

2025–2026 Season Dates

Species	Open Dates
Bear	<p>Mountain Bear Management Unit In and west of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke and Cleveland: Oct. 4 – Nov. 22, 2025 and Dec 13, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p> <p>Piedmont Bear Management Unit Alamance, Anson, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Granville, Guilford, Lee, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, and Union: Nov. 15, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p> <p>Franklin, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Vance, Wake, and Warren: Oct. 18, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p> <p>Alexander, Catawba, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Stokes, and Yadkin: Nov. 22, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p> <p>Coastal Bear Management Unit Zone 1: Dare, Hyde, and Tyrrell: Nov. 8 – 23 and Dec. 13 – Dec. 28, 2025</p> <p>Zone 2: Camden, Chowan, and Pasquotank: Nov. 7 – 16 and Dec. 13 – 28, 2025 Gates, Currituck, and Perquimans: Nov. 8 – 16 and Dec. 13 – 28, 2025</p> <p>Zone 3: Beaufort, Bertie, Craven, Hertford, Jones, Martin, and Washington: Nov. 8 – 16 and Dec. 13 – 28, 2025</p> <p>Zone 4: Edgecombe, Greene, Halifax, Lenoir, Nash, Northampton, Pitt, Wayne, and Wilson: Nov. 15 – Dec. 14, 2025</p> <p>Zone 5: Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico (use of dogs for hunting bears prohibited in this county), Pender, Robeson, and Sampson: Nov. 10, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p>
Wild Turkey Spring Season <i>(bearded or male turkeys only)</i>	Apr. 12 – May 10, 2025 Apr. 11 – May 9, 2026
Wild Turkey Youth-only Season <i>(bearded or male turkeys only)</i>	Apr. 5 – 11, 2025 Apr. 4 – 5, 2026
Raccoon and Opossum	Oct. 13, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Squirrel	<p>Gray and Red Squirrels: Oct. 13, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026</p> <p>Spring Squirrel Season (Gray Squirrel) Private Lands: May 12 – 26, 2025 May 11 – 25, 2026</p> <p>Fox Squirrels: Oct. 13, 2025 – Jan. 31, 2026</p>
Rabbit	Oct. 13, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Quail	Nov. 22, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Grouse	Oct. 13, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Bobcat	Oct. 13, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Fox	See "Fox Season Hunting and Trapping Seasons" publication at ncwildlife.org/foxseasons .

Crow	Aug. 1, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026, June 3, 2026 – July 31, 2026 Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of each week Crows may also be hunted on Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Independence Day; except when these days fall on a Sunday.
Pheasant	<p>Barrier Islands of Carteret, Dare, and Hyde Counties: Nov. 22, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026 (male pheasants only)</p> <p>Remainder of State: Sept. 1, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026 (pheasants of either sex)</p>
Trapping	Oct. 1, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026

Deer Seasons

Zone	Type of Season and Dates
Northeastern	<p>Archery: Sept. 13 – Oct. 3, 2025</p> <p>Blackpowder: Oct. 4 – 17, 2025</p> <p>Gun: Oct. 18, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p>
Southeastern	<p>Archery: Sept. 13 – Oct. 3, 2025</p> <p>Blackpowder: Oct. 4 – 17, 2025</p> <p>Gun: Oct. 18, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p>
Central	<p>Archery: Sept. 13 – Oct. 31, 2025</p> <p>Blackpowder: Nov. 1 – 14, 2025</p> <p>Gun: Nov. 15, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p>
Northwestern	<p>Archery: Sept. 13 – Nov. 7, 2025</p> <p>Blackpowder: Nov. 8 – 21, 2025</p> <p>Gun: Nov. 22, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p>
Western	<p>Archery: Sept. 13 – Nov. 14, 2025</p> <p>Blackpowder: Nov. 15 – 28, 2025</p> <p>Gun: Nov. 29, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026</p>
Youth Deer Hunting Days	<p>Statewide: September 27–28, 2025</p> <p>Western Deer Zone: November 27–28, 2025</p>
Urban Deer Season (open in participating cities only)	Archery Only: Jan. 10 – Feb. 15, 2026