

MINNESOTA HUNTING REGULATIONS

WATERFOWL 2008

SAVE THE WETLANDS

© 2008 MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP

\$7.50



ross's goose

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



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888-646-6367

Turn in Poachers – 24-hour hotline 1-800-652-9093
(#TIP for Cingular, Midwest Wireless, Unicel and Verizon cell phone customers)

You must be HIP certified. See page 6 for details.

AD REMOVED

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT of NATURAL RESOURCES

500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

(651) 296-6157 • (888) 646-6367 • mndnr.gov

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ON THE COVER



Painting by Sara Stack
Orr, MN

Funds raised through the sale of Minnesota state duck stamps pay for waterfowl research, management and habitat thereby improving conditions for the state's resident and migrating waterfowl.

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www.mndnr.gov

LICENSE INFORMATION

GENERAL

A resident waterfowl hunter 16 years or older and all nonresident waterfowl hunters must carry:

1. Minnesota Waterfowl Stamp* validation (\$7.50), (residents ages 18–64)
2. a federal Migratory Bird Hunting electronic validation (\$17) or pictorial Conservation Stamp signed in ink across the face (\$15) **
3. proof of Minnesota HIP registration and
4. one of the following licenses

\$19 Resident Small Game License

\$29.50 Resident Individual Sports License

\$38.50 Resident Combination Sports (small game hunting, husband-wife angling)

\$12.50 Resident Senior Citizen Small Game (65 years or older)

\$12.50 Youth Small Game (ages 16–17)

\$12.50 Nonresident youth small game (under 18)

\$84.50 Nonresident small game license

\$*** Lifetime Small Game License (federal, state waterfowl stamps required)

\$*** Lifetime Individual Sports License (federal, state waterfowl stamps required)

Prices shown do not include additional fees charged for issuing licenses.

There is no issuing fee for state stamps issued simultaneously with a license.

Special goose permit (ages 18-64) required for September and December seasons (\$4)

*License validations for State Migratory Waterfowl Stamps are now legal for hunting without the pictorial stamp. State stamp validations are not required for residents under age 18 or age 65 or older.

**An electronically-issued federal stamp is valid for 45 days. Pictorial stamps, when received by mail, must be signed and in the possession of the hunter.

***Price varies by depending on age at purchase. Lifetime license applications are available by calling toll free (888) 646-6367 or online at mndnr.gov

(Persons hunting waterfowl on commercial shooting preserves are required to have both a federal and a state duck stamp validation in addition to a small game license. The only exception is when taking only marked, pen-reared mallards.)

Note: There are licensing exceptions for landowners, military personnel and others. See pages 21-22 and 39 of the 2008 Hunting Regulations Handbook for a complete listing of license requirements.

YOU MUST BE HIP CERTIFIED

Before hunting waterfowl or migratory game birds, you must be Harvest Information Program (HIP) certified by answering “yes” when asked whether you intend to hunt migratory birds at the time you buy your small game or sports license. If you don’t, you can still answer “yes” at a later date at no cost by getting a HIP receipt at any electronic license sales location. Evidence of

compliance will be noted on your license as “HIP Certified” and must be carried while hunting migratory birds.

WHY HIP?

Using information gathered with HIP, DNR waterfowl biologists and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) are developing more reliable estimates of the number of all migratory birds harvested throughout the country. These estimates give biologists the information they need to make sound decisions concerning hunting seasons, bag limits, and population management. In simplest terms, state wildlife agencies collect the name, address, and some additional information from each migratory bird hunter in their state, and send that information to the USFWS. Information gathered at HIP registration is used for sampling purposes. It is not the actual HIP survey. The USFWS then randomly selects a sample of those hunters and asks them to provide additional information on the kind and number of migratory birds they harvest during the hunting season. Those hunters’ reports are then used to develop reliable estimates of the total harvest of all migratory birds throughout the country.

FIREARMS SAFETY CERTIFICATE

Anyone born on or after Dec. 31, 1979 must have a Firearms Safety Certificate, Apprentice Hunter Validation, a previous hunting license with a firearms safety indicator or other evidence of successfully completing a hunter safety course to obtain a license to take wild animals with firearms in Minnesota.

QUESTIONS ABOUT LICENSES

WHERE CAN I BUY A LICENSE OR STAMP?

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources issues licenses through 1,800 license agent locations throughout Minnesota – sporting goods stores, hunting and fishing supplies stores and some discount chains.

Federal migratory waterfowl stamps validations will be available at all of Minnesota’s 1,800 electronic license vendors. The electronic validation for the federal stamp is valid for up to 45 days until the customer receives the pictorial stamp by mail, when it must be signed and kept in possession.

HOW DO I BUY A LICENSE ONLINE OR BY TELEPHONE?

Licenses may be purchased via the DNR website at **mndnr.gov** or by calling toll free (888) 665-4236. An additional \$3.50 convenience fee is added for sales via the internet or telephone.

What hunters should know about bird flu

Avian influenza (AI) occurs naturally in wild birds, especially waterfowl, gulls and shorebirds. There are many different strains of the disease, most of which only affect birds. However, the emergence of a particular Asian strain of this virus in 1996 and subsequent spread in Asia, Africa, and Europe has killed thousands of wild birds, millions of domestic poultry and over 200 humans.

This highly pathogenic avian influenza (bird flu) has not been found in North America. Because this strain could spread to this continent, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is actively cooperating with federal and state agencies to monitor for the disease in wild birds. This fall, DNR will again collaborate with the Department of Agriculture to sample 1,600 wild birds statewide. Other samples have been collected during banding efforts. During the past two years, the DNR, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, collected samples from approximately 3,500 wild birds statewide. No wild birds sampled in Minnesota or nationwide were infected with the Asian strain of highly pathogenic AI. By following these practical guidelines, hunters can significantly reduce their chance of exposure to a number of avian diseases, including salmonella and avian influenza:

- Do not handle or butcher birds that are obviously sick or found dead.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke while cleaning birds.
- Wear rubber gloves and washable clothing when cleaning game.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water or disinfectant wipes immediately after handling game.
- Wash tools and working surfaces with soap and water, then disinfect with a 10 percent solution of chlorine bleach.
- Cook all meat to an internal temperature of 165° F as measured by a meat thermometer.

More information on avian influenza, is available online at:
Minnesota DNR: www.mndnr.gov/hunting/waterfowl/avian_flu.html
State of Minnesota: www.birdflu.state.mn.us
Federal: www.pandemicflu.gov

GENERAL WATERFOWL REGULATIONS

NEW FOR 2008

SCAUP BAG LIMIT

- One scaup daily except from Oct. 25-Nov. 13 when two scaup may be taken daily.

CANVASBACK CLOSED

- No canvasback may be taken.

LICENSE VALIDATION/APPRENTICE HUNTER

- License validations for state migratory waterfowl stamps are legal for hunting without the pictorial stamp. Purchasers can request the optional pictorial stamp for an additional \$2 but it is not required for hunting.
- Apprentice hunter validation is now available for Minnesota residents who would normally be required to possess a firearms safety certificate to hunt small game or deer. See pages 19 and 36 of the 2008 Hunting and Trapping Regulations handbook for details.

DEFINITIONS

- **“Migratory game birds”** means ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens (gallinules), woodcock, rails, snipe, and mourning doves.
- **“Migratory waterfowl”** means ducks, geese, and mergansers.
- **“Undressed bird”** means ducks and mergansers with one fully feathered wing and head attached or geese with one fully feathered wing attached.

MOTORIZED DECOY RESTRICTIONS

From the opening day of the duck season (which includes Youth Waterfowl Day) through Saturday October 11, a person may not use a motorized decoy or other motorized device designed to attract migratory waterfowl. On water bodies and lands fully contained within state wildlife management area boundaries, a person may not use motorized decoys or motorized devices designed to attract migratory waterfowl at any time during the duck season. This restriction applies whether the motor is running or not. Devices without motors, such as wind-powered spinning-wing decoys, are not restricted under this law.

NON-TOXIC SHOT REQUIRED

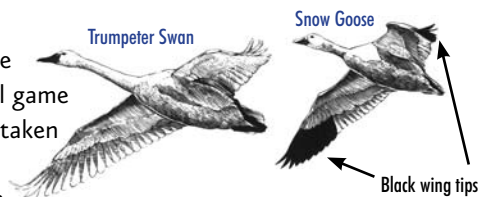
It is unlawful to take geese, ducks, mergansers, coots, or moorhens with lead shot or while having any lead shot in possession. This restriction includes muzzle loading shotguns and taking pen-reared mallards on commercial shooting preserves. Only steel shot, copper-, nickel-, or zinc-plated steel shot, bismuth tin shot, tungsten-alloys or other shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be used.

SHOOTING HOURS

Shooting hours for ducks and geese are one-half hour before sunrise (except 9 a.m. on Oct. 4) to 4 p.m. through Saturday Oct. 11, and until sunset thereafter. See sunrise/sunset tables on page 39.

DON'T SHOOT A SWAN

Both tundra and trumpeter swans are found in Minnesota and are not legal game birds. These birds are sometimes mistaken for snow geese which weigh about 5 pounds, and are much smaller than large, all-white trumpeter swans, which weigh up to 17 pounds. Young swans are gray in color.



OPENING DAY POSSESSION LIMIT

On the opening day of the season, no person may possess more freshly killed migratory game birds than is allowed by the daily bag limit.

RETRIEVAL

A person may not kill or wound any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird and include it in the daily bag limit.

TAKING IN OPEN WATER

A person may not take migratory waterfowl, coots, or rails in open water unless that person is:

- within a natural growth of vegetation sufficient to partially conceal the person or boat, or
- pursuing or shooting wounded birds (while in compliance with the watercraft restrictions listed below), or
- on a river or stream that is not more than 100 yards in width.

WATERCRAFT

- A person using watercraft to take migratory waterfowl must comply with the provisions for "Taking in Open Water" specified above.
- Migratory waterfowl may be taken from a floating watercraft if the craft is drifting, beached, moored, resting at anchor, or is being propelled by paddle, oars, or pole.
- Migratory waterfowl may be taken from a watercraft propelled by motor or sails only if the motor is shut off and the sails are furled and the watercraft has stopped.

- A person may not transport any firearm in a boat or other watercraft being propelled by motor or sail unless the firearm is unloaded and contained in a case.
- All watercraft (including boats used for duck hunting during the duck season) are required to carry and have readily accessible, one U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approved **wearable** (Type I, II, or III) personal flotation device (PFD or life preserver) for each person on board. **In addition, boats 16 feet or longer** (except canoes and kayaks) must carry at least one USCG approved Type IV throwable device (boat cushion or ring buoy) for the boat. Due to change in federal requirements, **boat cushions are no longer acceptable as primary life saving devices.**
- During open waterfowl seasons, a person may not leave an unattended boat used for hunting waterfowl in public waters between sunset and one hour before sunrise unless the boat is adjacent to private land under control of the person and the water does not contain a natural growth of vegetation sufficient to partially conceal a hunter or a boat.
- A duck boat does not have to be licensed during the Waterfowl Hunting Season for waterfowl hunting only.

BLINDS AND SINK BOXES

- No person may erect a blind in public waters or on public land more than one hour before the open season for waterfowl.
- No person may take migratory waterfowl, coots, or rails using a sink box or in public waters from a permanent artificial blind. A sink box is a structure that allows a hunter to partially hide beneath the water surface.
- Any blind on public land or in public waters when not in use is considered public and not the property of the person who constructed it. Any use of threat or force against another person to gain possession of a blind is unlawful.

DECOYS

- No person may place decoys on public lands or in public waters more than one hour before legal shooting hours for waterfowl.
- No person may leave decoys on public waters between sunset and one hour before legal shooting hours or leave decoys unattended during other times for more than four consecutive hours, except decoys may be left in waters adjacent to private land under control of the hunter where there is not sufficient natural vegetation growing in the water to partially conceal a hunter. A person may not leave decoys in public waters between sunset and one hour before shooting hours if the decoys constitute a navigational hazard.

WHITEFISH NETTING SEASON OPEN

The whitefish netting season on Leech Lake and other lakes is open during duck season. Be careful when venturing near buoys.

POSSESSING AND TRANSPORTING MIGRATORY WATERFOWL

A person may not possess or transport unlawfully taken migratory game birds. Migratory waterfowl must be transported in an undressed condition (ducks and mergansers with head and wing attached; geese with wing attached) at all times until delivery to either the taker’s residence or a commercial processing facility.

MIGRATORY WATERFOWL FEEDING AND RESTING AREAS

The following areas have been designated Migratory Waterfowl Feeding and Resting Areas. When posted as such during the open waterfowl season no person may use any motor-propelled watercraft or aircraft except electric

COUNTY	LAKES
Aitkin, Crow Wing Beltrami Big Stone, Lac qui Parle and Swift	Birch Lake Puposky Lake* and Little Puposky Lake* Part of Marsh Lake, Thielke Lake
Blue Earth Carver Cass	Cottonwood Lake Tiger Lake* Big Rice, Goose, Mud Lakes
Clearwater Faribault Freeborn	Upper Rice Lake Part of Minnesota Lake* Bear Lake*
Grant and Douglas Itasca Jackson	Part of Lake Christina Rice Lake (near Max) and Nature’s (Squaw) Lake Part of South Heron Lake* and all of North Heron Lake* except Winzer Bay and North Marsh
Kandiyohi LeSueur McLeod	Wagonga Lake* and Lake Lillian* Dora, Diamond, Henry, Rice, Sanborn and Scotch lakes Bakers Lake* and the unnamed lake* in Sec. 28, Twp. 114N., R. 29 W. (Penn Twp.)
Nicollet Otter Tail	Oakleaf Lake That part of Lake Lizzie, also known as Rush Lake, located in Sec. 3–9, Twp. 136 N., R. 42 (Lida Twp.); and Mud Lake in Aastad Twp.
Polk Pope Scott Sibley Traverse	Turtle Lake* Lake Nelson* and Lake Johanna Pleasant Lake Washington Lake and Mud Lake in Washington Lake Twp. Part of Mud Lake*

trolling motors of less than 30 pounds thrust may be used on lakes as indicated by the asterisk (*) in the table on page 12.

AIRBOATS PROHIBITED ON LAKES DESIGNATED FOR WILDLIFE USE

The use of airboats is prohibited at all times on the following lakes, which have been designated for wildlife management purposes, except as specifically authorized:

LAKE	COUNTY	LAKE	COUNTY
White Elk	Aitkin	Towner	Grant
Fish	Anoka	Heron	Jackson
Cottonwood	Blue Earth	Sanborn	LeSueur
Perch	Blue Earth	Pierce	Martin
Eagle	Blue Earth	Onamia	Mille Lacs
Rice	Blue Earth	Maria	Murray
Hanska	Brown	South Badger	Murray
Patterson	Carver	North Badger	Murray
Tiger	Carver	Swan	Nicollet
Big Rice	Cass	Little Rice	St. Louis
Augusta	Cottonwood	Big Rice	St. Louis
Dog	Crow Wing	Sand	Sibley
Christina	Douglas/Grant	Rice	Steele/Dodge
Rice	Faribault	Hassel	Swift
Minnesota	Faribault	Buffalo	Waseca
Bear	Freeborn	Goose	Waseca
Lower Twin	Freeborn	Willis	Waseca
Geneva	Freeborn	Pelican	Wright
Upper Twin	Freeborn	Spellman (N. and S.)	Yellow Medicine
Ash	Grant		

Note: The use of outboard motors (including electric trolling motors) or motorized water vehicles (including amphibious vehicles) is prohibited on most wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas or national wildlife refuges. See page 107 of the Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations for more details.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

REPORT YOUR BANDS. CALL 1-800-327-BAND

Each year, state and federal waterfowl biologists mark thousands of waterfowl with numbered leg bands. Hunters who report recovered bands receive specific information on where and when the bird was banded while providing important information for duck management. Bands may be reported by calling 1-800-327-BAND (2263) or online at www.pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS



Invasive species such as purple loosestrife, Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels can damage habitat for fish, waterfowl and other wildlife. It is illegal to transport most aquatic plants and zebra mussels in or on boats, trailers, or decoys in boats, when on public roads. However, waterfowl hunters may use emergent aquatic plants, such as cattails and bulrushes, cut above the waterline, for building blinds. How to help:

- Switch to elliptical, bulb-shaped or strap decoy anchors that won't easily collect submerged aquatic plants.
- Inspect and remove aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and mud that are attached to decoy lines or anchors and waders
- Drain the water from boats and equipment before leaving the lake access.

MANAGED DOVE FIELDS

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will manage dove fields for hunting on selected Wildlife Management Areas. On posted dove hunting fields, hunters may not use or possess lead shot. Posted dove hunting fields are considered baited under Federal waterfowl baiting regulations. The following Wildlife Management Areas will have posted dove hunting fields: Red Buffalo WMA, Lac Qui Parle County; Lac Qui Parle WMA, Swift, Big Stone and Lac Qui Parle Counties; Chetomba WMA, Renville County; Whitewater WMA, Winona and Olmsted Counties; Carlos Avery WMA, Anoka and Chisago Counties.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on specific waterfowl hunts or public hunting areas, contact your regional DNR wildlife offices or call the DNR Information Center at (651) 296-6157 (metro) or (888) 646-6367. Telecommunications for the Deaf (TDD): (651) 296-5484 or (800) 657-3929.

BLINDS FOR HUNTERS WITH DISABILITIES



The Lac qui Parle, Talcot Lake, Swan Lake and Whitewater Wildlife Management Areas have a number of duck or goose hunting blinds for hunters with disabilities. For more information, write to: Lac qui Parle WMA 14047 20th St. NW Watson, MN 56295; Nicollet area wildlife office (Swan Lake WMA) 501 Ninth St. Nicollet, MN 56074, Talcot Lake WMA, 40249 County Road 7, Dundee MN, 56131; Whitewater WMA 15035 Highway 74, Altura MN, 55910.

MALLARD

Length—24"

Weight—2.75 lbs.



drake



hen



hen

drake



drake



eclipse drake



hen

The mallard is the state's most common duck. Typical Minnesota harvest: 270,000.

BLACK DUCK

Length—24"

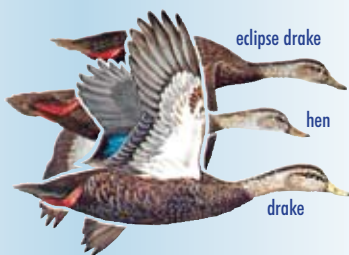
Weight—2.75 lbs.



drake



hen



eclipse drake

hen

drake



hen

drake

Primarily found in the Atlantic Flyway and, to a lesser extent, the Mississippi. There is a small breeding population in northeast Minnesota. Typical Minnesota harvest: 1,000.

GADWALL

Length—21"

Weight—2 lbs.



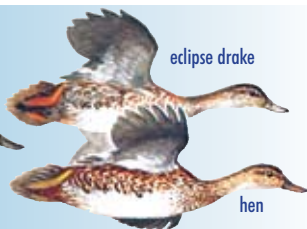
drake



hen



drake



eclipse drake

hen



hen

drake

Often called "gray mallards" or "gray ducks," gadwalls are one of the earliest migrants. Typical Minnesota harvest: 36,000.

WOOD DUCK

Length—18.5"

Weight—1.5 lbs.



drake



hen



drake



eclipse drake

hen



hen

drake

Found in all flyways; most numerous in the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyways. Typical Minnesota harvest: 125,000.

PINTAIL

Length—26"

Weight—1.75 lbs.



drake



hen



drake



eclipse drake



hen



hen



drake

These ducks use all four flyways but are most plentiful in the west. Populations are in a long-term decline, likely related to habitat changes on their Canadian breeding grounds. Typical Minnesota harvest: 15,000.

HOODED MERGANSER

Length—18"

Weight—1.5 lbs.



drake



hen



eclipse drake



hen



drake



hen



drake

Often seen in pairs or very small flocks. Typical Minnesota harvest: 9,000.

SCAUP

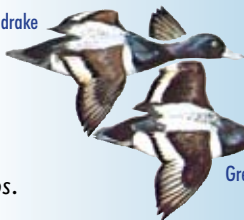
Greater Length—18.5"

Weight—2 lbs.

Lesser Length—17"

Weight—1.75 lbs.

Lesser drake



Greater drake



eclipse drake



hen



drake



hen

Lesser



hen

drake

Greater



hen

drake

Except for the wing marks, greater and lesser scaup appear nearly identical in the field. The North American breeding population was at an all time low in 2005. Biologists continue to study the declining population. Typical Minnesota harvest: 30,000.

NOTE: THERE ARE NEW RESTRICTIONS ON SCAUP HARVEST. SEE PAGE 20.

RINGNECK

Length—17"

Weight—1.5 lbs.

drake



eclipse drake



hen



drake



hen



hen



drake

Similar in appearance to scaup but more often found in fresh marshes and wooded ponds. Flocks of up to 200,000 stage on north central Minnesota refuges. Typical Minnesota harvest: 80,000.

CANVASBACK

CLOSED!

Length—22"

Weight—3 lbs.



drake



hen



drake



eclipse drake



hen



hen



drake

Tend to favor open-water areas.
Normally late to start south.
Typical Minnesota harvest: 3,000.

REDHEAD

Length—20"

Weight—2.5 lbs.



drake



hen



drake



eclipse drake



hen



hen



drake

Range coast to coast with the largest numbers in the Central Flyway. Often found associating with canvasback.
Typical Minnesota harvest: 14,000.

2008 SEASON DATES and BAG LIMITS

These are the 2008 waterfowl season regulations at the time of printing. If changes are made there will be an announcement, and the changes will be available on the DNR Web site: www.mndnr.gov

DUCKS/COOTS

SEASON
DATES

DUCKS, COOTS, MERGANSERS, MOORHENS (GALLINULES)

Oct. 4 - Dec. 2

Duck bag limits: 6 ducks daily; may not include more than any combination of the following: 4 mallards (only 1 hen mallard), 2 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 1 black duck, 1 pintail. If not listed up to 6 ducks of a species may be taken. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

NEW Scaup bag limit: One scaup daily except from Oct. 25-Nov. 13 when two scaup may be taken daily.

NEW Canvasback closed: No canvasback may be taken.

Coot and moorhen (gallinule) bag limits: Daily bag limit is 15. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Merganser bag limits: Daily bag limit is five, no more than 2 of which may be a hooded merganser. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

OTHER MIGRATORY BIRDS

	SEASON DATES	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Mourning doves	Sept. 1 - Oct. 30	15	30
Woodcock	Sept. 20 - Nov. 3	3	6
Sora and Virginia rail	Sept. 1 - Nov. 4	25 (in aggregate)	25 (in aggregate)
Common Snipe (Wilson's or Jacksnipe)	Sept. 1 - Nov. 4	8	16

Youth Hunt: On Sept. 20, 2008, waterfowl hunters age 15 and younger, when accompanied by a non-hunting adult (age 18 and older, no license required) may take ducks, Canada geese, mergansers, coots and moorhens from one-half hour before sunrise to 4 p.m. Motorized decoy restrictions are in effect. Bag limits are the same as the regular duck season. Five Canada geese may be taken, except in the Metro, southeast and northwest goose zones, and Carlos Avery WMA and Swan Lake area (map, page 22-23), where the limit is one. There are no license requirements, except hunters ages 13 to 15 must have a firearms safety certificate in their possession. All other migratory bird hunting regulations apply.

SPECIAL FALCONRY SEASON

Dates:

Ducks, coots and moorhens may be taken by falconry from Oct. 4, 2008 to Jan. 17, 2009.

Geese may be taken by falconry during any open goose season. Woodcock, rails and snipe may be taken by falconry from Sept. 1 to Dec. 16.

Bag limits and hours:

Three daily combined and six in possession combined.

Falconry hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except after Oct. 4, when they are the same as the waterfowl shooting hours.

SHOOTING HOURS

Shooting hours for ducks and geese are one-half hour before sunrise (except 9 a.m. on Oct. 4) to 4 p.m. through Saturday Oct. 11, and until sunset thereafter. See youth hunt and early goose season for additional hours.

GEESE	SEASON DATES	BAG LIMITS	POSSESSION LIMITS	
SNOW, BLUE and ROSS' GEESE	Oct. 4 - Dec. 22	20 combined	40 combined	
WHITE-FRONTED GEESE	Oct. 4 - Dec. 22	1	2	
BRANT GEESE	Oct. 4 - Dec. 22	1	2	
CANADA GEESE				
West-Central zone	Oct. 16 - Oct. 19 Oct. 25 - Nov. 30	2	4	
West zone	Oct. 4 - Dec. 2	2	4	
Remainder of state (includes Metro & SE zone)	Oct. 4 - Dec. 12	2	4	
SEPTEMBER (EARLY) CANADA GOOSE HUNT Shooting hours are one half hour before sunrise to sunset				
See ① below	Southeast zone (map, page 22)	Sept. 6 - 22	2	4
	Remainder of state (includes all zones not listed above including the northwest goose zone which has been merged with the remainder of the state.)	Sept. 6 - 22	5	10
(The controlled hunting zone at Lac Qui Parle is closed to goose hunting during the September goose season.)				
DECEMBER (LATE) CANADA GOOSE HUNT Shooting hours are one half hour before sunrise to sunset				
See ③ below	West central zone (map, page 22)	No late goose season		
	Southeast zone (map, page 22)	Dec. 13 - 22	2	4
	Remainder of state (includes all zones not listed above)	Dec. 13 - 22	5	10

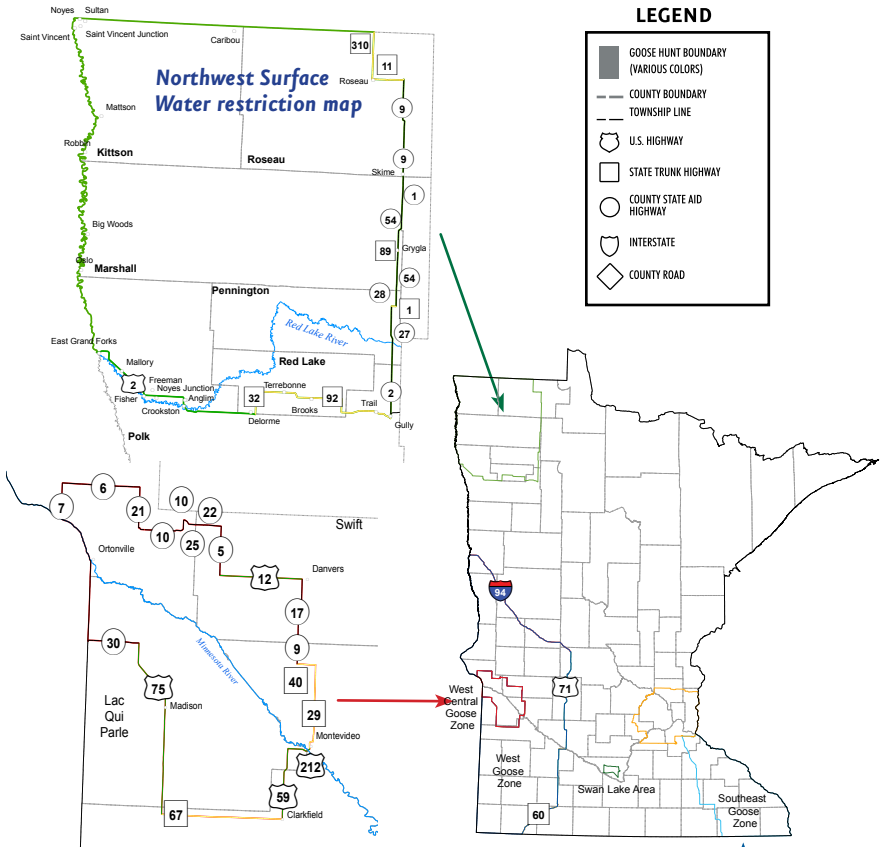
- ① A special \$4 permit is required to hunt Canada geese during the special September and late December seasons. One permit is good for both seasons. All persons must have the permit to participate in these hunts, except residents under age 18 or age 65 and older and persons hunting on their own property. The permit is available from ELS license agents and the DNR License Center or by telephone. There is no deadline for purchasing a permit.

SURFACE WATER RESTRICTIONS

“Surface water” includes, but is not limited to wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams. Temporarily flooded cropland, pasture, or other temporarily flooded areas (unless contiguous with lakes, wetlands, rivers or streams) are not included. This restriction does not apply to youth participating in the youth waterfowl hunt or in other areas as specifically authorized by the commissioner.

Taking geese from public roads and their rights-of-way is prohibited in the Metro Canada Goose Zone during the early and late goose seasons.

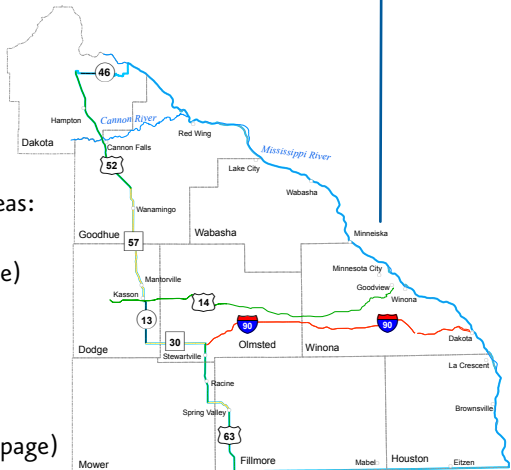
See additional restrictions on page 22.



SURFACE WATER RESTRICTIONS

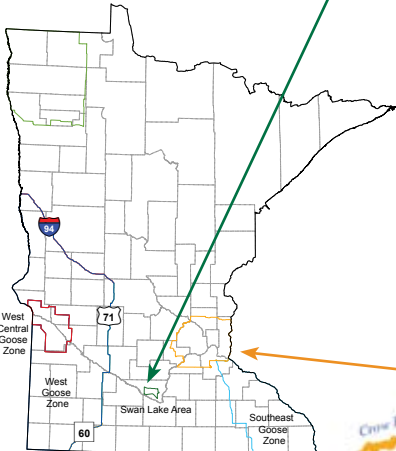
A person may not hunt geese during the September goose season within 100 yards of surface water in the following areas:

- Northwest and Southeast Goose Zones (see map this page)
- Metro Goose Zone (see map next page)
- Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area
- Swan Lake Area (see map next page)



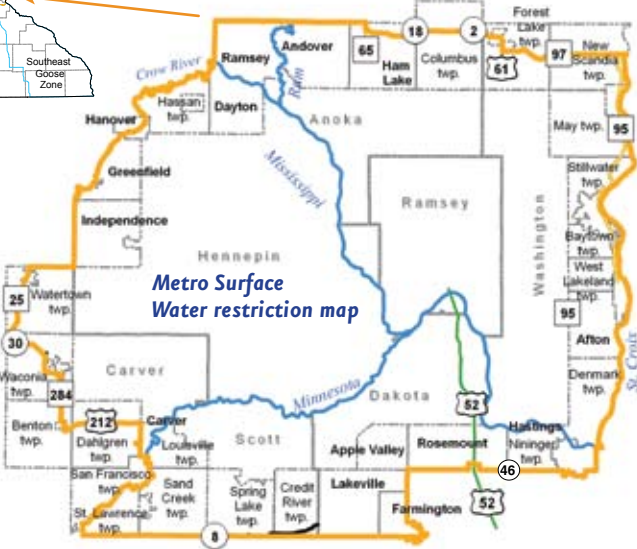
Swan Lake Area
Early Season
Hunting near
water prohibited
within the
boundary.

Starting at Courtland north along CSAH 12 to CSAH 5. Then east to CSAH 13. Then south to SH 99. Then west to CSAH 17. Then south to USH 14. North and west along 14 to Courtland.



LEGEND

- GOOSE HUNT BOUNDARY (VARIOUS COLORS)
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- TOWNSHIP LINE
- U.S. HIGHWAY
- STATE TRUNK HIGHWAY
- COUNTY STATE AID HIGHWAY
- INTERSTATE
- COUNTY ROAD



State Refuges Open to Goose Hunting

COUNTY	REFUGE	OPEN SEASON
Beltrami	Bemidji Game Refuge (except Lake Bemidji, Miss. River and Stump Lake)	Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22
Benton	Sauk Rapids-Rice* Goose Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
Chisago	Linn Lake Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
Clay	Clay County Game Refuge	Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22
Cottonwood	Talcot Lake Waterfowl Refuge	Goose hunters with disabilities. Contact refuge
Dakota	Vermillion Game Refuge	Goose Dec. 13 - 22
Dodge	Claremont Game Refuge	Goose hunting
Douglas	Douglas County Goose Refuge *	Waterfowl hunting
	Evansville Game Refuge	Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22
Freeborn	Moscow Game Refuge	Goose hunting
Grant	Ashby Goose Refuge	Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22, ducks Oct. 4 - Dec. 2
Isanti	Elizabeth Lake Game Refuge	Youth Mentoring Program only
	German Lake Game Refuge	Youth Mentoring Program only
Martin	Fox Lake Game Refuge**	Goose hunting Oct. 4 - 6
	Mud-Bardwell Game Refuge**	Canada geese Dec. 20 - 22 Canada geese Nov. 1 - Dec. 12, Dec. 13 - 22
Mower	Austin Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
Nicollet	Swan Lake No. 2 Game Refuge (south island only)	Waterfowl hunting
Nobles	Ocheda Lake Game Refuge***	Youth Waterfowl Day Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22, Dec. 13 - 22
Olmsted	Rochester Game Refuge	Goose Sept. 6 - 22
Otter Tail	Otter Tail County Goose Refuges *	Waterfowl hunting
Pine	Pine County Unit 2 Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
Sherburne	Sand Dunes Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
Stearns	Stearns County Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting (south of Kimball)
Steele	Rickert Waterfowl Refuge except Myron Buelow Waterfowl Sanctuary WMA	Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22
Stevens	Harstad Slough Waterfowl Refuge	Canada geese Sept. 6 - 22
Washington	St. Croix River Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
	Stillwater Game Refuge	Waterfowl hunting
Watsonwan	Saint James Game Refuge	Goose hunting Oct. 4 - 6

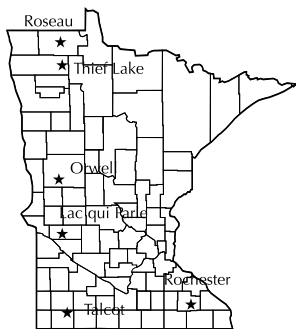
* No hunting from roads or rights of way

**No hunting within 100 yards of Fox, Temperance, Mud and Bardwell Lakes

***No hunting within 100 yards of surface water during September season

CONTROLLED HUNTING ZONES

Waterfowl or small game hunting, as specified, is restricted to designated hunting stations in the portions posted as controlled hunting zones on or adjacent to the Lac qui Parle, Roseau River, Thief Lake, Talcot Lake, and Orwell Wildlife Management Areas, and the Rochester Game Refuge.



GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

The following regulations apply to persons within all the controlled hunting zones during the open Canada goose seasons or as otherwise specified:

- No more than one hunting party, consisting of no more than three hunters, may occupy any hunting station at one time.
- Waterfowl hunters must have their guns unloaded and cased except within 10 feet of a hunting station.
- The hunting and taking of migratory waterfowl is limited to a distance within 10 feet of each designated hunting station, except hunters may retrieve downed birds away from a posted station if they comply with all other refuge and trespass regulations.
- On public lands, dogs must be on a leash except within 10 feet of stations or while retrieving, and must be under control at all times.
- All persons occupying a hunting station must meet all license requirements to hunt waterfowl in Minnesota.
- No person may leave any refuse, offal, or feathers on public lands in the controlled hunting zone or in any parking lot or designated overnight use area on the management area.
- No alcoholic beverages may be consumed or possessed at any of the hunting stations on public lands.
- No person may loiter between the designated hunting stations on public lands.
- On public lands, after each party member has bagged a limit of Canada geese or expended their limit of shells (if applicable), the party must promptly leave the station.
- No trailers of any kind are allowed in designated parking lots.

LAC QUI PARLE

The following regulations apply to all persons in the Lac qui Parle Controlled Hunting Zone during the regular Canada Goose Season for that zone:

RESERVATIONS AND PERMITS

- Waterfowl and small game hunters may reserve hunting stations in accordance with rules available at the Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area headquarters. For information, contact: Lac qui Parle WMA, 14047 20th St. NW, Watson, MN 56295.
- On public lands, no person may hunt migratory waterfowl or small game in the controlled hunting zone without first registering at the check station and obtaining an entry permit. There is a daily fee of \$3 per hunter 18 years and older.
- The transfer of entry permits to other hunters is prohibited.

HUNTING RESTRICTIONS

- Hunters are limited to 12 shells per trip in possession.
- Not more than six hunting groups per day may occupy a designated hunting station.
- Within one hour of hunt completion, each party member must submit any geese taken for inspection at the Lac qui Parle WMA headquarters and, if hunting on public lands, personally return their entry permit to the check station.
- Waterfowl and small game hunters are limited to three trips to the stations during the Canada goose season, either as a guest or a successful applicant, **except when vacant stations exist.**
- Waterfowl and small game hunters must have guns unloaded and cased except within 10 feet of assigned hunting stations.
- Hunters are limited to one trip to the blinds before noon, and one trip after noon, per day.

THIEF LAKE

The following regulations apply to waterfowl and small game hunters in the Thief Lake Controlled Hunting Zone (CHZ) during all open waterfowl seasons (including Early September and Late December Canada Goose and Youth Waterfowl Seasons). The restriction on small game hunting in the CHZ applies from the opening of the regular waterfowl season through October 22.

- Hunters must use designated hunting stations on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Hunters are limited to one trip to the blinds before noon, and one trip after noon, per day.

- Hunters are limited to 12 shells per trip in possession.
- Hunters must have guns unloaded and cased except within 10 feet of the hunting stations.
- Selected blinds will be posted closed during the early September Canada Goose Season because of their proximity to open water.
- No person may park in or otherwise occupy any designated CHZ parking lot or occupy any hunting station from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

ORWELL

The following regulations apply to all persons in the Orwell Controlled Hunting Zone during the Regular Goose Season:

- Hunting, other than waterfowl, is prohibited.
- No person may enter the controlled hunting zone except when their vehicle is occupying a numbered parking stall in the designated parking lot in the controlled hunting zone.
- No persons other than those hunting at a station in the controlled hunting zone may occupy a numbered stall in a designated parking lot.
- Hunters must hunt only at the hunting stations having a number corresponding to their parking stall number.
- No person may park in or otherwise occupy any parking stall in the designated parking lot or occupy any hunting station during any two consecutive days or from one hour after the close of daily waterfowl shooting hours to 8 p.m.
- All guns must be unloaded and cased except within 10 feet of a hunting station.

ROCHESTER AND ROSEAU RIVER

The following regulations apply to all persons in the Rochester and Roseau River Controlled Hunting Zones during the open Goose Season:

- The wildlife manager may limit all persons to one day of hunting in every three. If hunting is limited, the manager will stamp the date on the Small Game Hunting License or Firearms Safety Certificate of every person at each restricted hunting station. Persons may hunt at any restricted station on the day stamped, but may not occupy a restricted station for the next two days. Restricted stations will be posted.
- No one may be in a hunting station or designated parking lot from one hour after the close of the daily waterfowl shooting hours to 8 p.m.

TALCOT LAKE

Closed Area

All waterfowl hunting is prohibited upon or from the 1.5 mile segment of State Trunk Highway 62 and its right-of-way along the south boundary of the Talcot Lake Waterfowl Refuge (between the Cottonwood County line on the west and County Highway 7 on the east).

The following regulations apply to all persons in the Talcot Lake controlled hunting zones during Canada Goose Seasons:

General Restrictions

- Hunting, other than waterfowl, is prohibited on public land in the East and West Side Controlled Hunting Zones.
- The wildlife manager may limit persons to one day of hunting in every three. The manager will stamp the date on the Small Game Hunting License or Firearms Safety Certificate of each person at a restricted hunting station. Persons may hunt at any restricted station on the day stamped, but may not occupy a restricted station for the next two days. Restricted stations will be posted.
- No persons may occupy a hunting station within a controlled hunting zone except when their vehicle is occupying a numbered parking stall in a designated parking lot in the controlled hunting zone. No persons other than those hunting at a hunting station may occupy a numbered stall or park in a designated parking lot.
- Waterfowl hunters must hunt only at the hunting stations having numbers corresponding to their parking stall number.
- No person may park in or otherwise occupy any parking stall in the designated parking lot or occupy any hunting station from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Spring Snow Goose Season (Light Goose Conservation Action)

Minnesota again plans to participate in a cooperative light goose conservation action in March and April of 2009. This action is being taken in an attempt to reduce an overabundance of snow geese that is threatening their arctic breeding habitat. All participants must have a Light Goose Conservation Permit in their possession while attempting to take light geese. Details will be announced early in 2009.

SUMMARY of FEDERAL REGULATIONS



In addition to state regulations, the following federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting and storing of migratory gamebirds.

Caution: The following material is a summary. Each hunter should also consult the actual federal regulations found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20. More restrictive regulations may apply to national wildlife refuges and state wildlife management areas open to public hunting.

ILLEGAL HUNTING METHODS

You may not hunt migratory waterfowl...

...With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.

...From a sink box or any other low floating device that conceals you beneath the surface of the water.

...From a motorboat or sailboat, unless you shut the motor off or furl the sail and the vessel is no longer in motion.

...Using live birds as decoys.

...During youth waterfowl day or during the regular waterfowl season using recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds or imitations of these calls and sounds.

...While possessing any shot other than approved nontoxic shot.

... During youth waterfowl day or during the regular waterfowl season with a shotgun that can hold more than three shells, unless you plug it with a one piece filler that cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.

...From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft (if you are a paraplegic or are missing one or both legs, you may hunt from a stationary car or other stationary motor-driven land vehicle or conveyance).

...By the aid of baiting or on or over a baited area where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. A baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after removal of bait.

WANTON WASTE

You must make a reasonable effort to retrieve all migratory game birds that you kill or cripple and keep these birds in your actual custody while in the field. You must immediately kill any wounded birds that you retrieve and count those birds toward your daily bag limit. Birds must remain in your possession while in the field. You may not give your birds to another person in the field regardless of whether or not they are properly tagged.

TAGGING

You may not put or leave migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless you tag the birds with your signature, address, number of birds identified by species and the date you killed them.

RALLYING

You may not hunt migratory game birds that have been concentrated, driven, rallied or stirred up with a motorized vehicle or sailboat.

DRESSING

You may not completely field dress waterfowl before taking them from the field. The head and one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to the birds while you transport them to your home or to a facility that processes migratory game birds.

DUAL VIOLATION

A violation of a state migratory game bird regulation is also a violation of federal regulations.

PROTECTED BIRDS

Federal law prohibits the killing of nongame migratory birds.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Federal migratory game bird hunting regulations can be found in 50 CFR Part 20. If you have additional questions about waterfowl hunting and the law, contact Division of Law Enforcement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Building, P.O. Box 45, Fort Snelling, MN 55111. Telephone: (612) 713-5320.

MAKE THE SHOT

It's the responsible thing to do

Quick, clean, humane kills reduce unretrieved losses of waterfowl. Make the shot by following these five steps.

1.) Identify your effective range

Shoot crossing clay targets at predetermined distances. Your effective range is the distance at which you can consistently break six out of eight targets (75 percent).

2.) Pattern your gun

Pattern-testing shotguns and shot shells is as important to the waterfowl hunter as "sighting in" is to the deer hunter. Be sure to know how your equipment will perform at your effective range plus or minus ten yards.

3.) Know the distance

Learn to estimate distance over the barrel of your shotgun through subtending. Subtending is simply knowing how much of

a duck or goose is covered by the end of your barrel at various distances when the shotgun is mounted. The most important distance to be able to determine is your effective range.

4.) Focus on the bird

Flocks of waterfowl tend to confuse the eye and make it hard to concentrate on one bird. Focus on the head, or even just the bill, of a single bird.

5.) Set up for success

Plan decoys and pass shooting so birds drop in open water or open field rather than dense vegetation. Having only one or two hunters shooting at one time will also help. Rotate shooting opportunities among hunters in the blind.

SUGGESTED SHOT SIZE SELECTION FOR WATERFOWL			MINIMUM DESIRED PATTERN DENSITY (hits / 30-inch circle)
	MINIMUM	TYPICAL HUNTING CONDITIONS	
SMALL / MEDIUM DUCKS	6 steel* 6 bismuth 6 tungsten alloy	3 - 4 steel 4 - 6 bismuth 4 - 6 tungsten alloy	120

LARGE DUCKS	4 steel 6 bismuth 6 tungsten alloy	3 steel 4 bismuth 4 - 6 tungsten alloy	90
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SMALL GEESE	2 steel 4 bismuth 4 tungsten alloy	1 - BB steel 2 bismuth 2 tungsten alloy	60
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LARGE GEESE	2 steel 2 bismuth 4 tungsten alloy	BB - BBB steel 1 - BB bismuth 2 - BB tungsten alloy	50
-------------	--	---	----

*Close range — less than 35 yards
 Note: Small shot (#6) is excellent for swatter loads for finishing cripples.

FEDERAL DUCK STAMP TURNS 75

By Michael Kallock
 Editorial assistant, Minnesota Conservation Volunteer

THIS YEAR the federal duck stamp turns 75 years old, with a legacy of protecting 500,000 acres of waterfowl habitat in Minnesota and more than 5 million acres nationwide. Since 1934, more than 9 million federal duck stamps have been sold in Minnesota, raising nearly \$700 million for the cause of preserving and conserving waterfowl habitat in our state.

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission has approved spending

of \$4 million from duck stamp proceeds this year for the expected purchase of more than 18,000 acres of prime prairie wetland and associated grassland habitat at Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge in northwestern Minnesota. The refuge is part of a much larger geographical area known as the prairie pothole region—once a vast tapestry of small wetlands and grasslands that stretched from Iowa to Alberta and included western Minnesota. Today, less than 10 percent

continued on page 32

FEDERAL DUCK STAMP TURNS 75 **continued**

of Minnesota's prairie wetlands and less than 1 percent of native prairie still exist. But even with significant portions of the original wetlands and grasslands gone, the prairie pothole region continues to produce 50 percent of the United States breeding duck populations.

The Nature Conservancy is restoring wetlands and tallgrass prairie on the 24,000 acres in the refuge and surrounding area, making Glacial Ridge part of the largest prairie and wetland restoration in the nation.

"The Glacial Ridge project is a terrific example of the protection and restoration of a prairie wetland habitat complex," said Ray Norrgard DNR wetland wildlife program manager. Duck stamp revenue also goes to The Small Wetlands Program, which reaches a 50-year milestone this year. Created by a 1958 amendment to the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, the program uses proceeds from federal duck

stamp sales to permanently protect some of the most threatened and productive waterfowl habitat in the United States. The Small Wetland Program has permanently protected over 190,000 acres of waterfowl habitat in Minnesota's portion of the prairie pothole region and has acquired easements on another 77,000 acres of wetlands.

"The small wetland acquisition program is critical to the future of waterfowl in Minnesota," Norrgard said. "It is a great companion to DNR shallow lake and private land acquisition programs."

Duck stamps can be purchased at any DNR licensing outlet or online at www.mndnr.gov (click on "licenses" at the top). Hunters age 16 and over are required to purchase the \$15 stamp to hunt migratory waterfowl, but duck stamps can be purchased by any conservationist who wishes to support wetlands habitat acquisition and restoration.



In 75 years of federal duck stamp contests, Minnesotans have won 23 times, including Roger E. Preuss with common goldeneyes (left) in 1949-50; David A. Maass with canvasbacks (middle) in 1982-83; and Robert Hautman with a Canada goose (right) in 1997-98.

AD REMOVED

WEATHER, HABITAT INFLUENCE FALL MIGRATION

By Ray Norrgard, DNR wetland wildlife program coordinator

One of the most fascinating aspects of waterfowl is their ability to move within local areas and across the state and country. These movements are driven by a number of factors. Availability of habitat and food and avoidance of disturbance significantly influence local movements. Weather patterns add another dimension that affects the progress of migration.

Fall migration in Minnesota provides a parade of species starting in August and continuing into the snowstorms of winter. Some species, like blue-winged teal and pintails, seem to time their movements as much by calendar as by changing weather. On the other hand, mallards, scaup and Canada geese often linger until driven out by ice and snow.

The availability of temporary (surface water for a few days to a few weeks) and seasonal (surface water for a few weeks to a few months) wetlands also drives migration patterns. These water bodies warm up quickly in the spring and provide critically important sources of protein, such as fairy shrimp, for nesting hens and newly hatched ducklings. In summer and fall, more permanent wetlands and shallow lakes supply food for broods, molting hens and migrating ducks.

Weather patterns and temperature changes are also important factors in

migration. Major weather patterns tend to move in an easterly or southeasterly direction. Winds within low-pressure areas move in a counter-clockwise direction while the opposite is true of high-pressure areas. Both the backside of a low-pressure area and the leading edge of a high-pressure area produce southerly winds. Waterfowl often take advantage of such conditions when migrating, sometimes moving several hundred or even a thousand miles in one day.

Migration is physically demanding to all birds, including waterfowl. Ducks lose 10 to 15 percent of their body weight on a day dominated by flight. For a 200 pound human, that would be like dropping 20 to 30 pounds overnight.

Because the stress is so great, ducks must recover this weight before continuing. With good habitat and adequate food, a duck can rebound in one to three days. However, where disturbances such as motorized watercraft reduce rest and feeding time, this recovery can require five to nine days or longer. As a result, migrating ducks exhibit little tolerance for constant disturbance.

Among the four most harvested duck species in Minnesota, all are resident breeders as well as migrants. The

AD REMOVED

blue-winged teal stands out as the earliest migrant with some teal moving through the state as early as August. The migration peaks in early September. Few “bluewings” are available for harvest in Minnesota after the first week in October.

The wood duck is not far behind although “woodies” are a favorite of early October duck hunters. About the time that wood duck numbers are waning in Minnesota the ring-necked duck is coming on strong, peaking in mid-October. Although mallards are commonly harvested the first week of the waterfowl season, the peak of the mallard

continued on page 36



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MINNESOTA
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Where are the Bluebills? 8
Cult of the Midnight Cuckoo 44

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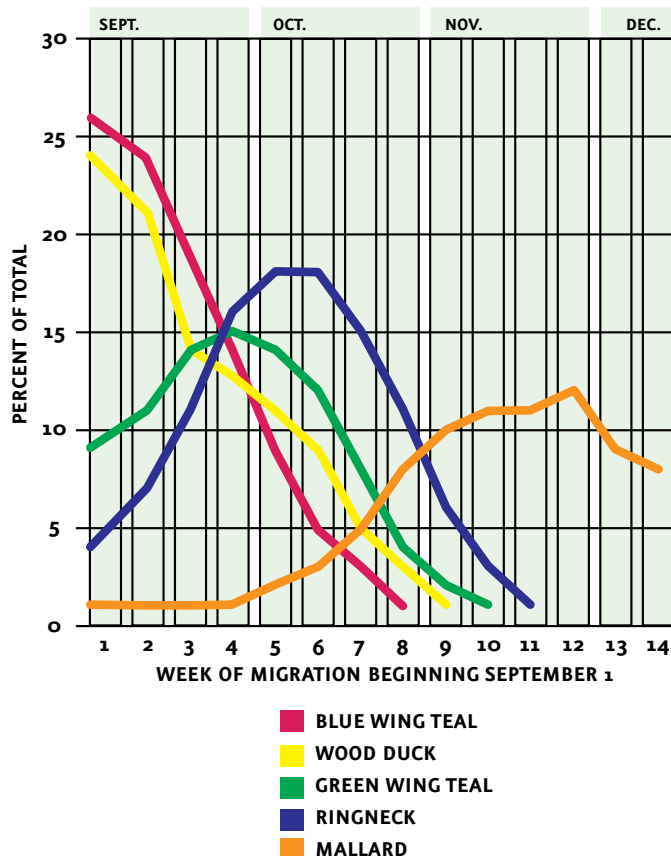
WEATHER, HABITAT INFLUENCE FALL MIGRATION **continued**

migration is typically a November phenomenon.

Canada geese are available to hunters throughout the fall. The abundant resident geese provide exciting hunting beginning in September and continuing well into December. Migrant Canada geese are commonly from the Eastern Prairie Population

that breeds and nests along Hudson Bay. Weather and food conditions in Canada greatly influence their movement into the state. Numbers typically continue to build throughout October at major refuges like the Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area, yet may not peak until sometime in November or even early December.

FALL MIGRATION Upper Mississippi Region





**DON'T LET
YOUR
BROTHER-IN-LAW
GET YOUR
SHOTGUN.**

Life vests now come in styles that make it easy to shoulder a gun.

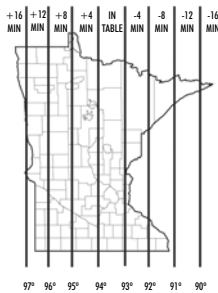
WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

AD REMOVED

SHOOTING HOURS

Shooting hours for ducks and geese are one-half hour before sunrise (except 9 a.m. on Oct. 4) to 4 p.m. through Oct. 11, and until sunset thereafter.



Nine hunting time zones are shown on the Minnesota state map (left). Sunrise and sunset times to be used for hunting in the zone titled "In Table" are shown in the table (below). For other zones, add or subtract the minutes shown at the top of the map to the times shown in the table.

Source: U.S. Naval Observatory

Sunrise/Sunset Table

WHY DOES MINNESOTA SET EARLY-SEASON SHOOTING HOURS?

Early season shooting hours help manage duck harvest in areas with high harvest and high hunter numbers. They reduce harassment of newly arrived migrants, allow feeding and roosting patterns to be established and maintained, allow mixing of locally reared birds with lightly harvested migrants and extend hunting opportunity.

Note: Times shown in the tables vary by specific location. For the exact time in your area consult a local airport or check on line at <http://tycho.usno.navy.mil>

DAY	SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.	
	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM	Rise AM	Set PM
1	6:35	7:51	7:11	6:54	7:51	6:02	7:31	4:33
2	6:36	7:49	7:12	6:52	6:53	5:00	7:32	4:33
3	6:37	7:47	7:13	6:51	6:54	4:59	7:33	4:33
4	6:38	7:45	7:14	6:49	6:55	4:58	7:34	4:32
5	6:39	7:44	7:16	6:47	6:57	4:56	7:35	4:32
6	6:41	7:42	7:17	6:45	6:58	4:55	7:36	4:32
7	6:42	7:40	7:18	6:43	6:59	4:54	7:37	4:32
8	6:43	7:38	7:19	6:41	7:01	4:53	7:38	4:32
9	6:44	7:36	7:21	6:40	7:02	4:51	7:39	4:32
10	6:45	7:34	7:22	6:38	7:04	4:50	7:40	4:32
11	6:47	7:32	7:23	6:36	7:05	4:49	7:41	4:32
12	6:48	7:30	7:25	6:34	7:06	4:48	7:42	4:32
13	6:49	7:28	7:26	6:32	7:08	4:47	7:43	4:32
14	6:50	7:27	7:27	6:31	7:09	4:46	7:44	4:32
15	6:51	7:25	7:28	6:29	7:10	4:45	7:44	4:32
16	6:53	7:23	7:30	6:27	7:12	4:44	7:45	4:32
17	6:54	7:21	7:31	6:25	7:13	4:43	7:46	4:33
18	6:55	7:19	7:32	6:24	7:14	4:42	7:46	4:33
19	6:56	7:17	7:34	6:22	7:16	4:41	7:47	4:33
20	6:57	7:15	7:35	6:20	7:17	4:40	7:48	4:34
21	6:59	7:13	7:36	6:19	7:18	4:39	7:48	4:34
22	7:00	7:11	7:38	6:17	7:20	4:39	7:49	4:35
23	7:01	7:09	7:39	6:16	7:21	4:38	7:49	4:35
24	7:02	7:08	7:40	6:14	7:22	4:37	7:50	4:36
25	7:03	7:06	7:42	6:12	7:24	4:36	7:50	4:37
26	7:05	7:04	7:43	6:11	7:25	4:36	7:50	4:37
27	7:06	7:02	7:44	6:09	7:26	4:35	7:51	4:38
28	7:07	7:00	7:46	6:08	7:27	4:35	7:51	4:39
29	7:08	6:58	7:46	6:07	7:28	4:34	7:51	4:39
30	7:09	6:56	7:48	6:05	7:30	4:34	7:51	4:40
31			7:50	6:03			7:51	4:41

FEDERAL DUCK STAMP JUDGING OPEN TO PUBLIC

Minnesotans will have a rare opportunity this autumn to view entries submitted in the federal duck stamp contest.

The national contest, which can draw as many as 2,000 pieces of original art, will be judged October 17-18 at the Bloomington Arts Center. Public viewing begins October 15.

"If you love waterfowl and waterfowl art, this is almost a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Dave Schad, director of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife. "It will be decades before the judging returns to Minnesota."

The first federal duck stamp was designed by Jay "Ding"

Darling in 1934 at the request of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The 2008-09 stamp – the 75th anniversary stamp – is the work of noted Minnesota artist Joe Hautman.

Federal duck stamp revenues have raised more than \$670 million dollars to conserve more than 5.2 million acres of habitat. Hunters age 16 and over are required to purchase the \$15 stamp to hunt migratory waterfowl.

Visit www.fws.gov/duckstamps/partners08.htm for duck stamp entry viewing times and a related calendar of events.



**FOR MORE ON THE FEDERAL DUCK STAMP PROGRAM,
SEE PAGE 31.**

**KNOW YOUR DIVING DUCKS. THERE ARE NEW
RESTRICTIONS ON SCAUP AND CANVASBACK HARVEST.
SEE PAGES 18-19 FOR IDENTIFICATION TIPS.**