



HUNTING & FISHING 2017

Hunting & Fishing Tips
Regulations
Supply Lists
Hunting Dates
Safety Information

LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS

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BE PREPARED

Hunting is a popular hobby and sport enjoyed by millions of people across North America. Over the last 10 years, data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicates that more and more females are taking up hunting.

Hunting seasons vary depending on where you live. Regulations designed by local conservation, game, fish, and wildlife departments often dictate the start and end of hunting season. Although the licensing, seasons, limits, and fees for hunting may differ geographically, the preparation that goes into getting ready for hunting season is similar regardless of geography.

Many seasoned hunters realize hunting season does not begin on "opening day." Rather, it can take weeks or months to get ready for a successful season. Considering hunting seasons can be brief, preparation helps hunters make the most of their time spent in the field.

* Purchase your license, tag or stamp. Many wildlife departments require hunters register in advance of the season, and this registration includes securing a hunting license. Because there is a limit to how many animals each hunter can hunt, tags for the animals they're hunting also will be issued. Hunters planning on going out for the season should stay apprised of when licensing and registration begins and ends so they can hunt legally.

* Scout areas. The landscape can change from year to year

depending on a host of factors, including construction, commercialization and weather. Areas once open to hunting may now be restricted lands. Map out your potential hunting location and be aware of any new landmarks or changes.

* Check and replenish gear. Inspect weaponry, field-dressing supplies, clothing, and other supplies for wear and tear. Address any issues that need to be fixed, or replace items as necessary. If a rifle, bow or shotgun hasn't been fired in a while, take it to a range to verify accuracy and sighting. If you hunt out of a tree stand or blind, make sure it is sturdy and in good condition prior to use.

* Get in shape. Hunting often requires hiking in and out of the great outdoors in various terrain. It's helpful to increase physical activity leading up to the hunt to prepare your body for the physical demands of hunting.

* Organize and pack gear. Ensure your equipment is clean, in working order and packed away in your travel bags. Establish a system of organization and a checklist so you're certain you will have what you need. Don't forget to bring along your hunting license and animal tags; otherwise, you may be levied with costly fines.

* Always hunt safely. It is quite easy to get swept up in the moment when tracking game. Don't let overzealousness cloud rational judgement and safety precautions. Otherwise an injury or even death can occur.

LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

Legal hours for hunting are 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset, except alligators, raccoons, opossums, foxes, coyotes, bobcats and feral hogs which may be hunted at night. Any light used to hunt raccoons, opossums, foxes, bobcats or feral hogs must be carried on the body of the hunter, affixed to a helmet or hat worn by the hunter, or be part of a belt system worn by the hunter. There is no voltage restriction on such lights. Sunrise and sunset times are available on the Outdoors GA App and can be found here: <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/>. Legal hours for migratory bird hunting conform to federal regulations.

*Information provided by
www.georgiawildlife.com
www.eregulations.com
www.nhfd.org*



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GA DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS

Archery

Archery Only Counties: Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb and Fulton (north of GA Hwy 92) Counties in accordance with statewide bag limits and other regulations. Extended Archery Season: Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Rockdale Counties only; in accordance with statewide bag limits and other regulations.

Chattahoochee-Oconee NF: During firearms deer season, archers must follow firearms either-sex dates on the National Forest. Archery hunting is allowed during primitive weapon and firearm deer seasons. Deer of either sex may be taken, except as otherwise specified on WMAs and on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest. Archery hunters must wear at least 500 square inches of hunter orange during primitive weapons and firearms deer seasons, except in Archery-Only Counties or WMAs.

Archers may not possess any firearms while hunting during archery deer season, unless the person possesses a valid Weapons Carry License in this state (pursuant to OCGA §§ 16-11-126(f) or 16-11-129), subject to limitations (OCGA §§ 16-11-126 and 16-11-127).

Primitive Weapons

Statewide, excluding archery-only counties. Scopes are legal. During the statewide primitive weapons deer season and WMA primitive weapons hunts, youth under 16 years of age may hunt deer with any legal deer firearm.

Primitive weapons hunters may not possess any centerfire or rimfire firearm while hunting during the primitive weapons season, unless the person possesses a valid Weapons Carry License in this state (pursuant to OCGA §§ 16-11-126(f) or 16-11-129), subject to the limitations (OCGA §§ 16-11-126 and 16-11-127).

Season Limit

10 antlerless deer and 2 antlered

deer. One of the two antlered deer must have a minimum of 4 points, 1 inch or longer, on one side of the antlers.

Checking Your Deer

All deer hunters are required to have a Harvest Record for the current season. Additionally, all harvest must be reported within 72 hours through Georgia Game Check or before leaving the deer with a processor.

CELL PHONE HANDY?

If you have a cell phone, enter the harvest date and county on the Harvest Record through the GA Outdoors App, online at gooutdoorsgeorgia.com or by calling 1-800-366-2661 before moving the deer from the site of the kill.

NEW

You can now report your harvest through the GA Outdoors App when your phone has no service. Enter your harvest date and county on the Harvest Record through the App. When you get to a location with service, access the App and sync to receive your confirmation number.

NO phone? NO PROBLEM!

Log It: Enter the harvest date and county on your paper Harvest Record before moving the deer from the site of the kill.

Report It: Within 72 hours of the kill or before taking your deer to the processor, report your harvest by going online to gooutdoorsgeorgia.com or calling 1-800-366-2661.

Record It: Copy the confirmation number received onto your paper Harvest Record.

Antlers

Antlerless deer are those having no visible antlers above the hairline (including "button bucks") and may only be taken during either-sex or antlerless seasons or hunts. During "buck-only" hunts or seasons, a deer must have antlers visible above the hairline to be legal for harvest.

Head of Deer

It is unlawful to remove the head of a deer until the deer is pro-

cessed or surrendered to a storage facility for storage or processing.

Transporting Deer Harvested by Another Hunter

Persons transporting deer harvested by another hunter must possess, in writing, the complete name, address, telephone and hunting license number of the person who harvested the deer, and the Game Check confirmation number.

Cooler Lockers

Whole or field-dressed deer received by a cold-storage or meat processing facility must be marked with the hunter's name, date, county of harvest and sex of deer. A list of processors is available at gohuntgeorgia.com.

Lakes, Streams and Ponds

It is unlawful to take a deer by any means while it is in a lake, stream, or pond.

Rights-of-Way/Transmission Towers

Hunting from a stand or platform attached to a transmission tower


is trespassing and is prohibited. Written permission must be obtained from the landowner to hunt on power line, gas line, railroad, or other rights-of-way.

Hunting Out of State?

If you harvest a white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose or caribou in a state having a documented case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), you may bring back only the following carcass parts:


1. Boned-out meat;
2. Processed cuts of meat;
3. Clean skull plates with antlers attached (not the entire skull);
4. Clean antlers;
5. Finished taxidermy mounts;
6. Clean upper canine teeth (aka buglers, ivories, whistlers).

To protect Georgia's deer herd, the importation of whole carcasses or parts not listed above is prohibited from any CWD-positive state or Canadian province. For an up-to-date list of positive states and other information about CWD, please visit www.cwd-info.org.



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NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY 2017

Each day, millions of Americans work to conserve and improve our natural resources - they are America's hunters and anglers. The U.S. Congress and President Nixon established National Hunting and Fishing Day in 1972 to recognize these generations of hunters and anglers for the time and money, more than a billion dollars each year, they donate to wildlife conservation programs.

Conserving the states natural and wildlife resources is one of the most important responsibilities for this and future generations and the conservation programs supported and financed by Georgia hunters and anglers have benefited hundreds of wildlife species, including deer, wild turkeys, bald eagles and songbirds for all Georgians to enjoy.

September 23, 2017 marks the anniversary of National Hunting and Fishing Day and plans are underway for both a nationwide and statewide celebration. One of the best ways all of us can create a better public understanding of hunting and fishing is to create a better public awareness of the important role that outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen have played in conservation and improving our natural

resources. Together with hunting and fishing license fees, federal aid programs have funded game animals and sport fish conservation, habitat acquisition and outdoor recreation opportunities both in Georgia and throughout the country. NHF Day events provide opportunities for outdoor-oriented people and urbanites alike to learn more about outdoor skills and activities.

So, in celebration of this special day be sure to take someone (especially young people) outside and introduce them to a whole new world of enjoyment at one of the many scheduled events set to happen, whether that be through hunting, hiking, birdwatching, fishing or another outdoor activity.

In addition to special events, Georgia offers a Free Fishing Day in honor of National Hunting and Fishing Day on Sept. 23, 2017.

On this day, Georgia residents do not need a fishing license or a trout license. They can fish on any public waters in the state including lakes, streams, ponds and Public Fishing Areas (PFA). Take this opportunity to introduce someone to the fun of fishing!

You Can Help

REPORT POACHING. 24/7

If you see or learn of a violation, try to write down:

1. a description of the violator
2. a description of their vehicle
3. the location of the violation
4. and the type of violation.

Call 1-800-241-4113 or *DNR (AT&T Mobility Customers)

[E-mail the Ranger Hotline](#)

[Contact Your Local DNR Ranger](#)



MAKE A DONATION.

Give to GWF in support of conservation programs like the Ranger Hotline.

Ranger Hotline Program

Ranger Hotline is an initiative of the Georgia Natural Resource Foundation (GNRF) and DNR Law Enforcement Division, whose mission is to protect wildlife by increasing public support for wildlife law enforcement.

Effective July 1, 2014 the "Turn In Poachers" program transitioned to the "Ranger Hotline" program. The principles and purpose of the program will remain the same by continuing to encourage sportsmen to report poachers and violators of our state's game laws, however it will be expanded to include a broader range of rewards to support all of DNR. The Ranger Hotline program will be operated by the Georgia Natural Resource Foundation with the DNR Commissioner serving as Chairman of an advisory committee comprised of GNRF Board Members and other organizations committed to this cause.

The Georgia Wildlife Federation has served on the Turn in Poachers Board continuously since its origination in 1987. The GWF has contributed over half of all the funds received by TIP throughout its history. Working with other Ranger Hotline Advisors, GWF continues to raise money and raise awareness of the need for strong prosecution of the violation of wildlife laws. DNR Law Enforcement fills a critical need and is an effective tool for professional wildlife management.

Law Enforcement defends the public trust. A poacher is a thief who steals wildlife that belongs to you and all other Georgians. Poachers rob you of recreational opportunities that you pay for through hunting and fishing license fees. You can be paid for turning in a poacher! If your information leads to an arrest, arrangements will be made for you to receive reward money even if you wish to remain anonymous.



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GET RID OF HUMAN SCENTS

Apart from camouflage, it's important to consider another factor in the art of making yourself invisible: eliminating human scents. Several companies promote their new lines of camouflage clothing by saying that if you wear them you will not be noticed by big game. This is only true if we have taken care to eliminate human scents as much as possible.

There are scent-eliminating soaps available on the market with which we can treat our hunting clothes. These soaps are very effective, but they don't guarantee the elimination of 100% of odours. The hunter who uses scent-eliminating soaps for his clothing and his body must remain consistent in his willingness to eliminate all odours. There are several small details which should not be forgotten:

- Don't wear hunting clothes when filling your vehicle with gas.
- Always store hunting clothes in closed bags in which branches of cedar, fir or spruce can be added.
- Take off hunting clothes when going to a restaurant. The smell of bacon and oil will become impregnated in the clothes.
- Don't go in, or stay in the hunting camp wearing hunting clothes as the smell of the fire, the food and the smoke impregnate the vast majority of fabrics. If you want to stay inside the camp for a short time, put your hunting clothes in the car or in an enclosed container outside the camp.
- Don't wear hunting clothes except during hunting season.
- Pay particular attention to the wind.

The smallest of scents can be quickly detected by your trophy!

GEORGIA HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

Since 1993, hunters have been bringing meat to the tables of those in need through the Georgia Hunters for the Hungry program. This successful program continues to provide opportunities during hunting season for hunters to share their harvest with those in need. Georgia Wildlife Federation has been a sponsor of GHFTH since it began by assisting in promoting the program and raising funds to pay processors for venison delivered to food banks.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Hunters interested in participating in the GHFTH program can bring field-dressed deer to any of the designated drop-off locations between October 15 - January 13. The 2016-2017 drop-off locations are listed below.

MAKE A DONATION

If you would like to make a donation to support the cost of processing for next year (a deer costs roughly \$50 to process), you may mail a check to the Georgia Wildlife Federation and mark it Hunters For The Hungry or visit gwf.org.

Lee's Processing, 461 Dove Ln, Axson, GA 31624, 912-422-3079

Billy and Son's Processing, 423 Johnson Street, Portal, GA 30450, 912-531-5175

Community Freezer Locker, 1719 Fordham Rd., Brooklet, GA 30415, 912-839-9009

Daffin's Meat Processing, 914 Neil Drive, Columbus, GA 31904, 706-322-8848

Garner's Grinder, 18639 Hwy 16, Sparta, GA 31087, 706-444-9228

The Meat Shed, 235 New Phoenix Rd., Eatonton, Ga. 31024, 478-258-0019 Mossey Creek Outdoors, 2788 Americus Hwy, Dawson, GA 39842, 229-995-4109

Starley's Deer Processing, 190 George Hatcher Rd, Irwinton, GA 31042, 478-946-8976

Steve Bishop Taxidermy & Deer Processing, 1814 Hwy 11 South, Covington, GA 30014, 770-787-0840

Stewart's Quality Meats, 204 Washington St., Vidalia, GA, 912-537-9888

Zoeller's Deer Processing, 1123 Indigo Road, Springfield, GA 31329, 912-665-0427

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Ask About Donating A Deer For Hunt For The Hungry

UNLAWFUL HUNTING AND FISHING PRACTICES

Unlawful Activities

- Hunting without landowners' permission, including power line, gas line, railroad and other rights-of-way. Written permission must be obtained if land is so posted.
- Hunting while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Holding, possessing, releasing, or importing wildlife without a permit from the DNR.
- Concealing the taking or possession of wildlife (or parts) which the person in possession reasonably should have known was obtained illegally.
- Killing or crippling game without reasonable efforts to retrieve.
- Hunt, shoot, kill, or wound any farmed deer (e.g. elk, red deer, fallow deer, sika deer, or axis deer) or exotic wild animal (e.g. farmed deer, mouflon sheep, Barbary sheep [aoudad], antelope, etc.) held under a wild animal license for enjoyment, gain, amusement, or sport.
- Hunting or shooting from or across a public road.
- Hunting from a vehicle, plane, or boat under power.
- Selling or purchasing any game species or parts thereof, except antlers, hides, and tails of legally taken deer, tails of legally taken squirrels, hides of legally trapped furbearers, and legally taken alligator products.
- Use of a computer or any other device to remotely discharge a firearm for the purpose of hunting.
- Use of drugs, poisons, chemicals, smoke, gas, explosives, or electronically-amplified sounds to hunt any game species.
- Use of any pitfall, deadfall, snare, catch, net, live decoy, or baited hook to take game species.
- Use of electronic communications equipment to aid in the pursuit of game.
- Disturbing wildlife dens, holes, or homes, or driving wildlife, from their dens, holes, or homes.
- Discharging a firearm within 50 yards of a public road.
- Blinding wildlife with lights.

In Georgia It Is Unlawful To:

Possess or use live blueback herring for bait in all fresh waters except the following: Lakes Bartlett's Ferry, Blue Ridge, Chatuge, Goat Rock, Juliette, Lanier, Nottely, Oliver, and West Point; and the Altamaha River watershed downstream of the following: Juliette dam on the Ocmulgee River, Lake Juliette dam on Rum Creek, Lake Tobesofkee dam on Tobesofkee Creek, Lake Sinclair dam on the Oconee River; and watersheds of all other streams that flow directly into the Atlantic Ocean (this drainage includes Lakes Hartwell, Russell, Clarks Hill,

Burton, Tugaloo, and Rabun).

Fish for game fish, except American shad, hickory shad, channel catfish, blue catfish, or flathead catfish, by any means other than pole and line.

Take any fish from public freshwater by any method other than the methods listed on this page. Snagging fish is illegal.

Use electronic devices, explosives, poisons, or firearms to take fish.

Stock or release fish or bait into any public waters except the water from which it was taken.

Discard fish caught in public waters.

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HUNTING IS SPELLED S-A-F-E-T-Y

Hunting is an enjoyable, safe activity as long as some basic guidelines are followed. Here are a few safety recommendations from the experts.

When hunting

- Respect all safety standards and guidelines applying to the use of a firearm.
- Always handle firearms as if they were loaded. Never use alcohol or drugs while handling a firearm.
- Control the muzzle of your firearm at all times.
- Be doubly careful when setting up or inspecting a hunting blind or tree stand. When climbing up and down, take extra care with your firearm. Use the safety straps and check the reliability of the fasteners.
- Clearly identify your game before you shoot. Always be certain of the target.
- Ensure that the line of fire is safe. Be certain of what is in front of and beyond your target.
- Don't put your finger on the trigger until you're ready to fire. Never rely solely on the gun's "safety" mechanism.
- Self control: It's not uncommon for hunters to become excited while on the hunt. Remember that this excitement can cause you to

make careless mistakes, so you need to keep control of your emotions while on the hunt. If you become anxious or overly excited, then slow down. If that means temporarily stopping the hunt, then you need to err on the side of caution. A calm shooter is always a better and more accurate shooter.

When you return to your hunting camp or home

- Ensure that your firearms are unloaded and transport them in a safe manner. Lock them up at home or ensure that they are under your control at all times.
- Always handle firearms as if they were loaded.
- Allow yourself to appreciate the usefulness of hunting rules and safety guidelines, even if you think they cramp your style. The few hunting accidents that do occur are almost always attributed to the unsafe use of firearms and reckless use of hunting blinds. While some hunting regulations are aimed at protecting wildlife, many others are for the protection of hunters.

Tree Stand Safety

Tree stands can be deadly. The International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) has stated that on average, over 20 hunters die every year from tree stand falls, and that "dozens more see their lives

changed forever due to permanent disability."

According to the IHEA, nearly all tree stand accidents could be prevented if two basic safety rules are followed:


1. Wear a full-body harness.
2. Stay connected to the tree from the time your feet leave the ground.

It doesn't matter if your tree stand is in Georgia or in Arkansas; safety should be your top priority. More tree stand safety tips include:

- Check the specifications and guidelines on your harness and the expiration date stamp.
- Wear the harness properly and wear the lineman's belt.
- Attach suspension trauma relief straps to your harness. They

will prevent serious injury or death in case of a fall.

- Use a well-designed and sturdily built tree stand approved by manufacturers.
- Carefully inspect your tree stand for wear, rust, metal fatigue and cracks, loose or missing nuts or bolts, and rot and deterioration before and after each use.
- Frequently practice using your tree stand and harness.
- Always use a haul line for gear.
- Unload your gun or bow before climbing or descending the stand.
- Let hunters in your party know where your stand is located. Leave a map on your dashboard and state the time you will return.
- Don't use tree stands if you're tired, sick or on medication.



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GEORGIA BOATING INFORMATION

Boat Registration

All boats that carry any means of mechanical propulsion (electric trolling motor and/or gas motor) and all sailboats 12 feet and longer must be registered.

A Boat Registration Application can be downloaded from www.goboatgeorgia.com

You may register or renew online at www.goboatgeorgia.com

Register or renew by phone at 800-366-2661.

Georgia honors all other states' registrations, provided the boat is not used in excess of 60 consecutive days in Georgia.

Personal Flotation Devices

A wearable personal flotation device (PFD) is required for each person aboard a vessel. PFDs must be readily accessible to all occupants, in good and serviceable condition, legibly marked with the US Coast Guard approved number, and of appropriate size for the occupants.

One Type IV throwable device must also be on board all vessels except Class A vessels (boats less than 15' 11" which also includes personal-watercraft, canoes and kayaks).

Children under age 13 must wear a PFD when the vessel is under way, unless the child is within a fully enclosed cabin.

PFDs must be worn by each person aboard a vessel in an area marked as "hazardous area."

Outboard Motor Restrictions

No motor in excess of 9.9 hp may be operated on the Ogeechee River upstream of State Hwy 119.

No motor in excess of 25 hp may be operated on Lake Juliette or Lake Tugalo.

Georgia State Park lakes often have boat and motor restrictions. Check with the Park Office at each park for details.

Boating Safety

No vessel may be operated over idle speed within 100 feet of any moored or anchored vessel, vessel adrift, or any wharf, pier, piling, or persons in the water, or shoreline next to a full-time or part-time residence, public park, public beach, public swimming area, marina, restaurant, or other public use area.

Recreation boaters in coastal waters please note: Tybee, Sea Island, St. Simons, and Jekyll Islands have temporal (May 1 – Sept. 30) 1,000 ft. safety zones.

Alcohol and boats do not mix! It is unlawful to operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

To learn requirements for operating your boat please visit www.goboatgeorgia.com or obtain the Handbook of Georgia Boating Laws from any DNR Law Enforcement Office.

To learn about a boating safety course please visit www.goboatgeorgia.com or contact the Boating Education Coordinator at 770-918-6414 or any DNR Law Enforcement Office.

See www.goboatgeorgia.com for complete boating regulations.

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License, Permits & Passes



LICENSE	TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Combo Hunting & Fishing Licenses			
Combo Hunting & Fishing License	Annual	\$30.00	\$150.00
	One-Day	\$5.00	\$30.00
	+Additional Day	\$1.00	\$10.00
Apprentice Hunting & Fishing License	One-Day	\$5.00	\$30.00
Hunting Licenses			
Hunting License (16-64)	Annual	\$15.00	\$100.00
	One-Day	see combo	\$20.00
	+ Additional Day	see combo	\$6.00
Senior Sportsman's License (65+)	Annual	\$7.00	-
Big Game License	Annual	\$25.00	\$225.00
	One-Day	\$10.00	\$130.00
	+ Additional Day	\$2.00	\$8.00
Harvest Record - Deer & Turkey	Annual	FREE	FREE
Quota Alligator Harvest Permit ¹	Annual	\$75.00	\$250.00
Trapping License ²	Seasonal	\$40.00	\$325.00
Shooting Preserve License	Two-Year	\$12.00	\$12.00
Georgia Migratory Bird Stamp ³	Annual	\$5.00	\$5.00
Disability Hunting License	Annual	\$3.00	-
	Three-Year	\$9.00	-



2017-2018 GEORGIA HUNTING SEASON DATES

SPECIES		SEASON	LIMIT
Deer	Archery, Either Sex Statewide	September 9 - January 14	<p>Twelve (12) per season, Statewide. No more than ten (10) may be antlerless and no more than two (2) may be antlered. One of the antlered deer must have at least 4 points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers.</p> <p>*Either Sex deer dates are available at: www.gohuntgeorgia.com</p> <p>Firearms deer hunting is not allowed in Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton (north of GA Hwy. 92), and the portion of Glynn County lying within Jekyll Island. In the portion of Forsyth County south of Ga Hwy. 20, only archery, shotguns, and muzzleloaders may be used (no other firearms allowed). In Hancock, Harris, Meriwether, Montgomery, Randolph, Talbot and Troup Counties, only antlered bucks with at least 4 points on either side are legal. In Dooly and Macon Counties, antlered bucks must have a minimum 15-inch outside spread.</p>
	Extended Archery, Either Sex (only for Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett & Rockdale)	September 9 - January 31	
	Primitive Weapons	October 14 - January 14	
	Firearms*	October 21 - January 14	
Bear	Northern Zone:	Archery : Sept. 9 - Jan. 14 Primitive Weapons: Oct. 14 - Jan. 14 Firearms: Oct. 21 - Jan. 14	Two (2) per season; provided, however, that no more than one (1) may be taken from the Southern/Central Bear Zones
	Central Zone:	Firearms: Jan. 13	
	Southern Zone:	Firearms: Sept. 21-23; Sept. 28-30; Oct. 5-7; Oct. 12-14	
Turkey	Statewide	March 24 - May 15 (2018)	Three (3) gobblers per season

SMALL GAME & MIGRATORY BIRDS (except waterfowl)

Alligator	Zone & Quota Limited	Aug. 18 (sunset) - Oct. 2 (sunrise)	1 per quota permit
Crows	Statewide	November 4 - February 28	No Limit
Dove	Statewide	September 2-17 October 14 - November 2 November 23 - January 15	15 per day, 45 in possession
Falconry	Statewide	Squirrel: Aug. 15 - Mar. 15 Grouse: Oct. 1 - Mar. 15 Rabbit: Oct. 1 - Mar. 15 Quail: Oct. 1 - Mar. 15	12 per day 3 per day 12 per day 12 per day
Fox & Bobcat	Statewide	December 1 - February 28	No Limit
Grouse	Statewide	October 15 - February 28	3 per day
Marsh Hens	Statewide	September 15 - November 5 November 23 - December 10	15 per day
Opossum	Statewide	October 15 - February 28	No Limit
Quail	Statewide	November 18 - February 28	12 per day
Rabbit	Statewide	November 18 - February 28	12 per day
Raccoon	Statewide	October 15 - February 28	3 per day
Snipe	Statewide	November 15 - February 28	8 per day
Squirrel	Statewide	August 15 - February 28	12 per day
Woodcock	Statewide	December 9 - January 22	3 per day

*Georgia Waterfowl regulations can be found at <http://www.georgiawildlife.com/Hunting/Waterfowl>

Fishing Licenses

Fishing License (16-64)	Annual	\$15.00	\$50.00
	One-Day	see combo	\$10.00
	+ Additional Day	see combo	\$3.50
Optional Youth Fishing License (12-15)	Multi-Year ⁴	\$10.00	-
Senior Sportsman's License (65+)	Annual	\$7.00	-
Trout License	Annual	\$10.00	\$25.00
	One-Day	\$5.00	\$10.00
	+ Additional Day	\$1.00	\$2.00
SIP Permit	Annual	FREE	FREE
Commercial Fishing License	Seasonal	\$20.00	\$200.00
Disability Fishing License	Annual	\$3.00	-
	Three-Year	\$9.00	-

Public Land Access

Georgia Lands Pass	Annual	\$30	\$60
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1 – Free Quota Alligator Harvest Permit is available for all Lifetime Sportsman's License, Disability Sportsman's License, Disability Hunting License, Honorary License, and Optional Youth Sportsman's License holders selected for an Alligator Quota hunt.

2 – Non-resident trapping license requires a forfeiture bond. Please refer to application for specific details at gohuntgeorgia.com

3 – Free Georgia Migratory Bird Stamp is available for all resident Landowners who hunt their own property and any hunter with a valid Sportsman's License, Optional Youth Sportsman's License, Disability Sportsman's License, Disability Hunting License, Honorary License or Lifetime Sportsman's License.

4 – Privileges for the multi-year Youth License are valid until the person's 17th birthday.

+Additional Day – days can be added for up to 11 consecutive days



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Sportsman's Licenses				
Sportsman's License	16-64	Annual	\$65.00	\$400.00
		One-Day	\$25.00	\$170.00
		+ Additional Day	\$3.00	\$20.00
Optional Youth Sportsman's License	12-15	Multi-Year ⁴	\$15.00	-
Senior Sportsman's License (65+)	65+	Annual	\$7.00	-
One-Time Honorary Veterans License	-	One-Year	FREE	-
Disability Sportsman's License	-	Annual	\$5.00	-
	-	Three-Year	\$15.00	-

LICENSE	Age	TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Lifetime Licenses				
Infant Lifetime Sportsman's License	Under 2	Lifetime	\$500.00	\$500.00
Youth Lifetime Sportsman's License	2-15	Lifetime	\$600.00	-
Adult Lifetime Sportsman's License	16-49	Lifetime	\$750.00	-
Older Adult Lifetime Sportsman's License	50-59	Lifetime	\$375.00	-
Senior Discount Lifetime Sportsman's License	60-64	Lifetime	\$315.00	-
Senior Lifetime Sportsman's License	65+	Lifetime	\$70.00	-
Senior Lifetime Hunting License	65+	Lifetime	\$35.00	-
Senior Lifetime Fishing License	65+	Lifetime	\$35.00	-
Free Senior Lifetime Sportsman's License (born on or before June 30, 1952)	65+	Lifetime	FREE	-
Military and Veterans Lifetime Sportsman's License	-	Lifetime	\$600.00	-
Non-Resident Grandchild Lifetime Sportsman's License	2-15	Lifetime		\$1500.00
Shooting Preserve Lifetime License	-	Lifetime	\$75.00	\$75.00
⁴ Privileges for the multi-year Youth License are valid until the person's 17th birthday. + Additional Day - days can be added for up to 11 consecutive days				

WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?

A HUNTER'S CHECKLIST

One of the most important pieces of equipment for hunters is a well-packed backpack. Loaded with a few select essentials, it should be taken every time you go scouting or hunting. Be sure to choose a pack that is comfortable and weatherproof.

The extras you pack may depend on the distance you have to cover between your vehicle and your camp, but some articles should always stay in the pack. Here is a basic list of the items to be included:

A multi-purpose tool with a blade and small saw; A survival blanket; A reliable source of fire; A whistle; A compass with a map of the area; A GPS with spare batteries; A flashlight; A small survival kit (sold in big box stores, the size of a tin of sardines); A small first-aid kit; Rope; Brass wire (for building a shelter or a snare); A water bottle; Trail marking tape.

If the weather is cold, bring along a small thermos with a hot drink, and snacks. This pack should be with you every time you step out into the bush. Think of it not as your suitcase, but as your survival kit; you should always have with you the basics you'd need to stay warm and protected if you ever lost your way or got injured and couldn't walk out.

Every time you go hunting, tell someone where you are going and when you plan to be back. Ensure that you contact this person in case of delay. It is also recommended that hunters complete a first aid and survival course before venturing into the wilderness.

Hunting supplies A CHECKLIST FOR PRE-TRIP PREPARATION

GROCERIES

- ☐ Non-perishable foods (cans)
- ☐ Soda crackers
- ☐ Flavoured crackers
- ☐ Soft drinks
- ☐ Coffee/tea
- ☐ Cereals
- ☐ Condiments (mustard, ketchup)
- ☐ Jams
- ☐ Chips
- ☐ Flour
- ☐ Canned beans
- ☐ Fat
- ☐ Concentrated milk (Carnation)
- ☐ Rice
- ☐ Coarse salt/table salt/pepper
- ☐ Different flavoured soups
- ☐ Sugar
- ☐ Salad dressing

BREADS

- ☐ Bagels
- ☐ Donuts
- ☐ Pastries
- ☐ Bread

DAIRY PRODUCTS

- ☐ Butter/margarine
- ☐ Garlic butter
- ☐ Sour cream
- ☐ Cheese
- ☐ Eggs
- ☐ Yogurt

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

- ☐ Bananas
- ☐ Broccoli
- ☐ Carrots
- ☐ Celery
- ☐ Mushrooms

- ☐ Lettuce
- ☐ Potatoes
- ☐ Peppers
- ☐ Onions
- ☐ Apples/oranges

MEATS

- ☐ Bacon
- ☐ Pâté
- ☐ Cooked ham
- ☐ Salted lard
- ☐ Sausages
- ☐ Cold cuts

MISCELLANEOUS

- ☐ Matches
- ☐ Aspirin
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ Beer and wine
- ☐ Bottled water
- ☐ Candles
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Ice
- ☐ Dry ice
- ☐ Toilet paper
- ☐ Magazines/newspapers
- ☐ Garbage bags
- ☐ Soap

EQUIPMENT

- ☐ Guns/cleaning kit/accessories
- ☐ Camera/video camera
- ☐ Socks
- ☐ Cooking utensils
- ☐ Salt/mineral block
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ Portable blind
- ☐ Canoe
- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Tool kit
- ☐ Nails/screws
- ☐ Portage straps
- ☐ Rope

- ☐ Knife
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Safety vest
- ☐ Gas
- ☐ Gas lamp/naphtha
- ☐ Odor eliminator
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ GPS
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Oil
- ☐ Playing cards
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ File
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Outboard motor
- ☐ Ammunition
- ☐ Bottle opener
- ☐ Hunting permit
- ☐ Flint
- ☐ Stove/propane
- ☐ Alarm clock
- ☐ Sleeping bag
- ☐ Chainsaw
- ☐ Towels
- ☐ Change of underwear
- ☐ Tent
- ☐ First-aid kit
- ☐ Doe urine
- ☐ Life jacket

TO
KEEP



FISHING METHODS

Hook & Line

There is no restriction on the number of poles and lines used to fish for game fish except:

Fishing for trout in designated trout waters: 1 pole

Fishing on Public Fishing Areas: 2 poles

Sport shad fishing: 2 poles

Anglers using more than two poles and lines to fish for shad must abide by commercial shad regulations.

Landing nets may be used to land fish legally caught.

Game fish may be used as live bait (where live bait is legal) if they are taken legally and you do not exceed daily creel and possession limits. **Sport Trotlines**

A sport trotline is one line or a combination of lines using less than 51 hooks. Sport trotlines must be:

Marked with the owner's name and address and with visible buoys

Submerged at least three feet below the surface of the water

Attended regularly and removed after the completed fishing trip.

Unmarked or unattended trotlines will be confiscated by DNR. It is unlawful to use any sport trotline within one-half mile below any lock or dam.

Only catfish and nongame fish (year-round) and American and Hickory shad during shad season may be taken with trotlines.

Trotlines are not permitted on Lake Tobesofkee or any State Park Lake.

Use of 51 or more hooks is considered Commercial Fishing.

Set Hooks & Jugs

Only catfish and nongame fish (year round) and American and Hickory shad during shad season may be taken with set hooks and jugs.

It is illegal to use jugs and set hooks on Lake Tobesofkee or

any State Park Lake.

A sport fishing license is required to fish with set hooks and jugs in Georgia.

There are no other restrictions on the use of set hooks and jugs (number of, dimensions, materials, etc.)

DNR encourages anglers using these methods to check them regularly, remove them at the end of the fishing day, and avoid areas popular with recreational boaters.

Spear Fishing

"Spearing" is the use of a handheld spear or similar device and the use of a weapon, other than a firearm, which propels the spear to which a wire, rope, line, etc. is attached and secured to the weapon or the person using the weapon.

Only nongame fish, and catfish as described below, may be speared in freshwater and are not to be sold or used for commercial purposes.

The taking of flathead and channel catfish by spear may be done any time day or at night by light in the Savannah River and its tributaries and impoundments in the Savannah River Basin only.

All spears must have barbs or other devices to recover fish and must be attached to a line secured to the person using the weapon.

A sport fishing license is required to spear fish in Georgia.

The person spearing fish must be completely submerged.

Seines, Cast Nets, Bow Nets

Only nongame fish less than 5 inches in length may be taken using a minnow seine and are not to be sold or used for commercial purposes.

All other fish and eels taken in minnow seines must be released immediately unharmed into the water.

A minnow seine must be less than 20 feet in length and have a

3/8 inch or less mesh (square or diameter).

Minnow seines may not be used in designated trout waters.

Minnow traps are illegal in freshwater.

Dip nets and cast nets may be used to take threadfin shad, gizzard shad, and blueback herring for bait except cast nets may not be used in State Park Lakes.

Bow nets are considered sport shad fishing gear and shall have a minimum legal size of 3½ inches stretched mesh.

Bow Fishing

Nongame fish (does not include channel or flathead catfish, see note below) may be taken by bow and arrow from freshwater under the following conditions:

Possession of a sport fishing license is required to bow fish in Georgia.

Arrows must be equipped with barbs or similar devices for recovering fish and must be attached to the person or bow by a line sufficient for recovering the arrow and fish.

Poisonous or exploding arrowheads are illegal.

Arrows cannot be discharged into the water closer than 150 feet to anyone engaged in any other means of recreation.

Legal hours for fishing with bow and arrow are from sunrise to sunset, except that fish (nongame) may be taken at night

while using a light in reservoirs over 500 acres in size.

Any game fish with an open wound possessed by a person bow fishing will be considered evidence of taking fish illegally.

Note: Channel and flathead catfish are game fish, and may not be taken by bow and arrow, except in the Savannah River and its tributaries and impoundments in the Savannah River basin by bow and arrow any time during the day or at night by the use of a light.

Noodling

Flathead, channel and blue catfish may be taken by hand, without the aid of any device, hook, snare, net or other artificial element and without the use of any scuba equipment, air hose or other artificial breathing apparatus.

Noodling is legal in the fresh waters of the state from March 1–July 15 each year.

A sport fishing license is required to noodle in Georgia.

It is illegal to take game fish (other than the catfish species listed above) or any other species of fish by hand.

It is not legal to alter any natural or man-made features in order to attract or capture fish by hand. It is not legal to raise any part of a natural or artificial device out of the water to aid in the hand capture of enclosed fish.

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Freshwater

Game Species Daily Limits

Species		Daily Limit	Exceptions
Bass	Largemouth, Redeye (Coosa), Shoal, Smallmouth, Spotted, and/or Suwannee bass	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Grace (Wayne Co.) — Only one bass may be greater than 22 inches. • 14 inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass from Lake Oconee. • 12 inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass from the Ocmulgee River (Macon's Spring Street bridge crossing to confluence with Oconee River). • 15 inch minimum length limit for shoal bass from the Flint River and its tributaries upstream of Warwick Dam.
Catfish	Channel and/or Flathead	No limit	—
Crappie	Black and/or White	30	—
Pickrel	Chain, Grass and/or Redfin	15	—
Shad	American and/or Hickory	8	—
Striped Bass, White Bass and/or Hybrid White-Striped Bass	—	15, only two of which can be 22 inches or longer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit taken from the North Newport River, Medway River including Mount Hope Creek, Little Ogeechee River, Ogeechee River, Oconee River downstream of GA Hwy 22 in Milledgeville, Ocmulgee River downstream of the GA Hwy 96 bridge between Houston and Twiggs counties, Altamaha River, St. Mary's River, Satilla River, and the tributaries to these river sections; and from saltwater is a two fish limit, both of which must be 22 inches in length or longer. • Limit taken from the Savannah River and its tributaries downstream of J. Strom Thurmond Dam is a two fish limit, both of which must be 27 inches in length or longer. • Limit taken from Lake Richard B. Russell from the Russell Dam to Lake Hartwell Dam and Lake Secession Dam, all tributaries to Lake Richard B. Russell is two (2) striped bass per day, only one (1) of which can exceed 34 inches in length. • See the Fishing Regulations for shared waters for Georgia and South Carolina.
Sunfish or Bream	Bluegill, Flier, Redbreast, Redear, Rock bass, Spotted sunfish, Warmouth and/or Shadow bass	50	Bream: See South Carolina Agreement.
Trout	Brook, Rainbow, and/or Brown trout	8	See Amicalola Creek, Chattahoochee River, Chattooga River, Smithgall Woods, Smith Creek, Toccoa River, and Waters Creek. See the new limits for shared waters of Georgia and South Carolina.
Walleye	—	8	—
Sturgeon – May not be taken in fresh or saltwater in Georgia.			

LEARN TO FISH RESPONSIBLY

Fishing is a popular pastime, and it's important to take an environmentally responsible approach when fishing.

According to "Oceana: Our Endangered Oceans and What We Can Do to Save Them," by Ted Danson, in just 55 years, humans have been able to eradicate about 90 percent of the ocean's top predators. These include animals like sharks, marlin, king mackerel, and bluefin tuna. Smaller species also are being wiped out at alarming rates because fishing nets capture far more than is intended, and today's fishing vessels can zero in on large schools of fish relatively easily. Thanks to global positioning technology and sonar capabilities, there's no longer too much surprise in the chase.

Commercial fishing may do the brunt of the damage, but amateurs also can contribute to the contamination of waterways and decimation of fish species.

For example, the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game says more than 500,000 bass die each year due to improper handling in Massachusetts alone. People of different cultures have fished sustainably for decades, and most anyone can follow their guidelines — and some others — to help keep ocean life healthy.

- Disturb wildlife as little as possible. When traveling into delicate ecosystems, such as those that primarily surround the water's edge, do so with care. Operating a boat in shallow regions can chop up underwater vegetation or harm fish that live in the shallows. Don't remove crustaceans or take plants or other wildlife out of the area.

- Keep track of gear. Discarded or lost fishing gear can prove harmful to wildlife. It's easy for fish or other marine animals to get tangled in fishing line and hooks that were left behind by fishermen. Sinkers and

other weights may be mistaken for food and injure unsuspecting animals. Even animals like ducks and other birds can swallow fishing tackle, which can lead to illness or starvation. Don't just abandon gear.

- Fish specific species at different times. Fishing specific species helps maintain different stocks of fish at various times of the year. Plus, you'll help guar-

antee that one species will not be over-fished, potentially leading to underpopulation or extinction.

- Avoid the use of cast nets or dragnets. Cast nets or dragnets can capture too many fish, including ones that you did not intend to take in.

Responsible fishing can help maintain water ecosystems and protect the surrounding environment.

CATFISH FACTS

Catfish are found on every continent except for Antarctica. Catfish are coveted both as a food source and for sport, and these bottom-dwellers come in roughly 3,000 species, even though estimates suggest the actual number of catfish species may be closer to 4,500.

Though they're primarily freshwater fish, catfish can adapt to other environments and are often found in fast-flowing rivers and streams, but some also thrive in shallow saltwater environments.

Catfish come in a variety of sizes. The smallest are banjo catfish, which are just about 1/2-inch long. The largest are Mekong catfish, which can reach nearly nine feet in length.

Catfish also come in a variety of colors, including green, yellow, tan, white, gray, or silver.

Their distinctive features make it easy to tell catfish apart from other fish. The most notable feature of catfish is the long barbels that protrude from their flattened, broad heads. These barbels resemble whiskers, hence earning the catfish their name. The barbels are used for smelling and sensing within the water. But not all catfish species have prominent barbels. Another distinguishing feature is that catfish do not have scales. They have smooth, often mucus-covered skin that has sensory receptors that detect chemicals in the water and respond to touch. Some species of catfish have poison in their skin.

Most catfish are carnivorous and will feed on frogs, newts, worms, insects, and other fish. Smaller species of catfish may feed on plant matter. Since catfish are natural bottom-dwellers, meaning they feed on the bottom of the water, they often remain unseen in various ecosystems. Only cultivated catfish used for food feed on the surface of the water.

Depending on the species, catfish may live anywhere from eight to 20 years in the wild. Their main predators include larger fish, birds, mammals, and humans who fish them. One catfish can lay up to 4,000 eggs a year per pound of body weight.

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FRESHWATER GAME SPECIES DAILY LIMITS

It is unlawful to take in one day or to possess at any one time, except at a residence or commercial storage facility, more than the daily limit for each species. It is unlawful to possess more than a total of 50 individuals of all the game fish listed in this section, except channel and flathead catfish.

Once the daily limit for a particular species is taken, it is unlawful to continue to fish for that species.

Exception: Daily limits differ on certain waters shared by Georgia and South Carolina. See Agreements with Bordering States.

Seasons: There is no closed season for fishing in freshwater in Georgia except for the following:

Trout Seasons: All designated trout waters are now open year round.

Flint, Chattahoochee and Spring Creeks: The Flint River and its tributaries from the Georgia Power Co. dams at Albany to the US Hwy 84 bridge; the Chattahoochee River and its tributaries from the Columbia Lock and Dam to the GA Hwy 91 bridge; and Spring Creek and its tributaries downstream to GA Hwy 253 are CLOSED to striped bass fishing and spear fishing from May 1–October 31 each year.

Lakes Seminole: All fishing, including spear fishing, for any species in the marked areas around five fish refuges in Lake

Seminole is prohibited from May 1–October 31 each year.

Coosa River: The season for taking lake sturgeon from the Coosa River and its tributaries is CLOSED. See www.gofishgeorgia.com for more information on this closure and how to identify this fish.

Noodling or Grabbling: The season is open March 1–July 15 statewide in freshwater.

Length Limits

Note: There are no minimum length limits on freshwater game fish unless they are listed below. All lengths are Total Length. You must release all fish shorter than the minimum length indicated for that species.

Largemouth Bass

12 inches statewide except:

Lake Blackshear: 14 inches

Lake Blue Ridge: no minimum (0 inches)

Lake Burton: no minimum (0 inches)

Lake Juliette: no minimum (0 inches)

Lake Lanier: 14 inches

Lake Oconee: 14 inches

Lake Lindsey Grace: bass between 15 and 22 inches must be released immediately. All others may be kept. In addition, only one bass may be greater than 22 inches.

Lake Walter F. George: 14 inches

West Point Reservoir: 14 inches

Public Fishing Area lakes operated by the Department of

Natural Resources: 14 inches.

This limit will not apply to lakes which have been posted as having a different length limit for largemouth bass.

Shoal bass

Lake Lanier: 14 inches

Flint River and its tributaries (below Warwick Dam): 12 inches
Flint River and its tributaries (above Warwick Dam): 15 inches

Spotted bass

Lake Lanier: 14 inches

Striped bass, White bass, & Hybrid white-striped bass

You may only keep two fish of the total limit that are 22 inches or longer, except: See agreement with South Carolina

The minimum length for all fish is 22 inches on the North Newport River, Medway River including Mount Hope Creek, Little Ogeechee River, Ogeechee River; Oconee River downstream of GA Hwy 22 in Milledgeville; Ocmulgee River downstream of GA Hwy 96 bridge between Houston and Twiggs counties; Altamaha River, Saint Mary's River, Satilla River, and the tributaries to these river sections; and from saltwater.

The minimum length is 27 inches on the Savannah River and its tributaries downstream of J. Strom Thurmond Dam (2 fish limit).

Trout

No minimum length limit for trout except:

Waters Creek:

Brown and rainbow trout: 22

inches

Brook trout: 18 inches

Noontootla Creek and its tributaries on Blue Ridge WMA

All trout: 16 inches

Fishing Gear Must Be Regularly Checked

Attend to gear such as limb lines. (Anglers are encouraged to check all gear within 24 hours)

Make every reasonable effort to retrieve lost gear (including hooks, line and lead sinkers).

Recycle used fishing line.

For more information, contact:

Fisheries Section at 770-918-6406.

Creel and Possession Note to Anglers

Creel and possession limits are per person. For Conservation Rangers to correctly determine compliance with these limits, each individual should keep trout or other fish on separate stringers or in separate creels. It is unlawful for one individual to possess more than the legal limit of any fish species.

Freshwater Turtles

No more than 10 freshwater turtles (any combination of species) may be possessed without a commercial turtle permit (contact the Special Permit Unit — 770-761-3044). There is no closed season for the harvest of freshwater turtles, however, taking of species protected by federal or state law is prohibited. For more information visit www.georgiawildlife.com/turtling.

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PROTECTED SPECIES

It is unlawful to take nongame wildlife except fiddler crabs, coyotes, armadillos, groundhogs, beavers, starlings, English sparrows, pigeons, and venomous snakes. Additionally, rats, mice, frogs, spring lizards, freshwater crayfish, and freshwater mussels may be taken except for species on Georgia's Protected Species List. No more than 10 freshwater turtles may be possessed without a commercial turtle permit (contact the Special Permit Unit at (770) 761-3044 to apply for permit). Taking freshwater mussels requires a Fishing License or a Commercial Fishing License.

TERMS FOR NOVICE ANGLERS

Fishing is a fun activity that many people consider a passion of theirs. Novice fishermen may have fun on their first fishing outing but come away confused by some of the terminology used. The following glossary of common fishing terms can help men and women as they further explore their newfound love of fishing.

- **Angling:** Fishing using a hook and line. Anglers are people who fish, and types of angling include bait and fly fishing, casting and trolling.
- **Bait:** The food or food substitute used to lure in fish. Insects, minnows and worms are some of the widely used types of bait.
- **Cast:** To throw the hooked or baited end of a fishing line out into the water.
- **Catch and release:** When anglers “catch and release” their fish, they unhook the fish they catch and return them back to the water before the fish dies.
- **Drifting:** A type of fishing where the angler allows his or her boat to drift.
- **Fly-fishing:** A technique in which a lightweight rod known as a “fly rod” is used to cast live or imitation flies tied to a hook.
- **Gaff:** A type of hook used to land a fish.
- **Jig:** A lure that consists of a single hook with a lead weight molded around it. Jigs are often adorned with fur, feathers or a plastic body.
- **Lure:** Artificial bait designed to resemble live bait.
- **Plug:** A type of lure made of wood, plastic or rubber that is designed to resemble live bait, such as minnows or insects.
- **Rod:** The pole of a fishing pole. Different types of rods are used for different types of fishing.
- **Sinker:** A weight used to prevent lures from floating up in the water. Sinkers come in various shapes, types and weights.
- **Spinner:** A lure made with a rotating blade on a wire shaft.



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The advertisement features a group of people wearing eye doctor costumes, including a man in a yellow shirt and a woman in a pink shirt. The background is a collage of images related to vision care.

The Douglas Lions Club
presents the

18th Annual

BIG BUCK CONTEST

Oct. 21, 2017
Coffee High Gymnasium

100
Guns

Can-AM
4-Wheeler

Over
\$5,000 in
Hunting
Prize Money



\$10,000.00
Grand Prize!

Early Bird Drawing 6:00 pm
Supper Served 7:30 pm
Main Event 8:45 pm

Big Buck Tickets On Sale Here!

For official rules & more info find us on Facebook at "Douglas Lions Club"

SMALL GAME REGULATIONS

Bear

Limit: Two bears per season, however, only one bear may be taken from the Southern Zone or Central Zone.

Statewide Restrictions: It is prohibited to kill a female bear with cub(s) or bears under 75 pounds.

Zones: Northern Bear

Zone: Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Walton, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Hart and all counties north

Restrictions: No hunting bears with dogs. No hunting bears over bait.

Reporting: Within 24 hours, harvested bears must be reported to the Wildlife Resources Division Gainesville Office (770-535-5700) or Armuchee Office (706-295-6041). After hours, call 1-800-241-4113.

Within 3 business days, bears (minimum of hide and skull) must be taken to any Game Management Office (except Fitzgerald) for tagging.

Harvested bears may also be checked at any WMA check station in the counties listed above that are open for a managed deer/bear/hog hunt between 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Central Bear Zones: Bibb, Hous-

ton, and Twiggs Counties

Restrictions: No hunting bears with dogs. No hunting bears over bait. No hunting bears on WMAs.

Reporting: Harvested bears must be checked and tagged at the Oak Woods WMA check station between 12 noon and 9 p.m. on the day of the hunt.

Southern Bear Zone: Brantley, Charlton, Clinch, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes and Ware Counties

Restrictions: No hunting bears over bait. Hunting with dogs is allowed, except in Lanier and Lowndes Counties, where only still hunting is allowed.

Reporting: Bears (minimum of hide and skull) must be checked and tagged at one of these locations:

Fargo Georgia Forestry Commission Office – Thursdays and Fridays 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturdays Noon – 9 p.m., all hunt days

Waycross DNR Office – Thursdays and Fridays 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturdays Noon – 9 p.m. Sept. 21-23, Sept. 28 – 30, Oct. 12-14

Dixon Memorial WMA – Oct. 5-7, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

After hours, call 1-800-241-4113,

or 229-426-5267 on the following business day to report harvested bears and arrange tagging

Turkey

Limit: 3 gobblers per season, including Special Opportunity Season.

Check Your Turkey: All turkey hunters are required to have a Harvest Record for the current season. Additionally, all harvest must be reported within 72 hours through Georgia Game Check.

How to Report Your Turkey: If you have a cell phone, enter the harvest date and county on the Harvest Record through the GA Outdoors App, online at www.gooutdoorsgeorgia.com, or by calling 1-800-366-2661 before moving the turkey from the site of the kill. You can now report your harvest through the GA Outdoors App when your phone has no service. Enter your harvest date and county on the Harvest Record through the App. When you get to a location with service, access the App and sync to receive your confirmation number.

No Phone? No Problem!

Log It: Enter the harvest date and county on your paper Harvest Record before moving the turkey from the site of the kill.

Report It: Within 72 hours of the kill, report your harvest by going online to gooutdoorsgeorgia.com or calling 1-800-366-2661.

Record It: Copy the confirmation number received onto your paper Harvest Record.

Special Opportunity Season: For youth 16 years of age and younger and mobility impaired persons (i.e. confined to wheelchair, hemiplegia, monoplegia, paraplegia, or single-leg amputation above the knee). Such hunters must be accompanied by an

adult (18 years or older) who can call but may not take or attempt to take a turkey. This season does not apply to public lands unless otherwise specified.

Feral Hog

Private Lands: Limit: No limit, no closed season.

Feral hogs may be hunted at night with a light (no voltage restriction), which is carried on the person, affixed to a helmet or hat, or part of a belt system worn by a hunter. Hunting over bait is allowed. No hunting from a vehicle.

National Forest Lands (Outside of WMAs): Limit: No limit.

Hogs may be taken with archery equipment during archery deer season, with deer weapons during firearms deer season, with turkey weapons during turkey season and with small game weapons during small game season. No night hunting. No hunting over bait. Hunting license requirements must be met. Hunter orange is required during firearms and primitive weapons deer seasons.

Transporting and Release: It is unlawful to transport a live feral hog without a permit from the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA). Feral hogs captured alive by a person without a valid GDA permit must be killed prior to transport. Release of any live feral hogs into an area that is not fenced is prohibited. Any persons convicted of the transport or release of live feral hogs may be subject to losing hunting privileges for up to three years and a fine up to \$5,000.00, but not less than \$1,500.00. Transport and possession of live feral hogs are regulated by GDA; contact the Animal Industry Division at 404-656-3671 for more information.

Continued on page 23

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Small Game Regulations Continued

Processing: Any facility that processes hogs for a fee, including deer processors, must obtain a license to operate from the Meat Inspection Section of the Georgia Department of Agriculture. For more information, deer processors may contact the Georgia Meat Inspection Section at 404-656-3673. Licensing requirements do not apply to individuals who process feral swine for their own use.

Warning: Feral hogs can carry infectious diseases that are transmissible to people. To avoid possible exposure: wear plastic gloves when field-dressing feral hogs; wash hands with soap and hot water immediately afterwards; avoid direct contact with blood and reproductive organs; cook thoroughly; and properly dispose of all waste.

Small Game Bobcat and Fox

Bobcats and foxes may be hunted with small game firearms or center-fire firearms of .17 caliber or larger. Manual calls only. Hunting with dogs allowed. Night hunting allowed.

Coyotes, Armadillos, Ground-hogs, Beavers, Starlings, Pigeons, English Sparrows

No closed season. No limit. There

is no closed season for trapping beavers and coyotes. Electronic calls may be used for hunting coyotes.

Alligator

Season: August 18 (sunset) – October 2 (sunrise)

Legal Weapons: Hand-held ropes or snares, snatch hooks, harpoons, gigs, or arrows with restraining line attached. Lawfully restrained alligators may be killed with any caliber handgun or bangstick.

Quota Process: Alligator hunting is permit only. To enter the selection process, log into your account at gooutdoorsgeorgia.com.

Application Period: June 1 – July 31

Trapping

Complete trapping regulations are available at gohuntgeorgia.com.

Falconry

Valid falconry permit and hunting license required.

Squirrel (12 per day) Aug. 15 – Mar. 15

Grouse (3 per day) October 1 – March 15

Rabbit (12 per day) October 1 – March 15

Quail (12 per day) October 1 – March 15

DEER HUNTING

Five Tips To Optimize Your Use Of Bait

Deer hunting: Thinking of using bait to attract deer to your hunting grounds? Here are a few tips to help you maximize your chances of success this season.

1. Whether you're hunting or approaching your tree stand, always stay downwind. Make sure the path that leads to your stand allows you to get there without the deer catching your scent or seeing you.
2. Choose a bait site that a wary adult male will find difficult to bypass. Do this by making use of natural obstacles like streams and fields. This way, you won't lose sight of the animal as it tries to maneuver around your site, and you'll prevent it from passing behind your stand and catching your scent.
3. If possible, maintain more than one bait site so you can adapt your strategy to different wind conditions.
4. Be generous with your bait. The fewer trips you make to your site to restock, the lower your risk of contaminating the area with your scent. And make sure your bait site never runs out of food; you don't want the deer going elsewhere to feed!
5. If you are using a firearm, locate your tree stand as far as possible from your bait site: a minimum of 100 yards is good so as to avoid spreading your scent in the area. For the same reason, your hunting stand should be as high off the ground as possible.

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