboat, except that migratory waterfowl may be hunted from a motorboat in accordance with federal regulations. (Note: Paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may hunt from motor vehicles which are not in motion).
11. **Wild birds.** It is unlawful to hunt, kill, possess, transport, buy or sell any wild bird, including migratory game birds, except as provided in the fish and wildlife laws. It is also unlawful to take, possess or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird.
12. **Sunday hunting.** It is unlawful to hunt on Sunday. (Possession of firearms in the fields and forests or on the waters or ice of this State or in a motor vehicle being operated on an unpaved road located in an unorganized township on Sunday shall be prima facie evidence of hunting unless the firearm is carried, securely wrapped in a complete cover, fastened in a case, or carried in at least 2 separate pieces in such a manner that it cannot be fired unless the separate pieces are joined together again. For the purpose of this paragraph, a clip, a magazine, or



cylinder of a firearm shall not be considered a piece of the firearm).

13. **Hunting from paved way.** It is unlawful to hunt from or across a paved way or within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement of the paved way including the right-of-way of controlled access highways, or discharge any firearm across a paved way. (PAVED WAY means any road treated with bituminous or concrete material). Possession of a loaded firearm on a paved way or within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement of a paved way or within the right-of-way of any controlled access highway is prima facie evidence of hunting.
14. **Shooting of domestic animals.** It is unlawful for any person, while on a hunting trip, to negligently, carelessly, or willfully shoot and wound or kill any domestic animal or domestic bird.
15. **Hunting rabbits during deer season.** It is unlawful to hunt rabbits with dogs during the firearm season on deer in Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo and Washington counties.
16. **Hunting under the influence.** It is unlawful to hunt while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.
17. **Shooting within 100 yards of dwelling.** It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within 100 yards of residential dwelling without permission from the owner or occupant.
18. **Firearms on school property.** It is a violation of Title 20-A Section 6552 to possess a firearm on public school property or discharge one within 500 feet of school property, except as used in supervised educational programs or by law enforcement officials.
19. **Destruction of property.** It is unlawful to tear down a fence or wall, destroy any crop or leave open any bars or gate on another person's land.
20. **Littering.** It is unlawful to dispose of litter anywhere in this state except in areas or receptacles designed for that purpose.

21. **Unlawful cutting of trees, etc.** It is a violation of Title 14, subsection 2552, and Title 17, subsection 2510 if any person intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or negligently cuts down or fells any tree without the consent of the owner of the property on which the tree stands.

## **LAWS PERTAINING TO HUNTING EQUIPMENT**

1. **Legal methods.** Wild animals and wild birds may be hunted only by the use of firearms (not larger than 10-gauge), hand-held bow and arrow, or by falconry. (Crossbows are illegal).
2. **Shotgun to be plugged.** It is unlawful to hunt any migratory game bird with a shotgun originally capable of holding more than 3 shells unless the magazine has been cut off, altered, or plugged with a one-piece filler (incapable of removal without disassembling the gun), so as to reduce the capacity of the gun to not more than 3 shells in the magazine & chamber combined.
3. **Automatic firearm** (a firearm that continues to fire as long as the trigger is held back). It is unlawful to hunt with or possess for hunting any automatic firearm.
4. **Auto-loading firearm** (a firearm which reloads itself after each shot and requires a separate trigger pull for each shot). It is unlawful to hunt with or possess for hunting any auto-loading firearm which has a magazine capacity of more than 5 cartridges, unless the magazine has been permanently altered to contain not more than 5 cartridges. (Note: This provision does not apply to .22 caliber rimfire guns or to auto-loading pistols with barrel lengths of less than 8 inches).
5. **Silencer.** It is unlawful to hunt with or possess for hunting any firearm fitted or contrived with any device for deadening the sound of the explosion.
6. **Illegal cartridges.** It is unlawful to use, for hunting, cartridges which contain tracer bullets or explosive bullets.

7. **Illegal use of lights.** From September 1 to December 15, it is unlawful to use artificial lights from 1/2 hour after sunset until 1/2 hour before sunrise to illuminate, jack, locate, attempt to locate or show up wild animals or wild birds, except raccoons as explained below.
8. **Raccoon hunting.** Raccoons may be hunted at night during the open season only when the hunter is: a) accompanied by a dog; b) uses an electric flashlight to locate raccoons that are treed, or held at bay, by a dog or dogs, and; c) uses a rifle or handgun of no greater power than one which uses .22 caliber long rifle ammunition; said rifle to be loaded only when being used to dispatch a raccoon that is treed or held at bay by dogs.
9. **Illegal devices.** It is unlawful to hunt with the use of a swivel, pivot, or set gun, or any poisonous or stupefying substance.
10. **Sale of illegal devices.** It is unlawful to sell or offer for sale any swivel, pivot or set gun, or any poisonous substance for the taking of wild animals or wild birds, except rodenticide for orchard mouse control and gas cartridges for woodchuck control.
11. **Bow and arrow hunting for deer.** (See special archery equipment requirements under Bow and Arrow Hunting for Deer on Page 10).

### **LAWS PERTAINING TO DEER, BEAR, & MOOSE**

**MOOSE:** Hunting allowed by permit only. Those receiving a permit in any given year are ineligible for permits in the next two annual drawings. For further information, contact this Department after January 1. Application deadline: April 30.

**DEER:** Hunting of antlerless deer is prohibited except by special permit during the regular firearms season and the muzzle-loading season.

1. **Limit on deer and bear:** It is unlawful to take or possess more than one deer or more than one bear in any calendar year.



# SUNRISE AND SUNSET AT AUGUSTA, MAINE

## EASTERN STANDARD TIME

Add one hour for Daylight Saving Time, when in effect. It usually begins the last Sunday in April and ends the last Sunday in October, each year.

DAY	JAN.		FEB.		MAR.		APR.		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUG.		SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	7 15	4 11	6 58	4 48	6 17	5 27	5 21	6 06	4 30	6 43	3 58	7 16	3 59	7 27	4 26	7 04	5 02	6 16	5 37	5 20	6 16	4 29	6 55	4 01
2	7 15	4 11	6 57	4 50	6 15	5 28	5 19	6 07	4 29	6 44	3 58	7 17	3 59	7 27	4 27	7 03	5 03	6 14	5 38	5 19	6 17	4 28	6 56	4 01
3	7 15	4 12	6 55	4 51	6 14	5 30	5 17	6 09	4 28	6 45	3 57	7 18	4 00	7 27	4 28	7 02	5 04	6 12	5 39	5 17	6 19	4 26	6 57	4 01
4	7 15	4 13	6 54	4 53	6 12	5 31	5 15	6 10	4 26	6 46	3 57	7 18	4 00	7 26	4 29	7 00	5 05	6 11	5 40	5 15	6 20	4 25	6 58	4 01
5	7 15	4 14	6 53	4 54	6 10	5 32	5 14	6 11	4 25	6 48	3 56	7 19	4 01	7 26	4 30	6 59	5 06	6 09	5 41	5 13	6 21	4 24	6 59	4 00
6	7 15	4 15	6 52	4 55	6 08	5 34	5 12	6 12	4 23	6 49	3 56	7 20	4 02	7 26	4 32	6 58	5 07	6 07	5 43	5 11	6 23	4 22	7 00	4 00
7	7 15	4 16	6 51	4 57	6 07	5 35	5 10	6 14	4 22	6 50	3 56	7 21	4 02	7 25	4 33	6 56	5 09	6 05	5 44	5 10	6 24	4 21	7 01	4 00
8	7 15	4 18	6 49	4 58	6 05	5 36	5 08	6 15	4 21	6 51	3 55	7 21	4 03	7 25	4 34	6 55	5 10	6 03	5 45	5 08	6 25	4 20	7 02	4 00
9	7 14	4 19	6 48	5 00	6 03	5 37	5 06	6 16	4 20	6 52	3 55	7 22	4 04	7 24	4 35	6 54	5 11	6 01	5 46	5 06	6 27	4 19	7 03	4 00
10	7 14	4 20	6 47	5 01	6 01	5 39	5 05	6 17	4 18	6 54	3 55	7 22	4 05	7 24	4 36	6 52	5 12	6 00	5 48	5 04	6 28	4 18	7 04	4 00
11	7 14	4 21	6 45	5 02	5 59	5 40	5 03	6 18	4 17	6 55	3 55	7 23	4 05	7 23	4 37	6 51	5 13	5 58	5 49	5 02	6 29	4 17	7 05	4 00
12	7 13	4 22	6 44	5 04	5 58	5 41	5 01	6 20	4 16	6 56	3 55	7 24	4 06	7 23	4 38	6 49	5 14	5 56	5 50	5 01	6 31	4 15	7 06	4 00
13	7 13	4 23	6 42	5 05	5 56	5 43	4 59	6 21	4 15	6 57	3 54	7 24	4 07	7 22	4 40	6 48	5 15	5 54	5 51	4 59	6 32	4 14	7 07	4 00
14	7 13	4 25	6 41	5 07	5 54	5 44	4 58	6 22	4 14	6 58	3 54	7 24	4 08	7 22	4 41	6 46	5 17	5 52	5 53	4 57	6 33	4 13	7 07	4 00
15	7 12	4 26	6 39	5 08	5 52	5 45	4 56	6 23	4 12	6 59	3 54	7 25	4 09	7 21	4 42	6 45	5 18	5 50	5 54	4 56	6 35	4 12	7 08	4 01
16	7 11	4 27	6 38	5 09	5 50	5 46	4 54	6 25	4 11	7 00	3 54	7 25	4 10	7 20	4 43	6 43	5 19	5 48	5 55	4 54	6 36	4 11	7 09	4 01
17	7 11	4 28	6 36	5 11	5 48	5 48	4 53	6 26	4 10	7 01	3 54	7 26	4 11	7 19	4 44	6 41	5 20	5 47	5 56	4 52	6 37	4 11	7 10	4 01
18	7 10	4 30	6 35	5 12	5 47	5 49	4 51	6 27	4 09	7 03	3 54	7 26	4 11	7 19	4 45	6 40	5 21	5 45	5 58	4 50	6 39	4 10	7 10	4 01
19	7 10	4 31	6 33	5 14	5 45	5 50	4 49	6 28	4 08	7 04	3 55	7 26	4 12	7 18	4 46	6 38	5 22	5 43	5 59	4 49	6 40	4 09	7 11	4 02
20	7 09	4 32	6 32	5 15	5 43	5 51	4 48	6 29	4 07	7 05	3 55	7 27	4 13	7 17	4 48	6 37	5 24	5 41	6 00	4 47	6 41	4 08	7 11	4 02
21	7 08	4 33	6 30	5 16	5 41	5 53	4 46	6 31	4 06	7 06	3 55	7 27	4 14	7 16	4 49	6 35	5 25	5 39	6 01	4 46	6 43	4 07	7 12	4 03
22	7 07	4 35	6 29	5 18	5 39	5 54	4 44	6 32	4 05	7 07	3 55	7 27	4 15	7 15	4 50	6 33	5 26	5 37	6 03	4 44	6 44	4 06	7 12	4 03
23	7 07	4 36	6 27	5 19	5 37	5 55	4 43	6 33	4 05	7 08	3 55	7 27	4 16	7 14	4 51	6 32	5 27	5 35	6 04	4 42	6 45	4 06	7 13	4 04
24	7 06	4 37	6 25	5 20	5 36	5 56	4 41	6 34	4 04	7 09	3 56	7 27	4 17	7 13	4 52	6 30	5 28	5 33	6 05	4 41	6 46	4 05	7 13	4 04
25	7 05	4 39	6 24	5 22	5 34	5 58	4 40	6 36	4 03	7 10	3 56	7 27	4 18	7 12	4 53	6 28	5 29	5 32	6 07	4 39	6 48	4 04	7 14	4 05
26	7 04	4 40	6 22	5 23	5 32	5 59	4 38	6 37	4 02	7 11	3 56	7 27	4 19	7 11	4 55	6 27	5 31	5 30	6 08	4 38	6 49	4 04	7 14	4 06
27	7 03	4 42	6 20	5 24	5 30	6 00	4 36	6 38	4 01	7 12	3 57	7 27	4 21	7 10	4 56	6 25	5 32	5 28	6 09	4 36	6 50	4 03	7 14	4 06
28	7 02	4 43	6 19	5 26	5 28	6 01	4 35	6 39	4 01	7 13	3 57	7 27	4 22	7 09	4 57	6 23	5 33	5 26	6 11	4 35	6 51	4 03	7 15	4 07
29	7 01	4 44	6 18	5 27	5 26	6 02	4 33	6 40	4 00	7 13	3 58	7 27	4 23	7 08	4 58	6 21	5 34	5 24	6 12	4 33	6 52	4 02	7 15	4 08
30	7 00	4 46			5 25	6 04	4 32	6 42	3 59	7 14	3 58	7 27	4 24	7 07	4 59	6 20	5 35	5 22	6 13	4 32	6 54	4 02	7 15	4 09
31	6 59	4 47			5 23	6 05			3 59	7 15			4 25	7 05	5 00	6 18			6 15	4 30			7 15	4 09

This table is a photocopy of the schedule furnished by the Nautical Almanac Office of the U.S. Navy and is the official time referred to in section 7001, subsections 34 and 35. The table is valid for the remainder of the 20th century.



**2. Tagging and registration requirements:** Whenever a deer or bear is killed, the person who killed the animal is required by law to follow certain procedures:

- a. The person must immediately attach, securely, the appropriate tag portion of his hunting license to the deer or bear in such a way that the tag is plainly visible, or if the bear is taken by trapping, the trapper must immediately attach to the bear a tag bearing his full name, address, and trapping license number.
- b. Except as otherwise specified, the person who killed the deer or bear must accompany the animal whenever it is moved or transported, and until the deer or bear has been legally registered, the animal must be kept open to view at all times during transportation.
- c. The person must, within 12 hours, present the deer or bear for registration at a game registration station, except as follows:

(1) A person may, if necessary, leave an unregistered deer or bear in the woods for more than 12 hours, provided he notifies a warden as to the location of the deer or bear and the circumstances necessitating his leaving the animal in the woods.

(2) A person on a hunting trip in an unorganized township & staying at a temporary place of lodging may keep an unregistered deer or bear at that temporary place of lodging for a period not to exceed 7 days or until he leaves the woods, whichever comes first. (Does not require warden notification).

- d. The deer or bear must be registered at the first open game registration station on the route taken by the person.
- e. The person who killed the deer or bear must register the animal in his own name.
- f. Prior to presenting a deer or bear for registration, it is unlawful for any person to possess, leave in the woods, or transport a deer or bear which does not have securely attached to it and plainly visible,

the appropriate tag portion of his hunting license bearing his full name and address, or if the bear is taken by trapping, a tag bearing the trapper's full name, address, and trapping license number.

3. **False registration of deer or bear.** It is unlawful for any person to present for registration or allow to be registered in his name a deer or bear, including a bear taken by trapping, which he did not lawfully kill.

4. **Transportation of deer and bear by residents.**

- a. A Maine resident may transport a properly registered deer or bear **WITHIN THE STATE** if he accompanies the animal, or he may have it transported without accompanying it by purchasing and attaching to the animal the appropriate transportation tag obtainable from game wardens. (Fee is \$5.00).
- b. A Maine resident may transport a properly registered deer or bear **OUT-OF-STATE**, or have it transported for him, by purchasing and attaching to the animal the appropriate transportation tag obtainable from game wardens. (Fee is \$55.00, except that no fee is required of residents who are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States).

5. **Transportation of deer & bear by nonresidents.**

- a. A non-resident, by virtue of his hunting license, may transport a properly registered deer or bear out-of-state if he accompanies the animal.
  - b. A non-resident may also have his deer or bear transported by a transportation company.
  - c. A non-resident who has his deer or bear transported by anyone other than a Maine licensed transportation company must first obtain the appropriate non-resident transportation permit obtainable from game wardens. (No fee).
6. **Hunting deer or bear after having killed one.** It is unlawful to hunt deer after having killed or registered

one during the open season of that calendar year. The same provision applies to bear.

7. **Illegal possession of deer or bear.** Except as specified, it is unlawful to possess a deer or bear, or parts of a deer or bear which has not been registered.
8. **Possession of gift deer or gift bear.** It is unlawful for any person to possess any part of a deer or bear which has been given to him unless each part is plainly labeled with the name and address of: a) the person who registered the animal; b) the party to whom it was given; and c) if transported by a 3rd party, the 3rd party.
9. **Buying or selling deer or bear.** It is unlawful to buy, sell, offer for sale, or barter a deer or bear or parts of a deer or bear. It is also unlawful to counsel or otherwise aid in buying, selling, offering for sale or bartering either of these animals or parts thereof. (Note: A person may sell the head, hide, antler and feet of any deer and the head, hide, teeth, gall bladder and claws of any bear which he lawfully possesses).
10. **Other provisions pertaining to deer.**
  - a. During any open hunting season on deer, it is unlawful to place salt or any other bait or food to entice deer or hunt from an observation stand or blind overlooking salt, grain, fruit, nuts or other foods known to be attractive to deer (does not apply to hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking: standing crops; foods that have been left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of natural occurrence; or bear bait that has been placed at a bear hunting stand or blind in accordance with bear baiting laws (page 27)).
  - b. It is unlawful to hunt deer with the use of dogs, artificial lights, snares, traps, pivot guns or set guns.
  - c. It is unlawful to hunt deer with any firearm using .22 caliber rimfire cartridges, except that .22 caliber rimfire magnum cartridges are permitted.
  - d. It is unlawful to drive deer or take part in a deer drive. (TO DRIVE DEER means an organized or planned effort to pursue, drive, chase or other-



wise frighten or cause deer to move in the direction of any person or persons who are part of the organized or planned hunt and known to be waiting for the deer).

- e. It is unlawful to hunt antlerless deer during the open firearms season on deer (including the special muzzle-loading season) without a special "Any-Deer" permit.

#### **11. Other provisions pertaining to hunting bear**

- a. It is unlawful to hunt for bear with the use of dogs during the open firearm season on deer.
- b. It is unlawful to use more than 4 dogs at any one time to hunt for bear.
- c. It is unlawful for a non-resident to use a dog or dogs to hunt for bear unless (s)he employs and hunts with a resident Maine guide. The total number of clients with a resident Maine guide may not be more than three. This section does not apply to non-residents who hold a valid Maine guide license.
- d. It is unlawful for a person to harvest bear if without the permission of the person conducting the hunt that person kills or wounds a bear that is treed or held at bay by other person's dog or dogs.
- e. The Commissioner shall establish a line of demarcation at least 200 yards from sites permitted or licensed for the disposal of solid waste. It is unlawful to hunt, trap, molest or harass bear or release dogs to hunt for bear within this area.
- f. It is unlawful to present a bear for registration which has been field dressed in such a manner that the sex of the animal cannot be determined. Each bear must be presented for registration in its entirety, except for the viscera and rib cage, but the animal may be dismembered for ease of transportation.
- g. Bait may not be used to hunt black bear unless:
  - 1. The bait is placed at least 50 yards from any travel way that is accessible by a conventional 2-wheel or 4-wheel drive vehicle;
  - 2. The stand, blind, and bait areas are tagged by a 2x4" tag bearing the name and address of the baiter;
  - 3. The bait is placed more than 500 yards from

- any dump or campground;
4. The bait is placed more than 500 yards from an occupied dwelling, unless written permission is granted by the owner or leasee;
  5. The bait is placed not more than 30 days before the opening day of the season and not after October 31st;
  6. The bait areas will be cleaned up by November 10 as defined by the State litter laws; and
  7. The person hunting from any stand or blind of another person has permission of the owner of that stand or blind.

(**"BEAR BAIT"** means any animal or plant, or derivative of an animal or plant, used to attract bear). "Bear bait" does not include any packaging or container materials that fall within the definition of litter under Title 17, § 2263.

## **GENERAL TRAPPING PROVISIONS**

**"TO TRAP"** means to set, place or tend any trap within the fields, forests or waters of the State, to kill any animal that is caught in a trap or to aid or assist another person in setting or placing a trap, tending a trap or killing an animal that is caught in a trap.

**"TRAP"** means any device that is designed primarily to catch or hold wild animals, including, but not limited to, a foothold trap, a killer-type trap, a cage-type trap or a snare.

1. **Closed season.** There is a closed season for the trapping of any species of wild animal or wild bird for which an open trapping season is not specifically provided.
2. **Closed season violation.** It is unlawful to trap any wild animal or wild bird during the closed season on that species or possess any wild animal or wild bird taken during the closed season on that species.
3. **Unlawful conduct.** It is unlawful to trap, possess or transport any wild animal or wild bird, or parts thereof, except as provided in the fish and wildlife laws.
4. **Traps to be labeled.** It is unlawful for a person to set any trap for wild animals without having the trap plainly labeled with his full name and address.

5. **Written permission to trap.** It is unlawful for any person to trap, except for beaver, on land in any organized or incorporated place, without first obtaining written permission from the owner or occupant. It is also unlawful for any person to trap, except for beaver, without written permission from the owner or occupant, on the following lands in unorganized places:
  - a. Cultivated or pasture land which is used for agricultural purposes & on which is located an occupied dwelling; and
  - b. Land within 200 yards of any occupied dwelling (organized towns also).
6. **Traps to be visited in organized places.** A person who traps in any organized or incorporated place is required to visit each trap, except under-ice water sets for beaver and muskrat, at least once in every calendar day, including Sunday.
7. **Traps to be visited in unorganized places.** A person who traps in any unorganized or deorganized place is required to visit each trap, except killer-type traps and water sets, so-called, at least once in every calendar day, including Sunday. Each killer-type trap or water set, so called, except under-ice water sets for beaver and muskrat, must be visited at least once in every 5 calendar days, including Sunday. (WATER SET means a trap set completely under water in such a manner as to reasonably ensure the drowning of any furbearing animal caught in the trap).
8. **Animals to be removed.** It is unlawful for a person to fail to remove any animal found caught in his/her trap.
9. **Trapping in populated areas.** It is unlawful for any person to trap outside his/her own land, within 1/2 mile of the compact, built-up portion of a city or village, except by the use of cage-type live traps and water sets.
10. **Trapping close to muskrat or beaver houses, etc.** It is unlawful to place, set or tend any trap within:
  - a) 10 feet of a beaver house, muskrat den or house;
  - b) 5 feet of a beaver dam, or
  - c) 4 feet of a beaver trap



which has been set by another trapper.

**11. Beaver trapping by non-resident.** It is unlawful for a non-resident to trap for beaver in this State.

**12. Advance preparation.** It is unlawful to make any advance preparation on the trapping grounds for the taking of beaver or muskrat previous to the open season on these animals.

**13. Pre-season trap placement.** No person shall stake, hook, fasten or position a trap at any trap site location in the fields, forests or waters of the State prior to opening day of the trapping season.

**14. Molesting muskrat or beaver house, etc.** It is unlawful to damage, molest or destroy a beaver house, a muskrat house or den or a beaver dam.

**15. Other provisions for trapping bear.**

- a. It is unlawful to set a bear trap unless it is enclosed by 2 strands of wire, one 2 and one 4 feet from the ground. The wire must be held securely in position not less than 5 yards nor more than 10 yards from the enclosed trap. The enclosure must be marked with signs bearing the words "BEAR TRAP" in letters at least 3 inches in height, and the signs must be spaced around the enclosure, securely attached to the top strand of wire, at intervals of not more than 20 feet. (NOTE: These provisions do not apply if cable traps are used).
- b. No person may have more than 2 traps set for bear at any one time.
- c. All bear traps must be visited by the trapper at least once in each calendar day.
- d. Cable traps with a closing diameter of not less than 2-1/2 inches may be used in trapping for bear.
- e. It is unlawful to catch a bear in a trap and allow another person to kill or register that bear.
- f. It is unlawful to present a bear for registration which has been field dressed in such a manner that the sex of the animal cannot be determined. Each bear must be presented for registration in its entirety, except for the viscera and rib cage, but the animal may be dismembered for ease of transportation.

16. **Eels for bait.** Licensed trappers may obtain a permit from the Commissioner to take not more than 20 pounds of eels annually for use in baiting traps.

## **LAWS PERTAINING TO TRAPPING EQUIPMENT**

1. **Traps.** Wild animals may be trapped with common ordinary steel traps or killer-type traps. (NOTE: Killer-type traps include the conibear trap, so called, and all other traps of that type). Furbearing animals may be trapped with a common cage type live trap.
2. **Killer trap restrictions.** It is unlawful to use killer type traps with a jaw spread greater than 5 inches, except as follows:
  - a. Killer-type traps with a jaw spread of not over 8 inches may be used only if set completely under water or set at least 4 feet above the ground or snow.
  - b. Killer-type traps with a jaw spread of over 8 inches and snares may be used during the open season on beaver only if set completely under water.
3. **Traps with teeth.** It is unlawful, in WMU's 4, 7 and 8, to use any trap with teeth on the jaws from the opening day of the trapping season to the opening day of the firearm season on deer unless the trap is completely covered by water.
4. **Auxiliary teeth.** It is unlawful to use auxiliary teeth on any foot-hold trap set on dry land.
5. **Cable trap.** Cable traps with a closing diameter of not less than 2 1/2 inches may be used in trapping for bear.
6. **Pole trap.** It is unlawful to use any steel trap on the top of a pole, constituting a device known as a "pole trap", for the purpose of catching wild birds.
7. **Snares.** It is unlawful to trap with the use of snares except that snares may be used under water to trap beaver.

8. **Firearms.** It is lawful for a person who holds a valid trapping license to carry a .22 caliber firearm during the open trapping season for the sole purpose of dispatching trapped animals.

#### **DISTURBING TRAPS**

It is a violation of law for a person to take or disturb any trap or any wild animal found caught in any trap without the consent of the trap owner. A landowner is entitled to remove traps found on his property if permission to trap has not been granted. Any person convicted of disturbing traps, in addition to any penalty which may be imposed by a court of law, will not be eligible to purchase any license issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for a period of three years.

#### **TRANSPORTATION AND TAGGING**

1. **Transportation of game by resident.** Any resident may transport to his home any wild animal or wild bird which he has killed and which is legally in his possession.
2. **Transportation of game by non-resident.** Any non-resident may transport or have transported to his home by common carrier, any wild animal or wild bird which he has killed and which is legally in his possession.
3. **Open to view and accompanied.** Unless otherwise provided, any wild animal or wild bird transported shall be open to view and accompanied by the person who killed that animal or bird, except that a wild animal or wild bird transported for non-residents by common carrier need not be accompanied by the owner. (See special provisions under Laws Pertaining to Deer and Bear).
4. **Unlawful transportation.** It is unlawful to transport or offer for transportation any wild animal or wild bird except as provided in the fish and wildlife laws.
5. **Transportation in closed season.** It is unlawful to transport any wild animal or wild bird in closed season, except that any person who has taken any wild animal or wild bird in open season shall have a reasonable time after the beginning of the closed season to transport that animal or bird to his home.



6. **Furbearers to be tagged.** The raw skin of any beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, fox, marten, mink, or otter must be presented to a warden or other agent of the Commissioner for tagging. All information requested concerning each skin must be reported truthfully and accurately. A fee of 25¢ must be paid for each skin tagged.
7. **Fur to be tagged within certain time.** The raw skins of the above named species must be presented for tagging within 10 days after the close of the open season on that species, except that the raw skin of bobcats taken during the hunting season must be presented for tagging within 72 hours of the time the animal was killed. (Note: Of the eight furbearing species which require tagging, only bobcat, coyote and fox may be taken by hunting).
8. **Possession of untagged fur.** It is unlawful to possess, sell, give away, buy, accept as a gift, offer for transportation or transport the raw skin of any beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, fox, marten, mink, or otter unless each skin is tagged.
9. **Imported fur.** The raw skins of the above named species which are imported from any other state, country or province must bear the official stamp, tag or seal of that state, country or province. If that state, country or province requires no official stamp, tag or seal, each imported skin must be tagged in this State by the person in possession in the same manner as described in #6 above. (Note: Raw skins imported by taxidermists solely for taxidermy purposes need not be tagged).

### **TAGGING OF FROZEN SKINS**

It is almost impossible to insert a fur tag into a frozen skin unless certain steps have been taken prior to freezing. If there is any possibility that your furbearer skins will be frozen at the time they are presented for tagging (whether skinned or in the round) would you please insert a popsicle stick, tongue depressor, or similar object from the mouth hole through one of the eye holes prior to freezing. Removal of the stick or other object at the time of tagging allows the fur tag to be easily inserted in the skin without the need for partial thawing. **Tagging agents may refuse to tag frozen skins which have not been prepared as requested above.**

## FEDERAL EXPORT PERMIT

Federal law requires an export permit for any transportation of otter, bobcat, black bear, and ermine, or parts thereof to points outside the United States. For further information and permit applications, write: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, Room 420C, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, Telephone (703)358-2104.

## CLOSED AREAS

1. **Deer.** There is a closed season on deer in the following areas:
  - a). Mt. Desert Island, all of Swan Island in the town of Swan's Island, all of Long Island in Long Island Plantation and all of Cranberry Isles - all located in Hancock County;
  - b). Cross and Scotch Island - located in Washington County;
  - c). The town of Isle au Haut and islands within that town - located in Knox County; and
  - d). In wildlife sanctuaries, unless otherwise provided.
2. **Isleboro.** In the town of Isleboro, Waldo County, it is lawful to hunt deer only with bow and arrow from October 1 through the regular firearm season on deer in Waldo County.
3. **Southport.** In the town of Southport, Lincoln County, and on all islands within its confines, it is lawful to hunt deer with shotguns only, during the regular firearm season established for Lincoln County.
4. **Prout's Neck; Richmond's Island; Cape Elizabeth Sanctuary.** Approximately 1,600 acres of this sanctuary (land in Cape Elizabeth owned by Sprague Corporation) is open to deer hunting with bow and arrow only during the special archery and regular firearm seasons established for Cumberland County. (Note: Landowner permission required).

5. **Hunting and trapping on wildlife sanctuary.** Unless otherwise specifically provided, it is unlawful to hunt or trap any wild animal or wild bird or possess any firearm or bow and arrow within the limits of any wildlife sanctuary, or any area properly posted by the State of Maine.
6. **Wildlife Sanctuaries & Wildlife Management Areas.** Unless otherwise specifically provided, it is unlawful to hunt or trap any wild animal or wild bird within the following described territories:

Back Bay Sanctuary, Portland  
Baxter State Park closed to all hunting with the following exceptions:

The area north of Trout Brook in T6 R9; in T6 R10 or T2R9 where hunting under General Law is allowed.

Beauchamp Sanctuary  
Carver's Pond Waterfowl Sanctuary  
Colby College Area, Waterville  
Drake's Island Game Sanctuary  
Dry Pond Sanctuary (Crystal Lake)  
Fairfield Sanctuary\*  
Glencove Sanctuary  
Gray Game Sanctuary  
Hog Island Game Sanctuary  
Jefferson & Whitefield Sanctuary  
Kineo Point Sanctuary  
Lake Christopher Area, Oxford County  
Limington, Hollis and Waterboro Sanctuary  
Long Lake Area, Aroostook County  
Lowell E. Barnes Area, Oxford County  
Marsh Island Area\*, Old Town, Orono - Penobscot County  
Megunticook Lake and Vicinity Sanctuary  
Merrymeeting Bay Game Sanctuary  
Monroe Island Game Sanctuary  
Moosehead Lake Game Sanctuary

Moosehorn Game Sanctuary  
Narragansett Game Sanctuary\*  
Oak Grove Area, Vassalboro  
Ocean Park Game and Bird Sanctuary  
Orrington Game Sanctuary  
Pittston Farm Sanctuary  
Prout's Neck; Richmond's Island; Cape Elizabeth Sanctuary\* (see exception pg. 34).  
Rangeley Game Sanctuary in Franklin County  
Rangeley Lake Sanctuary  
Rangeley Plantation Sanctuary  
Readfield and Winthrop Sanctuary  
Salmon Pond Sanctuary  
Sebago Lake Basin Area, Standish, Windham  
Somerset Game Sanctuary  
Standish Sanctuary  
Starwood Wildlife Sanctuary, Ellsworth  
Thorncrag-Stanton Bird Sanctuary  
Tomhegan Game Sanctuary  
Wells Sanctuary  
Wells & York Game Sanctuary  
Willow Water Game Sanctuary  
York Game Sanctuary, Franklin County

\* Trapping allowed in accordance with the general laws of the State.



7. **Gray Squirrels.** It is unlawful to hunt gray squirrels on any land which is dedicated as a public or private park or on any land located within the limits of the compact or built-up portion of any city or town.
8. **Haley Pond.** It is unlawful to hunt waterfowl on Haley Pond in the town of Rangeley and Dallas Plantation, Franklin County.
9. **Unity Utilities District.** It is unlawful to hunt on the Unity Utilities District Property located on Route #139 and Prairie Road in Unity, Waldo County.

### **HUNTING ON LANDS UNDER JURISDICTION OF THE BUREAU OF PARKS & RECREATION**

General hunting is allowed between October 1 and May 1 on lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation with the following exceptions:

1. Hunting is not allowed in any Memorial or Historic Site.
2. Hunting is not allowed in Aroostook, Cobscook Bay, Crescent Beach, Ferry Beach, Quoddy Head, Reid, Sebago Lake, Two Lights and Wolf Neck State Parks.
3. Hunting is not allowed in Holbrook Island Sanctuary.
4. Work areas and areas developed for public use will be posted and closed to hunting from time to time in the interest of public safety.

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES.....**More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on federal refuge regulations, contact 1) Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge (Baring and Edmunds Units), P.O. Box 1077, Calais, ME 04619; telephone (207) 454-7161. 2) Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 279, Millbridge, ME 04658; telephone (207) 546-2124. 3) Sunhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, 1033 South Main Street, Old Town, ME 04468; telephone (207) 827-6138. 4) Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, RR2, Box 751, Wells, ME 04090; telephone (207) 646-9226. 6) Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 280, Errol, N.H. 03579; telephone (603) 482-3415.

## **INDIAN TERRITORY**

As a result of the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980, lands purchased by the Penobscot Indian Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe within certain designated areas of the State are classified as Indian territory and are given "special" legal status. The Penobscot Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe, within their respective Indian territories, have exclusive authority to regulate hunting and trapping. At the time of this publication, parcels of Indian territory had been acquired within the following areas:

**PENOBSCOT NATION:** **Franklin County:** Alder Stream Twp. **Penobscot County:** T2R9 NWP (western portion), T3R9 NWP (eastern portion), T6R8 WELS (western portion) Argyle Twp. (northern portion) and T3R1 NBPP (northeastern portion). **Piscataquis County:** T6R8 NWP. The Penobscot Nation also has exclusive authority to regulate hunting and trapping in the Penobscot Reservation, consisting of all islands in the Penobscot River north of, and including, Indian Island, located near Old Town, Maine. Contact the Penobscot Nation, Department of Natural Resources for specific locations of Reservation islands.

**PASSAMAQUODDY TRIBE:** **Franklin County:** Lowelltown, T1R8 WBKP. **Hancock County:** T3&4ND. **Washington County:** T5ND, BPP; T19 MD, Indian Twp., and Pleasant Point, Perry. **Penobscot County:** T3R9 NWP, T5R1 NBPP, TAR7WELS. **Somerset County:** Holeb T6R1 NBKP, Prentiss, T4R4 NBKP, Hammond Twp, T3R4 NBKP, Alder Brook Twp., T3R3 NBKP, Pittston Academy Grant, T2R4 NBKP, Soldiertown Twp., T2R3 NBKP.

**Most of these areas will be conspicuously posted as Indian Territory.** Anyone wishing to hunt or trap on Indian territory should contact the appropriate Indian agency for further information.

PENOBSCOT INDIAN NATION, Dept. of Natural Resources,  
Old Town, ME 04468; Phone: 827-7776, Ext. 230

PASSAMAQUODDY TRIBE: Ranger Department, Box 301,  
Princeton, ME 04668, Phone: 796-2301, Ext. 29.

## **LAWS PERTAINING SPECIFICALLY TO JUVENILES**

1. **Hunting Prohibited.** Persons under 10 years of age are not allowed to hunt at any time.
2. **Hunters to be accompanied.** Persons 10 years of age or older and under 16, may hunt with firearms only in the presence of a parent or an approved adult who is at least 18 years of age. That presence must be unaided by visual or audio enhancement devices, including binoculars and citizen band radios.
3. **Junior hunting license.** Persons at least 10 years of age and under 16 years of age are eligible for a junior hunting license.
4. **Trapping without license.** Persons under 10 years of age are allowed to trap without a license.
5. **Trappers to be accompanied.** Persons under 10 years of age engaged in trapping activities must be accompanied at all times by a parent or an approved adult who is at least 18 years of age. Persons over 10 years of age and under 16 years of age who hold a junior trapping license shall be accompanied by an adult at all times while trapping, unless the holder of the junior trapping license submits proof of having successfully completed a trapper education course.
6. **Licenses issued to 15 year olds.** Trapping and hunting licenses purchased by juveniles who have passed their 15th birthday are valid throughout the year for which the license was issued.

**HUNTER CHECK STATIONS.....**We suggest that whether you are successful or not, you stop in at one of the Department's deer hunter check stations (which are not registration stations). Our wildlife biologists collect information which is valuable in determining regional deer herd productivity and condition and figuring sex and age ratios. You will receive facts and figures from last year's season, and the information you provide will be a basis for management decisions to be made next year.

**HARASSMENT OF HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS.....**It is illegal for any person to willfully interfere with the lawful hunting or trapping of any wild animal or wild bird, including the willful disturbance of wild animals or wild birds with intent to interfere with their lawful taking. (Note: This law does not limit the ownership use, access or control of property rights otherwise provided by law).

**FUR TAGGING STATIONS.....**Fur tagging stations are located throughout the State. To determine the location of a fur tagging station in your area, call the nearest Warden Headquarters. (Toll-free numbers are listed on page 3).



## 1993-94 HUNTING AND TRAPPING LICENSE FEES

(See Page 12 for more information on below listed licenses).

<b>RESIDENT</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>
Hunting (16 & older)	15.00	17.00
Small Game (16 & older)	8.00	10.00
Combination Hunting & Fishing (16 & older)	28.00	32.00
Supersport*	38.00	42.00
Junior Hunting (10 to 15 years inclusive)	3.00	5.00
Combination Hunting & Fishing (70 & older)	free	free
Combination Fishing/Archery (16 & older)	28.00	32.00
Serviceman (resident) Combination Hunting & Fishing	15.00	20.00
Disabled War Veteran (resident)	free	free
Archery Hunting (16 & older)	15.00	17.00
Archery Hunting (70 & older)	free	free
Muzzle-loading (10 & older)	7.00	9.00
Muzzle-loading (70 & older)	free	free
Trapping (16 & older)	29.00	31.00
Trapping (70 & older)	free	free
Junior Trapping (10 to 15 years inclusive)	5.00	7.00
Resident deer or bear transport tag (in-state)	5.00	5.00
Resident deer or bear transport tag (out-of-state)	55.00	55.00

\* Supersport license: A combination fishing and hunting license which allows an individual to make a financial contribution toward the management of fish & wildlife over and above the normal license fee.

<b>NON-RESIDENT</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>
Big Game Hunting (10 years & older)	77.00	81.00
Combination Hunting & Fishing (16 & older)	107.00	115.00
Small Game Hunting (16 & older)	47.00	51.00
Junior Small Game Hunting (10 to 15 years)	23.00	25.00
Archery Hunting (16 & older)	47.00	51.00
Muzzle-loading (10 & older)	25.00	29.00
Trapping (any age)	304.00	306.00

<b>ALIEN</b>		
Big Game Hunting (10 & older)	117.00	121.00
Combination Hunting & Fishing (10 & older)	160.00	168.00
Small Game Hunting (16 & Older)	62.00	66.00
Archery Hunting (16 & older)	62.00	66.00
Muzzle-loading (10 & older)	50.00	54.00

<b>OTHER FEES</b>		
Duplicate License	1.00	2.00
Guide (18 and older) (3 year license)	75.00	77.00
State Migratory Waterfowl Stamp (16 & older)	2.50	2.50
Pheasant Stamp (Cumberland & York Counties)	15.00	15.00
Coyote Night Hunting Permit	2.00	2.00
Falconry	20.00	22.00
Breeder	19.00	25.00
Hide Dealer (resident)	54.00	56.00
Hide Dealer (non-resident)	104.00	106.00
Seasonal Hide Dealers License (See Pg. 17)	10.00	10.00
Taxidermist	13.00	75.00
Deer or Bear Registration	1.00	1.00

(Above prices do not include the \$1.00 agent fee)

**NOTE:** A SMALL GAME LICENSE permits the hunting of all species except deer, bear, turkey, moose, raccoon and bobcat.

**ASK FIRST**.....Most outdoor recreation in Maine takes place on private property through the generosity of the landowner. Only by respecting landowners and their property can we be sure we will have land available in the future for the various forms of outdoor recreation we enjoy, including hunting and trapping. If you know you are welcome to use someone's land, don't abuse the privilege. If you don't know whether you are welcome, find out. If the land is posted or you know you are not welcome, find another location. A hunting or trapping license does not give you the right - stated or implied - to go on another person's land against their wishes. **ALWAYS SEEK PERMISSION** before engaging in any form of outdoor recreation on property which belongs to someone else.

**14 MRSA §159-A Limited Liability for Recreational or Harvesting Activities**

**1. Definitions:**

A. "PREMISES" shall mean improved and unimproved lands, private ways, any buildings or structures on those lands and waters standing on, flowing through or adjacent to those lands.

B. "RECREATIONAL OR HARVESTING ACTIVITIES" means recreational activities conducted out-of-doors, including hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, hiking, sight-seeing, operation of snow-traveling and all-terrain vehicles, skiing, hang-gliding, boating, sailing, canoeing, rafting or swimming or activities that involved harvesting or gathering forest products. It shall include entry, use of and passage over premises in order to pursue these activities.

2. **Limited Duty.** An owner, lessee or occupant of premises shall owe no duty of care to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for recreational or harvesting activities or to give warning of any hazardous condition, use, structure or activity on these premises to persons entering for those purposes.

3. **Permissive use.** An owner, lessee or occupant who gives permission to another to pursue recreational or harvesting activities on the premises shall not thereby:

A. Extend any assurance that the premises are safe for those purposes.

B. Make the person to whom permission is granted an invitee or licensee to whom a duty of care is owed; or

C. Assume responsibility for or incur liability for any injury to person or property caused by any act of persons to whom the permission is granted.

4. **Limitation on section.** This section shall not limit the liability which would otherwise exist:

A. For a willful or malicious failure to guard or to warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity;

B. For an injury suffered in any case where permission to pursue any recreational or harvesting activities was granted for a consideration other than the consideration, if any, paid to the landowner by the State; or

C. For an injury caused, by acts of persons to whom permission to pursue any recreational or harvesting activities was granted, to other persons to whom the person granting permission, or the owner, lessee or occupant of the premises, owed a duty to keep the premises safe or to warn of danger.

5. **No duty created.** Nothing in this section shall create a duty of care or ground of liability for injury to a person or property.

6. **Costs and fees.** The court shall award any direct legal costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, to an owner, lessee or occupant who is found not to be liable for injury to a person or property pursuant to this section.