



Big Woods State Forest



July 2023 – June 2024 Hunting Seasons

No Rifles for Turkey Hunting
Muzzleloaders Permitted During Muzzleloader Seasons
Sunday Hunting is Allowed

Big Game Hunting Seasons

Bear	Archery: Oct. 7 – Nov. 17 Muzzleloader: Nov. 11 – 17 Firearm: Dec. 4 – Jan. 6	Youth/Apprentice: Oct. 14 and 15
Deer	Early Archery: Oct. 7 – Nov. 17 Early Muzzleloader: Nov. 4 – 17 (either sex on Nov. 11) Firearm: Nov. 18 – Jan. 6 (either sex full season)	Youth/Apprentice: Sept. 30, Oct. 1
Turkey	Fall: Archery: Oct. 7 – Nov. 17 Firearm: Oct. 21 – Nov. 3, Nov. 22 and 23, Dec. 4 – 16 Youth/Apprentice: Oct. 14 and 15	Spring: Firearm: April 13 – 28 (½ hour before sunrise until noon) April 29 – May 18 (½ hour before sunrise to sunset) Youth/Apprentice: April 6 and 7

Small Game Hunting Seasons

Crow	Sept. 1 – March 9 (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)	
Groundhog	Sept. 1 – March 10, during Spring Turkey (April 13 – May 18) and Spring Squirrel Seasons (June 1 – 15)	
Quail	Nov. 11 – Jan. 31	
Rabbit	Nov. 4 – Feb. 29	
Squirrel	Fall: Sept. 2 – Feb. 29, No Fox Squirrels	Spring: June 1 – 15, No Fox Squirrels

Webless Migratory Gamebird Hunting Seasons

Dove	<i>There are no managed dove fields on Big Woods State Forest.</i> First Segment: Sept. 2 (noon until sunset), Sept. 3 – Oct. 22 (½ hour before sunrise to sunset) Second Segment: Nov. 18 – 26 (½ hour before sunrise to sunset) Third Segment: Dec. 22 – Jan. 20 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Woodcock	Nov. 10 – Nov. 27 and Dec. 26 – Jan. 21 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Snipe	Sept. 25 – Nov. 26 and Dec. 19 – Jan. 31 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)
Rail/Gallinule/Moorhen	Sept. 11 – Nov. 5 and Nov. 13 – 26 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)

Waterfowl Hunting Seasons

September Canada Goose/Teal	Goose: Sept. 1 – 25 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset* – check DWR regulations)	Teal: Sept. 17 – 30	Youth/Veterans: Oct. 21, Feb. 3
Duck/Mergansers/Coots	Oct. 6 – 9 (Black Duck Closed) (½ hour before sunrise until sunset) Nov. 15 – 26 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset) Dec. 19 – Jan. 31 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)		
Canada Goose Resident Population Zone	Nov. 15 – 26 and Dec. 19 – Feb. 24 (½ hour before sunrise until sunset)		
Tundra Swan	Nov. 15 – Jan. 31 (By DWR Permit Only)		

Furbearer Hunting Seasons

Bobcat	Archery: Oct. 7 – 31	Firearm: Nov. 1 – Feb. 29
Coyote/Striped Skunk	Sept. 1 – March 10, during Spring Turkey (April 13 – May 18) and Spring Squirrel Season (June 1 – 15)	
Opossum	Oct. 15 – March 10	
Fox	Red Fox: Nov. 1 – Feb. 29	Gray Fox: Jan. 1 – Feb. 29
Raccoon	Firearm: Oct. 15 – March 10	Chase: Continuous Open Season

Trapping Seasons

Beaver/Mink/Muskrat/Otter/Weasel	Dec. 1 – Feb. 29
Bobcat/Fox/Opossum/Raccoon	Nov. 15 – Feb. 29
Coyote/Nutria/Skunk	Continuous Open Season

This is just a summary of the hunting regulations on this State Forest. For more details, please visit the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) website at <https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/>

If you have additional questions, please call DWR Region 1 Office at (804)829-6580

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