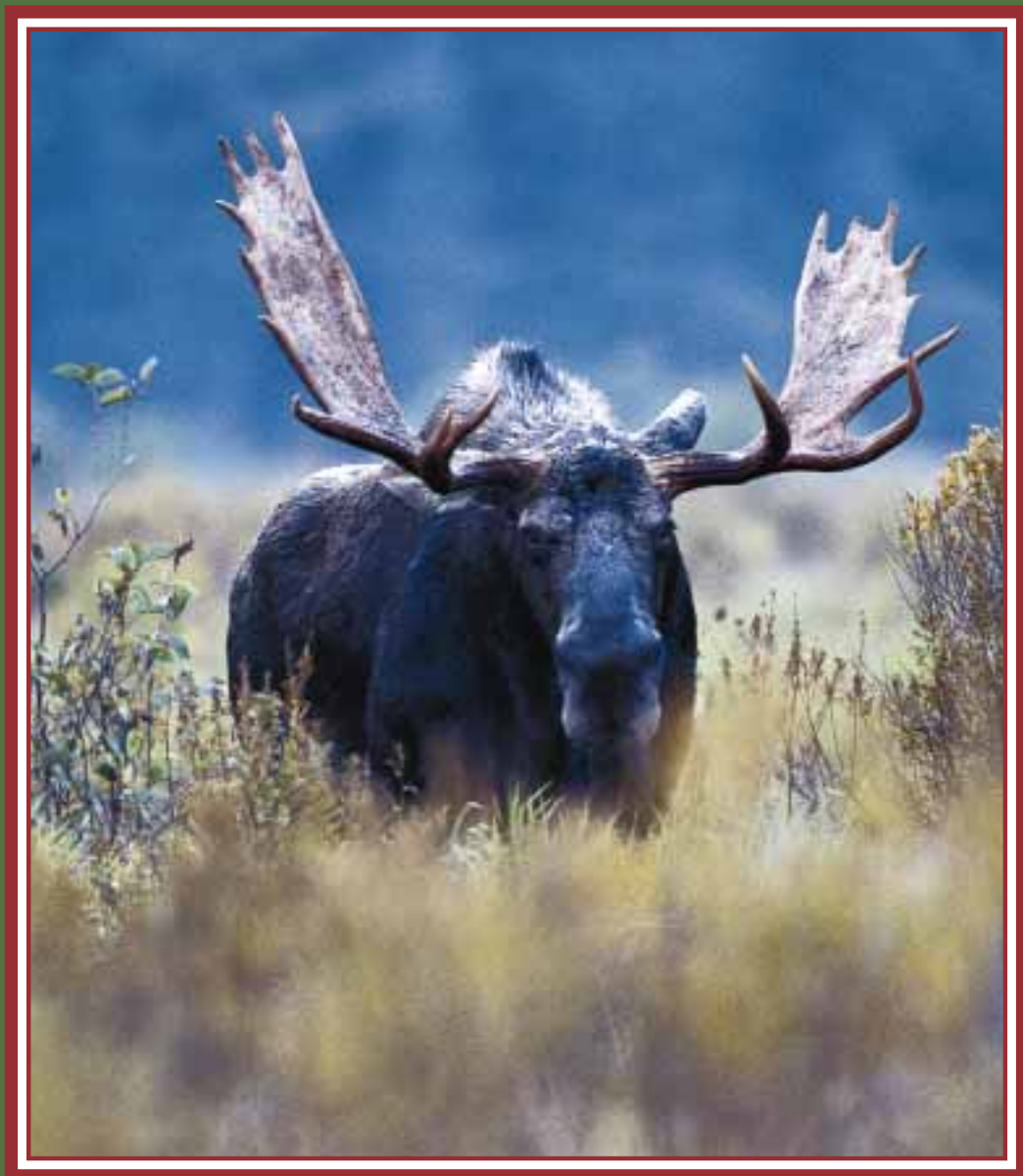


HUNT ONTARIO



ONTARIO
CANADA



Welcome to Ontario: Where hunters come to feed the soul

It might be the flash of a fleeing white-tailed deer, the whirl of an airborne grouse, or the hulking silhouette of a bull moose that stirs the hunter's heart within you. Or it might be a strutting wild turkey or the V-formation of honking Canada geese. Whatever it is that touches the hunter in you, chances are good that you can find it in Ontario. Its vast and diverse wild places, with a variety and abundance of game, speak directly to the soul of the hunter.

An Ontario hunt can take you from the rich agricultural lands of the south to the Hudson and James Bays' tidal flats. From the subtle yellows and greens of the northern boreal forest, to the hardwoods of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region ablaze with fall's reds, yellows, and oranges, and from fertile marshes to the rugged rock of the Canadian Shield, Ontario's terrestrial mosaic is the foundation for a satisfying hunt.

This guide provides the information you need to plan your hunt in Ontario, where scenic beauty and bountiful wildlife turn hunting dreams into cherished memories.

The quarry

From the fertile south to the windswept sub-Arctic, Ontario's diverse climate and terrain are reflected in a rich variety of game.

Waterfowl are hunted from James Bay down to the vast marshes and migratory staging areas of the southern lakes and the rich corn and grain fields of the rural countryside.

A carefully controlled selective harvest system ensures a healthy population of moose, dispersed across a wide swath of

northern Ontario's boreal forest. Bulls, which can top 1,000 pounds (450 kg), offer heart-stopping excitement.

Hundreds of thousands of white-tailed deer range from the province's southern border to the northwest beyond Lake Superior. Hunt fat farmland bucks or the big-racked deer of our eastern and northwestern woodlands.

A fall season for black bear allows you to target a trophy bruin from the largest population in North America. Combine your bear hunt with a quest for moose or deer, or as a challenge on its own.

Swing a smoothbore on upland gamebirds virtually anywhere in the province. Grouse, woodcock, and snipe are widespread throughout Ontario, while pheasant are available in the far south and ptarmigan range the northern tundra.

A successful reintroduction means growing numbers of wild turkey thrive in southern fields and woodlots, offering the chance to bag a bragging spring gobbler.

The scenario is enriched by small game such as rabbits, hares, and squirrels.

Keep it rustic or be pampered

Many of Ontario's northern hunting lands are road accessible and public property. You can plan your own excursion or use the services of experienced outfitters. They will provide everything from trip-planning and accommodation to complete hunting packages, including big-game tags, guides, and fly-in adventures to remote outpost camps. Waterfowlers can sample a northern goose camp on tide-water flats, or hire a guide for a day on stop-over lakes or southern farm fields. Leave the details in the hands of a capable

outfitter and you are free to focus on the experience unfolding before you.

Quality lodgings – from top-ranked full-service accommodation to housekeeping units and campgrounds – are available across the province to suit every need and expectation. With a favourable exchange rate on Canadian funds, U.S. hunters visiting Ontario find their dollar goes a long way.

Something for everyone

In Ontario, the wide range of opportunities lets you hunt the way you want. Whether it's calling geese or ducks from a blind or watching for big game from a tree stand, Ontario delivers. You can drive deer, stalk moose, match wits with a black bear, or work forest edges with a seasoned gun dog for fast-flushing upland game. The possibilities and challenges are limitless.

In addition to rifle and shotgun seasons for big game, special regulations in some Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) provide for hunting with bows and muzzleloaders. Hunters using these traditional methods enjoy longer seasons with fewer hunters. In many areas, seasons extend late into the year, when you can stalk your quarry over a snow-freshened landscape.

The chances for the hunt of a lifetime are as vast as the land itself. Whether you dream of flushing grouse or woodcock, calling a majestic northern moose, or anything in between, this guide can help make your dreams become reality in Ontario, where our hunting heritage runs deep and memories are waiting to be made.

ONTARIO CANADA



Scale 1:9,200,000
for illustrative purposes only
Parks shown are among Ontario's largest Provincial Parks.

FAST FACTS

* Ontario has a land base of nearly 400,000 square miles (1 million square kilometres). It is larger than the province of British Columbia or the state of Texas. It is bigger than Germany and France combined. Ontario is immense indeed!

* All revenue from sales of hunting and fishing licences in Ontario is used exclusively for wildlife and fish management. This is done by directing all licence fees into a special fund. You help to enhance your hunting and fishing opportunities with every licence you purchase.

* One objective of wildlife managers at Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources is to enhance hunting opportunities. In recent years, bow-hunting seasons for moose have expanded, the number of deer seasons in southern Ontario has grown, new wild turkey and grouse seasons have been opened, and special opportunities for phys-

ically challenged hunters have been put in place.
* For up-to-date information on hunting regulations and licences, consult the current *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary*. Telephone 1-800-667-1940 for your free copy, or pick one up at any hunting licence issuer or Ministry of Natural Resources office (listed on back cover).



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Provincial hunting and licensing regulations are subject to change. Please consult the current year's *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for the most up-to-date information. The summary is available at www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/pubs/pubmenu.html or by phoning 1-800-667-1940. Hunting questions can be directed to any Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources office shown on the back cover, or to the general inquiry telephone line at 1-800-667-1940.

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Ontario OUT OF DOORS,
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Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A7



Moose

(Alces alces)

The moose hunt of legend is built around a misty marsh, a birchbark horn, and the mournful wail of a cow moose. The dream response is the soft grunt of an answering bull and a ticking of antlers on frozen branches. Stay still now. The giant of the boreal forest is headed your way. For many, the moose defines big game hunting in North America.

Ontario's vast moose range offers gun (rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloader) seasons, bows-only seasons, and a special bows-and-muzzleloaders-only season for moose. The season for bow hunters and for northern gun hunters starts in mid-September. Some of these early gun hunts are in remote areas where access might be fly-in only. In other areas, the gun hunt opens in early October.

Calling, although tremendously exciting, certainly isn't the only way to

hunt Ontario moose. You can slip up on them by paddling a canoe quietly along a creek, river, or lakeshore, or by stalking them in the bush. Watching and waiting patiently for moose in feeding areas, especially along the edges of remote marsh meadows (known as moose pastures), proves highly successful for hunters each season. Recent burns (2 to 5 years old) and forest cutovers can be rewarding, particularly if a browsing area or travel corridor is nearby.

For some, the best moose hunting occurs once snow has blanketed the ground. Depending on snow depth, hunting then can be physically and mentally exhausting, and the hunter should be in proper condition for this exercise. Few thrills compare with tracking and stalking moose as they travel a snow-clad landscape.

When moose bed, they frequently criss-cross the wind and then button-hook back to watch their downwind trail. Hunters who track moose in snow can work as a team, with one following the trail and another hunter or two on the flanks of the tracker.

A well-placed shot will quickly down a moose. Because of the animal's size, hunters choose heavy or magnum cartridges to minimize chances of wounding. Popular calibres for Ontario moose include the .270, .308, .30-06, and the .300 Winchester Magnum. Select a premium bullet weighing at least 150 grains that has the ability to penetrate thick hide, muscle, and bone.

While moose hunting, some skilled hunters prefer to use a shotgun for the flexibility it provides to harvest other game, such as ruffed grouse, spruce



grouse, waterfowl and rabbits. Slugs are essential for moose and ranges must be kept short to ensure a clean kill of this big, tough animal.

In Ontario, longbows, recurves, compounds, and crossbows may be used during special archery seasons. For moose, recurve and compound bows must have a draw weight of 49 pounds (22 kg) or more when measured at a draw length of 28 inches (700 mm) or less. A crossbow must have a draw weight of 119 pounds (54 kg) or more at a draw length of 12 inches (300 mm) or more.

Minimum specifications also apply to broadheads and bolts used when moose hunting. Bow hunters wishing to join the ranks of those who have harvested the king of Ontario's big game mammals must be extremely competent and take only high-percentage shots. Bow hunters commonly use tree stands.

Muzzleloaders are becoming increasingly popular for hunting Ontario moose. In most areas there is no special season for muzzleloaders. They can be used during any regular gun season. There is,



however, a special archery-and-muzzleloader-only season on Lake of the Woods' Aulneau Peninsula (WMU 7A) in northwestern Ontario. Serious moose hunters choose large-calibre muzzleloaders, with .50 and .54 calibres being the most popular. Whether the choice is patch and ball or sabot, for a clean kill use a heavy bullet driven by as large a charge as is consistent with safety and accuracy.

After the harvest, the real work begins! Many first-time moose hunters

are shocked at the sheer size of the downed animal. The wise hunter has both the knowledge and skill required to preserve the food quality of the meat while getting it promptly to camp, a butcher, or other cold-storage facility. Few moose hunters go out alone because the prospect of handling a dead moose by oneself is daunting, to say the least.



MOOSE

Maximize your experience: hunt with an outfitter

A non-resident who wishes to hunt moose in Ontario must have valid hunting accreditation and be a registered guest and actually accommodated at a tourist establishment authorized to issue non-resident moose validation tags. The outfitter must apply for and receive, on the non-resident's behalf, a validation tag to hunt moose. Non-residents must have the validation tag prior to purchasing a moose licence. The only exceptions to this are non-residents who hunt with an immediate relative in specific circumstances, and non-residents who are landowners in designated

Wildlife Management Units. For more information, check the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* or call the Ministry of Natural Resources Information Centre at 1-800-667-1940.

Ontario's selective harvest program

The harvest of moose in Ontario is controlled by a selective harvest program, which limits the taking of adult animals with the highest reproductive potential. Hunters enter a draw for a validation tag that allows the harvest of either a bull or a cow moose. Check the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for information on moose validation-tag application procedures.

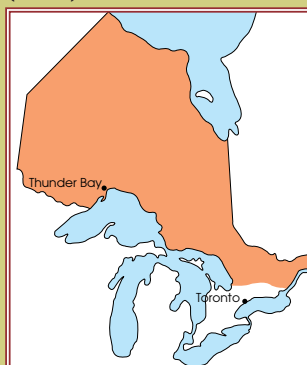
Biology of the moose

Moose are huge. By mid-autumn, a spring calf will weigh 400 pounds (180 kg) – more than the biggest white-tailed buck. An adult cow, which is generally smaller than a bull, can weigh as much as 800 pounds (363 kg). An Ontario bull in its prime can be as much as 1,400 pounds (636 kg), with antlers close to five feet (1.5 m) across. Yet even a

huge bull with an awesome rack can slip silently through the woods, leaving only tracks.

Cow moose commonly breed for the first time at 2 1/2 years of age. The cow usually has a single calf or twins, which remain with her for a full year. Moose can live for more than 20 years, but are in their prime at 6 to 9 years of age.

Ontario moose are classified as "Canada moose" for scoring recognition purposes by all scoring organizations. The current Foundation for the Recognition of Ontario Wildlife (FROW) record measures out at 219 7/8 points. This moose was taken north of Kenora with a modern firearm in 1989.



White-tailed deer

(Odocoileus virginianus)

The white-tailed deer is Ontario's premier big game. Whitetails range from the southern border of the province to north of the Great Lakes. The population is an estimated 300,000 to 350,000, and hunting seasons for deer are the longest of any big game season in Ontario. From mid-September to late December, there is an open season for deer somewhere in the province.

Deer hunting takes many forms. You can use a bow, a muzzleloader, a shotgun or a rifle. You can sit on a stump or in a tree stand, still-hunt, stalk, drive or, in some areas, listen to the song of baying hounds. You can deer hunt in shirt sleeves on an October afternoon or with crusted snow crunching underfoot. Many seasons are also open to non-residents.

Ontario's whitetails are large-bodied, in keeping with the biological rule that the farther north a species lives, the greater the body mass required to survive extended periods of cold weather. The possibility of a record book rack exists because antler mass is generally heavy. Since Ontario hunters have traditionally

been more concerned with meat for the freezer than with antlers, many magnificent racks have simply been tacked over mantles or over hunt camp or barn doors without being scored.

Archery hunters may choose among longbows, recurves, compounds and crossbows. For deer, longbows, recurves and compounds must have a draw weight of 40 pounds (18 kg) or more when measured at a draw length of 28 inches (700 mm) or less. A crossbow must have a draw weight of 100 pounds (45 kg) or more at a draw length of 12 inches (300 mm) or more. Minimum specifications also apply to broadheads and bolts used when deer hunting.

Shotgun hunters commonly use either rifled slugs or sabots. Increasingly, scopes are used to maximize the effectiveness of these firearms. Some hunters also use buckshot in certain situations, such as drives in thick cedar swamps, tag alder or black spruce, where shots are generally held to 20 yards (18 m) or under. Twenty-gauge shotguns and SG (or No. 1 buckshot) are the smallest sizes allowed

for deer. The most commonly used shotgun is a 12-gauge with slugs or SSG.

Muzzleloading firearms may be used during shotgun hunts, and in WMUs with bows-and-muzzleloaders-only seasons. Special December muzzleloader-only seasons are offered in several WMUs in southern Ontario.

Rifle hunters have more options. Ontario's deer country is the perfect place to take grandpa's cherished lever-action rifle for a walk. Cedar swamps, stands of spruce, and narrow rock ridges are an ideal environment for these fast-handling guns. Short-range shooting is the norm in these situations, and quick follow-up shots in heavy cover might be required. This is why many hunters use pump actions and semi-automatics in thick woods. Some farm country, power lines, logged open areas, and grassy meadows are suited to flat-shooting long-range bolt-actions. The bottom line is to hunt with the firearm you are most comfortable with and which can deliver both power and accuracy. A good rule of thumb is to use a

Continued on next page





Continued from previous page

rifle and a cartridge having at least 1,000 foot-pounds of muzzle energy to ensure a clean and humane harvest. Rounds suitable for whitetails include .243, .257, .270, .284, and most of the .30 calibres. Rimfire rifles are not permitted for hunting deer in Ontario.

White-tailed deer hunting tactics in Ontario are similar to the rest of the continent. Tree stands are productive in areas that show signs of concentrated

deer activity such as trails or feeding, bedding, or rutting areas. Bow hunters most often use tree stands, but in the central part of the province, stump-sitting is also a time-honoured technique. Set up along an obvious trail or travel route, or in a feeding area, and wait for local activity, other hunters, or dogs to send a whitetail your way.

Hunting deer with hounds is permitted in some WMUs. Deer moving ahead of hounds know they can easily outrun their

pursuers, so they move just fast enough to keep out of the way. More often than not, they'll be more concerned with their back-trail than with where they are going. Dogs used to hunt deer must be licensed for this activity in Ontario.

Driving deer is the most common and successful method for resident hunts in southern shotgun-only areas. In this case, the hunting party is divided into two groups: standers and drivers. Standers try to block travel routes, while drivers attempt to push deer out of cover — typically small tracts of hardwood bush or creek bottom. Pay close attention to the wind, so your scent isn't carried toward approaching deer, and make sure standers get into position as quietly and carefully as possible. As with all hunting on private land, it is essential to get the landowner's permission. It is especially important to be considerate of neighbouring homeowners and others who share the rural landscape.

Less commonly used in Ontario are still-hunting (moving slowly and carefully through the bush in order to catch a whitetail off guard) and stalking (spotting an animal and making a concealed approach within shooting range). Thick bush and a noisy forest floor make these techniques a challenge, but in those special circumstances when terrain and weather permit, they can be effective. Consider a slow still-hunt in the rain or if you have fresh, soft snow in the woods. There is often enough cover in Ontario woodlots and forests for a careful stalk if you happen to spot a whitetail out of range.

Calling and antler rattling to pull deer into range are becoming more common among Ontario hunters. Scents and lures are also used extensively, especially by bow hunters.

Hunter orange must be worn by all hunters during the open gun seasons for deer and moose. Archers may wear camouflage while hunting during the bows-only season.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Ontario's selective harvest system for deer

For most of Ontario's gun (rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader) and bow seasons, a selective harvest system is used to manage the take of antlerless (does and fawns) white-tailed deer. This provides a season during which both residents and non-residents may harvest a buck. At the same time, a limited number of resident hunters are allowed to hunt antlerless deer in order to regulate herd size.

In areas where the objective is to increase the size of the herd, the number of antlerless deer tags will be low. Where the herd is at or above the desired level, the number of tags will be increased.

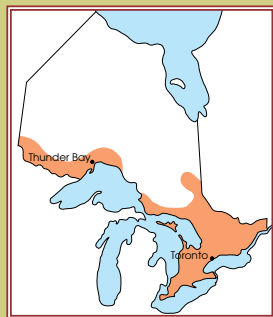
For the residents-only controlled deer hunts in southern Ontario, the harvest is regulated by the total number of hunting opportunities made available during special seasons.

Refer to the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for more information on draws for

antlerless deer validation tags and controlled hunt validation tags.

Biology of the white-tailed deer

The white-tailed deer is shy and retiring, yet has managed to adapt extremely well to human encroachment. Agricultural and forestry practices have actually helped to increase Ontario deer populations by opening up dense woodlands and providing new food sources.



Ontario whitetail bucks can exceed 300 pounds (136 kg), but most healthy, mature bucks average 140 to 250 pounds (63 to 114 kg), with does generally being smaller than bucks. Bucks start to grow antlers in April and by October they're ready for the challenge of the

November rut. Antlers are usually shed by the end of the year. Ontario's top-placing hunter-taken typical whitetail rack has been scored at 189 1/8 points by the Foundation for the Recognition of Ontario Wildlife (FROW). This deer was taken by modern firearm in the Parry Sound District of central Ontario in 1958. The FROW record non-typical whitetail scores 250 1/8 points. It was taken by modern firearm in 1995 in northwestern Ontario's Rainy River District.

Whitetail does, bred in fall, give birth to fawns the next spring. With favourable habitat and relatively mild winters, twins are common and triplets are a possibility. Female fawns might remain with their mother for up to two years, or until their first mating.

Whitetails are capable of bursts of speed up to 40 miles per hour (65 km/h), with bounds of up to 20 feet (6 m). Their natural gait is a smooth-paced trot at 10 to 20 miles per hour (16 to 32 km/h).





Wild turkey

(*Meleagris gallopavo*)

Absent for almost a century, the wild turkey has returned to southern Ontario in spectacular fashion.

In the mid-1980s, a few hundred wild turkeys were captured in the forests of the United States and released in prime Ontario habitat. As the population has grown, the Ontario government, in cooperation with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), the National Wild Turkey Federation, and thousands of dedicated conservation volunteers, has moved some birds each year to establish new flocks. The provincial population now exceeds 30,000 birds. It's a conservation success story that has re-established the Eastern wild turkey across much of southern Ontario.

Spring gobbler hunting is challenging. Wild turkeys have exceptional eyesight and hearing, and toms are especially wary in spring. For sheer excitement and challenge, gobbler hunting is one of North America's best hunting experiences.

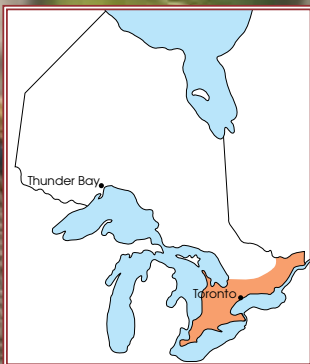
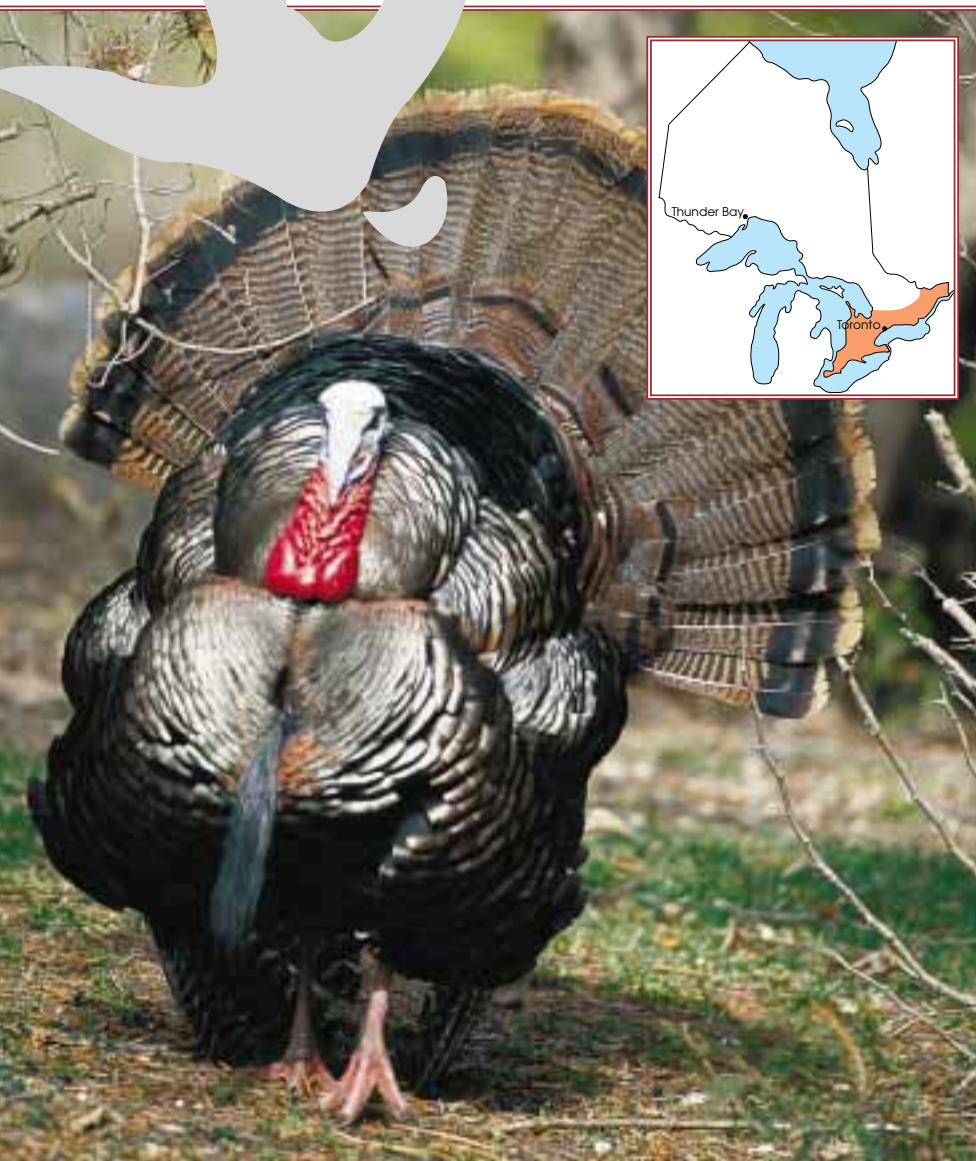
Dominant toms strut their stuff in April and May, attempting to attract the largest harem of hens possible. Hens usually mate with dominant gobblers once each day. The sexes locate each other by calling. Luring a gobbler into range by imitating hen calls is the most effective hunting method.

The spring hunting season, late April to the end of May for bearded turkeys only, covers much of southern Ontario. A two-

bird limit applies. To hunt for a second bird, a second turkey tag must be purchased. Only one bird may be taken in a day. To be eligible to purchase a wild turkey licence, all hunters, resident or non-resident, must pass a written examination after taking Ontario's one-day Wild Turkey Hunter Education Course covering biology, hunting techniques and safety. Courses are put on by the OFAH in cooperation with the Ontario government at various locations in the months before the season opens. This mandatory education program has helped keep turkey hunting in Ontario accident-free since it started in 1987. To register, call the OFAH at 705-748-6324. To hunt these birds in Ontario, you must have a small-game licence and a wild turkey licence.

Most hunters prefer heavy 12 or 10 gauge shotgun loads fired out of extremely tight chokes for maximum effectiveness on these tough birds. Large charges of No. 4, 5, or 6 pellets are needed in a head/neck shot to ensure a clean kill. Shot size is controlled by regulation and no gun smaller than 20 gauge may be used. Each spring, however, a few of Ontario's bearded beauties are harvested by archery and muzzleloader hunters who take on this higher level of challenge.

Access to turkey country, much of it private land, will be simplified if you arrange to hunt with a local resident (or with a local guiding service), or if you start early to make personal contacts and secure property access in the area that you wish to hunt. Respect for private property ensures a good future for this unique spring hunt.





Black bear

(*Ursus americanus*)



With numbers estimated at 75,000 to 100,000, Ontario has one of the largest black bear populations in North America. Black bears are distributed widely across northern and central Ontario, with a range that extends into southern Ontario's lush Great Lakes-St. Lawrence forest region.

Bear hunting seasons in the north run from mid-August into October. A September opening and November closing in effect in more southern WMUs. In all units with a bear season, hunting is open to both residents and non-residents. A season exclusively for bow and muzzleloader hunters is offered on the



Aulneau Peninsula in northwestern Ontario.

During the time of the hunt, bears are eating to accumulate body fat necessary to carry them through winter. In northern Ontario, berries are a large component of

their diet, while in the deciduous forests to the south, beechnuts and acorns are additional dietary staples. Baiting can be a particularly successful hunting method, with the hunter in a tree stand or in a ground blind. Baiting is often used early in the season when leaf cover can limit the effectiveness of stalking.

Spotting and stalking bears is possible in more open areas with the right combinations of rock ridges, old burns and mast crops. Late fall, when deciduous trees and shrubs have dropped their leaves, is a prime stalking time.

In central Ontario, bear hunting with dogs is popular with some hunters who use



highly trained dogs to identify and track bear scent.

Keep in mind that bear hunters are required to wear hunter orange. The one exception is that bear hunters may wear camouflage while in tree stands.

Moose and deer hunters in bear country are wise to purchase a bear licence along with their moose and deer licences, so an opportunity to dine on bear meat isn't lost if a bruin presents itself.

Generally wary and elusive, black bears usually take great care to avoid human contact. Nonetheless, as one of the largest predators in Ontario, they deserve tremendous respect in contact situations. To discourage unwanted attention by bears, wise hunters ensure that their camp is clean and secure. Hunting bears near garbage dumps is prohibited.

Ontario bears are most commonly taken by high-powered rifle, but shotguns loaded with slugs can be effective from the short ranges offered by tree stands or ground blinds. Shotguns must not be

smaller than 20 gauge.

Bow hunting for bear is growing in popularity, particularly over baits. When bow hunting, certain conditions apply to your longbow, recurve or compound. Draw weight must be 49 pounds (22 kg) or more when measured at a draw length of 28 inches (700 mm) or less. Crossbows must have a draw weight of 119 pounds (54 kg) or more and a draw length of 12 inches (300 mm) or more. Refer to the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for specifics on arrows and bolts. Black bears are tough, strong, large-boned animals. Only shots certain to kill should be attempted and only when using equipment with sufficient energy to do so cleanly.

Most non-residents hunting bear in Ontario will be required to use the services of an operator (a tourist outfitter, guide, or air operator) licensed to provide black bear hunting services to non-residents. Check the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for details. A black bear hunting licence validation certificate (available from your hunt outfitter) is needed to validate a non-resident black bear hunting licence. Dogs used to hunt black bear must be licensed for this activity in Ontario.

Like a moose, a black bear presents a challenge to get from the field to the camp, butcher, or cold storage. Proper preparation and equipment are essential.



BLACK BEAR

Biology of the North American black bear

Black bear colour phases include cinnamon and other shades of brown. The muzzle can be black, dark brown, or light brown, and frequently there's a white V on the chest.

Black bears are strong boned with heavy muscles. Adult males weigh from 250 to 600 pounds (114 to 272 kg). Females weigh from 100 to 400 pounds (45 to 181 kg). Full skeletal growth comes at about five years of age for females and seven to eight years for males. The weight of both sexes may continue to increase for another three to four years.

Among the most difficult of all North American game to sex in the wild, the black bear, with its generally stocky body, long hair, and

uniform colouration, can be identified using the following guidelines.

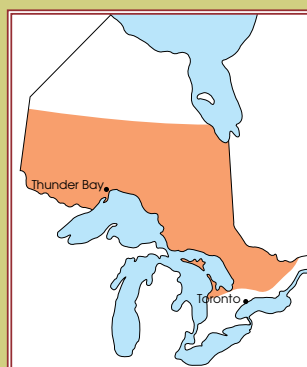
Males have heavily muscled necks, shoulders, and forelimbs, and a broad snout. The well-developed muscle masses on top of the male's head make the ears appear small, rounded, and set far apart. In a side view, the penis can often be seen in front of the thigh.

Females are more slightly built than males, with smaller necks and frames. They have a long, thin snout, and their ears appear to be large because the muscle masses on top of the head are not well developed. In a rear view, hairs from the vulva can often be seen between the thighs.

The eyes of a black bear appear small for the size of

the head. Eyesight is reportedly comparable to that of a human, with colour vision and detailed near vision. Hearing and sense of smell are highly developed; bears can detect food from up to 1 mile (1.6 km) away.

Black bears are omnivores. They eat a variety of green vegetation, berries, insects, and nuts. Bears have been known to kill moose and deer, especially young



animals. Their canine teeth are large and accompanied by flattened molars designed primarily for crushing.

In late fall, black bears seek dens (where they are protected by regulation) and hibernate until spring. Mating occurs from mid-June to early August. At most, females can reproduce once every two years. Cubs are born between late December and early February while the mother is still denning. Litters range from one to four cubs. Cubs stay with their mother until they are 16 to 17 months of age, at which time she mates again.

The largest Ontario black bear submitted for scoring to the Foundation for the Recognition of Ontario Wildlife was taken in Thunder Bay District by a bow hunter in 1990. It scored 21-12/16 points.



Bow hunting



Bow hunting in Ontario is attracting more converts every year. The reasons are simple: terrific big-game opportunities; extended seasons (both early and late); special bow seasons; and plenty of room for solitary, undisturbed hunting.

The story starts with excellent white-tailed deer bows-only seasons across the province from September to December, depending on the WMU selected. In October and November, these are

supplemented by WMUs that offer bow seasons in conjunction with muzzleloader or shotgun seasons. No matter how wintry the weather gets late in the year, there are always days when you can comfortably be in the field to take advantage of the fresh snow. This is your chance to get out of the tree stand or blind and stalk or still-hunt.

Residents and non-residents can also hunt moose with a bow. In 2000, new

bows-only seasons were established in northeastern areas. These are in addition to existing mid-September to early October bow hunts in many WMUs. You can also bow hunt during the gun season. Calling moose can be effective for the bow hunter who has the timing right.

Bow hunting for bear is also available from August to November. This is when bait stations can increase your bear sightings as you hunt from a blind or tree stand.

Spring brings exciting opportunities for a southern Ontario bow hunt for wild turkeys from late April to the end of May. Combining a ground blind with patient calling will increase a bow hunter's chance of success.

Given the size and scope of the province, most visiting hunters will want to hunt with an outfitter who specializes in bow hunting. Most non-resident moose and bear hunters are required to hunt with an outfitter (check the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for exceptions), so ask around for those who specialize in the type of experience you want. Your outfitter will apply for a moose validation tag or a black bear licence hunting validation certificate on your behalf.

While all hunting demands preparation and scouting, this is even more true of bow hunting, due to the required proximity to game. Camo clothing and cover scents will help you remain undetected for an exciting, effective close-in shot.

Longbows, recurves, compounds and crossbows may all be used in Ontario. Minimum conditions apply to equipment and are outlined in the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary*.

Deer and moose hunters do not have to wear hunter orange as long as they are hunting during the archery-only season. But, if you bow hunt for deer or moose during an open gun (rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader) season, hunter orange clothing laws come into effect. Bear hunters are also required to wear hunter orange. The exception is that they may wear camo while in a stand. Turkey hunters are exempt from hunter orange requirements.



Muzzleloader hunting

(including flintlock, percussion cap, and in-line muzzleloaders)



Returning to the firearms of yesteryear and honing the outdoor skills required to use them effectively can be very satisfying. Ontario is rich in big game ideal for muzzleloader hunting. Our northern boreal forests are well suited for the shorter range of primitive firearms.

Moose are available to muzzleloader hunters all across the north. Especially in the early gun seasons, bulls can be lured by imitating a variety of moose rutting calls. The ultimate experience at the edge of a northern lake is the crashing, thrashing, and splashing of a huge bull as it answers a call and bulldozes toward a waiting hunter.

The Aulneau Peninsula on Lake of the Woods (WMU 7A) offers special muzzleloader and bow seasons for moose, deer and bear. Non-residents must hunt from a tourist outfitter's accommodation. Outfitters are allocated

moose tags, and a hunting package usually includes the opportunity to take an adult animal using one of the outfitter's allocated tags.

There are non-resident seasons for whitetails elsewhere in northwestern Ontario and the south-central deer range, where both modern rifles and muzzleloaders are permitted. Much of the southern agricultural deer range is restricted to shotguns, bows and muzzleloaders. Refer to the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for details on non-resident seasons, which are generally for bucks only.

For deer, .45 or .50 calibre muzzleloaders are adequate. For moose and bear, .50 or .54 calibres are recommended. Get close to make your one shot count.





Waterfowl

Geese

You almost always hear geese before you see them. Their spine-tingling notes, carried on the wind, speak to the souls of generation after generation of hunters.

A “bay shoot” for snow geese, Canadas and Brant on James and Hudson Bays remains one of the world’s top waterfowling experiences. Driven by the ebb and flow of tides, waves of geese move across tidal flats in search of their next meal. The birds come here, some from the high Arctic, to stage and prepare

for their long migration south. It’s a rugged land where Cree guides who understand its rhythms take hunters to willow blinds hidden in a sea of grasses, rippling in the wind. A hunt alongside one of these master callers, with a sea breeze on your face and the sight of “wavies” in the wind, is a truly magical experience.

South of James Bay, most hunters target two of the subspecies of Canadas: the *maximas*, the resident Canada geese that breed in southern Ontario and weigh up to 15 pounds (6.8 kg); and the *interiors*,

migrant Canada geese that nest on the James and Hudson Bays’ coast and weigh up to 12 pounds (5.4 kg).

The use of water sets with 24 or more floating decoys is on the rise. Traditional southern Ontario hotspots such as Luther Marsh, Long Point, the St. Lawrence River, and Tiny Marsh are annual favourites, but farm ponds and water-filled gravel pits early in the season, and big rivers after ice begins to form, can often provide exceptional gunning for hunters with dogs and water rigs.

Seasons that focus on the growing population of giant Canadas (the *maxima* subspecies) open in early September in many regions and continue into January or February across portions of the south. Most of the early hunting is in barley, alfalfa, and winter wheat fields, then it switches to cornfields as the harvest progresses. Good Canada goose hunting occurs in the farm regions west of Thunder Bay in northwestern Ontario and below the Canadian Shield in agricultural areas throughout southern Ontario. Most field hunting for Canada geese is on private land, requiring landowner permission. Because of this, a network of guides is developing across Ontario.

Standard goose field rigs consist of 36 to 48 decoys, and while silhouettes work fine early in the season, adding shells and full-bodied decoys is recommended later in the fall. Pit blinds are seldom used in Ontario. Most blinds are snugged up against hedgerows, or hunters slip under jumbo-sized goose shells for cover. Good calling is a major asset, especially as these big birds become wary of hunters and their set-ups as the season progresses.

Most waterfowlers opt for 12 gauge shotguns for geese, but 10 gauge shotguns are growing in popularity. The heaviest charge of the largest reasonable shot helps to bring these big, tough birds down cleanly. (Hunters are reminded only non-toxic shot may be used for waterfowl hunting in Ontario.) Patience and a good knowledge of your gun’s effective range are essential for clean and consistent harvests.





Ducks

For many of Ontario's waterfowlers the black duck is still the crown jewel of the skies, although other species merit special recognition, particularly in southern Ontario, where mallards often dominate. In the far north, pintail and early nesting goldeneye are common. Farther south,

green-winged teal, ringneck, and wood ducks make their appearance. Still farther south, on the great marshes of the southern Great Lakes, they are joined by a steady stream of migrants that move down the flyways. In southernmost Ontario, a hunter might reasonably expect to see scaup, redheads, bufflehead, widgeon, gadwall,

old squaw, and the royalty of diving ducks, the canvasback.

Duck hunting follows three traditional patterns in Ontario. There's the beaver-pond hunt on the Canadian Shield, where rigs of a dozen or fewer decoys, a good dog and a wanderlust are key ingredients. It's an activity in which plenty of scouting, an intimate knowledge of the landscape, and other hunters' locations are essential.

Then there's the marsh hunt on the fringes of one of countless inland lakes and man-made marshes. Two to four dozen decoys that reflect the changing composition of the full flight are usually necessary, as are a boat and chestwaders. Jump-shooting from canoe or punt can also be productive.

Finally, there's big-water hunting where rafts of birds stage for migration. Wolfe Island in eastern Lake Ontario, Long Point on Lake Erie, and Lake St. Clair's Walpole Island are examples of areas rich with waterfowling tradition. This is where western migrants from the prairies mingle with homegrown birds and swell the flights from hundreds to thousands. Rigs here often exceed six dozen decoys for diver ducks.





Upland gamebirds



If there's a quintessential outdoor experience, walking Ontario's uplands on a crisp autumn day might be it. A bird hunter would be hard pressed to find a place filled with more beauty, diversity or promise. Depending on location, a hunter could flush ruffed, spruce, or sharp-tailed grouse, or Hungarian (Gray) partridge, pheasant, woodcock, snipe, or ptarmigan.

Upland gunning is steeped in tradition, at its best in the company of an eager dog, a favourite shotgun, and like-minded companions. In Ontario, though, it can also be a solitary trek along endless logging trails that meander past beaver meadows, evergreens, birch, aspens and sumac. It could be the surprise rise and whirl of a woodcock at

your feet, or the expected, yet still startling, flight of a ruffed grouse from under the nose of a seasoned dog. A day afield might take a hunter through the stillness of a spruce stand or the nostalgia of an abandoned farmstead. For the truly adventurous, it might even be a walk beyond the treeline for ptarmigan.

A fast-pointing open-choked shotgun in 12 or 20 gauge loaded with No. 7 shot is a good bet to bring these prized birds of autumn to hand. There's little room or time to swing in the thickets and birches. Sometimes falling leaves and the whine of a disappointed gun dog are all there is to show from an



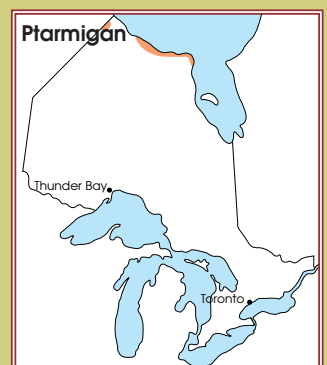
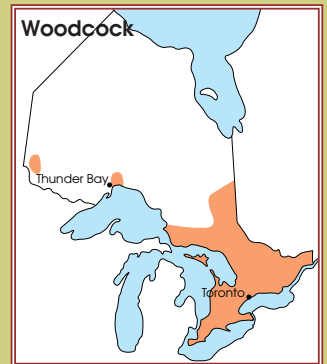
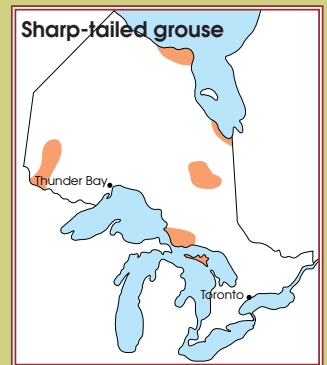
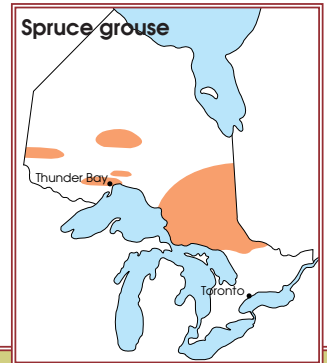
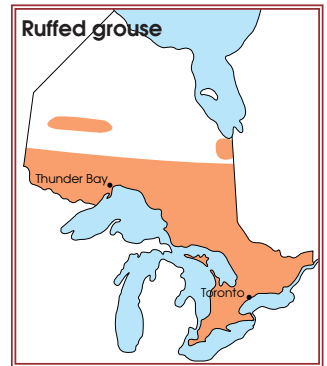
encounter. Other times, there's fine table fare and the recollection of everything done just right.

In general, upland birds are edge dwellers of second-growth woods. Living in dense thickets adjacent to fields, burns or meadows, they're never far from a thick, dark coniferous stand, or a tangle of alders, and are always close to food: sumac, wild grapes, old apple orchards and the like. Find places such as these and birds won't be far away. The crop contents of the day's first bird will provide a hint of where to find more. Upland game birds key in on specific food and habitat. So should you.

When flushed, upland birds often rise almost within reach, from total camouflage, in a flight that gains altitude quickly, levels off, and heads straight away. In open fields, hunters can be misled. These birds are quicker than you first think, especially the powerful cock pheasant. Others, such as snipe, turn suddenly and sharply in flight – a wing-shooter's challenge. Woodlot birds elude the hunter with an uncanny knack for putting cover between your barrel and

their tail feathers. (A word of caution about snipe: although upland hunters sometimes pursue snipe they must, under federal regulations, be hunted with non-toxic shot. Lead remains legal for grouse, woodcock, and the other upland species cited here.)

In Ontario, there are wild birds to chase throughout generous hunting seasons and there are private shooting preserves open year-round. These, too, are a great way to keep a dog happy and a wing-shot keen. Pheasant, chukar, and bobwhite are offered in pleasant surroundings, generally not too far from urban centres.



BIOLOGY

RUFFED GROUSE

(*Bonasa umbellus*)

Habitat: Second-growth deciduous and mixed woodland, edges, openings, old orchards, and willow-bordered ravines.

Range: Throughout Ontario south of the treeline.

Comments: Ontario's most popular and sought-after upland gamebird.

SPRUCE GROUSE

(*Canachites canadensis*)

Habitat: Coniferous forests, sometimes mixed hardwood edges, muskeg, burns, blueberry barrens.

Range: Central and northern Ontario; southern range in line with Algonquin Park.

Comments: A bird of coniferous stands. Relatively sparse populations, even within its range.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

(*Tympanuchus phasianellus*)

Habitat: On agricultural land near bush and open woodlands or in coniferous areas near muskeg, burns, and bogs.

Range: Northwestern Ontario; Sault Ste. Marie and Manitoulin Island; Lake Abitibi

and west; Hudson Bay.

Comments: A fast, powerful flyer. Our largest grouse.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK

(*Scolopax minor*)

Habitat: Migratory, found in moist, brushy tangles, alder thickets, and cedar bottomlands.

Range: South and central Ontario, north to Timmins, Thunder Bay, and Kenora.

Comments: An elusive, startling flyer, often taking off straight up and dropping just as quickly.

COMMON SNIPE

(*Gallinago gallinago*)

Habitat: Migratory, found in marshes, bogs, moist meadows.

Range: Throughout Ontario.

Comments: A bat-like flyer, often seen at dusk over wetlands. Non-toxic shot required.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT

(*Phasianus colchicus*)

Habitat: Mainly farmlands with fields of grain, corn, alfalfa, and other crops.

Always near cover, drainage ditches, hedges, shrubbery, adjacent

woodlots, and edge underbrush.

Range: Mainly southwestern Ontario; Pelee Island. Almost all huntable birds are private stockings at gamefarms.

Comments: A prized gamebird being considered for reintroduction in southwestern Ontario. A strong flyer and notorious runner.

HUNGARIAN (GREY) PARTRIDGE

(*Perdix perdix*)

Habitat: Open grassland and agricultural land.

Range: Eastern portions of southern and central Ontario.

Comments: A low, fast flyer. A hardy introduced species.

WILLOW PTARMIGAN

(*Lagopus lagopus*)

Habitat: Low tundra, along willow-banked streams, muskegs, and river margins.

Range: Extreme northern Ontario, beyond the treeline, along James Bay and Cape Henrietta Maria.

Comments: Our northernmost upland gamebird, inhabiting remote environs. White in winter, browns and whites at other times. Often distinguished by its red eyes when seen against snow or brushy backgrounds.



Small game



Small game can be a young hunter's first quarry or the incentive that pulls a veteran out of bed at dawn on a cold winter day. Small game is often the starting point in life-long hunting journey.

Ontario has a good selection of small game. Rabbits, hares and squirrels abound in most parts of the province and foxes, coyotes and wolves can provide challenging hunting in many areas.

Rabbits and hares

Eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*)

European hare (*Lepus europaeus*)

Snowshoe hare (*Lepus americanus*)

Cottontail rabbits range across southern parts of the province. Hunting with a beagle is the classic method, but walking them up can be almost as effective. Mini-drives also work well. All you have to do is pick out the thickest, thorniest, most tangled cover and wade in. Fast-handling shotguns and light shot are the best bets for cottontails, although many hunters prefer a

fast-handling .22 rifle. Needless to say, the safe and wise hunter wears hunter orange and is sure of the shot before firing, especially in thick cover.

Outside of continental Europe, Ontario is the only place in the world where you can hunt free-ranging European hares. Called jackrabbits (they are not, however, the same as western prairie jackrabbits), these introduced giants can top 10 pounds (4.5 kg). They range agricultural fields and bush fringes of the south along Lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario.

Be prepared to do a lot of walking to hunt jacks. These wary, fast runners often make a large loop, coming back almost to the spot from which they were startled. As a result, they quickly take a dog out of hearing range. To be successful, plan to cover a lot of miles, keep a sharp eye for any movement, and hope you raise one within shotgun range. Magnum BB loads are the ticket for these hares. Hunters wishing for an even greater challenge

often choose a .22, .22 Magnum, or a centre-fire rifle for progressively longer-range shooting.

Snowshoe hares, also known as varying hares, the white ghosts of winter, are found in evergreen forests throughout much of the province and are hunted in the same manner as cottontails. With their efficient camouflage and swampy habitat, snowshoe hares are challenging targets, springing from cover in front of the hunter or the hounds.

Extended seasons for rabbits and hares provide lots of opportunities for the avid hunter.

Grey squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*)

Many hunters believe that squirrels are found only in towns and cities. Not so. The southern part of the province is home to an amazing number of grey squirrels (both black phase and grey phase), but the behaviour of the country cousins is much different than that of the city slickers.

Hunting squirrels is probably the best training a novice can experience. Careful stalking and excellent observational skills are required. Calling squirrels is an effective technique, but seldom used in Ontario.

Squirrels are one of Ontario's underutilized species and present a real opportunity for those who enjoy a day afield. Practically every bushlot holds some resident bushy-tails, but one that combines nut-bearing trees next to a cornfield can be a real producer.

An accurate, scoped .22 rimfire or a tightly choked shotgun with No. 6 shot are the best choices for squirrel hunting.

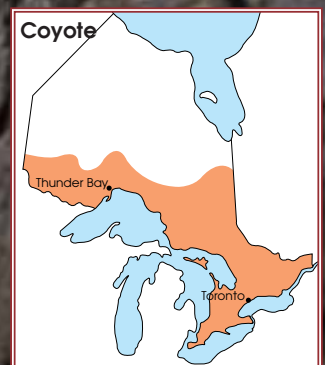
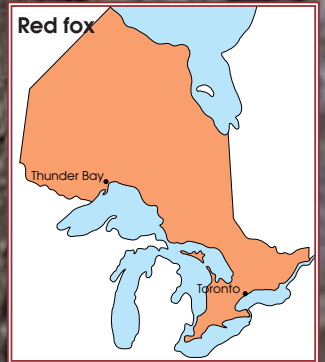
It is important to remember that the red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*), found throughout Ontario, is protected as a fur-bearer under regulation and may not be hunted. Similarly, flying squirrels (*Glaucomys sp.*) are specially protected.

Other small game

Foxes and coyotes in the southern reaches of the province and northern wolves offer exciting hunting. Patience and determination are required to be successful. Hybridization of the smaller western coyote from the prairies with wolves over the last century has resulted in very large Ontario coyotes. A tight-grouping, high-velocity small-calibre rifle is the best tool to use, although some hunters favour larger calibres. Predator calls are effective and are becoming much more widely used in Ontario. Hounds are traditional.

Although fox, coyote, and wolves are classed as fur-bearing mammals, they can be taken under the authority of a small-game hunting licence. Remember to get a CITES (Convention in International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) permit from the MNR before attempting to take a wolf out of Canada.

Raccoons may also be hunted with a small-game licence. Although day hunting is enjoyed, especially near food sources such as cornfields and creeks, most raccoon hunting by Ontario residents is done at night with dogs. (Non-residents are not eligible to hunt raccoons at night.) Special regulations and seasons apply, and dogs used to hunt raccoons must be licensed for this activity. Refer to the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for complete information on resident and non-resident raccoon hunting.





Regulations and contacts

General hunting regulations

Individuals intending to hunt in Ontario are advised to thoroughly study the province's hunting regulations and the federal legislation that affects firearms and firearms owners. Waterfowlers should also consult the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Each April, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources publishes hunting regulations for residents and non-residents in the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary*, which includes WMU maps. It's available at sporting goods outlets, hunting licence issuers, and MNR offices throughout Ontario, and at www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/pubs/pubmenu.html. General hunting inquiries or questions on specific seasons and limits may be directed to the Natural Resources Information Centre at 1-800-667-1940. Hunters who wish service in French may call 1-800-667-1840.

Licensing

To hunt, **Ontario residents** must be 16 years of age, take a hunter education training course, pass the tests (written and practical), obtain a valid Outdoors Card (hunting version) and the necessary licence(s) for the game they are hunting. An Ontario resident may hunt at the age of 15 with the written approval of both parents or legal guardians and having met all the requirements. An Ontario resident aged 12 or older, who has successfully completed the Ontario hunter education training course and tests, may hunt with a licensed mentor under the rules of the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program with a special Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program Outdoors Card. In all cases, the Outdoors Card, licence(s), and any validation tags must be carried while hunting.

To obtain a **non-resident's** licence in Ontario, the hunter must be 16 years of age or older and show proof of hunting experience in another jurisdiction. This documentation is usually a hunting licence

from the hunter's home province, state, or country issued after January 1, 1968, or a certificate of having successfully completed a hunter education training course and qualification to purchase a hunting licence. Copies are not acceptable. Returning hunters are advised to bring their old Ontario licences with them. Hunting licence issuers are located throughout Ontario, often at sporting-goods outlets, hardware stores and tourist camps. It is wise to call ahead to ensure that all required licences are available for purchase at your chosen location.

To purchase an Ontario **wild turkey** licence, a hunter must possess a certificate showing successful completion of Ontario's Wild Turkey Hunter Education Course and test. (Retain the certificate for purchasing future Ontario wild turkey licences.) An Ontario small game licence is also required to hunt wild turkeys.

To hunt **migratory birds**, a hunter needs a federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit, a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp, and an Ontario small game licence. The federal permit and stamp are available at main Canada Post offices.

Provincial hunting and licensing regulations are subject to change. Both residents and non-residents should refer to the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* for complete details on eligibility to hunt and licence fees by species.

Hunters are advised to consult the Firearms Act and Regulations for federal provisions that affect firearms and firearms owners. Information on **federal firearms regulations** for residents and non-residents can be obtained by calling the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or by visiting website www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca

Hunter orange requirements

Licensed individuals hunting during open gun (rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloader) seasons for deer or moose in Ontario must wear hunter orange clothing. This applies to hunters of small game (rabbit, fox, etc.),

upland game birds (grouse, pheasant, etc.), and big game (deer, moose, bear). Bow hunters in archery-only areas, waterfowlers, and turkey hunters are exempt from wearing hunter orange. Black bear hunters must wear it except when in elevated tree-stands. While hunter orange is not required for small game hunters, except during big game rifle seasons, it is recommended at all times.

Regulations require a minimum 400 square inches (2,580 sq. cm.) of hunter orange, visible from all sides, to be worn above the waist in addition to orange head gear. Camouflage hunter orange and open-mesh hunter orange do not qualify toward a hunter's 400 square inch (2,580 sq. cm.) minimum.

Trespass

Positive landowner/hunter relationships are important to the future of hunting in Ontario. Access to private land is a privilege. A hunting licence does not give a hunter the right to enter private property. It is the hunter's responsibility to find out who owns the land he or she wishes to hunt and to obtain permission. If unsure, stay off the land.

Transporting game

Birds: Anyone who possesses or is transporting migratory gamebirds must keep one fully feathered wing attached to it for identification purposes.

Big game and furbearers: A game seal with the appropriate validation tag affixed (if issued) must be attached to big game and wild turkey during transit. In some cases, proof of the animal's sex is also required. Consult the instructions that come with the tag.

Moose, deer, bear, and furbearing mammals are subject to export regulations and require a provincial export permit. Furbearing mammals include, but are not limited to, wolves, raccoons, coyotes, and red fox. A fee is charged for a non-

resident's export permit for moose, deer, and bear. A royalty fee also applies for furbearers. Information on export permits is available from MNR offices. The list of offices, locations, and phone numbers is available on the back cover of this booklet, in the *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary*, or on the MNR website at www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/csb/message/mnroffices.html.

In addition to an export permit, black bears (and other species of wildlife), under some conditions, require a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) permit. There is no charge for the CITES permit, which is available through MNR offices.

A Canadian CITES permit is not required by a U.S. or Canadian resident bear hunter who is taking a black bear in a fresh, frozen, or salted condition back to the U.S., or through the U.S. enroute to another part of Canada, at the conclusion of the hunt. The fresh, frozen, or salted bear must be part of the baggage accompanying the hunter. This exemption does not apply to taxidermy mounts or black bears that are in any condition other than fresh, frozen, or salted. Except as outlined above, a resident or non-resident bear hunter must obtain a CITES permit through an MNR office when a black bear or its parts are being exported.

A hunter from the United States wishing to export wolves from Ontario must get both an export permit and a CITES permit.

CITES permits are not normally available near border crossings, so hunters are advised to consult with their outfitter or the local MNR office to ensure the required permits are obtained.

Firearms and ammunition

Ontario regulations specify the class of firearm and types of ammunition that are permitted for the hunting of big game animals and migratory birds. For complete information refer to the *Ontario Hunting*

Regulations Summary, available from any MNR office and on the Internet at www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/pubs/pubmenu.html

Under federal regulations, non-toxic shot is required for hunting migratory gamebirds (ducks, geese, Brant, cranes, rails, gallinules, coots and snipe), with the exception of woodcock. Bismuth, steel, tin, tungsten-iron, tungsten-matrix and tungsten-polymer shot are currently approved for use in Canada. For more information on permitted shot, contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at 519-826-2100 or check website www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/pub/hunting/nontoxic.html

As a result of federal government legislation and regulations, firearms registration and owner licensing are being phased in across Canada. For full information on Canada's gun laws, contact the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or check website www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca

Hunters who bring rifles or shotguns into Canada will usually have to declare their firearms in writing at point of entry. A fee is required to complete this procedure. The confirmed declaration is valid for up to 60 days. Firearms Declaration Forms are available from Customs offices, through the toll-free Canadian Firearms Centre information line at 1-800-731-4000, through the Canadian Firearms Centre website, and often through hunting outfitters.

Hunters who plan to borrow firearms in Canada should apply for a Non-Resident's Sixty-Day Possession Licence well in advance of their arrival at the Canadian border. A fee is required for this licence. The application form is available from the Canadian Firearms Centre information line.

Non-residents should note that handguns and automatic firearms are not permitted for hunting in Ontario and cannot generally be brought into Canada.

Dogs

When bringing a dog into Ontario from outside Canada, you must have a signed, original certificate from a veterinarian declaring the animal has had a rabies vaccination within the previous 12 months. The certificate cannot be dated fewer than 30 days before entry into Canada. This document will be required on both sides of the border. It's also a good idea to have the dog on a heartworm prevention program. A full vaccination program for common canine diseases is also recommended.

Travel information

Northern Tourism Marketing Corp.,
Box 315, 1100c Memorial Ave.,
Thunder Bay, Ont. P7B 4A3,
phone: 1-800-947-8066;
website: www.getnorth.com
(For information on travelling in Ontario, accommodations, and services.)

Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters
Association,
269 Main St. W., Suite 408,
North Bay, Ont. P1B 2T8
phone: 705-472-5552
e-mail: notoonlink.net
website: www.oto.net
(For more information on northern-Ontario tourism outfitters and destinations.)



Info at a glance

Ontario Ministry of Natural
Resources Information Centre,
300 Water St., P.O. Box 7000,
Peterborough, Ont. K9J 8M5
General Inquiries (English) :
1-800-667-1940
General Inquiries (French):
1-800-667-1840
e-mail: mnr.nric@mnr.gov.on.ca
website: www.mnr.gov.on.ca
Outdoors Card Renewal Line:
1-800-288-1155
Maps, aerial photos, or government
publications: 1-800-667-1940.

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Offices

NORTHWEST REGION

Atikokan (WMUs 11A,12A,12B)

108 Saturn Avenue POT 1C0
(807) 597-6971

Dryden (WMUs 5,8,15A)

479 Government Road (Hwy. 17),
Box 730 P8N 2Z4 (807) 223-3341

Fort Frances

(WMUs 9A,9B,10,11A,12A,12B)

922 Scott Street P9A 1J4
(807) 274-5337

Geraldton (WMUs 17,18A,18B,19)

208 Beamish Avenue W.,
Box 640 POT 1M0
(807) 854-1030

Ignace (WMU 15A)

Box 448 POT 1T0
(807) 934-2233

Kenora (WMUs 6,7A,7B)

808 Robertson Street,
Box 5080 P9N 3X9
(807) 468-2501

Nipigon (WMUs 14,20)

5 Wadsworth Drive, Box 970
POT 2J0 (807) 887-5000

Red Lake (WMUs 2,3)

227 Howey Street, Box 5003
POV 2M0 (807) 727-2253

Sioux Lookout (WMUs 1C,4,16A,16B)

49 Prince Street, Box 309 P8T 1A6
(807) 737-1140

Terrace Bay (WMU 21A)

Hwy 17, Box 280 POT 2W0
(807) 825-3205

Thunder Bay (WMUs 11B,12B,13,15B,16C)

435 James Street S., Suite B001
P7E 6S8 (807) 475-1471

SOUTHCENTRAL REGION

Algonquin Park (Whitney) (WMU 51)

P.O. Box 219, Whitney K0J 2M0
(613) 637-2780

Aurora, Greater Toronto Area (GTA) (WMUs 72A,72B,73 (Durham Region Only), 78,79C, 79D)

50 Bloomington Road W.
L4G 3G8 (905) 713-7400

Aylmer (WMUs 90,91,92,93,94,95)

353 Talbot Street W. N5H 2S8
(519) 773-9241

Bancroft

(WMUs 51,54,55A,56,57,60A,61,62,63)

106 Monck Street, Box 500, Hwy. 28
K0L 1C0 (613) 332-3940

Bracebridge (WMUs 50,53)

R.R. 2, Hwy 11, 1350 High Falls Road
P1L 1W9 (705) 645-8747

Chatham (WMUs 93,94,95)

870 Richmond Street W., Box 1168
N7M 5J5 (519) 354-7340

Clinton (WMUs 85,86)

100 Don St. Box 819 NOM 1L0
(519) 482-3428

Guelph (WMUs 80,85,86,87,88,89)

1 Stone Road W., N1G 4Y2
(519) 826-4955

Kemptville (WMUs 63,64,65,66,67,69B)

Postal Bag 2002, Concession Road KOG 1J0
(613) 258-8204

Kingston (WMUs 68,69A,70,71)

Ontario Government Building,
Beachgrove Complex, 51 Heakes Lane
K7M 9B1 (613) 531-5700

Midhurst

(WMUs 76,77,81,82,83,84)

2284 Nursery Road LOL 1X0
(705) 725-7500

Minden (WMUs 54,56)

Hwy. 35 By-pass, Box 820 KOM 2K0
(705) 286-1521

Owen Sound (WMUs 82,83,84)

1450 Seventh Ave. East N4K 2Z1
(519) 376-3860

Parry Sound (WMUs 46,47,49,50,53)

7 Bay Street P2A 1S4 (705) 746-4201

Pembroke (WMUs 48,55B,58,59)

31 Riverside Drive, K8A 6X4
(613) 732-3661

Peterborough

(WMUs 71,72,72A,73,74,75)

300 Water Street, P.O. Box 7000 K9J 8M5
(705) 755-2001

Tweed

Postal Bag 70, Old Troy Road K0K 3J0
(613) 478-2330

Vineland (WMUs 88,89)

4890 Victoria Avenue N. P.O. Box 5000
Vineland Station LOR 2E0
(905) 562-4147

NORTHEAST REGION

Blind River (WMU 37)

62 Queen Street, Box 190 POR 1B0
(705) 356-2234

Chapleau (WMU 31)

190 Cherry Street POM 1K0
(705) 864-1710

Cochrane (WMUs 26,27)

2 Third Avenue, Box 730 POL 1C0
(705) 272-4365

Espanola (WMUs 38,43A,43B,44)

148 Fleming Street, P5E 1R8
(705) 869-1330

Gogama (WMU 29)

2000 Low Avenue, Box 129 POM 1W0
(705) 894-2000

Hearst (WMUs 22,23,24)

613 Front Street, Box 670 POL 1N0
(705) 362-4346

Kapuskasing

8 Government Road P5N 2W4
(705) 335-6191

Kirkland Lake (WMU 28)

10 Government Road East, Box 910
P2N 3K4 (705) 568-3222

Manitouwadge (WMU 21B)

100 Manitow Road, Postal Bag Service,
Manitouwadge
POT 2C0 (807) 826-3225

Moosonee

(WMUs 1A,1B,1D,25)

Revillon Road, Box 190
POL 1Y0(705) 336-2987

North Bay (WMUs 40,41,47)

3301 Trout Lake Road
P1A 4L7 (705) 475-5550

Sault Ste. Marie (WMUs 35,36,37,45)

64 Church St. P6A 3H3
(705) 949-1231

Sudbury (WMUs 38,39,42,43A,43B,44)

3767 Hwy. 69 South, Suite 5
P3G 1E7 (705) 564-7823

Timmins (WMU 29,30)

Ontario Government Complex, Hwy 101
East, P.O. Bag 3090, South Porcupine,
PON 1H0 (705) 235-1300

Wawa (WMUs 32,33,34)

Hwy. 101, Box 1160 POS 1K0
(705) 856-7511

For additional information write, visit or telephone the MNR Office nearest to where you plan to hunt.

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(Box No. or street address)
(City or Town), Ontario
Postal Code

OR contact the Natural Resources
Information Centre at:

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French Inquiry 1-800-667-1840

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