

## NJDEP Division of Fish and Wildlife

### NJ 2017-18 MIGRATORY BIRD SEASONS

**April 11, 2017**

**NOTE:** Although the following selections are within the frameworks proposed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, they will not be formally finalized through the Federal Register process until the conclusion of the public comment period in April, 2017.

#### PRIMARY WATERFOWL SEASONS

##### NORTH ZONE

Ducks & Brant:	Oct. 14 – Oct. 21	Nov. 11 – Jan. 11
Canada Goose:	Nov. 11 – Nov. 25	Dec. 9 – Jan. 20
Youth days:	Oct. 7 & Feb. 3	

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##### SOUTH ZONE

Ducks & Brant:	Oct. 21 – Oct. 28	Nov. 18 – Jan. 18
Canada Goose:	Nov. 18 – Dec. 2	Dec. 9 – Jan. 20
Youth days:	Oct. 14 & Feb. 3	

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##### COASTAL ZONE

Ducks & Brant:	Nov. 9 – Nov. 11	Nov. 23 – Jan. 27
Canada Goose:	Nov. 9 – Nov. 11	Nov. 18 – Feb. 15
Youth days:	Nov. 4 & Feb. 10	

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#### Daily bag limits (Items in red are changes from last year)

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

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

Brant: 2

#### Canada geese (Regular season):

North and South Zones: 3  
Coastal Zone: 5

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

Youth days: 6 ducks with same species restrictions, 15 coots, 2 brant, 3 (North and South Zones) or 5 (Coastal Zone) Canada geese, 25 light geese.

**CANADA GOOSE**

**September Season** (Statewide)

Sept. 1 - Sept. 30

Daily bag limit: 15 Canada geese

The following special regulations apply:

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

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

**CANADA GOOSE**

**Special Winter Season** (Two Distinct Zones)

Jan. 22 – Feb. 15

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

**SEA DUCKS; SEA DUCK AREA ONLY**

Nov. 4 – Jan. 12

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

**LIGHT GOOSE**

**Regular Season**

Statewide: Oct. 17 – Feb. 15

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

**Conservation Order**

Statewide: Feb. 16 – Apr. 7

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

The following special regulations apply:

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

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

**WOODCOCK**

North Zone: Oct. 21 – Nov. 25

South Zone: Nov. 11 – Dec. 2

Dec. 16 – Dec. 29

Daily bag limit: 3

**RAILS AND GALLINULE**

Sept. 1 – Nov. 9

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

**SNIFE**

Sept. 16 – Dec. 30

Daily bag limit: 8

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

Aug. 14 – Dec. 2

Dec. 11 – Mar. 17

Daily bag limit: None