

A current and valid hunting license (Bow and Arrow, Firearm or All-Around Sportsman) is required to pursue any small game species. See page 26 for *General Hunting Regulations*. The use of dogs, unless specifically stated otherwise, is permitted to pursue any small game species, except wild turkey. Hunting for those species shown on page 65 is prohibited during the statewide Six-day Firearm (deer) Season and on the Wednesday of the Permit Shotgun (deer) Season that immediately follows the Six-day Firearm Season. For exceptions, see *Coyote and Fox* and *Semi-wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting* sections below. Sunday hunting is prohibited; see *Raccoon and Opossum*, page 64 for exceptions.

Season Dates and Bag Limits: *The Small Game Hunting Seasons* table on page 63 lists dates, hunting hours and daily bag limits for all small game species open for hunting. Hunting with firearms is prohibited on Nov. 7, 2008 on state wildlife management areas designated as Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas (see *Pheasants* below) except in tidal marshes open to an on-going waterfowl season.

General Small Game Hunting Methods: Properly licensed hunters may hunt small game with shotguns or bow and arrow and limited hunting with small caliber rifles; see

below. See also *General Hunting Regulations*, page 26.

Shotgun - Unless specifically stated otherwise, shotguns for small game hunting may be single or double barrel, rifled or smooth-bore and not larger than 10-gauge or smaller than .410 caliber and capable of holding no more than three shells.

Shot - Unless specifically stated otherwise, shot size for small game hunting may be no larger than #4 fine shot.

Bow and Arrow - Compound bows and all other bows must meet the requirements specified in *General Hunting Regulations*, page 26.

Muzzleloading Rifles - For limited small game rifle hunting, see below for *Coyote and Fox – Special Permit Season*, *Raccoon and Opossum*, *Squirrel – Muzzleloading Rifle Season* and *Woodchuck* for restrictions.

Wildlife Damage - Property owners or their agents, and occupants of dwellings that are suffering damage from opossum, raccoon, skunk, squirrel, weasel or woodchuck may control them by lawful means at any time subject to local ordinances.

Coyote and Fox, General and Special Permit Seasons

See chart below for both general and special permit season regulations for coyote and fox. All successful coyote hunters

must report any coyote harvested to a Division Regional Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name and day-time phone number.

In addition to the coyote and fox seasons described in the chart below, properly licensed persons hunting deer during the Six-day Firearm, Permit Muzzleloader or Permit Shotgun deer seasons may kill coyote or fox when the person is in possession of a valid deer transportation tag for the applicable deer season (i.e., before harvesting a deer.) All hunting must cease immediately upon harvesting the daily deer bag limit and completing the deer transportation tag(s.) Incidental hunting of coyote or fox while deer hunting may resume following the issuance of a New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag for the applicable deer season (provided the season remains open and the season bag limit of deer has not been reached.) Only applicable projectiles approved for deer hunting may be used to take coyote and fox incidental to deer hunting during the deer seasons described above. See *Firearms, Bow and Ammunition* chart, page 31.

(continued on page 62)

Coyote / Fox Season				
Dates	Oct. 4 to Nov. 7, 2008 Bow and Arrow Only	Nov. 8, 2008 to Feb. 16, 2009 Firearm or Bow	Jan. 19 – Feb. 16, 2009 Special Permit Season	
Hours	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except 8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, except 8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise
Weapon Type and Projectiles Permitted	Bow - long, recurve or compound See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> above.	Bow - long, recurve or compound See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above.	Bow - long, recurve or compound See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above.	
		Shotgun and Shot Size: See <i>General Small Game Hunting Methods</i> , above.	Shotgun – single or double barrel. Not smaller than 12 gauge or larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells. Shot – sizes not smaller than #4 fine shot or larger than “T” shot	Shotgun – single or double barrel. Not smaller than 12 gauge or larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells. Shot – sizes not smaller than #4 fine shot or larger than “T”
		Muzzleloading rifle – Only projectiles approved for deer hunting may be used for incidental coyote or fox harvest. See <i>Notes</i> , below and chart p.30	Muzzleloading rifle – single-shot, single barrel no less than .44 caliber. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted, loaded only with a single projectile, either round ball or conical bullet.	
Notes	Hunter orange not required. Use of dogs prohibited . Daily bag: 2 coyote, unlimited fox	Hunter orange required when using firearm. Muzzleloading rifle may be used only incidental to deer hunting. Use of dogs permitted except not during Dec. 8-13, and Dec.17. Daily bag: 2 coyote, unlimited fox	While hunting under the provisions of the Special Permit: Hunter orange is not required (but is recommended while traveling to/from hunting areas.) Hunting methods are restricted to calling and stand hunting. A predator-calling device must be in possession. Use of dogs is prohibited. Use of bait is prohibited. Portable lights are allowed	

Small Game Hunting

REGULATIONS

(continued from page 61)

In addition to the general Coyote and Fox seasons and incidental coyote or fox harvest while deer hunting, a Special Permit Coyote and Fox Season runs concurrent with the regular small game coyote and fox season. A Fish and Wildlife-issued permit is required to hunt coyote under the provisions of the Special Permit Coyote and Fox Season; as follows:

Coyote/Fox permits: \$2, available at any license agent or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site (www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ) beginning December 15. A 2009 hunting license must be purchased prior to or in conjunction with the purchase of a 2009 *Special Coyote and Fox Permit*.

Northern Bobwhite (Quail)

Northern bobwhite (quail) are native to the southern half of New Jersey. In recent years, quail populations have declined throughout their range including New Jersey. In an effort to reverse this decline in New Jersey, two quail hunting zones were delineated in 2005. North of Route 33, where wild quail populations are not known to occur, the statewide season length and bag limit is Nov. 8-Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1-Feb. 16, 2009; the daily bag is seven birds. South of Route 33, the season will end on Jan. 31 and the daily bag limit is four birds. The reduction in season length and bag limit will be monitored to determine if there is an impact on the native quail population.

Pheasant

Pheasant Zones have been eliminated since 2005. The daily bag limit is two pheasants of either-sex statewide and the season dates are Nov. 8-Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1-Feb. 16, 2009. See exceptions below for *Semi-wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting*.

Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas: Anyone aged 16 and over (except 16 year olds whose Youth License remains valid until Dec. 31 in the year they reach 16 years of age) hunting or possessing pheasant or quail on the following designated Wildlife

Management Areas shall have in possession a current and valid Pheasant and Quail Stamp (Youth Hunting licenses include pheasant and quail stamp): Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Bevans (Millville), Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, Greenwood (including Pasadena-Howardsville), Heislerville, MacNamara (Tuckahoe), Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, Walpack, Whittingham and Winslow. A current and valid Pheasant and Quail Stamp is also required at the Delaware River National Recreation Area.

Pheasant and Quail Stocking

Fish and Wildlife anticipates pheasant releases to be in excess of 50,000 birds, and 11,000 quail for release as follows:

Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, MacNamara (Tuckahoe), Millville (Bevans), Nantuxent, Pequest, Port Republic, Walpack and Whittingham WMAs will be stocked with pheasant for the following dates:

Nov. 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29

Dec. 2, 4, 6, 20 and 27

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and the Heislerville, Howardsville, Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan, Medford, Stafford Forge and Winslow WMAs will be stocked with pheasant for the following dates:

Nov. 8, 15, 22, 27 and 29

Dec. 6, 20 and 27

Greenwood Forest and Peaslee WMAs will be stocked with quail for the following dates:

Nov. 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29

Dec. 2, 4, 6, 20 and 27

Fish and Wildlife reminds sportsmen and sportswomen that the stocking schedule is tentative until approved by the Fish and Game Council in early October. The schedule is subject to pheasant production and may change due to emergency weather conditions.

Rabbit and Hare

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63.

Raccoon and Opossum

Season: Oct. 1, 2008 to Mar. 1, 2009.

Hours: Hunting may not begin until 1 hour after sunset on Oct. 1. On all other days open during the season, the hours of hunting are 1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise. Sunday hunting is permitted only between the hours of midnight (Saturday) and 1 hour before sunrise (Sunday).

Hunting methods: Portable lights are permitted. Fluorescent orange is encouraged but not required on outer clothing while hunting raccoon and opossum. A current and valid rifle permit is required when possessing a .22 caliber rifles while hunting raccoon and opossum when only .22 caliber shorts are permitted.

Bag Limit: There is no daily or season bag limit for raccoon or opossum.

Dog Training: Dogs may be trained during the month of September and from March 2 to May 1, inclusive. The training hours are one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

Semi-Wild and Commercial Preserve Hunting

Youth hunters (in possession of a valid Youth Hunting License and accompanied by a licensed, non-shooting adult) will be permitted to hunt pheasant, quail and/or chukar partridge on licensed semi-wild preserves on Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008, the Youth Pheasant Hunting Day.

Hunting for certain species of game birds is allowed from Nov. 8, 2008 to March 15, 2009 on semi-wild and from Sept. 1, 2008 through May 1, 2009 on commercial shooting preserve lands that are properly licensed for the taking of such species. These species of game may be hunted on Sunday only on semi-wild or commercial shooting preserve lands.

All game taken on semi-wild or commercial preserves must be properly tagged before transport.

A person may legally hunt on semi-wild or commercial preserves for game

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Small Game Hunting Seasons

REGULATIONS

Species (alphabetical)	Inclusive Dates	Hunting Hours	Daily Limits	Notes
Bobwhite quail	North of Route 33: Nov. 8 to Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1 to Feb. 16, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	7 – North	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008
	South of Route 33: Nov. 8 to Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 to Jan. 31, 2009		4 - South	Pheasant and Quail Stamp required on designated areas (See <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 62.)
Coyote* and Fox, General All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	Bow and Arrow only: Oct. 4 to Nov. 7, 2008 Firearm or Bow and Arrow: Nov. 8, 2008 to Feb. 16, 2009	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Coyote - 2 Fox – No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008 Open Dec. 8-13 and Dec. 17, 2008 with restrictions as specified under <i>Small Game Hunting, Coyote and Fox</i> , page 61. Rifle permit required in possession when hunting with muzzleloading rifle (allowed only incidental to deer hunting).
Coyote* and Fox, Special Permit Season All coyote must be reported within 24 hrs.	Firearm or Bow and Arrow: Jan. 19 to Feb. 16, 2009 (permit required)	Permit holders may hunt day and night with certain restrictions; see Notes at right.	Coyote - 2 Fox – No limit	For complete details, see <i>Small Game Hunting, Coyote and Fox</i> , page 61. Calling and standing hunting only. Predator calling device must be in possession. Rifle permit required in possession when hunting with muzzleloading rifle, allowed only during the daytime hunting hours. During night hunting (½ hour after sunset to ½ hour before sunrise), only 10 or 12 gauge shotguns with #4 through "T" size shot are permitted.
Grouse, Ruffed	Oct. 16 to Dec. 6** and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008
Opossum & Raccoon	Oct. 1, 2008 to Mar. 1, 2009	1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise	No limit	Rifle permit required when hunting with rifle. 7:41 p.m. start on Oct. 1, 2008 Closed Dec. 8-13 and Dec. 17, 2008
Pheasant & Chukar	Nov. 8 to Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1 to Feb. 16, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Chukar – 7 Pheasant - 2	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008 Pheasant and Quail Stamp required on designated areas (see <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 62.)
Rabbit, Hare and Jackrabbit	Nov. 8 to Dec. 6 and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1 to Feb. 16, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	Cottontail – 4 Hare – 1 Jackrabbit - 1	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008
Squirrel, Gray	Sept. 27 to Dec. 6** and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1 to Feb. 16, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008
Squirrel, Gray Muzzleloading Rifle (.36 caliber or smaller)	Sept. 27 to Nov. 7, 2008 and Jan. 10 to Feb. 16, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	Rifle permit required. Designated areas only (see <i>Small Game Hunting</i> page 64.)
Turkey (Fall, Either-Sex)	(Period N) Oct. 27 to Nov. 1, 2008	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.	1 Turkey (either sex) per permit	Permit required. Turkey Hunting Areas 1 – 11, 20 and 21 only.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler)	(Periods A to G) Apr. 13 to May 22, 2009	½ hour before sunrise to noon	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. Refer to 2009 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Turkey (Spring Gobbler, Youth)	(Period Y) Apr. 11 to May 22, 2009	½ hour before sunrise to noon	1 Male Turkey per permit	Permit required. Refer to 2009 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Woodchuck - Bow, Rifle or Shotgun	Mar. 1 to Oct. 1, 2008 Mar. 2 to Sep. 30, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	Rifle permit required when hunting with rifle. Rifle hunting prohibited on state property (see <i>General Hunting Regulations</i> , page 28 and <i>Small Game Regulations</i> page 64.)
Woodchuck – Bow or Shotgun	Sept. 27 to Dec. 6** and Dec. 15, 16, 18-31, 2008 and Jan. 1 to Feb. 16, 2009	Sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	No limit	8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008
Woodcock	See Migratory Bird Regulations**	Sunrise to sunset	3	HIP number required. 8 a.m. start on Nov. 8, 2008
Youth Turkey Day	Apr. 11 2009	½ hour before sunrise to noon	1 Male Wild Turkey	Permit required. Refer to 2009 turkey permit supplement, available in late January.
Youth Upland Bird Day	Nov. 1, 2008	8 a.m. to sunset	Pheasant - 2	Selected WMAs and licensed semi-wilds (See page 22)

* All harvested coyote must be reported to a regional Division Law Enforcement Office within 24 hours. Callers must identify themselves by name and daytime phone number.

** No firearm hunting is permitted on November 7, 2008 on those WMAs designated as Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas.

Small Game Hunting

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(continued from page 62)

species under license during the deer seasons, but no shot larger than #4 fine may be used. There are no daily bag or seasonal limits for pheasant, quail, chukar or mallards taken on commercial preserves. There are no daily bag limits for pheasant, quail or chukar taken on semi-wild properties. Seasonal harvests on semi-wild properties may not exceed the number of birds to be stocked as indicated on the semi-wild permit application.

Squirrel, Regular Season

See *Small Game Hunting Seasons* chart, page 63.

Squirrel, Muzzleloading Rifle Season

Persons holding a current and valid firearm license and rifle permit may hunt for squirrels from sunrise to ½ hour after sunset with a muzzleloading rifle (.36 caliber or smaller loaded with a single projectile) during the periods Sept. 27 to Nov. 7, 2008; and, Jan. 10 to Feb. 16, 2009. Firearm hunting is prohibited on Nov. 6 on those wildlife management areas designated and Pheasant and Quail Stamp Areas. Hunting for squirrel in the manner described above is restricted to the areas described below:

Those portions of Passaic, Mercer, Hunterdon, Warren, Morris and Sussex counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 513 and the New York State line; then south along Rt. 513 to its intersection with Rt. 511; then south along Rt. 511 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with the Morris-Sussex County line; then south along the Morris-Sussex County line to the Warren county line; then southwest along the Morris-Warren County line to the Hunterdon County line; then southeast along the Morris-Hunterdon County line to the Somerset County line; then south along the Somerset-Hunterdon County line to its intersec-

Woodchuck Season			
Dates	Weapon Type Permitted	Gauge, Caliber or Weight	Projectile(s)
Mar. 1 to Oct. 1, 2008 Mar. 2 to Sept. 30, 2009	Center-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight.
		Larger than .25 caliber	Hollow point, soft point or expanding lead core bullets of any weight not exceeding 100 grains in weight.
	Rim-fire rifle	.25 caliber or less	Hollow point or soft point
	Muzzleloading rifle – single-shot, single barrel. Flintlock, percussion and in-line ignitions permitted.	No restriction	Must be loaded with a single projectile, either round ball or conical bullet.
	Bow long, recurve or compound	35 pounds pull at archers draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow)	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of ¾"
	Shotgun – single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot
Sept. 27 to Dec. 6, Dec. 15, 16 and 18-31, 2008; and Jan. 1 to Feb. 16, 2009	Bow long, recurve or compound	35 pounds pull at archers draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow)	Arrows must be fitted with a well-sharpened metal broadhead with a minimum width of ¾"
	Shotgun – single or double barrel, rifled bore or smoothbore	Not larger than 10 gauge, capable of holding no more than 3 shells	Shot – sizes not larger than #4 fine shot

tion with the Mercer County line; then west and south along the Hunterdon Mercer County line to its intersection with Rt. 31; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 546; then west along Rt. 546 to the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York state line; then east along the New York state line to the point of beginning at Lakeside; and in that portion of Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 295 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 295 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then east along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 40; then east along Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Rt. 536; then east along Rt. 536 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 571; then southeast along Rt. 571 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway;

then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 9 at Somers Point; then south along Rt. 9 to its intersection with Rt. 83; then west along Rt. 83 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Dennis Creek; then south along the west bank of Dennis Creek to its intersection with Delaware Bay; then northwest along the east shore of Delaware Bay and the Delaware River to the point of beginning.

Woodchuck

All persons in possession of a rifle (including a muzzleloading rifle) while hunting woodchuck must have a current and valid rifle permit in addition to the current hunting license. Rifle hunting (of any kind) for woodchuck is prohibited on state wildlife management areas, state parks, state forests or state recreation areas. Farmers and their agents may use shot not larger than #4 buckshot to control woodchuck causing damage. Hours of hunting are sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. See chart above for woodchuck hunting details. ☐

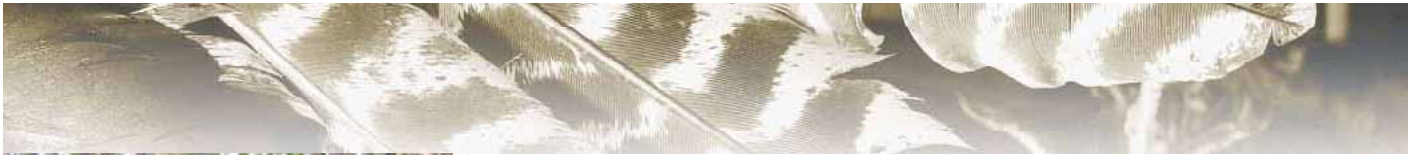


Photo: Chris Tereszczyn

On an action-packed morning of gobblers hammering back to every sweet hen call uttered by mentor Rob Warner, left, Christopher Tereszczyn, Jr. bagged this turkey from 35 yards on Youth Turkey Hunt Day.

Youth Turkey Hunt Day April 11, 2009 See page 24

Non-hunting adults accompanying youth turkey hunters need only have in possession a valid hunting license. Turkey hunting is by permit only.

Spring and fall turkey hunting is by permit only. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General*, page 15. For farmers, see *Farmer Turkey Permits*, page 29.

Fall 2008 Turkey Hunting Regulations

The 2008 fall turkey season consists of one six-day hunting segment, N, from Monday, Oct. 27 through Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008. Fall hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. Turkey Hunting Areas 1-11 and Turkey Hunting Areas 20 and 21 will be open for hunting. Turkey Hunting Areas 12, 14, 15, 16 and 22 are closed to fall hunting.

- Bag Limit: One wild turkey of either sex per day during the fall season regardless of the number of permits the hunter holds.
- Dogs and artificial decoys may be used while turkey hunting in the fall season, except the use of electronically-operated decoys is prohibited. All hunters are required to possess a calling device while turkey hunting.

- The maximum group size while turkey hunting is five hunters. Hunters may not attempt to chase or drive turkeys for the purpose of putting them in range of other hunters. However, hunters may rush a flock of turkeys to cause the flock to scatter.
- No shot larger than #4 fine shot or smaller than #7½ fine shot may be used for turkey hunting.
- Hunters may not use shotguns larger than 10-gauge or smaller than 20-gauge for turkey hunting.
- Fluorescent hunter orange is not required to hunt turkey.
- Properly licensed hunters may use archery tackle to hunt turkeys.
- Turkeys may not be hunted within 300 feet of any baited area.

Immediately upon killing a turkey, hunters must complete the transportation tag on their fall hunting permit and affix it to the bird. The turkey must be taken to an official wild turkey check station by 7 p.m. on the day it is killed *by the hunter who killed the bird*.

2009 Spring Gobbler Hunting Season

Youth Turkey Hunting Day:	Sat., April 11
Segment A:	Mon., April 13 - Fri., April 17
Segment B:	Mon., April 20 - Fri., April 24
Segment C:	Mon., April 27 - Fri., May 1
Segment D:	Mon., May 4 - Fri., May 8
Segment E:	Mon., May 11 - Fri., May 15; Mon., May 18 - Fri., May 22
Segment G:	All Saturdays, April 18, April 25, May 2, May 9 and May 16

Spring 2009 Gobbler Hunting Regulations

Spring gobbler hunting regulations are published in the 2009 Wild Turkey Hunting Season permit supplement. See *Turkey Hunting Permits, General*, page 15.

Turkey Hunting Seminars

The latest turkey hunting techniques are presented at several turkey hunting seminars sponsored by Fish and Wildlife or wildlife conservation organizations. These seminars focus on how to set up, calling techniques and key safety information for turkey hunters. New turkey hunters are especially encouraged to join us at a seminar. Check your newspaper and the January 2009 Wild Turkey Hunting Season permit supplement for the seminars scheduled during March and April. ☺

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Fall & Spring Wild Turkey Hunting

FALL TURKEY CHECK STATIONS

Fall 2008 Turkey Check Stations

ATLANTIC

Ted's Taxidermy, 713 Rt. 40, Buena, (856) 697-8585

BURLINGTON

Sportsman's Center, Rt. 130, Bordentown, (609) 298-5300

CUMBERLAND

Beaver Dam Boat Rentals, 514 Old Beaver Dam Rd. Newport, (856) 447-3633

Blackwater Sports Center, 2228 Delsea Dr., Vineland, (856) 691-1571

Big Daddy's Sports Haven, 595 Sherman Ave., Millville, (856) 825-5500

HUNTERDON

Lakeside Deli, 1878 Rt. 31 N., Clinton, (908) 638-3354

Sportsman's Rendezvous, Rt. 31, Speedway Plaza, Flemington, (908) 788-5828

Boan's Marine, 1296 Rt. 179, Lambertville (609) 397-3311

The Corner Store, Rt. 12 And Rt. 519, Baptistown, (908) 996-7648

Carousel Deli And Bakery, Rt. 179 And Wertsville Rd., Ringoes, (908) 788-5180

Ralph Anthony Automotive, 1173 Rt. 579, Quakertown, (908) 735-7800

Jugtown Mountain Campsites, 1074 Rt. 173 East, Asbury, (908) 735-5995

MIDDLESEX

Sayreville Sportsmen, 52 Washington Ave., Sayreville, (732) 238-2060

MORRIS

Mount Hope Deli, 662 Mount Hope Ave. Wharton, (973) 328-7259

R & S Sports, 3 New St., Budd Lake, (973) 347-1944

PASSAIC

Frank's Tackle, 81 Ringwood Avenue, Wanaque, (973) 835-2966

Greenwood Lake Sports Center, 1745 Greenwood Lake Turnpike, Hewitt, (973) 728-1000

SALEM

Bradway's Farm Market, Jericho Rd & Rt 49, Quinton, (856) 935-5698

Sam's Super Service, 290 Rt. 40, Elmer, (856) 358-3488

SOMERSET

Gladpack Sunoco, 1 Pottersville Rd, Peapack-Gladstone, (908) 234-1355

SUSSEX

Garden State Bow & Reel, 2760A Rt. 23N, Stockholm, (973) 697-3727

Hainesville General Store, 283 Rt. 206 South, Hainesville, (973) 948-4280

Simon-Peter Bait And Tackle, Route 206 And Brighton Rd, Newton, (973) 786-5313

Sig Borstad Hunting Supply, 7 Old Rudetown Road, McAfee, (973) 827-6527

Swartswood Country Store, 911 Newton-Swartswood Rd., Stillwater, (973) 383-5470

WARREN

Alpine Meats, Rt. 94 N., Blirstown, (908) 362-8568

Hi-Way Sport Shop, Box 253, Route 31 North, Washington, (908) 689-6208

Smitty's Liquor & Deli, 89 Rt. 46, Delaware, (908) 475-5933

Straco 3 Auto Parts, Hunting and Fishing, 147 Mountain Ave., (908) 852-2829

The Owl's Nest, 97 Rt 519, Warren Glen, (908) 995-7903

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Buffalo Cows:	\$2200.00	Red Stags:	\$2700.00

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- A trapping license is required and a Trapper Education course must be passed. See page 10 for license information.
- All traps set or used must bear a legible tag of durable material with the name and address of the person setting, using and maintaining the traps.
- A trap identification number issued by Fish and Wildlife may be used in lieu of a name / address tag. A photocopy of your current and valid trapping license plus a daytime telephone number will be required. Contact the Bureau of Wildlife Management at (609) 292-6685 for more information.
- No traps or trap stakes are to be set prior to times indicated in this section.
- All traps must be checked and tended at least once every 24 hours, preferably in the morning.
- No trap shall be permitted to remain set on any property at the close of the trapping season.
- No person shall steal or attempt to take traps of another, or remove a trapped animal without permission of the trap owner.
- **Any person (including a farmer) who traps a coyote must notify a Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement office within 24 hours.**
- Licensed trappers at least 18 years of age and in possession of a valid rifle permit may carry a .22 caliber rifle and use only .22 caliber short rimfire cartridges to kill legally trapped animals other than muskrat. Firearms may not be loaded with more than three rounds.

Beaver and River Otter

Beaver may be taken only by properly licensed trappers in possession of a special beaver trapping permit valid for an entire management zone, or a special site-specific beaver permit valid as designated on the permit. River otter may only be taken by properly licensed trappers in possession of a special river otter trapping permit valid for an entire management zone.

Application can be made at license agents or via Fish and Wildlife's Internet license sales site www.WildlifeLicense.com/NJ. Applicants must have a current and valid trapping license to apply.

Zone maps, boundary descriptions and permit quotas are available on our Web site or call (609) 292-1473. Applicants must have a current and valid trapping license to apply. The application period is October 1-31. Applicants may apply for only one beaver trapping permit and/or one otter trapping permit. If the number of applications exceeds the permit quota, a random lottery drawing will be held to determine permit holders. Successful beaver permit applicants will be given first opportunity for otter permits in their respective zone.

Beaver trappers may indicate on their application if they wish to be considered for a site-specific beaver permit within your chosen zone. Site-specific permits are issued for properties where confirmed beaver damage or nuisance problems exist. A separate, random lottery will determine site-specific permit holders; however, applicants who did not receive a zone-wide beaver permit will have first opportunity for a site-specific permit.

Other beaver/otter rules and regulations:

- Holders of a beaver trapping *zone* permit may use a maximum of five traps daily.
- Holders of a *site-specific* permit may use an additional five traps daily *only* at the location specified on the permit.
- Holders of a river otter trapping permit may use a maximum of three traps daily.
- All beaver and otter trap tags must be clearly visible above the water or ice.

A Fish and Wildlife-issued Beaver Transportation Tag or Otter

Transportation Tag must be affixed to the beaver or otter carcass immediately upon removal from the trap.

- All successful trappers (or their agents) must present their beaver and/or otter pelts at a designated check station for examination where pelt tags will be affixed. **All otter carcasses must be surrendered when pelts are registered, as required by the Game Code.** Trappers are strongly encouraged to properly flesh and stretch all pelts for examination. Additional information on check stations will be provided to all permit holders.
- Division staff will man check-in stations at the Assunpink WMA, Clinton WMA, Flatbrook WMA, Tuckahoe WMA, Winslow WMA and Newfoundland Fire Company on **Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009** (tentative.) Pelts may also be registered at Space Farms, Sussex County, in conjunction with the NJ Trappers Association's January Fur Auction. Successful trappers that can not attend on the scheduled dates should contact either Joseph Garris at (908) 735-7040 or Andrew Burnett at (609) 748-2058 prior to February 21 to make alternate arrangements.

Traps, Body gripping Restraining Type (Snares)

- No person shall set, use or maintain any type of snare unless they have first passed a Fish and Wildlife-approved trapper education course and carry on their person appropriate certification thereof.
- All natural baits consisting of fish, bird or mammal carcasses or flesh used in trapping with body gripping restraining snares must be covered or concealed from view except when placed at least 30 feet from any trap set.

Body gripping restraining snares set for mink, muskrat and nutria are subject to the following requirements:

(continued on page 68)

Trapping

REGULATIONS

(continued from page 67)

- All such traps must be constructed of aircraft cable or crucible wire measuring 1/32, 3/64 or 1/16 inches in diameter, equipped with a swivel and set within 50 feet of the mean high water line;
- All such traps must be equipped with a stop to prevent the average loop diameter from exceeding 4 inches; and,
- All such traps must be set so that the distance between the ground/walking surface to the top of the loop does not exceed 7 inches.

Body gripping restraining snares set for coyote, fox, opossum, raccoon, skunk and weasel shall be subject to the following requirements:

- All such traps must be constructed of aircraft cable or crucible wire measuring from 5/64 to 1/8 inches in diam-

eter and be equipped with a swivel;

- All such traps must be equipped with a deer stop located no less than 6 inches from the beginning of the cable and a loop stop to prevent the average loop diameter from exceeding 12 inches; and,
- All such traps must be set so that the distance between the ground / walking surface to the top of the loop does not exceed 24 inches.

The above requirements for cable diameters, loops stops and loop sizes do not apply to body gripping restraining snares that are completely submerged underwater at all times (e.g., when set for beaver or river otter.)

Traps, Conibear or Killer-type

No Conibear or killer-type trap shall be used in non-tidal waters unless completely

submerged underwater when the water is at the normal level. In tidal water, such traps must be completely covered at normal high tide.

It is illegal to use, set or possess a Conibear or killer-type trap having a jaw spread greater than 6 inches without a permit for beaver or river otter. A Conibear or killer-type trap with a jaw spread of no more than 10 inches may be used for beaver or river otter. Jaw spread shall be measured across the trigger of a set trap to the inner edges of the jaws.

Beaver and otter trap tags must be placed above the water line and exposed to view.

Traps, Leg-hold

- It is illegal to possess or use steel-jawed leghold traps anywhere in New Jersey. ♪

2008-09 New Jersey Trapping Zones, Seasons and Bag Limits

Species	Zone	Inclusive Dates	Season Limits	Notes
Raccoon, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel & Coyote	Statewide (except stocked WMAs)	Nov. 15, 2008 to Mar. 15, 2009	No limit	6 a.m. start on Nov. 15
	Pheasant/Quail Stocked State WMAs ONLY ¹	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15, 2009	No limit	6 a.m. start on Jan. 1
Mink, Muskrat & Nutria	Northern Zone ² (except stocked WMAs)	Nov. 15, 2008 to Mar. 15, 2009	No limit	6 a.m. start on Nov. 15
	Southern Zone ³ (except stocked WMAs)	Dec. 1, 2008 to Mar. 15, 2009	No limit	6 a.m. start on Dec. 1
	Pheasant/Quail Stocked State WMAs ONLY ¹	Jan. 1 to Mar. 15, 2009	No limit	6 a.m. start on Jan. 1
Beaver	Statewide (except stocked WMAs)	Dec. 26, 2008 to Feb. 9, 2009	8 / permit	Permit required. Max. of 5 traps in use ⁴
	Pheasant/Quail Stocked State WMAs ONLY ¹	Jan. 1 to Feb. 9, 2009		
River Otter	Statewide (except stocked WMAs)	Dec. 26, 2008 to Feb. 9, 2009	1 / season	Permit required. Max. of 3 traps in use
	Pheasant/Quail Stocked State WMAs ONLY ¹	Jan. 1 to Feb. 9, 2009		

1. Pheasant/Quail Stocked State WMAs are: Assunpink, Berkshire Valley, Black River, Clinton, Colliers Mills, Dix, Flatbrook-Roy, Glassboro, Greenwood (including Pasadena-Howardsville), Heislerville, Mad Horse, Manahawkin, Manasquan River, Medford, Bevans-Cedarville (Millville), Nantuxent, Peaslee, Pequest, Port Republic, Stafford Forge, MacNamara (Tuckahoe-Corbin City), Walpack, Winslow, Whittingham, Fort Dix Military Reservation and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is closed to trapping.
2. Those portions of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties lying north of a line beginning at the intersection of US Route 1 and the Delaware River, at Trenton; then north along US Route 1 to its intersection with Interstate Route 287; then south on I-287 to its intersection with Route 440; then east along Route 440 to its intersection with the New Jersey – New York State Line in the Arthur Kill.
3. Those portions of the Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem Counties lying south of a line beginning at the intersection of US Route 1 and the Delaware River, at Trenton; then north along US Route 1 to its intersection with Interstate Route 287; then south on I-287 to its intersection with Route 440; then east along Route 440 to its intersection with the New Jersey – New York State Line in the Arthur Kill.
4. Holders of both a Special Beaver Permit and a Special Site-Specific Beaver Permit may use five additional traps per Special Site-Specific Beaver Permit provided they are used only on the property or site specified in the Special Site-Specific Beaver Permit. The bag limit per Site-Specific Beaver Permit is 10 beavers.

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EOE

Return of a Native

By Andrew W Burnett, Principal Biologist

The fisher (*Martes pennanti*) is one of the larger members of the Weasel Family (Mustelidae) with a long, slim body (20-25 inches) and bushy tail (13-15 inches). On average, males weigh more (6-12 lbs.) than females (3-7 lbs.). Fur is dark brown to nearly black with white-tipped hairs over most of its body, producing a somewhat frosted appearance. Similar species are the smaller marten (head and body 14-17 inches, tail 7-9 inches), which has a buff-colored patch on the throat and breast, and the larger wolverine (head and body 29-32 inches, tail 7-9 inches), possessing yellowish stripes on the sides and rump. Neither marten nor wolverine are historically native to New Jersey. Dark-colored domestic cats could easily be mistaken for a fisher, particularly under poor light conditions.

Common names for fisher include black cat, fisher cat and pekan (French). The name fisher probably comes from its superficial resemblance to the European polecat, sometimes called fichet or fitche.

Most female fisher breed for the first time at 12 months of age and produce their first litter at 24 months, after a 327-358 day gestation period. The long gestation includes a 10- to 11-month period of delayed implantation, which limits litters to one per year. Litter size averages 2.8 (1-6 young) and birth occurs in March/April. Breeding occurs soon after birth of the current year's litter.

Fisher are opportunistic predators, and are famous for their ability to prey on porcupine which have few other predators. However, fisher do occur in areas completely devoid of porcupine. Snowshoe hare is the most common prey item; also consumed are grouse, rabbit, squirrel and shrew, as well as plant material such as fruit, nuts and berries. Mice, voles and birds are important components in their fall/winter diet and reptiles, amphibians, bird eggs and insects are eaten when available during spring

and summer. Fisher also consume carrion, especially in winter when other food items are less available, and easily may be lured to a site baited with a beaver, deer or moose carcass.

Fisher prefer areas of extensive mature forest (tree diameters greater than 10 inches) with more than 50 percent tree canopy cover. Fisher are adept tree climbers and can rotate their hind limbs, similar to squirrels, thus permitting a headfirst descent. However, fisher are mainly terrestrial except while in conifer forests or when harassed. Temporary dens are selected from a variety of protected sites while the adult moves about its home range of 6 - 8 square miles. Maternity dens are located in hollow trees.

In the northeast, fisher historically occupied an area extending from central Quebec south to Virginia, including northwestern New Jersey. They were a common resident of the coniferous and mixed conifer/hardwood forests. By the early 20th century, logging operations and unregulated trapping reduced the species' range, particularly along the southern edge. Since then, fisher have reoccupied much of their historical range following reversion of the landscape back to forests, along with protective measures to regulate harvest levels. In many areas, fisher now occupy habitats once considered unsuitable, including second-growth forests fragmented by agriculture and suburban development.

Nearly 200 fisher were re-introduced in northern Pennsylvania a decade ago. South-central Pennsylvania has also been colonized by fisher expanding from West Virginia, where they were introduced in the late 1960s. A trap-and-transfer project undertaken by New York between 1976 and 1979 re-established a

fisher population in the Catskill Mountains by the mid-1980s.

With increasing populations in adjacent states, fisher now appear to be moving into New Jersey. As of April 2008, six confirmed fisher sightings have been reported in New Jersey. Since October 2006, Charles Kontos, a student at the University of Montclair, "captured" three fisher with a trail camera in Stokes State Forest, Sussex County, as part of his graduate research project. Kontos also collected several scat samples later verified as fisher by the Rocky Mountain Conservation Genetics Lab in Missoula, Montana. These scat samples have been genotyped

(a genetic analysis) for comparison to other regional fisher populations. Warren County resident Ralph Corvino photographed a fisher on his property in 2004. These animals are believed to have originated from the Catskill region. Fish and Wildlife has received several unconfirmed reports from the public since fall 2006.

At present, there is no open fisher trapping season in New Jersey, but Fish and Wildlife biologists are interested in fisher sightings. To report a fisher sighting, complete a sighting report form from our Web site (www.NJFishandWildlife.com/forms.htm#other) or e-mail Fish and Wildlife biologist Andrew Burnett at Andrew.Burnett@dep.state.nj.us and type "fisher" into the subject bar. Attach any photos with a detailed description of the animal's behavior and location.

To assist in fisher identification, consult a field guide such as: Burt, W.H. and R.P. Grossenheider, ed. 1976. A field guide to the mammals of North America north of Mexico, 3rd edition (Peterson Field Guide). ISBN 0-395-24084-0 (pbk.). 📖

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