2019-20 Tennessee Hunting Seasons Summary

Please refer to the 2019-20 Tennessee Hunting and Trapping Guide for detailed hunting dates, bag limits, zones, units, and required licenses and/or permits.

DEER

Statewide bag limit: 2 antlered deer. No more than 1 per day. See the 2019-20 Tennessee Hunting and Trapping Guide for deer units, county listings, and the new definition of antlered deer.

A Aug. 23-25: Private land, antlered deer only.  
Units A, B, C, D=4; Unit L=3/day, no season limit

G/M/A Young Sportsman (ages 6-16)  
Oct. 26-27, Jan. 11-12, 2020: Antlerless bag: Units A, B, C, D=2; Unit L=3/day

M/A Nov. 9-22: Antlerless bag. Units A, B=2; Units C, D=1; Unit L=3/day

G/M/A Nov. 23 - Jan. 5, 2020  
Antlerless bag: Unit A=2; Unit B=1; Unit L=3/day;  
Unit C=1 (Nov. 23 - Dec. 8 only); Unit D=1 (Nov. 23-29 only)

G/M/A Unit L - private lands - Jan. 6-10, 2020: Antlerless only: 3/day, no antlered deer

UNIT CWD*

M/A Aug. 23-25: Private land and the following public lands may be hunted during the August season: Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park and State Natural Area; Eagle Lake Refuge; Wolf River WMA and Ghost River State Natural Area; Chickasaw State Forest WMA; Gray’s Creek WMA; Oak Dain Portion of Whitele State Lake Fishing Area; Big Hill Pond State Park; Tull Bottom WMA; South Fork Refuge; Spring Creek WMA; Colonel Forest V Durand WMA; Fort Ridge WMA; and Lower Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge (the portion lying within Tipton County).

G/M/A Young Sportsman (ages 6-16)  
Oct. 26-27, Jan. 11-12

A Sep. 28 - Oct. 25

M/A Oct. 28-Nov. 8: Any deer taken in Chester, Haywood, Madison, McNairy, Shelby, or Tipton County on the first weekend of the Muzzleloader season must be checked in at a physical check station.

G/M/A Nov. 9-Jan. 5: Any deer taken in Chester, Haywood, Madison, McNairy, Shelby, or Tipton County on the opening weekend of Gun season must be checked in at a physical check station.

G/M/A Unit CWD private lands - Jan. 6-10  
a - The statewide bag limit of (2) antlered deer may be exceeded within Unit CWD if: 1) Taken under the Earn-A-Buck Program; or 2) Taken under the Replacement Buck Program.

BLACK BEAR

Bag limit: 1 per license year. Cubs under 75 lbs. are prohibited.

A No dogs: Sep. 28 - Oct. 25  
Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, Transitional

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Oct. 12-18  
Zone 2

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Oct. 5-13  
Zone 3

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Oct. 5-7, 12-13  
Zone 1

G/M/A No dogs, Young Sportsman (ages 6-16): Oct. 26-27  
Zones 1, 2, 3

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Oct. 28 - Nov. 1  
Zones 1, 2, 3

G/M/A No dogs: Nov. 23-26  
Zones 1, 2, 3

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Dec. 2-15  
Zone 3

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Dec. 2-21  
Zone 1

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Dec. 2-26  
Zone 2

G/M/A Dogs allowed: Dec. 26-29  
Zone 3

ELK (QUOTA HUNT)

A Sep. 28 - Oct. 4: 7 permits, 1 antlered elk/permit

G/M/A Young Sportsman (resident only, ages 13-16)  
Oct. 5-11: 1 permit for 1 antlered elk

G/M/A Oct. 12-18: 7 permits, 1 antlered elk/permit

FALL TURKEY

Bag Limit: 1 bearded turkey, per county, only in counties open to fall turkey hunting. See the 2019-20 Tennessee Hunting and Trapping Guide for listing.

A Sep. 28 - Oct. 25, Oct. 28 - Nov. 8

S Oct. 12-25

SPRING TURKEY

S/A Young Sportsman (ages 6-16): Mar. 28-29, 2020  
Daily bag: 1 bearded bird per day. Counts toward spring season bag of four (4).

S/A April 4 - May 17, 2020: Bag limit: 4 bearded birds. No more than 1 per day.

GAME BIRDS

Quail Nov. 2 - Feb. 29, 2020: Daily bag 6

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Mourning Dove Sep. 1-28: Daily bag 15  
Oct. 12 - Nov. 3: Daily bag 15  
Dec. 8 - Jan. 15, 2019: Daily bag 15

Woodcock Nov. 9 - Dec. 1: Daily bag 3  
Jan. 10 - Jan. 31: Daily bag 3

Snipe Nov. 14 - Feb. 28, 2020: Daily bag 8

Canada Goose Sep. 1-22: Daily bag 5

Wood Duck/Teal Sep. 14-18: Daily bag 6, not to exceed 2 wood ducks/day

Teal-only Sep. 19-22: Daily bag 6

Ducks, Coots, and Mergansers - Bag limit is 6 ducks per day. Reelfoot Zone Sep. 9-10, Dec. 5 - Jan. 31, 2020

Statewide Zone Nov. 29 - Dec. 2, Dec. 7 - Jan. 31, 2020

Young Sportsman Feb. 1 and Feb. 8, 2020: All zones, ages 16 and under.

See the 2019-20 Tennessee Hunting and Trapping Guide for more information on these seasons, as well as sandhill crane and other goose seasons.

SMALL GAME

Squirrel Aug. 24 - Feb. 29: Daily bag 10  
May 9 - Jun. 14: Daily bag 10

Rabbit Nov. 2 - Feb. 29: Daily bag 5

RACCOON

See the 2019-20 Tennessee Hunting and Trapping Guide for more information.

Private Land Sunset July 1 - Sunset Sep. 18: Nightly

Season bag 1. Closed in Scott, Morgan, Roane, Rhea, Hamilton, and all other counties east of those counties.

Statewide Season Sunrise Sep. 19 - Sunrise Feb. 29, 2020: Nightly bag: 2

Training Season Year-round, except where prohibited by local ordinances. No take permitted.