



# NEW JERSEY 2006-07 MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS



*(See 2006-07 New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest  
for Additional Hunting Regulations)*

## MAJOR CHANGES FOR THE 2006-07 SEASON

- The HIP certification procedure has changed and a fee will be charged. HIP certifications can be obtained via license agents, the division's web site, or via telephone. See page 6 for details.
- The daily bag limit during the September Canada goose season was increased to 15 birds.
- The pintail and canvasback daily bag limits is one bird each during the duck season.
- The hooded merganser daily bag limit was increased to 2 birds.
- The daily bag limit for scaup is 2 birds per day.
- The brant season will be closed during part of the duck season in all zones.
- Nontoxic shot is required for hunting rail, snipe, and moorhens AT ALL TIMES.

## STATE REGULATIONS

State laws and regulations may be more stringent but not more lenient than those prescribed in the federal code (Title 50).

### Restrictions:

(a) Should any open season on migratory game birds, including waterfowl, be set by Federal regulation which would include the date of November 11, 2006, the starting time on such date will be 8:00 A.M. to coincide with the opening of the small game season on that date. However, this shall not preclude the hunting of migratory game birds, including waterfowl, on the tidal marshes of the State as regularly prescribed throughout the season by Federal regulations.

(b) There shall be no open season for hunting any game birds or animals including migratory waterfowl:

- In or on the shores of the Shark River in Monmouth County.
- In that portion of the Manasquan River from the ocean inlet upstream to Route 70 bridge.
- On Herring Island and that portion of Barnegat Bay lying between northern and southern tips of Herring Island easterly to adjacent shoreline of Mantoloking Boro, Ocean County.
- On Parker Creek and Oceanport Creek, Monmouth County, or the shores thereof, southwest or upstream of the Conrail R.R. bridge.

(c) Waterfowl hunting on Delaware River is governed by State boundaries and restricted to respective state seasons.

(d) Permanent blinds may not be constructed on some State Wildlife Management Areas. See page 70 of the 2006-07 NJ Fish and Wildlife Digest.

(e) Hunting with firearms is prohibited on November 10, 2006 on those State Wildlife Management Areas designated as Pheasant and Quail Stamp areas except in tidal marsh open to an ongoing waterfowl season. See page 12 of the 2006-07 NJ Fish and Wildlife Digest for these areas.

(f) **Nontoxic shot is required for rail, snipe and moorhen hunting AT ALL TIMES.** Nontoxic shot includes those types of shot federally approved for waterfowl hunting (see pg. 3).

**REPORT BANDED BIRDS—1-800-327-BAND**

**[www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/)**

## SUMMARY OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

In addition to State regulations, the following Federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting, and storing of migratory game birds. NOTICE—The material below is only a summary. Each hunter should also consult the actual Federal regulations, which may be found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20. For more information, call the US Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office at 908-787-1321.

**RESTRICTION**—No person shall take migratory game birds:

- By the aid of baiting (placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering salt, grain or other feed that could lure birds to an area), or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of all the bait. However, nothing in this paragraph prohibits taking migratory game birds over lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice. Violators convicted of hunting over bait may be fined up to \$15,000 and individuals convicted of placing bait in an area may be fined up to \$100,000.
- With a trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substances.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.
- From or by means of any motor boat or sail boat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls. Exception: crows may be hunted with electronic calls.
- By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunters.

**POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS**—Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

**DAILY BAG LIMIT**—No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.

**TAGGING**—No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

1. The hunter's signature.
2. The hunter's address.
3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
4. The dates such birds were killed.

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

**SHIPMENT**—No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

**DRESSING**—No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves and band-tailed pigeons) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility.

**NONTOXIC SHOT REGULATIONS**—Nontoxic shot is required for hunting rails, snipe, moorhens, coot, and waterfowl in New Jersey. Nontoxic shot includes steel, bismuth, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron (HEVI-SHOT), tungsten-iron-nickel-tin (TINT), tungsten-bronze and tungsten-tin-bismuth shot types. Shot size may not exceed Size T (0.200 inch).

**EMERGENCY CLOSURE**—For all migratory game birds, the Secretary of the Interior shall close the season within 48 hours upon recommendations of the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES**—Some National Wildlife Refuges have portions of their property open for migratory bird hunting. Specific regulations may apply at each refuge. For details contact:

- Edwin B. Forsythe NWR—609-652-1665
- Supawna Meadows NWR—856-935-1487
- Wallkill River NWR—973-702-7266
- Cape May NWR—609-463-0994

**DUAL VIOLATION**—Violation of State migratory bird regulations is also a violation of Federal regulations.

### HUNTING ZONES

**Waterfowl Zones** (Applies to regular ducks, coots, mergansers, regular season Canada geese, brant, snow geese and Youth Days).

**North Zone**—That portion of New Jersey within a continuous line that runs east along the New York State boundary line to the Hudson River; then south along the New York State boundary to its intersection with Route 440 at Perth Amboy; then west on Route 440 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway (GSP); then south on the GSP to its intersection with Route 70; then west on Route 70 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then north on the Turnpike to its intersection with Route 206; then north on Route 206 to its intersection with Route 1, Trenton; then west on Route 1 to its intersection with the Pennsylvania State boundary; then north along the Pennsylvania boundary in the Delaware River to its intersection with the New York State boundary.



**South Zone**—That portion of New Jersey within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Delaware River and Route 1; then east along Route 1 to its intersection with Route 206; then south along Route 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then south along the Turnpike to its intersection with Route 70; then east along Route 70 to its intersection with the GSP; then south on the GSP to Cape May City; then south to the Delaware State boundary in Delaware Bay; then north along the Delaware State boundary in the Delaware Bay and Delaware River to the Pennsylvania boundary; then north along the Pennsylvania State boundary in the Delaware River to Route 1, Trenton.

**Coastal Zone**—That portion of New Jersey east of the GSP that is not within the North or South zones.

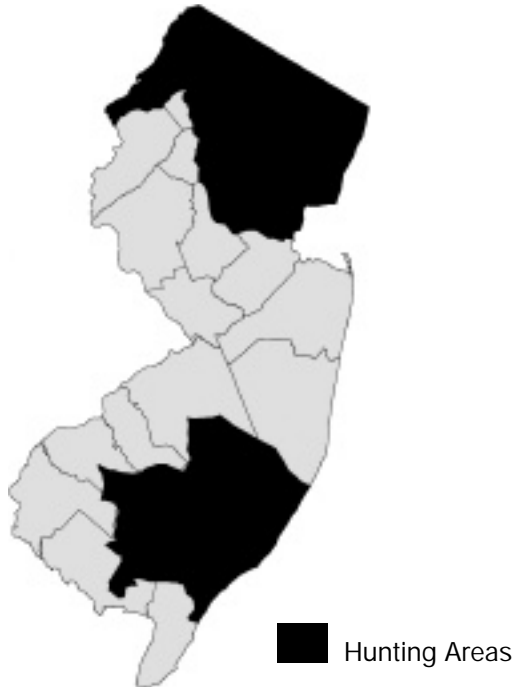
**Woodcock Zones:**

**North Zone**—North of Route 70 from Point Pleasant to Camden.

**South Zone**—South of Route 70 from Point Pleasant to Camden.

**Special Sea Duck Area:** Defined as any waters of the Atlantic Ocean and in addition any tidal waters of any bay which are separated by at least 1 mile of open water from any shore, island or emergent vegetation. In this area, hunters must limit their hunting to open water areas at least one mile from any land or emergent vegetation in any direction.

## Special Winter Canada Goose Season Hunting Areas



For the north, it is that portion of New Jersey within a continuous line that runs east along the New York State boundary line to the Hudson River; then south along the New York State boundary to its intersection with Route 440 at Perth Amboy; then west on Route 440 to its intersection with Route 287; then west along Route 287 to its intersection with Route 206 in Bedminster (Exit 18); then north along Route 206 to its intersection with Route 94; then west along Route 94 to the toll bridge in Columbia; then north along the Pennsylvania State boundary in the Delaware River to the beginning point.

For the south, it is that portion of New Jersey within a continuous line that runs west from the Atlantic Ocean at Ship Bottom along Route 72 to Route 70; then west along Route 70 to Route 206; then south along Route 206 to Route 536; then west along Route 536 to Route 322; then west along Route 322 to Route 55; then south along Route 55 to Route 553 (Buck Rd.); then south along Route 553 to Route 40; then east along Route 40 to Route 55; then south along Route 55 to Route 552 (Sherman Ave.); then west along Route 552 to Carmel Rd.; then south along Carmel Rd. to Route 49; then east along Route 49 to Route 555; then south along Route 555 to Route 553; then east along Route 553 to Route 649; then north along Route 649 to Route 670; then east along Route 670 to Route 47; then north along Route 47 to Route 548; then east along Route 548 to Route 49; then east along Route 49 to Route 50; then south along Route 50 to Route 9; then south along Route 9 to Route 625 (Sea Isle City Blvd.); then east along Route 625 to the Atlantic Ocean; then north to the beginning point.

Open Season (Both dates inclusive)		Bag and Possession Limits
Sea ducks (long-tailed duck, white-winged, surf, black scoters and common eider)	SPECIAL SEA DUCK AREA Sept. 16-Jan. 16	7 daily; 14 possession (No more than 4 of which may be scoters)
Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days (See Notes and Exceptions section, page 6)	NORTH ZONE Sept. 30 SOUTH ZONE Nov. 10-Nov. 11 COASTAL ZONE Oct. 28	Ducks: 6; with duck limits on Pg. 6 Brant: 2 Snow geese: 15 Canada geese: 15 North Zone 3 South Zone 3 Coastal Zone
Ducks	NORTH ZONE Oct. 14-Nov. 4 Nov. 14-Dec. 30	6 daily; 12 possession (See duck limits on page 6 for further restrictions)
Coot	SOUTH ZONE Oct. 21-Nov. 4 Nov. 14-Jan. 6	15 daily; 30 possession
Mergansers	COASTAL ZONE Nov. 4-Nov. 11 Nov. 23-Jan. 23	See merganser bag limits on page 6.
Brant	NORTH ZONE Oct. 21-Oct. 28 Nov. 14-Dec. 9 SOUTH ZONE Oct. 21-Oct. 28 Nov. 14-Dec. 9 COASTAL ZONE Nov. 4-Nov. 11 Dec. 20-Jan. 15	2 daily; 4 possession
Canada goose September Season	STATEWIDE Sept. 1-30	15 daily; 30 possession
Canada goose White-fronted goose Regular Season	NORTH ZONE Nov. 11-Nov. 25 Dec. 15-Jan. 20 SOUTH ZONE Nov. 18-Dec. 2 Dec. 15-Jan. 20 COASTAL ZONE Nov. 23-Dec. 2 Dec. 11-Jan. 20	3 daily, singly or in aggregate; 6 possession, singly or in aggregate
Canada goose White-fronted goose Special Winter Season	SPECIAL WINTER CANADA GOOSE HUNTING AREA Jan. 22-Feb. 15	5 daily, singly or in aggregate; 10 possession, singly or in aggregate
Snow goose (Blue goose)	NORTHZONE Nov. 8-Mar. 10 SOUTH ZONE Nov. 7-Mar. 10 COASTAL ZONE Oct. 7-Feb. 8 - corrected 10/4/06	15 daily; No possession limit
Sora rail Virginia rail	STATEWIDE Sept. 1-Nov. 8	25 daily or in possession singly or in aggregate
Common gallinule (Moorhen) Clapper rail	STATEWIDE Sept. 1-Nov. 8	10 daily each; 20 possession of each species
Common snipe	STATEWIDE Sept. 16-Dec. 30	8 daily; 16 possession
Crows	STATEWIDE Aug. 14-Dec. 2 Dec. 11-Mar. 17 Mon., Thur., Fri. and Sat.	None
Woodcock	WOODCOCK NORTH ZONE Oct. 19-Nov. 11 WOODCOCK SOUTH ZONE Nov. 11-Nov. 25 Dec. 22-Dec. 30	3 daily; 6 possession

**Report Hunting Violations—  
24-Hour DEP Action Line: 877-WARNDEP  
Anonymous: Operation Game Thief: 800-222-0456**

## Notes and Exceptions

**Sea Duck Limit**—Daily bag limit in the special sea duck area and during the sea duck season is 7 sea ducks; no more than 4 of which may be scoters. Outside the special sea duck area and during the regular duck season, sea ducks are included in the daily bag limit of six (6) ducks.

### Duck Bag Limits

Daily bag limit is 6 ducks and it may not include more than:

4 mallards (including no more than 2 hens)  
4 scoters                    2 redheads  
2 scaup                      1 pintail  
2 wood ducks                1 canvasback  
                                      1 black duck

### Merganser Bag Limits

(Common, red breasted and hooded)

Daily bag limit is 5 mergansers, only 2 of which may be a hooded mergansers. Possession limit is 10, except hooded mergansers which is 4 birds. Merganser limits are in addition to duck limits.

### Other Duck Game Species

Gadwall	Wigeon
Green-winged teal	Goldeneye
Blue-winged teal	Ruddy duck
Shoveler	Ring-necked duck
Bufflehead	

**Closed Season:** For all swans, harlequin ducks, king rails and mourning doves.

### Falconry (Hawking)

Special Season dates and bag limits. Contact NJ Div. of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400.

### Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

Open for youths with a hunting license and accompanied by a non-shooting individual at least 21 years of age with a hunting license. Each youth may participate in 1 to 4 days.

**BANDED WATERFOWL**—Report banded waterfowl at [www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/). Bands can also be reported by phone at 1-800-327-BAND. This phone is staffed 24 hours, 7 days a week during the hunting seasons.

## MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING IS NOT PERMITTED ON SUNDAYS IN NEW JERSEY.

**HUNTING HOURS**—See Restriction (a), page 1 for exception on November 11, 2006. See page 87 of the NJ Fish and Wildlife Digest for sunrise/sunset table.

1. Ducks, geese, brant, coots, rails, moorhens, snipe—**1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.**  
For example, if sunrise is 6:30 AM and sunset is 5:00 PM, then hunting hours for these species are 6:00 AM to 5:00 PM on this day.
2. Woodcock—**sunrise to sunset.**
3. Crows—**sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.**

### WHAT DO I NEED TO HUNT MIGRATORY BIRDS IN NEW JERSEY?

1. To hunt crows you need a New Jersey hunting license—See 2006-07 NJ Fish and Wildlife Digest for hunting license requirements and fees.
2. To hunt woodcock, rails, snipe, coots or gallinules you need a New Jersey hunting license and Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification.
3. To hunt ducks, geese and/or brant you need a New Jersey hunting license, HIP certification, Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp and New Jersey Waterfowl Stamp. Both Federal and State stamps are required for waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older and must be signed across the face in ink.

### HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM (HIP)

Hunters must obtain a HIP certification **before** hunting ducks, geese, brant, coot, woodcock, rails, snipe, or gallinules. All HIP certifications are handled through the state's new Integrated Electronic Licensing System (IELS). Migratory bird hunters can get their HIP certification one of three ways:

1. Online by visiting the division's license sales web site:  
<https://www1.wildlifelicenses.com/nj/>
2. From a license agent using the new IELS system.
3. By calling the toll-free NJ telephone sales line at 888-277-2015.

Regardless of the method used for HIP certification, hunters will be able to go hunting immediately after registering. Online and license agent HIP certifications will cost \$2.00 while telephone HIP certifications will include a shipping/handling fee and cost \$5.13. Internet HIP certifications can be printed on a home computer. HIP certifications obtained from license agents and through the telephone system will be printed on license stock. Telephone HIP certifications will be received in about 1 week; however, hunters can begin hunting immediately by recording their HIP certification number. HIP certification should be carried in the hunter's license holder. HIP certifications are valid from Sept. 1, 2006 to March 10, 2007. Information collected in HIP is confidential and used by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for conducting migratory bird harvest surveys. As in the past, the USFWS will mail harvest survey information to a small, random sample of HIP registrants.

**Visit our Division Website at: [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com)**