

# Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue  
signs marking National  
Wildlife Areas and Migratory  
Bird Sanctuaries.



## Summary



The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

**Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment Canada  
P.O. Box 5050, 867 Lakeshore Road  
Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6  
(905) 336-6410  
[www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife\\_e.html](http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html)**

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html).

Note that hunting restrictions have been put in place for the Wolfe Island area to address concerns over the declining use of this area by waterfowl. As a result, hunting will be permitted in the Wolfe Island area only when hunters are on the island, on the shore, in the shoreline marsh, or on a dock within 20 metres of the shore.

### Hunting Districts



- 1. Hudson-James Bay District**  
Wildlife Management Units 1A, 1B, and the portions of Wildlife Management Units 1D, 25, and 26 lying east of longitude 83°45' and north of latitude 51°
- 2. Northern District**  
Wildlife Management Unit 1C, those parts of 1D, 25, and 26 lying west of longitude 83°45' and south of latitude 51°, and Wildlife Management Units 2 to 24, 27 to 41, and 45
- 3. Central District**  
Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59
- 4. Southern District**  
Wildlife Management Units 60A and 61 to 95

## OPEN SEASONS IN ONTARIO (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), Common Moorhens, American Coots, Common Snipe, geese (other than Canada Geese)	Canada Geese*	Woodcock
1. Hudson–James Bay District	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15
2. Northern District	Sept. 10 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 15 to Dec. 15
3. Central District	Sept. 17 to Dec. 20	Sept. 6 to Dec. 20	Sept. 20 to Dec. 20
4. Southern District	Sept. 24 to Dec. 20(g)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 17(a)(g) and Sept. 10 to Sept. 23(b)(g) and Sept. 24 to Jan. 4(c)(g) and Sept. 24 to Jan. 5(d)(g) and Nov. 1 to Jan. 5(e)(g) and Feb. 21 to Feb. 28(f)(g)	Sept. 25 to Dec. 20(g)

(a) In Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the Township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 inclusive.

(b) In Wildlife Management Units 62, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell), and 66 to 71 inclusive.

(c) In Wildlife Management Units 62 to 71 inclusive.

(d) In Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 72 to 93 inclusive, and 95.

(e) In Wildlife Management Unit 94.

(f) In Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 62, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell), 66 to 71 inclusive, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the Township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 93 inclusive.

(g) No person shall hunt migratory birds on the following Sundays during the hunting season in the Southern District: from September 11 to January 1, and February 26. These Sunday exclusions do not apply, and Sunday hunting is permitted, in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, in the Township of Haldimand, in the County of Northumberland, and in that portion in Wildlife Management Unit 63 of the County of Renfrew. Sunday exclusions do not apply to falconers who may hunt only ducks on Sundays from September 25 to December 18 inclusive.

\* See below for simplified presentation of Canada Goose Regulations for Southern District.

## BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ONTARIO

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Geese* (other than Snow Geese) and Brant	Snow Geese	Rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), American Coots, Common Snipe, and Common Moorhens	Woodcock
Daily bags	6(a)(b)(c)	5(d)(e)(f)(g)	10	10	8
Possession	12(a)(b)(c)	10(d)(e)(f)(g)	40	20	16

(a) Not more than one American Black Duck may be taken daily and not more than two American Black Ducks may be possessed in Central and Southern Districts and not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily and not more than four American Black Ducks may be possessed in Hudson–James Bay and Northern Districts.

(b) Not more than four Canvasbacks may be taken daily and not more than eight Canvasbacks may be possessed.

(c) Not more than four Redheads may be taken daily and not more than eight Redheads may be possessed.

(d) Not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than 10 Canada Geese may be possessed in that portion of Wildlife Management Unit 1D in Hudson–James Bay District, and in Wildlife Management Units 23 to 31 inclusive and 37 to 41 inclusive from September 10 to December 15 inclusive.

(e) Not more than two Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than four Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Unit 94 from November 1 to January 5 inclusive.

(f) Not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than 10 Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86 inclusive and 93 from September 24 to October 31 inclusive.

(g) Three additional Canada Geese may be taken daily and fourteen additional Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Units 36 and 45 from September 1 to September 9 inclusive; in Central District from September 6 to September 16 inclusive; in Wildlife Management Units 60A, 61, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the Township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 inclusive from September 6 to September 17 inclusive; in Wildlife Management Units 62, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell) and 66 to 71 inclusive from September 10 to September 23 inclusive; and in Wildlife Management Units 60A to 62 inclusive, 63 (excluding any part in Renfrew County), 64, 65 (excluding the United Counties of Prescott and Russell), 66 to 71 inclusive, 72A (excluding the Township of Haldimand), 72B to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding the township of South Walsingham, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 93 inclusive from February 21 to February 28 inclusive.

\* See below for simplified presentation of Canada Goose Regulations for Southern District.

## SUMMARY OF CANADA GOOSE REGULATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ONTARIO

Daily Limit	8	8	3	5	5	5	2	8
Poss. Limit	24	24	10	10	10	10	4	24
Start	6 Sept.	10 Sept.	24 Sept.	1 Nov.	24 Sept.	24 Sept.	1 Nov.	21 Feb.
Close	17 Sept.	23 Sept.	31 Oct.	5 Jan.	4 Jan.	5 Jan.	5 Jan.	28 Feb.
<b>WMU</b>								
60A	X					X		X
61	X					X		X
62		X			X			X
63		Except part in Renfrew Co.			X			Except part in Renfrew Co.
64A		X			X			X
64B		X			X			X
65		Except Prescott-Russell			X			Except Prescott-Russell
66		X			X			X
67		X			X			X
68		X			X			X
69		X			X			X
70		X			X			X
71		X			X			X
72A	Except Haldimand					X		Except Haldimand
72B	X					X		X
73	X					X		X
74	X					X		X
75	X					X		X
76	X					X		X
77	X					X		X
78	X					X		X
79	X					X		X
80	X					X		X
81	X					X		X
82	X		X	X				X
83	X		X	X				X
84	X		X	X				X
85	X		X	X				X
86	X		X	X				X
87	X					X		X
88	X					X		X
89	X					X		X
90	Except South Walsingham					X		Except South Walsingham
91	X					X		X
92	X					X		X
93	X		X	X				X
94	X						X	
95	X					X		
Season Table Footnotes	a	b	d	d	c	d	e	f
Limits Table Footnotes	g	g	f				e	g