

# General Hunting Seasons 2017 - 2018

**Deer Holiday Antlerless:** December 22-31, 2017

**Youth Deer Gun:** October 20-22, 2017

**Deer Archery:** October 1, 2017 - January 15, 2018.

**Deer Primitive Arms (Muzzleloading):** October 28 - November 5, 2017.

**Deer Gun:** November 18 - December 3, 2017

**Elk Holiday Antlerless:** December 22-31, 2017

**Youth Elk Gun:** October 20-22, 2017

**Elk Archery:** October 1, 2017 - January 15, 2018.

**Elk Primitive Arms (Muzzleloading):** October 28 - November 5, 2017.

**Elk Gun:** November 18 - December 3, 2017.

## Special Southwest Zone Elk Seasons:

**Archery:** October 7-11, 2017; December 9-13, 2017

**Muzzleloader:** Closed.

**Gun:** October 12-15, 2017; December 14-17, 2017

**Antlerless:** November 18 - December 3, 2017; January 1 - 31, 2018

**Antelope Archery:** October 1-14, 2017

**Antelope Gun Seasons:**

**Either Sex Hunt:** September 7-10, 2017

Cimarron County: State Drawn - 20      Landowner - 20

Texas County: State Drawn - 5      Landowner - 5

**State Drawn Doe:** September 11-20, 2017

Cimarron County: 50

Texas County: 20

**Landowner Drawn Doe:** December 2, 2017 - January 15, 2018

Cimarron County: 50

Texas County: 20

Antelope tag numbers pending survey completed in February.

**Bear Archery:** October 1 - 15, 2017.

**Bear Muzzleloader:** October 28 - November 5, 2017.

**Turkey Fall Archery:** October 1, 2017 - January 15, 2018.

**Turkey Fall Gun:** November 4 - November 17, 2017.

**Youth Spring Turkey:** March 31 - April 1, 2018.

**Youth Spring Turkey (SE):** April 21 - 22, 2018.

**Spring Turkey:** April 6 - May 6, 2018.

**Spring Turkey (SE):** April 23 - May 6, 2018.

**Quail:** November 11, 2017 - February 15, 2018.

**Pheasant:** December 1, 2017 - January 31, 2018.

**Crow:** October 10 - November 16, 2017; December 9, 2017 - March 4, 2018.

**Squirrel:** May 15, 2017 - January 31, 2018.

**Rabbit:** October 1, 2017 - March 15, 2018.

**Furbearers** (*Raccoon, Bobcat, Badger, Gray Fox, Red Fox, Mink, Muskrat, Opossum, River Otter & Weasel*):  
December 1, 2017 - February 28, 2018.

**WEBLESS MIGRATORY GAME BIRD, SEPTEMBER TEAL AND SPECIAL  
SEPTEMBER RESIDENT CANADA GOOSE SEASONS**

**DOVE**

**(Mourning, White-winged and Eurasian Collared)**

**Season Dates and Open Areas**

**Statewide**

September 1 - October 31, 2017 and

December 1 - December 29, 2017

*(includes additional days as allowed by USFWS. The additional days are in December. The additional days could only be added within the Sept 1—December 30 framework and not added prior to our earliest possible opener of Sept 1)*

**Bag and Possession Limit**

15 daily, 30 in possession after first day combined, 45 in possession after the second day combined. The limit may consist of any combination (aggregate) of mourning doves, white-winged, and fully dressed (those without a head or fully feathered wing naturally attached to the carcass) Eurasian collared doves. However, there is no bag limit on Eurasian collared doves if the head or one fully feathered wing remains naturally attached to the carcass of all such birds while being transported to their final destination.

**SORA AND VIRGINIA RAIL**

**Season Dates and Open Areas**

September 1 - November 9, 2017; statewide

**Bag and Possession Limit**

25 daily, 50 in possession after first day, 75 in possession after the second day

**GALLINULE**

**(Purple Gallinule and Common Moorhen)**

**Season Dates and Open Areas**

September 1 - November 9, 2017; statewide

**Bag and Possession Limit**

15 daily, 30 in possession after first day, 45 in possession after the second day

## WOODCOCK

### Season Dates and Open Areas

November 1 - December 15, 2017; statewide

### Bag and Possession Limit

3 daily, 6 in possession after the first day, 9 in possession after the second day

## WILSON'S (COMMON) SNIPE

### Season Dates and Open Areas

October 1, 2017 - January 15, 2018; statewide

### Bag and Possession Limit

8 daily, 16 in possession after the first day, 24 in possession after the second day

## SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

### Season Dates and Open Areas:

September 9 - 24, 2017; statewide.

### Bag and Possession Limit:

6 teal daily, 12 in possession after the first day, 18 in possession after the second day

## SPECIAL SEPTEMBER RESIDENT CANADA GOOSE SEASON

### Season Dates and Open Areas:

September 9 - 18 2017; statewide

### Bag and Possession Limit:

8 daily, 16 in possession after the first day,  
24 in possession after the second day

No special provisions.

### SHOOTING HOURS:

Shooting hours for all migratory game birds listed shall be one-half hour before official sunrise to official sunset.

## WATERFOWL, COOT, AND SANDHILL CRANE SEASONS

### DUCKS, MERGANSERS AND COOTS

#### SEASON DATES:

##### Panhandle Counties (High Plains Mallard Management Unit)

October 14, 2017 - January 10, 2018

##### \*Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

September 30, 2017 & February 3, 2018

##### Zone 1

October 28 - November 26, 2017

December 9, 2017 - January 21, 2018

##### \*Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

September 30, 2017 & February 3, 2018

##### Zone 2

November 4 - November 26, 2017

December 9, 2017 - January 28, 2018

##### \*Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

September 30, 2017 & February 3, 2018

*(Youth season dates were altered at staff request. The youth season was split into two one-day hunts with one occurring before the regular season opens and the second shortly after the regular season closes.)*

#### BAG LIMITS:

**Duck Limits** - The daily bag limit for ducks is six. The daily bag limit may include no more than: Five mallards (only two may be hens), three wood ducks, three scaup, two redheads, one pintail, and two canvasbacks. *(The pintail limit was reduced to one bird due to lower reproduction documented in the breeding grounds. It was 2 birds during the 2016 season.)*

**Merganser Limits** - The daily bag limit for mergansers is five. The daily bag limit may include no more than two hooded mergansers.

**Coot Limits** - The daily bag limit for coots is fifteen.

#### POSSESSION LIMITS:

The possession limit after the first day of hunting is two times the daily bag limit, and after the second day of hunting is three times the daily bag limit for ducks, mergansers and coots.

#### SHOOTING HOURS:

One-half hour before official sunrise to official sunset

#### \* YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

The U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service is allowing **two days** outside of the regular waterfowl season to provide a special hunting opportunity to encourage youth participation in the sport of waterfowling. Youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger. An adult, at least 18 years of age, must accompany the youth hunter into the field. This adult **cannot hunt waterfowl**, but may participate in other open seasons. The daily bag

limit may include ducks, mergansers, coots and geese. Bag limits will be the same as allowed during the regular season. All species and sex specific duck bag limit restrictions remain in effect.

## GEESE AND SANDHILL CRANE

### SEASON DATES:

#### Dark Geese (includes Canada geese, brant, and all other geese except white-fronted geese and light geese)

*(The term "Dark Geese" replaces the "Canada Geese" label that was used in years prior. While very rare, other species of dark geese besides Canada geese do occur in Oklahoma. This change allows these "other" dark geese to be legally taken under Oklahoma rules and better aligns us with USFWS and other states' wording of the regulations.)*

November 4 – November 26, 2017

December 9, 2017 - February 18, 2018

#### White-fronted Geese

November 4 – November 26, 2017

December 9, 2017 - February 11, 2018

#### Light Geese (Snow, Blue & Ross')

November 4 – November 26, 2017

December 9, 2017 - February 18, 2018

#### **\*\*Conservation Order Light Goose Season (COLGS)**

February 19 - March 30, 2018

#### Sandhill Crane

October 21, 2017 - January 21, 2018; west of I-35 only

### BAG LIMITS:

Dark Geese - The daily bag limit is eight.

White-fronted Geese - The daily bag limit is two.

**\*\* Light Geese** - The daily bag limit is fifty.

Sandhill Crane - The daily bag limit is three.

### POSSESSION LIMITS:

The possession limit for dark geese, white-fronted geese and sandhill crane is three times the daily bag limit. There is no possession limit for light geese (snow, blue & Ross').

### SHOOTING HOURS:

One-half hour before official sunrise to official sunset

#### **\*\* CONSERVATION ORDER LIGHT GOOSE SEASON (COLGS)**

During the COLGS, special means of take will be allowed, including: electronic calls, unplugged shotguns, one-half hour after sunset shooting hours and no daily bag or possession limits. The Conservation Order and special means of take provisions are designed to increase harvest and allow hunters to help reduce the population of mid-continent light geese (snow, blue & Ross'). All other waterfowl regulations will apply; including use of federally approved nontoxic shot. All participants will be required to have in their possession while hunting, all necessary licenses, waterfowl stamps and a Harvest Information Program permit (HIP). **The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation is required by federal regulation to estimate the harvest of light geese during the COLGS. Therefore, to participate in the COLGS**

hunters should provide the ODWC with their name, full mailing address and telephone number so that they may be contacted after the season with a harvest survey.

**HUNTERS CAN REGISTER FOR THE COLGS BY PROVIDING THEIR NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER BY:**

**Internet at:** www.wildlifedepartment.com and clicking on the Conservation Order Light Goose link.

**Or by sending a postcard or letter to:**

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Attn: COLGS

PO Box 53465

Oklahoma City, OK 73152

**SPECIAL EXTENDED FALCONRY SEASONS**

**DUCKS, MERGANSERS, and COOTS**

**SEASON DATES AND AREAS:**

**Panhandle Counties**

|                                     |   |                |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|
| September 9 – 24, 2017              | - | 16 days        |                         |
| October 14, 2017 – January 10, 2018 | - | <u>89 days</u> |                         |
|                                     |   | 105 days       | + 2 youth days = 107*** |

**Zone 1**

|                                     |   |                |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|
| September 9 – September 24, 2017    | - | 16 days        |                         |
| October 28 – November 26, 2017      |   |                |                         |
| December 9, 2017 – January 21, 2018 | - | 74 days        |                         |
| February 12 – 26, 2018              | - | <u>15 days</u> |                         |
|                                     |   | 105 days       | + 2 youth days = 107*** |

**Zone 2**

|                                     |   |                |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|
| September 9 – September 24, 2017    | - | 16 days        |                         |
| November 4 – November 26, 2017      |   |                |                         |
| December 9, 2017 – January 28, 2018 | - | 74 days        |                         |
| February 12 – 26, 2018              | - | <u>15 days</u> |                         |
|                                     |   | 105 days       | + 2 youth days = 107*** |

**GALLINULE**

**SEASON DATES AND AREAS:**

**Statewide**

|                            |   |                |  |
|----------------------------|---|----------------|--|
| September 1 – November 9th | - | 70 days        |  |
| February 2nd – March 10th  | - | <u>37 days</u> |  |
|                            |   | 107 days***    |  |

**RAIL**

**SEASON DATES AND AREAS:**

**Statewide**

- September 1 – November 9th - 70 days
- February 2 – March 10 - 37 days
- 107 days\*\*\*

**WOODCOCK**

**SEASON DATES AND AREAS:**

**Statewide**

- November 1 – December 15 - 45 days
- December 16 – February 15 - 62 days
- 107 days\*\*\*

**DOVE**

**SEASON DATES AND AREAS:**

**Statewide**

- September 1 – October 31 - 61 days
- December 1 – December 29 - 29 days
- February 22 – March 10 - 17 days
- 107 days\*\*\*

**SANDHILL CRANE**

**SEASON DATES AND AREAS:**

**West of I-35**

- October 21 – January 21 - 93 days
- January 22 – February 4 - 14 days
- 107 days\*\*\*

**BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS:**

Daily bag and possession limits may not exceed three and nine migratory game birds respectively, singly or in the aggregate for which an open hunting season or special extended falconry season is established. Regular season bag limits do not apply to falconry.

**HAWKING HOURS:**

One-half hour before official sunrise to official sunset.

\*\*\* The Migratory Bird Treaty allows no more than 107 total days of hunting (falconry, regular gun seasons, special seasons, i.e., September teal, and youth waterfowl hunting days) on a species in a given geographical area (i.e., panhandle and waterfowl zones).