

## A MESSAGE from the Government of Ontario

**H**unting has long been a popular outdoor activity for thousands of Ontario residents and visitors to the province. Each year, avid hunters take to the field in pursuit of waterfowl, deer, moose and other quarry.

Hunter support is key to the success of Ontario's wildlife management programs. This can include everything from actively participating in resource management such as habitat improvement projects to responding to harvest surveys. The sustainable management of the province's wildlife populations allows for the continued expansion of hunting opportunities, where appropriate.

This year, the ministry is updating Ontario's Wild Turkey Management Plan to provide long-term guidance for management of this species as part of southern and central Ontario's biodiversity. The tremendous success of wild turkey restoration has seen populations thriving in suitable habitats. A fall turkey season has been proposed in numerous Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in southern Ontario. New spring turkey seasons in three central Ontario WMUs are in place for 2008.

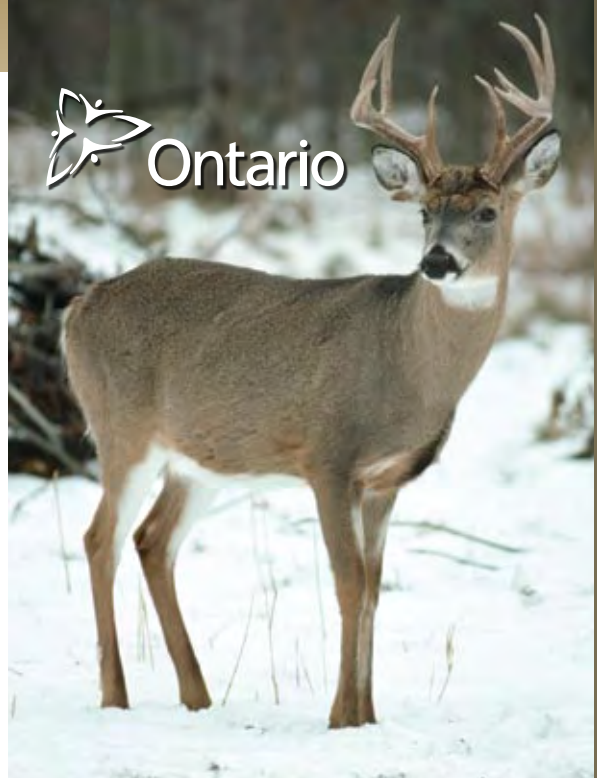
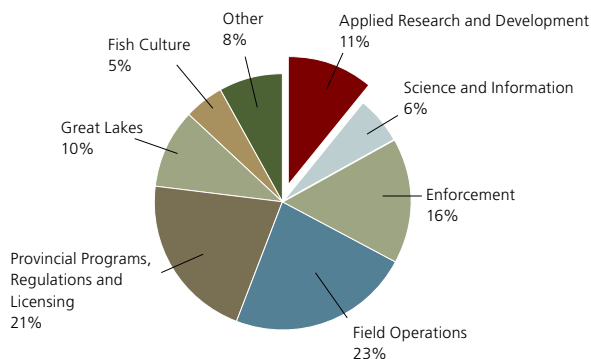
A broad review of Ontario's moose program is now underway, with special emphasis this year on updating the moose policy and population management tools. There will also be preliminary discussions on enhancements to the moose draw system this year and more in-depth discussions in early 2009. The goal is to ensure that the province's moose management program remains modern and world-class and that it responds to environmental changes and societal needs.

The Ontario government appreciates hunters for all that they do to support the province's wildlife management programs. By working together, we can help ensure the sustainability of our wildlife.

### MNR's Fish and Wildlife Funding

Since 1996, Ontario has put all licence fees, royalties and fines collected under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act into a Special Purpose Account that is used exclusively for fish and wildlife management.

Revenue going into this account averages about \$60 million a year. MNR's fish and wildlife program operating budget was about \$82 million in 2007–08.



### ATTENTION NON-RESIDENT HUNTERS Non-resident Outdoors Card

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has embarked on a project to improve the way that hunting and fishing licences are sold, including the development of an automated licence system for licence issuers and improvements to the ministry's website and toll-free telephone service. When fully implemented, the new approach to selling licences will provide many benefits to non-resident hunters, including:

- The ability to purchase fishing and some hunting licences from home using the ministry's website or the toll-free automated telephone service
- Easier replacement of lost hunting or fishing licences
- Hunters will only have to present their hunter accreditation once to obtain their initial hunting Outdoors Card, which will then act as their proof of accreditation
- The option to purchase three-year fishing and small game hunting licences.

All anglers and hunters, including non-residents, will need a unique identification number for this system to work properly. For that reason, the ministry will be introducing a non-resident Outdoors Card, effective January 1, 2009. The non-resident Outdoors Card will be similar to the existing resident Outdoors Card and will be required to purchase an Ontario fishing or hunting licence, except for one-day fishing licences.

# Important Telephone Numbers and 2008 Dates for Ontario Hunters

## General Inquiry Telephone Numbers

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Outdoors Card Centre (lost or stolen cards and general card inquiries) ..... | 1-800-387-7011   |
| Outdoors Card renewal (available all year).....                              | 1-800-288-1155 or <a href="http://ontario.ca/outdoorscard">ontario.ca/outdoorscard</a> |
| MNR Natural Resources Information Centre .....                               | 1-800-667-1940   |
| In Peterborough .....  | (705) 755-2000   |

## Automated Telephone Licensing Line\* – 1-800-288-1155

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Wild turkey licensing telephone system .....               | available March 1 to April 30     |
| Turkey Harvest Reporting System.....                       | available April 25 to June 2      |
| Moose licensing and draw application system.....           | available April 25 to June 2      |
| Antlerless deer licensing and draw application system..... | available March 1 to July 31      |
| Controlled deer hunt draw application system.....          | available August 1 to September 2 |
| Additional deer game seals telephone system .....          | available August 5 to August 22   |

\* Please note these are automated systems and you must enter information using your telephone key pad.

Please listen carefully, and follow the instructions when using this system.

## Draw Results Telephone Line – 1-800-288-1155

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Moose draw results .....                | available August 1 to December 31   |
| Antlerless deer draw results .....      | available August 25 to December 31  |
| Controlled deer hunt draw results ..... | available October 15 to December 31 |














## Other Important Telephone Numbers

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| TIPS-MNR (Natural Resources Violation Reporting Line).....                   | 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) |
| Canadian Firearms Centre .....   | 1-800-731-4000            |
| Canadian Wildlife Service (waterfowl seasons) .....                          | 1-905-336-6410            |
| Banded Birds Reporting.....  | 1-800-327-2263            |
| Crime Stoppers (anonymous tips, report a poacher Canada-wide) .....          | 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)     |
| Forest Fires in the 705 area code (north of the French/Mattawa rivers) ..... | 1-888-863-FIRE (3473)     |
| Forest Fires in the 807 area code (northwestern Ontario).....                | 1-888-284-FIRE (3473)     |
| Ontario Hats for Hides Program.....  | 1-877-295-7277            |

## Important Dates for Ontario Hunters

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Small game licences available and wolf/coyote game seals available .....                        | All year                          |
| Wolf/coyote resident and non-resident mandatory questionnaire deadline .....                    | January 15 of the following year  |
| Wild turkey automated telephone licensing .....   | available March 1 to April 30     |
| Wild turkey and big game paper licences become available .....                                  | March                             |
| Moose automated telephone licensing and draw application .....                                  | available April 25 to June 2      |
| Moose validation tag draw deadline .....  | June 2                            |
| Moose surplus validation tag information from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (ET) – 1-800-363-3730..... | August 18                         |
| Black bear second game seals available .....  | August                            |
| Antlerless deer automated telephone licensing and draw application .....                        | available March 1 to July 31      |
| Antlerless deer validation tag draw deadline.....   | July 31                           |
| Controlled deer hunt automated telephone draw application .....                                 | available August 1 to September 2 |
| Controlled deer hunt draw paper application becomes available .....                             | August 1                          |
| Controlled deer hunt draw application deadline.....   | September 2                       |
| Additional deer game seals automated telephone sales line .....                                 | available August 5 to August 22   |
| Black bear non-resident mandatory questionnaire deadline .....                                  | November 30                       |
| Black bear resident mandatory questionnaire deadline .....                                      | December 15                       |

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This publication is available at: [ontario.ca/hunting](http://ontario.ca/hunting)

## How to Use this Summary

This is a summary of information dealing with hunting licences and hunting laws. This summary is neither a legal document nor a complete collection of the current regulations. It is meant to be a convenient reference only. For complete details, see:

- the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997, and the Regulations made under this act;
- the Migratory Birds Convention Act – Canada and the Migratory Birds Regulations;
- the Endangered Species Act, 1990, and effective June 30, 2008, the Endangered Species Act, 2007, and the Regulations made under these acts;
- the Species at Risk Act– Canada with regard to federally scheduled threatened, endangered and extirpated species and their critical habitat; and
- the Trespass to Property Act, 1990.

Each game wildlife species or group of game species has a section in this summary. Each section deals with basic regulations on hunting the species, including open season tables (showing when and where you can hunt that species). The maps that show Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) boundaries appear on pages 6-11 of this summary.

See the Definitions on page 78 for an explanation of terms found throughout this summary. You can obtain specific details of the Regulations (including more accurate descriptions of Wildlife Management Unit boundaries) from local MNR offices.

## The Ontario Hunter Education Program

The Ontario Hunter Education Program is administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (O.F.A.H.). The Ontario Hunter Education Course and exam are delivered by approximately 300 certified instructors across the province. To find a hunter education instructor in your area please contact a ServiceOntario Centre, or the O.F.A.H. at (705) 748-5785 or [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net). To purchase *Ontario's Hunter Education Manual*, contact an instructor or the O.F.A.H.

Two classes of Ontario Outdoors Cards and Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Cards are available to residents – one for gun hunters and one for non-gun hunters.

### Consent Required

Individuals under the age of 16 must file a consent signed by one parent or guardian **before** attending the Ontario Hunter Education Course or the Ontario Wild Turkey Education Course. Consent forms are available at [ontario.ca/hunting](http://ontario.ca/hunting).

### Class H1 Outdoors Card

The H1 card permits the cardholder to hunt with all methods permitted under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 (FWCA). Applicants for this version of Outdoors Card will have to provide documentation that they have passed both the Ontario Hunter Education Course exam and the Canadian Firearms Safety Course exam. These courses are normally delivered in a “One-Stop” combined course, however both courses are available independently if desired. “One-Stop” graduates will meet provincial training requirements to hunt and the federal training requirements for firearms possession, acquisition and ownership.

Any person with a hunting version of Ontario Outdoors Card, Ontario Hunting Licence or Hunter Education Exam Report indicating a pass issued after January 1, 1968, and before January 1, 2006, will be eligible for the H1 Outdoors Card.

### Class H2 Outdoors Card

The H2 card permits the cardholder to hunt with all methods permitted under the FWCA except guns. Applicants for this version of the Outdoors Card will have to provide documentation that they have passed the Ontario Hunter Education Course exam.

### Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Cards

Similarly, two types of Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Cards are available as of January 1, 2006. The A1 card permits the holder to hunt with all methods permitted under the FWCA. The A2 card permits the holder to hunt with all methods permitted under the FWCA and regulations except guns.

### Contacts

For information on the Ontario Hunter Education Program, contact the O.F.A.H. at (705) 748-5785 or [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net).

For information on the federal Firearms Act, contact the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000 or [www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca](http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca).

## HUNTER APPRENTICESHIP SAFETY PROGRAM

Ontario's Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program (HASP) allows individuals to safely develop their hunting skills while under the **direct and immediate supervision** of a qualified Mentor. The program provides practical training for future hunters. Two classes of Ontario Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Cards are available – one for gun hunters and one for non-gun hunters.

### Class A1 Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card

The A1 Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card permits the cardholder to hunt with all methods permitted under the FWCA. Applicants for this version of the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card must be 12 years of age or older and will have to provide documentation that they have passed both the Ontario Hunter Education Course exam and the Canadian Firearms Safety Course exam. These courses are available in a “One-Stop” combined course; however, both courses are available independently if desired. Graduates will meet provincial training requirements to hunt and the federal training requirements for firearms possession, acquisition and ownership. (**NOTE:** To own, acquire, and register a gun you must be 18 years of age or older).

### Class A2 Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card

The A2 Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card permits the cardholder to hunt with all methods permitted under the FWCA and regulations except guns. Applicants for this version of the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card must be 12 years of age or older and provide documentation that they have passed the Ontario Hunter Education Course exam.

### Other HASP Requirements:

- Written permission of parent or legal guardian is required if the applicant is 12 to 15 years of age.
- The applicant must be a resident of Ontario.
- The Apprentice, while hunting, must be under the **direct and immediate supervision** of a Mentor who is 18 years of age or older, and who holds a valid Outdoors Card of the equivalent class and hunting licence for the game species being hunted.
- The Apprentice must share a **single firearm** with the Mentor.
- An Apprentice must possess a federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit to hunt migratory game birds.
- With the exception of migratory game birds, game wildlife taken by the Apprentice must be added to the daily bag limit of the Mentor.
- If wild turkey is being hunted, the Apprentice must take the Ontario Wild Turkey Education Course and pass the exam.
- A Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card is valid for a period of three years.
- The Apprentice must carry the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card with them while hunting.

## General Regulations

### Firearms

Firearms include rifles, shotguns, air or pellet guns, bows and crossbows. You may use semi-automatic or repeating firearms for hunting in Ontario, but not handguns or fully automatic firearms. Air and pellet pistols with a muzzle velocity less than 500 feet per second may be used for hunting in Ontario.

**Remember: Hunting carelessly is an offence.** Hunters who discharge firearms without due care and attention or consideration for persons and property are liable to a fine of up to \$25,000 or imprisonment for up to two years – or both. Depending on the circumstances, a person may also be subject to charges under the Criminal Code.

**ANY hunting injury caused by the discharge of a firearm and which results in treatment by a physician MUST BE reported to a Conservation Officer as soon as practical.**

**Before hunting, check local sunrise-sunset times. You may only hunt from a half-hour before sunrise to a half-hour after sunset (exceptions: night raccoon, wild turkey, and in some WMUs pheasant). If you are in an area usually inhabited by wildlife, during the period from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise, you must unload and encase any firearms (including air gun, pellet gun, bow or crossbow) in your possession.**

**Firearms must be securely encased in a manner whereby they are not readily accessible.**

A firearm is considered to be loaded if it has a cartridge in the chamber or in a magazine that is attached to the firearm.

A **muzzle-loader** is a gun that is loaded through the muzzle. A percussion muzzle-loading gun is considered to be loaded if there is a charge of powder and a projectile in the barrel and a percussion cap on the nipple. A flintlock muzzle-loading gun is considered to be loaded if there is a charge of powder and a projectile in the barrel and the vent is unplugged.

A **crossbow** is considered to be loaded if the bow is cocked and there is a bolt in the crossbow. A bow other than a crossbow is considered to be loaded if the bow is strung and an arrow is nocked.

The draw length of a **bow** (compound, recurve, long) is the measured distance from the outer edge of the main riser (handle), following the line of an arrow to the string at the anchor point.

The draw length of a **crossbow** is measured along the bolt ramp (where the bolt rests) from the outer edge of the main limb, to the anchor point (release latch mechanism) at full draw.

### Roads – Possession and Discharge of Firearms

| Restriction  | Area   |
|--|--|
| No <b>possession</b> of a loaded firearm within 8 metres of the travelled portion of a road (or fenceline where one exists) at any time AND no <b>discharge</b> of a firearm from or across a right-of-way for the passage of vehicles at any time.                        | Brant, Bruce, Dufferin, Dundas, Durham, Elgin, Essex (except the township of Pelee), Frontenac*, Glengarry, Grenville, Grey, Haldimand-Norfolk, Halton, Hamilton-Wentworth, the townships of Hungerford, Huntingdon, Rawdon, Sidney, Thurlow, and Tyendinaga in the county of Hastings, Huron, Kent, Lambton, Lanark, Lennox and Addington*, Leeds, Middlesex, Niagara, Northumberland, Ottawa-Carleton, Oxford, Peel, Perth, Peterborough*, Prescott, Prince Edward, Russell, Simcoe, Stormont, Victoria*, Waterloo, Wellington, York.<br>*except those areas listed in row 2 below.  |
| No <b>possession</b> of a loaded firearm within 8 metres of the travelled portion of a road (or fenceline where one exists) during an open gun season for deer AND no <b>discharge</b> of a firearm from or across a right-of-way for the passage of vehicles at any time. | The townships of Barrie, Clarendon, Hinchinbrooke, Kennebec, Miller, North Canonto, Olden, Oso, Palmerston, and South Canonto in Frontenac County.<br>The townships of Abinger, Anglesea, Ashby, Denbigh, Effingham, Kaladar, and Sheffield in the County of Lennox and Addington.<br>The townships of Anstruther, Burleigh, Cavendish, Chandos, Galway, Harvey, and Methuen in the County of Peterborough.<br>The County of Hastings, except Hungerford, Huntingdon, Rawdon, Sidney, Thurlow and Tyendinaga.<br>The geographic townships of Carden, Dalton, Digby, Laxton, Longford, and Somerville in the City of Kawartha Lakes (formerly Victoria County)<br>Counties of Haliburton, Muskoka, and Renfrew. |
| No <b>discharge</b> of firearms from or across the travelled portion of a right of way.  | Any part of the province not listed in rows 1 and 2 above.   |

**NOTE:** The restrictions above do not apply to an unmaintained right of way.

## Summary of Firearms Restrictions for Hunting in Ontario

| Game Species & Season                             | Centre-Fire Rifle | Rim-Fire Rifle | Shotgun   | Muzzle-loader   | Bows<br>See page 21 for measurement instructions.   |   |
|---|-------------------|----------------|---|---|---|---|
|   |                   |                |   |   | Bow<br>(compound, recurve, long)  | Crossbow  |
| Moose – Rifles, Shotguns, Bows and Muzzle-loaders | Yes               | No             | Yes, but no person shall use a shotgun smaller than 20 gauge when loaded with shot or any shotgun loaded with shot smaller than SG or No. 1 buck. | Yes   | Bows must, at a draw length of 700 mm (27.6 in.) or less, have a draw weight of at least 22 kilograms (48.5 lb.). Arrows must be at least 600 mm (23.6 in.) long and have at a minimum a 22 mm (0.87 in.) wide arrow head with at least two cutting edges that are sharp, unserrated, barbless, straight and made of steel. | Crossbows must have a draw length of at least 300 mm (11.8 in.) and a draw weight of at least 54 kilograms (119 lb.). At a minimum bolts must have a 22 mm (0.87 in.) wide bolt head with at least two cutting edges that are sharp, unserrated, barbless, straight and made of steel.  |
| Moose – Bows and Muzzle-loaders Only              | No                | No             | No  | Yes   |   |   |
| Moose – Bows-Only                                 | No                | No             | No  | No  |   |   |
| Black Bear  | Yes               | No             | Yes, but no person shall use a shotgun smaller than 20 gauge when loaded with shot or any shotgun loaded with shot smaller than SG or No. 1 buck. | Yes   | Bows must, at a draw length of 700 mm (27.6 in.) or less, have a draw weight of at least 18 kilograms (39.7 lb.). Arrows must be at least 600 mm (23.6 in.) long and have at a minimum a 22 mm (0.87 in.) wide arrow head with at least two cutting edges that are sharp, unserrated, barbless, straight and made of steel. | Crossbows must have a draw length of at least 300 mm (11.8 in.) and a draw weight of at least 45 kilograms (99.2 lb.). At a minimum bolts must have a 22 mm (0.87 in.) wide bolt head with at least two cutting edges that are sharp, unserrated, barbless, straight and made of steel. |
| Deer – Rifles, Shotguns, Bows and Muzzle-loaders  | Yes               | No             |   | Yes   |   |   |
| Deer – Shotguns, Bows and Muzzle-loaders Only     | No                | No             | Yes   |   |   |   |
| Deer – Bows and Muzzle-loaders Only               | No                | No             | No  | Yes   |   |   |
| Deer – Bows-Only                                  | No                | No             | No  | No  |   |   |
| Wild Turkey                                       | No                | No             | Not larger than 10 gauge or smaller than 20 gauge. Shot size must be 4, 5, or 6.  | Muzzle-loading shotgun not larger than 10 gauge or smaller than 20 gauge. Shot size must be 4, 5, or 6. |   |   |
| Deer – Rifles, Shotguns, and Muzzle-loaders Only  | Yes               | No             | Yes, but no person shall use a shotgun smaller than 20 gauge when loaded with shot or any shotgun loaded with shot smaller than SG or No. 1 buck. | Yes   | No  | No  |
| Deer – Shotguns and Muzzle-loaders Only           | No                | No             |   | Yes   | No  | No  |
| Deer – Muzzle-loaders Only                        | No                | No             | No  | Yes   | No  | No  |

**NOTE:** See appropriate sections for complete details. In an area where there is an open season for deer, moose or black bear if you are the holder of a small game licence, you may not possess or use a rifle of greater calibre or projectile power than a .22 calibre rim-fire rifle chambered to

.22 short, .22 long or 22 long rifle or shells loaded with ball or with shot larger than No. 2 shot, unless you possess a valid licence to hunt deer, moose or black bear as the case may be. When hunting deer or moose you may only use or carry the type of firearms allowed.

The length of an arrow is measured from the base of the arrowhead to the bottom of the nock slot.

You must plug a **semi-automatic or repeating shotgun** so that it will not hold more than a total of three shells in the chamber and magazine combined.

On the Aulneau Peninsula (WMU 7A), from September 1 to December 15 and from April 15 to June 15, you must not use a shotgun loaded with ball or with shot larger than number 2 lead shot, steel shot that is not larger than triple BBB shot, bismuth shot that is not larger than double BB shot or a rifle of greater calibre or projectile power than a rifle known as the .22 calibre rim-fire rifle. The calibre limitations do not apply to flintlock or percussion cap muzzle-loading rifles.

Under the Criminal Code of Canada you cannot possess any clip/magazine that holds more than five shots for a semi-automatic centre fire rifle unless that clip/magazine has been specifically exempted, pursuant to the Firearms Regulations.

Contact the Canadian Firearms Centre at **1-800-731-4000** (or [www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/](http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/)) for information about the requirements for firearm ownership and firearm licensing. For storage and transportation information, **contact your local police department**. Some municipalities have by-laws restricting the discharge of firearms. Check with the local municipal office for details.

## Hunter Orange

The objective of the hunter orange regulation is to maximize hunter safety without negatively impacting hunting success. Under this regulation, **all licensed hunters, including bow hunters**, hunting during the **gun** season for deer and moose, are required to wear hunter orange. As well, all black bear hunters hunting during the black bear season are required to wear hunter orange except when in a tree stand. (This exception is in place because, unlike deer and moose, black bears have colour vision.) Waterfowl hunters, spring wild turkey hunters and bow hunters in bows-only seasons, where there are no concurrent deer or moose gun seasons, are exempt from the hunter orange requirement.

A hunter orange garment and head cover must be worn. The hunter orange garment must cover a minimum of 2,580 square cm (400 square inches) above the waist and be visible from all sides. Open mesh or camouflage hunter orange must not be part of the 2,580 square cm. A hunting coat or vest generally meets this requirement. The hunter orange head cover may have: open mesh; a peak or brim colour other than hunter orange; a crest or logo which does not completely cover the hunter orange on the side where it is affixed. The head cover may not contain camouflage material.

Hunter orange colour standards are generally consistent across North America. Manufacturers can provide information regarding clothing compliance with this standard.

## Party Hunting

A person may hunt moose, deer or black bear in a party even if the person has previously attached his or her game seal to a moose, deer or black bear. The term "Party Hunting" means two or more persons hunting during an open season for moose, deer or black bear under all of the following conditions:

- Each person has a valid licence to hunt moose, deer or black bear.
- The total number of moose, deer or black bear killed by the party does not exceed the total number of game seals held by the members of the party licensed to hunt that species.
- The total number of moose, deer or black bear of a specified sex, age or type killed by the party does not exceed the total number of game seals validated for that sex, age or type that are held by members of the party.
- All members of the party hunt together in the same Wildlife Management Unit or portion thereof for which the game seal is valid.
- Each member of the party hunts within five kilometres of the person who holds the game seal that is valid for the wildlife being hunted.
- Each member of the party must be able to reliably and immediately communicate with other members of the party.
- All members of the party, including the person who holds the seal that is valid for the wildlife that the party is hunting, actively participate in the hunt and hunt co-operatively.

The person who kills the wildlife while hunting in a party shall immediately notify all other members of the party that the wildlife has been killed and the game seal holder shall immediately affix the game seal to the wildlife in the manner prescribed on the game seal.

At this point, party members at the kill site must determine the category of animals that may still be hunted. You must then make sure your other party members, who did not come to the kill site, are informed. The hunter in your party who killed the animal, and the hunter who attached the game seal, may continue hunting provided other members of your party possess valid, unused game seals.

If you have questions about party hunting, the best time to get answers is before the hunt begins. Contact a Conservation Officer at the MNR office in the district in which you will be hunting. A list of MNR offices and phone numbers is found on page 80.

## Use of Vehicles or Boats

(see Definitions, page 78)

Aircraft may not be used while hunting. Snowmobiles, vehicles or boats may not be used for chasing, pursuing, harassing, capturing, killing, injuring or destroying any wildlife. **You may not hunt moose, deer or black bear while they are swimming.**

**It is illegal to have a loaded firearm in or on, or discharge a firearm from, an aircraft, vehicle (including snowmobile and all terrain vehicle) or motor boat** or anything towed by the boat. An exception to this rule is that a person may obtain an authorization through the local MNR office if the person's mobility is impaired and the person meets one of the following criteria:

1. A paraplegic or hemiplegic
2. A single (above the knee) lower limb amputation or a double (below the waist) amputation
3. Suffers severe disability, and cannot hunt without the use of a wheelchair or similar means of locomotion. In this case, the hunter must provide a medical certificate stating disability. The authorization is valid for a period of up to five years for a person with a permanent disability.

A loaded firearm may be carried in, and discharged from, a canoe or boat that is being paddled, with no motor attached.

**NOTE:** Restrictions on the use of motor boats. Under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 a motor boat means a boat **with a motor that is attached to the boat** (see definition on page 78). There is an exception to this rule if you are hunting waterfowl in accordance with the Migratory Birds Convention Act.

## Sunday Gun Hunting

Changes will occur over time to the areas where gun hunting on Sundays is allowed south of the French and Mattawa Rivers.

To hunt with a gun on Sunday, you must ensure:

- the season is open for the type of gun you want to use
- gun hunting is allowed on Sundays in the municipality where you wish to hunt
- the municipality does not have a "no discharge of firearms" bylaw in the area where you wish to hunt.

To confirm the status of the municipality in which you want to hunt, please check the Sunday gun hunting information available at [ontario.ca/hunting](http://ontario.ca/hunting).

## Dogs

You must license any dogs to be used to hunt deer, moose or black bear. The licence holder or the person who has control of the dogs must carry all dog licences and produce the licences at the request of an officer. There is no limit on the number of dogs that may be licensed and used. Dogs may not run at large in an area inhabited by deer, moose, elk or black bear during the closed season.

You must have an authorization or licence issued from the local MNR office to conduct dog training and field trials on game mammals and game birds during the closed season, or an appropriate hunting licence during the open season.

**NOTE:** There is no authorization or licence that allows the chasing of wolf or coyote in the townships around Algonquin Park where there is a year-round closed season for those species.

In order to hunt raccoon at night, you must be accompanied by a dog licensed for raccoon hunting and you must have a resident's tag to hunt raccoon at night.

For a dog coming into Canada from the United States, you must have a certificate, signed by a veterinarian licensed in Canada or in the United States, stating that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies during the preceding 36 months. The certificate must have a reasonably complete and legible description of the dog and the date of the vaccination. For more information, check with Canada Customs.

Dogs may be brought into Ontario without security if you list them as part of the Tourist Outfitter's and/or Sportsmen's equipment when completing the necessary customs forms.

## Snares

Snares cannot be used, except by the holder of a resident's small game licence for taking varying hares north of the French and Mattawa rivers with a snare constructed of copper or brass wire between 22 and 24 gauge. The opening of the snare wire loop must be 10 cm (4 in.) or less in diameter.

Licensed trappers may use snares under conditions specified in the Trapping Regulations.

## Poison and Adhesives

It is illegal to use poison and adhesives to kill, injure or capture wildlife.

## Trespassing

A person is trespassing if the person enters onto property or carries out an activity on property that the owner has given notice is not allowed. Commonly the owner may give this notice to the general public by having a fence, sign, or symbol or by verbally telling someone.

A hunting licence does not give hunters the right to enter or cross private property.

ALWAYS ask for permission and obey signs. Signs may be in three formats:

- Red or yellow markings of such a size that a circle of 10 cm (4 inches) can be contained wholly within them. Red means no entry is permitted. Yellow markings mean no entry is permitted except for activities that may be allowed.
- Graphic representation of a permitted or prohibited activity.
- A written sign.

If it is not evident what activities are allowed, ask for permission from the landowner. Not all land is signed. Unsigned lands may be private land as well. (For example if the property is fenced, no access is permitted without permission of the landowner.) It is your responsibility to find out who owns the land you wish to hunt on and obtain permission. If unsure, stay out. **Positive landowner/hunter relationships are important to the future of hunting in Ontario.**

Be sure you are familiar with the Occupiers' Liability Act and the Trespass to Property Act, 1990 before entering private land. (You may obtain these two acts from Publications Ontario or online at [www.e-laws.gov.on.ca](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca)). You will also be violating the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 if the landowner asks you to leave and you do not do so immediately, or if you do not obey signs prohibiting trespassing, hunting or fishing.

In any county or regional municipality, you may not hunt in a party of more than 12 persons without the express permission of the occupier.

Before hunting on Indian Reserves, ask the permission of the Band Council.

If you wish to hunt deer on Barrie Island, Cockburn Island or Manitoulin Island, you must have with you a valid deer licence and the written consent of the landowner on the form provided by MNR. If you wish to hunt moose in WMU 65, you must have a moose licence, the appropriate validation tag and written consent of the landowner on the form provided by MNR.

## Crown Lands

In Ontario, travel for recreational purposes on Crown lands and waters is generally free and unrestricted. Generally, camping is allowed free on Crown lands up to 21 days at one site (to qualify as a separate site which can be occupied for an additional 21 days, a second camp site must be at least 100 metres from the first location by that camper) or unless otherwise posted under the Public Lands Act. **However, some Crown lands may have restricted-travel zones for forest**

## fire prevention, officially closed forest-access roads or specific areas posted with signs to prohibit all or certain kinds of uses or travel.

Non-residents of Canada, except those using a camping unit rented from a person who carries on an Ontario-based business (commercial outfitter), require a permit to camp on Crown land north of the French and Mattawa rivers. Camping unit is defined as equipment used for the purpose of outdoor accommodation and includes a tent, trailer, tent-trailer, recreational vehicle, camper-back and any watercraft equipped for overnight accommodation. Contact a ServiceOntario Centre or licence issuer for permits.

Non-residents are prohibited from camping on Crown land at any time of year across large areas of northern Ontario. These areas are generally well signed; however, hunters are advised to check with the local MNR office for complete information on camping-prohibited areas.

Some Crown lands may also be posted against hunting and possession of firearms to protect forest workers or other resource users. Contact the local MNR office for the area in which you wish to hunt for further information.

## For Non-Resident of Canada for Crown Land Camping Restrictions in WMUs 6, 7B, 9A and 9B, see page 52.

## Work Permits

The Public Lands Act states that you must have a work permit before you construct a new building, create trails, or do other modifications on Crown land. Crown land includes the bottom of most waterbodies. For information on work permits and the application process, refer to the MNR website. **Hunters are reminded that it is an offence under the Public Lands Act to leave any material, substance or thing on Crown land.**

## Provincial Parks

You may not hunt (or take) any mammals, birds, amphibians or reptiles in provincial parks, or have a firearm with you, unless otherwise provided in the Regulations. Generally, **hunting of wolves is prohibited in provincial parks.** Check with your local MNR office or the Regulations for more details and for special permit requirements for hunting in Clyde, Bruton and Eyre townships (WMU 54).

## Wildlife Management Areas – Wildlife Extension Landowner Agreement Area/Provincial Wildlife Area

There are 34 Provincial Wildlife and Wildlife Extension Landowner Agreement Areas in Ontario which provide hunting. Some areas have daily or seasonal licence fees, while others may be used free of charge. See pages 7, 9 and 11 for listings. Some areas are only open on certain days of the week and for special hours and designated species. Detailed information on each area can be obtained from local MNR offices.

## Game Preserves

Except where stated in the Regulations, you may not hunt or trap, or use or possess firearms in Crown Game Preserves. You may possess firearms if you live on private land within a Crown Game Preserve, but you may not hunt or trap. There are Crown Game Preserves other than those shown on the maps. Contact an MNR office for more details.

## Conservation Officers

A Conservation Officer is appointed under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997. This term also includes a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a police officer or First Nations Constable appointed under the Police Services Act, a game officer designated under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, a park warden designated under the National Parks Act if

acting under the direction of a Conservation Officer, and a person whose primary employment responsibility is enforcement of fish and wildlife laws in a border jurisdiction if he or she is acting under the direction of a Conservation Officer. Conservation Officers have powers of inspection, arrest, search and seizure under the various statutes they enforce, including the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, the Migratory Birds Convention Act and the Fisheries Act. Conservation Officers also have authority to enforce the public safety provisions of the Off Road Vehicles Act, Motorized Snow Vehicles Act, Liquor Licence Act and Small Vessel Regulations. When carrying out his or her duties, or investigating an offence under these statutes or the corresponding regulations, a Conservation Officer may do the following:

- Stop and/or inspect a vehicle, boat or aircraft
- Inspect firearms, ammunition, game or fish

# Hunting in Ontario Provincial Parks

Permitted by regulations made under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997. Hunters should check with the appropriate Park Office regarding specific restrictions that apply in each park. (\* Hunting occurs in a particular area of each Park.)

### SPECIES – Moose, Grouse, Varying Hare

Lake Superior\*

### SPECIES – Ducks, Geese, Rails, Coots and Gallinules

Darlington\*  
Lake of the Woods\*  
Long Point\*

McRae Point\*  
Polar Bear\*

Presqu'ile\*  
Rock Point\*

Rondeau\*  
Westmeath\*

### SPECIES – Game Birds, Migratory Birds or Game Mammals (see definition on page 78)

|                                     |                                     |   |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Abitibi-De-Troyes                   | Fawn River                          | Missinaibi*                             | River aux Sables                    |
| Albany River                        | French River                        | (hunting only permitted north of        | Ruby Lake                           |
| Alexander Lake Forest               | Fushimi Lake*                       | Peterbell – contact (705) 864-1710      | Rushbrook                           |
| Algoma Headwaters                   | Goulais River                       | ext. 214 for applicable restrictions in | Sandbar Lake* (expanded areas only) |
| Algonquin Park*                     | Grant's Creek                       | areas north of Peterbell)               | Sandpoint Island                    |
| McRae Addition (Clyde and           | Greenwater* (expanded areas only)   | Mississagi*                             | Severn River                        |
| Bruton Twps.)                       | Groundhog River Waterway            | (expanded areas only)                   | Silent Lake* (expanded areas only)  |
| Amable du Fond River                | Grundy Lake                         | Mississagi River                        | Silver Falls                        |
| Aubinadong-Nushatogaini Rivers      | *Gull River                         | Nagamamis*                              | Solace                              |
| Aubinadong River                    | Halfway Lake*                       | Nakina Moraine                          | South Bay                           |
| Aubrey Falls                        | (expanded areas only)               | Neys* (expanded areas only)             | Spanish River                       |
| Barron River                        | Ivanhoe* (expanded areas only)      | Nimoosh                                 | St. Raphael                         |
| Batchawana River                    | Jocko Rivers*                       | Noganosh Lake                           | Steele River                        |
| Big East River                      | Kap-Kig-Iwan*                       | North Channel Inshore                   | Sturgeon River*                     |
| Biscotasi Lake*                     | (expanded areas only)               | Obabika River                           | Temagami River                      |
| Bissett Creek                       | Kashabowie                          | Obatanga*                               | The Massasauga                      |
| Black Creek                         | Kawartha Highlands Signature Site** | Obonga-Ottertooth                       | The Shoals*                         |
| Black Sturgeon River*               | Killarney*                          | Ogoki River                             | (hunting only permitted north of    |
| Blind River                         | Killarney Lakelands and Headwaters  | Opeongo River                           | Hwy. #101)                          |
| Blue Lake* (expanded areas only)    | Kopka River*                        | Otoskwin-Attawapiskat River             | Turtle River-White Otter Lake*      |
| Bon Echo*                           | La Cloche                           | Ottawa River                            | Upper Madawaska River               |
| Bonnechere River*                   | Lake of the Woods*                  | Oxtongue River-Ragged Falls             | W.J.B. Greenwood                    |
| Brightsand River*                   | Lake St. Peter                      | Pancake Bay* (expanded areas only)      | Wabakimi* (expanded areas only)     |
| Chapleau-Nemegosenda River*         | LaMotte Lake                        | Pigeon River*                           | Wanapitei                           |
| Charleston Lake*                    | Larder River Waterway               | Pipestone River                         | Wenebegon River                     |
| (expanded areas only)               | LaVerendrye*                        | Point Farms*                            | West English River                  |
| Chiniguchi Waterway                 | Little Abitibi                      | Pretty River Valley                     | West Montreal River                 |
| Dana-Jowsey Lakes*                  | Little Current River                | Pukaskwa River                          | White Lake*                         |
| Eagle Dogtooth                      | Little White River                  | Puzzle Lake                             | Whitesand                           |
| East English River                  | Lower Madawaska River*              | Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands            | Widdifield Forest                   |
| Egan Chutes*                        | Magnetawan River                    | Restoule* (hunting only                 | Winisk River                        |
| (expanded areas only)               | Makobe-Grays River                  | permitted west of the Restoule River,   | Woman River Forest                  |
| Englehart River Fine Sand Plain and | Mashkinonje* (expanded areas only)  | north of Burnt Creek Complex and the    |                                     |
| Waterway                            | Matinenda                           | OLL addition, please contact            |                                     |
| Esker Lakes* (expanded areas only)  | Mattawa River*                      | (705) 729-2010 for applicable           |                                     |
|                                     |                                     | restrictions)                           |                                     |

\*\* Hunting seasons under review; please contact the park office to confirm prior to hunting.

- Ask questions relevant to the inspection
- Inspect buildings or other places
- Search with a warrant
- Search without a warrant in circumstances requiring immediate action
- Seize items related to the offence
- Arrest anyone the Conservation Officer believes has committed, is committing, or is about to commit an offence under these acts or any other legislation they may enforce.

Conservation Officers operate random “Game Check Stations” throughout the year. At these stations, Conservation Officers collect information on game taken by hunters and make sure the Regulations are being followed in order to better manage our wildlife resources.

### Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 is the main provincial law regulating hunting and trapping. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act is enforced by Conservation Officers and Deputy Conservation Officers.

The penalties for offences under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act can include:

General offences: ..... \$25,000, 1 year imprisonment, or both.  
Commercialization related offences: .....\$100,000, 2 years imprisonment, or both.

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act and regulations are available at [www.e-laws.gov.on.ca](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca).

### Reporting a Violation

If you see or suspect someone of abusing a natural resource, please call **1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time to report a violation or call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)**. Be sure to include information on the exact location of the violation, date and time of the violation, and a description of the individuals and vehicles involved. Timely and accurate information will assist Conservation Officers in apprehending violators and **protect your natural resources**.

### Specially Protected Wildlife

In Ontario, it is illegal to hunt or trap specially protected wildlife (see Definitions, page 79, for a list of these species). The ministry is interested in receiving information about any

illegal acts involving specially protected wildlife. Please call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667).

### Protection of Property

Generally, on your own land, you may capture, kill or harass wildlife to stop that wildlife from damaging your property. This does not apply to moose, caribou, elk, endangered species or the trapping of black bear. White-tailed deer may be killed or harassed and black bear may be trapped with an authorization from the ministry. You may also use an agent if the agent is authorized by the ministry or belongs to a class of agents prescribed by the regulations. There are exceptions to this. Contact an MNR office for further information. A person may not use a body-gripping trap or be in possession of a body-gripping trap unless he or she is lawfully entitled to use the trap. A person who kills a black bear anywhere in the province, or a wolf or coyote in WMUs 1A, 1C, 1D-42, 46-50 and 53-58, in protection of property must immediately report having done so to an MNR office whether or not the carcass is kept. A person who kills a specially protected raptor or furbearing mammal, other than a wolf or coyote, in protection of property and is planning to keep the carcass must report the acquisition.

### Elk and Caribou

There is no open season for elk or caribou in Ontario.

### Game Wildlife and Parts

You may not let the flesh of any harvested game wildlife (see Definitions, page 78) which is suitable for food be destroyed, spoiled or abandoned. This includes black bear. A hunter who kills a furbearing mammal shall not abandon the pelt or permit the pelt to be spoiled or destroyed.

It is illegal to buy, sell or barter any game wildlife or specially protected wildlife or their parts, except under the authority of a licence and as permitted by the regulations. The holder of a small game licence may sell the pelts of furbearing mammals lawfully harvested under that licence to a person who may lawfully buy these pelts. Contact an MNR office for more information.

In addition, you may purchase only the meat of furbearing mammals from a person licensed to take that furbearer, for your own use or that of your immediate family. A person selling a carcass of a furbearing mammal for consumption must advise the buyer in writing that the meat has not been inspected under the Meat Inspection Act.

## A Message from Ontario's Conservation Officers

It is an offence under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act for anyone to trespass for the purpose of hunting or fishing.

**1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667)**



A person without a licence may buy or sell a single hide of black bear, with head and claws attached, and a single hide of a deer or moose, without the head attached, and a single set of cast antlers of caribou, elk, deer and moose if they are lawfully acquired.

A person who wishes to buy more than a single hide or single set of **cast antlers** must have a dealer's licence. Please contact an MNR office.

The above regulations apply not only to meat and parts of Ontario wildlife, but also to meat and parts imported into Ontario from outside the province.

A charitable organization may apply for an "authorization to conduct a wild game dinner", issued by MNR. For information on conducting wild game dinners, contact your local MNR office.

**BLACK BEAR GALLS – It is illegal to possess a gallbladder that has been removed from a black bear.**

### Possession of Accidentally Killed Animals

If you wish to keep the animals referenced below that have been killed by natural or other accidental causes including road kills, you must report the acquisition to MNR. In the case of black bear, moose, deer, elk and caribou, you must report the acquisition to an MNR office immediately. For specially protected raptors and furbearing mammals, you must make the report within two working days from when you acquired the animal. You need a Licence to Possess a Pelt for furbearing mammals. In addition, anyone who acquires a specially protected raptor (see Definitions, page 79) must take the carcass to an MNR office for registration within five working days of the acquisition. For migratory birds, contact the Canadian Wildlife Service, Burlington at (905) 336-6410.

For information on keeping the carcass of a big game animal, a specially protected raptor or a furbearing mammal killed in protection of property, see Protection of Property on page 27.

Beginning on June 30, 2008 there may be additional requirements regarding the possession of carcasses of species at risk (see page 4).

### Import, Export and Shipping

In 2005, Ontario passed a regulation restricting the possession of high-risk carcass parts from all members of the deer family (except caribou and moose) harvested in other jurisdictions. See page 66 for details.

You must have an Ontario export permit to export moose, deer and black bear or any part thereof from Ontario. Small game with the exception of furbearing mammals (see Definitions, page 78) may be exported under the authority of the small game licence.

An Ontario export permit for non-residents is \$35.00. For residents of Ontario, export permits are issued at no charge. Export permits have sub-permits attached to them for exporting a part or parts of the animal for which an export permit has been issued. You may use up to three sub-permits for this purpose. You may obtain an export permit from most ServiceOntario Centres as well as from specific outside issuers.

You should obtain the necessary export permits before reaching a border point to avoid any inconvenience.

Residents and non-residents may export from Ontario game wildlife legally killed under the appropriate licence.

A resident may temporarily transport moose, deer or black bear out of Ontario without an export permit if the resident is on the way to a location in Ontario, and does not leave any of the wildlife outside Ontario.

You must have an Ontario export permit to export any furbearing mammal or its pelt from Ontario. Royalties are payable on all furbearers prior to their export from Ontario.

Unless accompanied by the hunter or trapper who lawfully harvested the animal, receptacles containing game wildlife or specially protected wildlife that are being shipped or transported to points inside or outside Ontario must have the names and addresses of the sender and receiver, and a list of the contents written on the outside.

**NOTE:** When planning their hunt, U.S. hunters should check on the status of requirements for the import of any wild ruminant meat or trophies from Canada to the United States, including hours of operation at ports of entry, to avoid delays when returning home with legally harvested game.

Similarly, Canadian hunters who wish to travel through the U.S. to reach a Canadian destination or hunt in the U.S. should check for any requirements for transporting meat before finalizing their travel itinerary. More information is available at the USDA website at [www.aphis.usda.gov/us/ncie](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/us/ncie). Click on "Import Alerts" found in the "News and Information" section. The bulletin dated July 15, 2005 provides an outline of procedures for importation of wild ruminant meat and trophies, as well as guidelines for what is/is not allowed for importation.

**The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** is an international agreement which regulates trade in a number of species of animals and plants, their parts and derivatives, and any articles made from them. You need a CITES permit to export wolf, black bear or several other species from Canada.

The CITES permit requirement is waived for U.S. or Canadian residents in some instances (see page 68). In some instances both a CITES permit and a provincial export permit are required.

CITES permits are currently available free of charge from MNR offices.

More information on CITES is available at [www.cites.ca](http://www.cites.ca).

It is an offence to possess wildlife that was killed, captured, taken, possessed, transported, bought, sold or removed from another jurisdiction contrary to the laws of that jurisdiction.

It is an offence to sell wildlife from another jurisdiction if the sale is not permitted in the jurisdiction that it was originally exported from.

### Wildlife in Captivity

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 requires you to have a licence in order to keep game and specially protected wildlife in captivity. Contact an MNR office for more information.

## Field Dressing, Transporting and Processing Game

Proper handling of harvested game will help ensure a quality food product for the table. Always use a clean sharp knife and cutting tools and wear disposable gloves.

### Big Game Field Dressing

Field dressing, or gutting, is the process of removing the entrails (internal organs) from the animal to promote cooling of the carcass and prevent the meat from spoiling.

- Always field dress game immediately after the kill.
- Move the animal to a clean site before field dressing.
- Roll the animal onto its back or side with head higher than the rump.
- Cut a line up from the crotch to the tip of the sternum (where the rib cage ends and the belly starts).
- It is best to cut with the blade up and out of the cavity to prevent cutting into internal organs.
- Free the colon by cutting around the anus and then tie a string just in front of the anus to prevent feces from entering the body cavity.
- Cut around the diaphragm.
- Free the windpipe at the throat and free any internal organs by cutting the tissue attaching them to the backbone.
- Do not cut open the rumen, intestines or bladder. If punctured wipe cavity with paper towels.
- Position carcass to allow blood to drain out.
- Do not wash cavity with water from the field. It is often a source of bacteria.
- Prop open the body cavity to allow air flow and cooling.
- In warm weather remove the skin and apply cheesecloth to help keep meat clean and cool. In cold weather you can leave the skin on.

### Transporting

- Avoid dragging game through water, mud or dirt.
- Wipe out body cavity with paper towel if dirt enters.
- Use cheesecloth to keep meat clean if quartering animal. Never use plastic or tarps.
- Keep carcass away from engine heat, gas, road dust and sun. Allow air circulation.

### Hanging and Cooling

- Game carcasses should be cooled as soon as possible to a temperature not exceeding 7° Celsius (45° F).
- Hang meat in a place that is cool and dry with good air circulation.
- Remove areas of blood clots or tissue damage with a clean knife.
- Use pepper and cheesecloth on carcass to deter insects in warmer weather.
- If you are not processing your own meat, make butchering arrangements before your hunt.

- If weather turns warm, inspect the carcass and take it to a butcher immediately if you cannot keep it cool.

### Game Birds and Waterfowl

- Birds should have the entrails removed as soon as possible.
- Birds can be plucked or skinned.
- Keep free from dirt and natural water in the field.
- Birds must be cooled as soon as possible to a maximum of 4° C (39° F).
- Remove any damaged meat with a clean knife.
- Remember to leave one fully feathered wing on migratory birds when transporting.

### Rabbits, Hares and Squirrels

- Peel the hide completely off and remove the tail before cutting the abdomen open and removing the entrails.
- Trim away any shot-damaged meat.
- The carcass should be cooled and maintained at a temperature not exceeding 4° Celsius (39° F), as soon as possible.

### Preparing and Cooking Wild Meat for Consumption

- Always wash hands before and after preparing food and keep raw meat away from other food.
- Thaw your meat in the refrigerator, microwave or oven, not on the kitchen counter.
- Utensils, equipment and food contact surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Disinfecting is especially important where wild game or fish is being prepared in the same kitchen as regular “store-bought” meat, poultry or fish. Disinfection must occur between the two types of preparations.
- You risk your health and the health of others when you do not thoroughly cook meat. Health officials indicate that meat must be cooked to a temperature of 82° Celsius (180° F) or higher. Use a meat thermometer to check that meat is cooked all the way through. Clean the thermometer after each use. Red meat is cooked when it is brown or grey inside and birds are cooked when the juices run clear.
- Ensure that bear meat, whether frozen or fresh, is always cooked to this temperature (and always to a grey colour, not red or pink) to prevent any possibility of Trichinosis, a parasitic disease found in bears in North America. Public health officials advise that smoking, drying, or microwaving may not cook bear meat to a high enough temperature.
- For additional information on safe food handling and meat preparation, consult your local public health unit.
- More detailed guidelines on field dressing, skinning, and processing wild game, is available in the *Ontario's Hunter Education Manual* or at [ontario.ca/hunting](http://ontario.ca/hunting).

## Definitions

### ANTLERLESS DEER:

Deer that have no antlers or antlers that are both less than 7.5 cm (3 inches) long. Generally, antlerless deer include adult female deer and fawns of both sexes.

### BEAR MANAGEMENT AREA:

An area of Crown land licensed to an operator for providing bear hunting services to non-resident bear hunters.

### BOWS:

Includes longbows, crossbows, compound bows and recurve bows.

### CONTROLLED HUNT:

Hunts in which the total number of hunters is restricted. A hunter needs a controlled hunt validation tag to participate in a controlled hunt.

### ENCASED:

A firearm is encased if the firearm is completely contained in a case so that it cannot be loaded or unloaded.

### EXPORT PERMIT:

The permit required to take a moose, white-tailed deer, black bear or furbearer, or any part of them, out of Ontario.

### GAME WILDLIFE:

A furbearing mammal, game amphibian, game bird, game mammal or game reptile.

### FURBEARING MAMMALS:

Badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, fisher, arctic fox, gray fox, red fox (all phases), lynx, marten, mink, muskrat, opossum, otter, raccoon, red squirrel, striped skunk, weasel (least, long-tailed and short-tailed), wolf, wolverine and polar bear.

### GAME MAMMALS:

Black bear, woodland caribou, cottontail rabbit, white-tailed deer, American elk, European hare, varying hare, moose, gray (black) squirrel and fox squirrel.

### GAME BIRDS:

Northern bobwhite, ruffed grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, spruce grouse, gray (Hungarian) partridge, ring-necked pheasant, rock ptarmigan, willow ptarmigan and wild turkey.

**GAME REPTILES:** Common snapping turtle.

**GAME AMPHIBIANS:** Bullfrogs.

### HUNTING:

Includes lying in wait for, searching for, being on the trail of, pursuing, chasing or shooting at wildlife, whether or not the wildlife is killed, injured, captured or harassed. You need a hunting licence to do any of these things, except where the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act states otherwise.

### LICENCES, TAGS AND GAME SEALS:

#### OUTDOORS CARD:

An Outdoors Card constitutes a licence to hunt the animals and birds specified on the licence tag when that tag is affixed to the card and accompanied by any applicable paper hunting licences and game seals and/or validation tags.

#### LICENCE TAG:

A tag which, when affixed to an Outdoors Card, constitutes a licence to hunt animals or birds, or a class thereof, specified on the tag.

#### E-LICENCE:

E-licences are resident licences which are available over the Internet and must be printed by the angler or hunter. These licences, when accompanied by an Outdoors Card, allow the angler or hunter to immediately enjoy the open season.

#### GAME SEAL:

The seal that must be attached to a moose, deer, wild turkey or black bear and to a wolf and coyote (see page 75) as soon as the animal is killed. The game seal must remain attached to the animal while it is transported.

#### ADDITIONAL GAME SEAL:

A game seal, purchased in addition to the game seal that comes with the deer or black bear licence, which allows the hunter to harvest an additional animal under certain conditions. An additional game seal is NOT a licence to hunt for the species. A licence must be purchased before the additional game seal is valid for use.

#### VALIDATION TAG OR CERTIFICATE:

A tag or certificate which validates a licence to hunt game animals of a specified number, age or sex or in a specified area.

#### VALIDATION TAG (RESIDENTS):

A validation tag must be affixed to the front of the game seal to allow resident hunters to hunt adult moose or antlerless deer. In WMUs 48, 55A, 55B, 57 and 65, a specific calf validation tag is required to hunt calf moose. A validation tag is also required to take part in the controlled hunts for deer. A validation tag for a controlled hunt must be carried on your person and not affixed to the game seal.

Moose and deer licences obtained by telephone are validated by the ministry on the game seal itself. They are valid for calf moose or antlered deer in other WMUs except for calf moose in WMU 48, 55A, 55B and 57, during the regular open season providing the game seal has not been used.

#### VALIDATION TAG (NON-RESIDENTS):

A moose validation tag must be affixed to the back of the non-resident hunter's licence.

**VALIDATION CERTIFICATE:** A validation certificate must be carried by non-resident black bear hunters.

#### MOTORBOAT:

A boat with a motor that is attached to the boat and that is capable of being used as a means of propulsion, and includes any floating object being towed by a motorboat.

#### MUZZLE-LOADER:

A gun that is loaded through the muzzle. A percussion muzzle-loading gun is considered to be loaded if there is a charge of powder and a projectile in the barrel and a percussion cap on the nipple. A flintlock muzzle-loading gun is considered to be loaded if there is a charge of powder and a projectile in the barrel and the vent is unplugged.

#### NON-RESIDENT:

A person who does not qualify as a resident (see Resident). The ownership of property in Ontario does not qualify a person for a resident's licence.

**PELT:**

The untanned skin of a furbearing mammal, whether or not the skin is on a carcass.

**RESIDENT:**

A person whose primary residence is Ontario, and who has resided in Ontario for a period of at least six consecutive months during the previous 12 months before the time that the person's residence is relevant.

**SELECTIVE HARVEST SYSTEM:**

The system that controls the harvest of breeding moose and deer. The harvest of adult moose and antlerless deer is restricted to those who hold the appropriate validation tag, which is obtained through a random draw. The harvest of calf moose in WMUs 48, 55A, 55B and 57 is restricted to those who hold the appropriate validation tag, which is obtained through a random draw.

**SIBLING:**

Each of two or more children having one or both parents in common.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED WILDLIFE:**

A specially protected mammal, specially protected bird, specially protected reptile, specially protected amphibian or specially protected invertebrate.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED MAMMALS:**

Big brown bat, eastern pipistrelle bat, hoary bat, least bat, little brown bat, northern long-eared bat, red bat, silver-haired bat, eastern chipmunk, least chipmunk, northern flying squirrel, southern flying squirrel, arctic shrew, cinereus (masked) shrew, least shrew, northern short-tailed shrew, pygmy shrew, smoky shrew and water shrew.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED BIRDS (Raptors):**

Bald eagle, golden eagle, peregrine falcon, northern goshawk, gyrfalcon, northern harrier, broad-winged hawk, Cooper's hawk, red-shouldered hawk, red-tailed hawk, rough-legged hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, American kestrel, American swallow-tailed kite, merlin, osprey, barred owl, boreal owl, burrowing owl, barn owl, eastern screech owl, great gray owl, great horned owl, long-eared owl, northern hawk owl, northern saw-whet owl, short-eared owl, snowy owl and turkey vulture.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED BIRDS (other than Raptors):**

Brewer's blackbird, rusty blackbird, yellow-headed blackbird, blue jay, gray jay, belted kingfisher, white pelican and common raven.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED REPTILES:**

Blue racer, eastern massasauga rattlesnake, five-lined skink, black rat snake, Butler's garter snake, eastern fox snake, eastern hognose snake, eastern smooth green snake, Lake Erie water snake, milk snake, northern water snake, queen snake, eastern spiny softshell turtle, Blanding's turtle, map turtle, midland painted turtle, musk turtle, spotted turtle, western painted turtle and wood turtle.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED AMPHIBIANS:**

Blanchard's cricket frog, blue-spotted salamander, eastern tiger salamander, four-toed salamander, Jefferson salamander, northern dusky salamander, redback salamander, smallmouth salamander, spotted salamander, two-lined salamander, Fowler's toad and gray treefrog.

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED INVERTEBRATES:**

Karner blue butterfly, monarch butterfly, West Virginia white butterfly, mottled dusky wing, bog elfin, frosted elfin, black swallowtail, giant swallowtail, Old World swallowtail, pipevine swallowtail, spicebush swallowtail, tiger swallowtail and zebra swallowtail.

**SPOUSE:**

Either of two persons who are legally married to one another; or either of two persons who live together in a conjugal relationship outside of marriage.

**VEHICLE :**

Any kind of vehicle that is driven, propelled or drawn on land or ice by any kind of power, including muscular power, and includes the rolling stock of a railway.

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS (WMUs):**

Numbered divisions of the province used for wildlife management. WMU numbers are used in the tables for open seasons to indicate the relevant geographic areas of the province. Contact the Natural Resources Information Centre for exact descriptions of WMU boundaries.

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## Government Offices

The Ontario Government is committed to making it easier for citizens to access government services. ServiceOntario ([www.serviceontario.ca](http://www.serviceontario.ca)) is now the key provider of walk-in transactional services and information for the public, including MNR's hunting and fishing licences.

The following is a listing of ServiceOntario/Government Information Centres (SO/GIC) and MNR counters which will be offering MNR hunting licences:

Should you have any general questions pertaining to the Hunting Regulations Summary, please contact the Natural Resource Information Centre at:

- 1-800-667-1940, or
- by emailing [mnr.nric.mnr@ontario.ca](mailto:mnr.nric.mnr@ontario.ca)

Information is also available on the MNR website at [ontario.ca/hunting](http://ontario.ca/hunting).

| SOUTHERN REGION  | Stratford SO/GIC<br>5 Huron St  | NORTHWEST REGION   | Iroquois Falls SO/GIC<br>260 Main St                       | <i>For more detailed information pertaining to Licence Issuance, Export Permits, CITES, Game Preserves, please contact your local MNR office:</i> |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Greater Toronto Area/Aurora District</b><br>(WMUs 72B, 73 [Durham Region Only], 78, 79C, 79D) | <b>Kemptville District</b><br>(WMUs 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69B)                | <b>Dryden District</b><br>(WMUs 5, 8, 15A)                       | <b>Moosonee SO/GIC</b><br>34 Revillion Rd N                | <b>Southern Region</b>  |
| <b>Aurora SO/GIC</b><br>50 Bloomington Rd W  | <b>Kemptville SO/GIC</b><br>10 Campus Dr                                    | <b>Ignace SO/GIC</b><br>Corner of Hwy. 17 and 599                | <b>Hearst District</b><br>(WMUs 22, 23, 24)                | Aurora (905) 713-7400   |
| <b>Brampton SO/GIC</b><br>7765 Hurontario St   | <b>Brockville SO/GIC</b><br>7 King St W                                     | <b>Fort Frances District</b><br>(WMUs 9A, 9B, 10, 11A, 12A, 12B) | <b>Hearst SO/GIC</b><br>613 Front St                       | Aylmer (519) 773-9241   |
| <b>Downsview SO/GIC</b><br>3737 Chesswood Dr   | <b>Cornwall SO/GIC</b><br>127 Sydney St                                     | <b>Atikokan SO/GIC</b><br>108 Saturn Avenue                      | <b>Kapuskasing SO/GIC</b><br>122 Government Rd W           | Bancroft (613) 332-3940   |
| <b>Toronto SO/GIC</b><br>777 Bay St  | <b>Hawkesbury SO/GIC</b><br>692 Main St E                                   | <b>Fort Frances SO/GIC</b><br>922 Scott St                       | <b>Kirkland Lake District</b><br>(WMU 28)                  | Bracebridge (705) 645-8747  |
| <b>Whitby SO/GIC</b><br>590 Rossland Rd E  | <b>Kanata SO/GIC</b><br>580 Terry Fox Drive                                 | <b>Rainy River SO/GIC</b><br>408 Atwood Ave                      | <b>Kirkland Lake SO/GIC</b><br>10 Government Rd E          | Chatham (519) 354-7340  |
| <b>Aylmer District</b><br>(WMUs 90A, 90B, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95)                                    | <b>Ottawa SO/GIC</b><br>110 Laurier Ave W                                   | <b>Kenora District</b><br>(WMUs 6, 7A, 7B)                       | <b>New Liskeard SO/GIC</b><br>280 Armstrong St N           | Clinton (519) 482-3428  |
| <b>Aylmer SO/GIC</b><br>615 John St N  | <b>Midhurst District</b><br>(WMUs 76, 77, 81, 82, 83, 84)                   | <b>Kenora SO/GIC</b><br>810 Robertson St                         | <b>North Bay District</b><br>(WMUs 40, 41, 47)             | Guelph (519) 826-4955   |
| <b>Chatham SO/GIC</b><br>315 King St W   | <b>Barrie SO/GIC</b><br>34 Simcoe St  | <b>Nipigon District</b><br>(WMUs 14, 17, 18A, 18B, 19, 20, 21A)  | <b>North Bay SO/GIC</b><br>447 McKeown Ave                 | Kemptville (613) 258-8204   |
| <b>London SO/GIC</b><br>100 Dundas St  | <b>Owen Sound SO/GIC</b><br>1400 First Ave W                                | <b>Terrace Bay SO/GIC</b><br>1004 Hwy 17                         | <b>Sault Ste. Marie District</b><br>(WMUs 35, 36, 37, 45)  | Kingston (613) 531-5700   |
| <b>Sarnia SO/GIC</b><br>150 Christina St N   | <b>Parry Sound District</b><br>(WMUs 46, 47, 49, 50, 53)                    | <b>Geraldton SO/GIC</b><br>208 Beamish Ave W                     | <b>Blind River SO/GIC</b><br>62 Queen Ave                  | Midhurst (705) 725-7500   |
| <b>Windsor SO/GIC</b><br>400 City Hall Square  | <b>Huntsville SO/GIC</b><br>207 Main St W                                   | <b>Nipigon SO/GIC</b><br>5 Wadsworth Dr                          | <b>Sault Ste. Marie SO/GIC</b><br>70 Foster Dr             | Minden (705) 286-1521   |
| <b>Bancroft District</b><br>(WMUs 51, 54, 55A, 56, 57, 60, 61, 62, 63)                           | <b>Parry Sound SO/GIC</b><br>7 Bay St                                       | <b>Red Lake District</b><br>(WMUs 2, 3)                          | <b>Elliot Lake SO/GIC</b><br>50 Hillside Dr N              | Owen Sound (519) 376-3860   |
| <b>Bancroft SO/GIC</b><br>50 Monck St  | <b>Pembroke District</b><br>(WMUs 48, 55B, 58, 59)                          | <b>Red Lake SO/GIC</b><br>51A Hwy. 105                           | <b>Sudbury District</b><br>(WMUs 38, 39, 42, 43A, 43B, 44) | Parry Sound (519) 746-4201  |
| <b>Minden SO/GIC</b><br>12698 Hwy 35 By-pass   | <b>Pembroke SO/GIC</b><br>400 Pembroke St E                                 | <b>Sioux Lookout District</b><br>(WMUs 1C, 4, 16A, 16B)          | <b>Espanola SO/GIC</b><br>148 Fleming St                   | Pembroke (613) 732-3661   |
| <b>Guelph District</b><br>(WMUs 80, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89)  | <b>Renfrew SO/GIC</b><br>316 Plaunt St S                                    | <b>Sioux Lookout SO/GIC</b><br>62 Queen Street                   | <b>Gore Bay SO/GIC</b><br>35 Meredith St                   | Peterborough (705) 755-2001   |
| <b>Goderich SO/GIC</b><br>38 North St  | <b>Peterborough District</b><br>(WMUs 62, 68, 69A, 70, 71, 72A, 73, 74, 75) | <b>Thunder Bay District</b><br>(WMUs 11B, 13, 15B, 16C)          | <b>Sturgeon Falls SO/GIC</b><br>94A King St                | Vineland (905) 562-4147   |
| <b>Guelph SO/GIC</b><br>1 Stone Rd W   | <b>Belleville SO/GIC</b><br>199 Front St                                    | <b>Thunder Bay SO/GIC</b><br>435 S James St                      | <b>Timmins District</b><br>(WMUs 29, 30)                   | <b>Northwest Region</b>   |
| <b>Hamilton SO/GIC</b><br>119 King St W  | <b>Kingston SO/GIC</b><br>51 Heakes Lane                                    | <b>Nipigon SO/GIC</b><br>5 Wadsworth Dr                          | <b>Gogama MNR Office</b><br>5 Low Ave                      | Atikokan (807) 597-6971   |
| <b>Kitchener SO/GIC</b><br>200 King St W   | <b>Lindsay SO/GIC</b><br>322 Kent St W                                      | <b>Chapleau District</b><br>(WMU 31)                             | <b>Timmins SO/GIC</b><br>Hwy 101 E (at Florence)           | Dryden (807) 223-3341   |
| <b>St. Catharines SO/GIC</b><br>301 St. Paul St  | <b>Peterborough SO/GIC</b><br>300 Water St                                  | <b>Chapleau SO/GIC</b><br>190 Cherry St                          | <b>Wawa District</b><br>(WMUs 21B, 32, 33, 34)             | Fort Frances (807) 274-5337   |
|  | <b>Tweed SO/GIC</b><br>255 Metcalf St                                       | <b>Cochrane District</b><br>(WMUs 1A, 1B, 1D, 25, 26, 27)        | <b>Manitouwadge SO/GIC</b><br>40 Manitou Rd                | Geraldton (807) 854-1030  |
|  |   | <b>Cochrane SO/GIC</b><br>143 Fourth Ave                         | <b>Marathon SO/GIC</b><br>52 Peninsula Rd                  | Ignace (807) 934-2233   |
|  |   |  | <b>Wawa SO/GIC</b><br>48 Mission Rd                        | Kenora (807) 468-2501   |
|  |   |  |  | Nipigon (807) 887-5000  |
|  |   |  |  | Red Lake (807) 727-2253   |
|  |   |  |  | Sioux Lookout (807) 737-1140  |
|  |   |  |  | Terrace Bay (807) 825-3205  |
|  |   |  |  | Thunder Bay (807) 475-1471  |