

NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife

RECOMMENDED NEW JERSEY 2019-20 MIGRATORY BIRD SEASONS

April 9, 2019

NOTE: Although the following selections are within the frameworks proposed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, they will not be formally finalized through the Federal Register process until the conclusion of the public comment period in April 2019.

PRIMARY WATERFOWL SEASONS

NORTH ZONE

Ducks:	Oct. 12 – Oct. 19	Nov. 9 – Jan. 9
Brant:	Nov. 9 – Nov. 30	Dec. 28 – Jan. 9
Canada Goose:	Nov. 23 – Nov. 30	Dec. 27 – Jan. 22
Youth and Veterans/Military Days:	Oct. 5 & Feb. 1	

SOUTH ZONE

Ducks	Oct. 19 – Oct. 26	Nov. 16 – Jan. 16
Brant:	Oct. 19 – Oct. 26	Nov. 16 – Dec. 12
Canada Goose:	Nov. 23 – Nov. 30	Dec. 27 – Jan. 22
Youth and Veterans/Military Days:	Oct. 12 & Feb. 1	

COASTAL ZONE

Ducks and Canada goose:	Nov. 9 – Nov. 13	Nov. 28 – Jan. 31
Brant:	Nov. 28 – Nov. 30	Dec. 26 – Jan. 25
Youth and Veterans/Military Days:	Nov. 2 & Feb. 8	

Daily bag limits

Ducks: 6 ducks which may NOT include more than: 2 mallards (not more than 1 hen mallard), 2 black ducks, 3 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 2 scaup, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks, 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 eiders, and 4 scoters. Coot 15.

Mergansers: 5 mergansers although not more than 2 hooded mergansers. Merganser limits are in addition to regular ducks.

Brant: 2

Canada geese (Regular season): 2, all zones

Canada goose bag limit is singly or in aggregate to include cackling and white-fronted geese

Youth and Veterans/Military Days: 6 ducks with same species restrictions, 2 brant, 2 Canada geese, 25 light geese.

CANADA GOOSE

September Season (Statewide)

Sept. 2 - Sept. 30

Daily bag limit: 15 Canada geese

The following special regulations apply:

1. Electronic calls permitted
2. Shotguns capable of holding no more than 7 shells (including magazine and chamber) are permitted.
3. Hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to **1/2 hour after sunset.**

NOTE: THESE SPECIAL REGULATIONS ONLY APPLY TO THE SEPTEMBER CANADA GOOSE SEASON

CANADA GOOSE

Special Winter Season (Two Distinct Zones)

Jan. 23 – Feb. 15

Daily bag limit: 5 singly or in aggregate to include cackling and white-fronted geese

SEA DUCKS; SEA DUCK AREA ONLY

Nov. 2 – Jan. 10

Daily bag limit: 5 in total to include long-tailed ducks, eiders and scoters; except no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 eiders, or 4 scoters in aggregate.

LIGHT GOOSE

Regular Season

Statewide: Oct. 17 – Feb. 15

Daily bag limit: 25, singly or in aggregate to include greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese

Conservation Order

Statewide: Feb. 17 – Apr. 4

Daily bag limit: None; includes greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese

The following special regulations apply:

1. Electronic calls permitted
2. Shotguns capable of holding no more than 7 shells (including magazine and chamber) are permitted.
3. Hunting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to **1/2 hour after sunset.**

NOTE: THESE SPECIAL REGULATIONS ONLY APPLY TO THE LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER

WOODCOCK

North Zone: Oct. 19 – Nov. 2
Nov. 5 – Nov. 30

South Zone: Nov. 9 – Nov. 30
Dec. 12 – Dec. 31

Daily bag limit: 3

RAILS AND GALLINULE

Sept. 2 – Nov. 21

Daily bag limit: Sora and Virginia rails 25 total or aggregate; gallinule and clapper rail 10

SNIPE

Sept. 14 – Jan. 16

Daily bag limit: 8

CROWS (Mon., Thur., Fri., & Sat.)

Aug. 12 – Dec. 7

Dec. 16 – Mar. 21

Daily bag limit: None