

Youth Waterfowl Hunt

The Youth Waterfowl Hunt provides young waterfowl hunters the opportunity to spend time afield with an experienced adult hunter pursuing waterfowl and allowing them to develop their skills without the pressures of the regular season.

When is it?

The Youth hunt has been traditionally scheduled on the Saturday nearest Sept 17. However, dates are not finalized each year until after a period of public input and a final ruling on the waterfowl season by the Natural Resources Board in mid-August. Dates are posted on the following webpage as soon as they are available: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/hunt/waterfowl.html>

Who is eligible?

Only persons age 10-15 may hunt waterfowl (ducks, geese, coots, moorhens and mergansers). All hunters must be accompanied by an adult chaperone age 18 years or older and the adult may not accompany more than two youth hunters (only one of which may be mentored). The adult may not hunt ducks; however, an adult may hunt geese if they possess the appropriate Canada goose permit (though only 1 gun may be possessed between a mentored hunter and the mentor). For 10-11 year olds or those who have not completed hunter safety, they must be within arms reach of a mentor (for more information on the mentored hunt law please refer to:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/education/outdoorskills/mentor.html>



What type of license is needed?

Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration is required. Youth not participating in a "mentored" hunt must have completed a Wisconsin Hunter Education Course (or similar course from another state, province or country). All license and stamp requirements are waived for eligible youth waterfowl hunters, except a Canada goose hunting permit.

What other rules apply?

All other regulations including hunting hours and daily bag limits, listed in the regulations pamphlet will apply.

Does this youth hunt include goose hunting?

Yes. The daily bag limit for all zones is 2 geese. In the Exterior Zone, a youth must purchase and possess an Exterior goose permit and must report their harvest. In the Horicon zone, a youth possessing a valid Horicon permit for either time period may hunt geese.

Good luck, enjoy the special weekend, and have a safe hunt!

For information about this topic, contact: [Assistant Migratory Game Bird Ecologist.](#)