



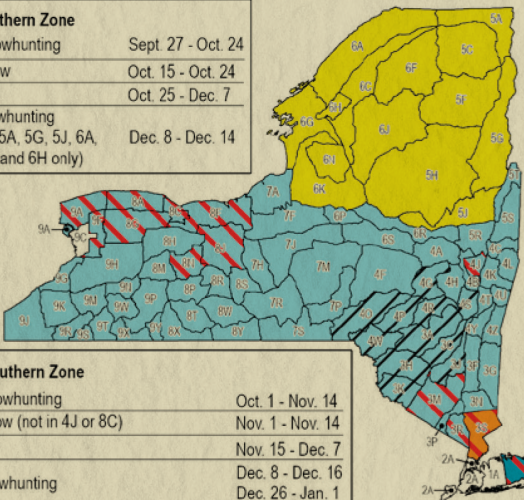
Hunting has long been part of life here in Chautauqua County, a tradition built on conservation, self-reliance, and the shared experiences of family and friends in the great outdoors. It's a heritage I'm proud to uphold and ensure is passed down to future generations. Inside, you'll find resources and information to help you enjoy and preserve this important part of our way of life.

ASSEMBLYMAN  
**ANDREW MOLITOR**  
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

Regular & Bowhunting Deer Seasons

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset

Northern Zone	
Early Bowhunting	Sept. 27 - Oct. 24
Crossbow	Oct. 15 - Oct. 24
Regular	Oct. 25 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting (WMUs 5A, 5G, 5J, 6A, 6C, 6G, and 6H only)	Dec. 8 - Dec. 14



Southern Zone	
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
Crossbow (not in 4J or 8C)	Nov. 1 - Nov. 14
Regular	Nov. 15 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 26 - Jan. 1

Westchester County (3S)	
Regular - bowhunting only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31
Suffolk County (1C)	
Regular - Bowhunting Only	Oct. 1 - Jan. 31
Special Firearms (Permit Req.)	Jan. 4 - Jan. 31
Early Antlerless Season	
Sept. 13 - Sept. 21	
Tags: DMP and DMAP	
Vertical Bow-Only: 1C, 3S, 4J, 8C	
Firearms, Bow, & Crossbow: 3M, 3R, 8A, 8F, 8G, 8J, 8N, 9A, and 9F	

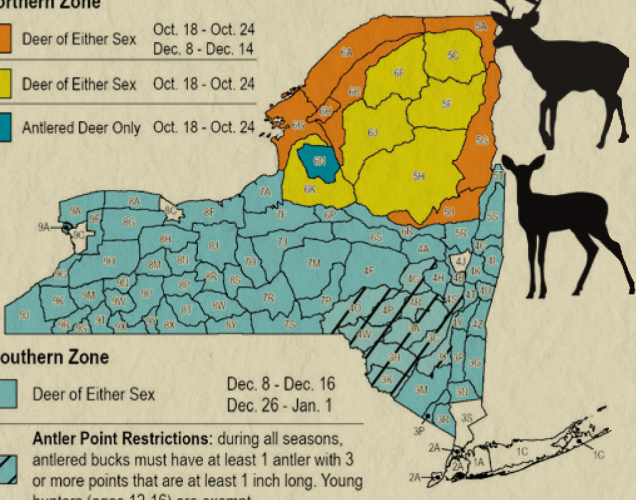
Youth Firearms Season Dates Oct. 11 - 13  
Area Open All open areas, except bowhunting only WMUs  
Eligible Hunters - Youth 14-15 yrs - Youths 12-13 yrs (select counties, see dec.ny.gov)  
Bag Limit One deer  
Tags Regular (either sex), DMP and DMAP (antlerless only); Bow/Muzz tags are not valid

Antler Point Restrictions During all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.  
Closed

Muzzleloading Deer Seasons

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset

Northern Zone	
Deer of Either Sex	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
Deer of Either Sex	Dec. 8 - Dec. 14
Antlered Deer Only	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24



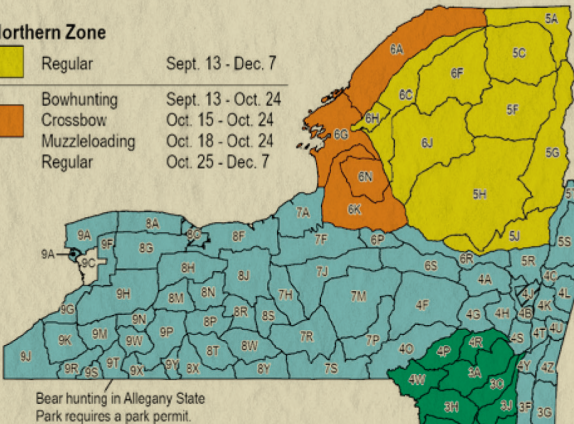
Southern Zone	
Deer of Either Sex	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Deer of Either Sex	Dec. 26 - Jan. 1
Antler Point Restrictions: during all seasons, antlered bucks must have at least 1 antler with 3 or more points that are at least 1 inch long. Young hunters (ages 12-16) are exempt.	

Crossbows may be used to hunt deer and bear during their respective firearms seasons (early bear, regular and muzzleloading deer & bear seasons). Crossbows may not be used to hunt deer during the youth firearms season, or anytime in WMUs 1C, 3S, 4J or 8C.

Black Bear Hunting

Hunting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset

Northern Zone	
Regular	Sept. 13 - Dec. 7
Bowhunting	Sept. 13 - Oct. 24
Crossbow	Oct. 15 - Oct. 24
Muzzleloading	Oct. 18 - Oct. 24
Regular	Oct. 25 - Dec. 7

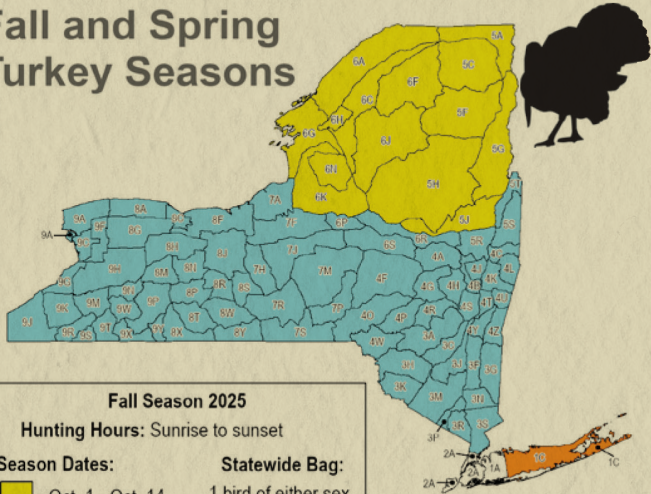


Southern Zone	
Early Firearms	Sept. 6 - Sept. 21
Early Bowhunting	Oct. 1 - Nov. 14
Crossbow (Not in WMUs 4J or 8C)	Nov. 1 - Nov. 14
Regular	Nov. 15 - Dec. 7
Late Bowhunting	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Late Muzzleloading	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16
Westchester County (3S)	Regular - bowhunting Only
Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	

Youth Firearms Season Dates Oct. 11 - 13, 2025  
Area Open All open areas, except bowhunting only WMUs  
Eligible Hunters Youth 14-15 yrs

Bowhunting Only WMUs  
Closed

Fall and Spring Turkey Seasons



Fall Season 2025	
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset	
Season Dates:	Statewide Bag:
Oct. 1 - Oct. 14	1 bird of either sex
Oct. 18 - Oct. 31	
Nov. 15 - Nov. 28	
Closed	
Spring Season 2026	
Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon	
Season Dates:	Statewide Bag:
May 1 - May 31 in all open areas	- 2 bearded birds, no more than 1 per day.
	- No more than 1 in WMU 1C.
Closed	

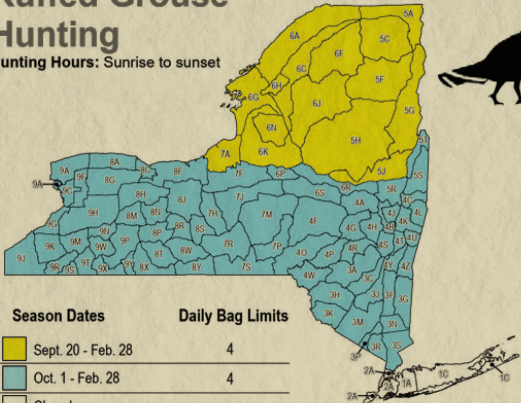
Youth Turkey Season Spring 2026  
Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to noon  
Season Dates: April 25 - 26, 2026  
Statewide Bag Limit 1 bearded bird  
Open Areas: Same as regular spring season



# New York State 2025-2026

## Ruffed Grouse Hunting

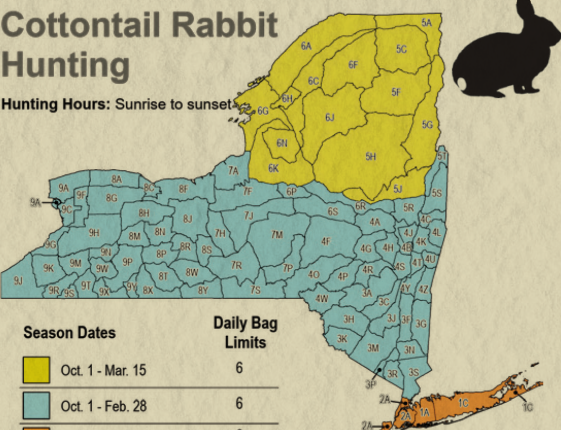
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Sept. 20 - Feb. 28	4
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	4
Closed	

## Cottontail Rabbit Hunting

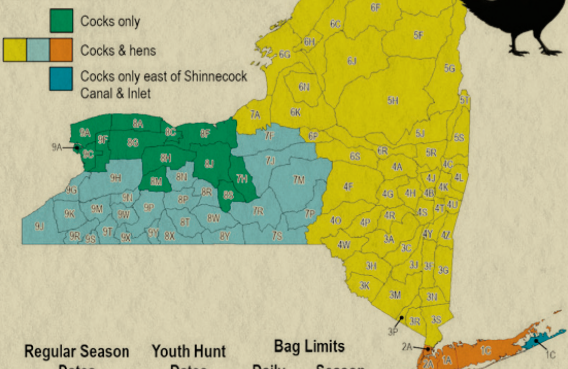
Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Mar. 15	6
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	6
Nov. 1 - Feb. 28	6

## Pheasant Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

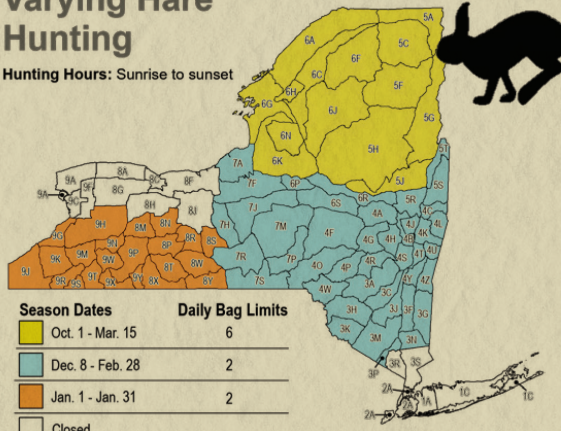


Regular Season Dates	Youth Hunt Dates	Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	Sept. 27 & 28	2
Oct. 18 - Feb. 28	Oct. 11 & 12	2
Oct. 18 - Dec. 31	Oct. 11 & 12	2
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Oct. 25 & 26 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> **
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Oct. 25 & 26	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> **

<sup>1</sup>In WMU 2A no youth hunt; hunting is by falconry only  
<sup>2</sup>Youth hunt  
<sup>3</sup>Regular season

## Varying Hare Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Daily Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Mar. 15	6
Dec. 8 - Feb. 28	2
Jan. 1 - Jan. 31	2
Closed	

## Bobwhite Quail Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset



Season Dates	Bag Limits
Oct. 1 - Feb. 28	4
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	6
Closed	

## Raccoon, Fox, Skunk, Opossum & Weasel Hunting

Long Island & NYC: Nov. 1 Feb. 25

All other areas of New York: Oct. 25 Feb. 15

There are no bag limits for these species. They may be hunted during the day or night, except weasel, which may only be hunted from sunrise to sunset.

## Coyote Hunting

Statewide except Long Island & NYC: Oct. 1 Mar. 29

There are no bag limits for coyotes. They may be hunted during the day or night.

## Gray, Black & Fox Squirrel Hunting

Hunting Hours: Sunrise to sunset

Long Island & NYC: Nov. 1 Feb. 28

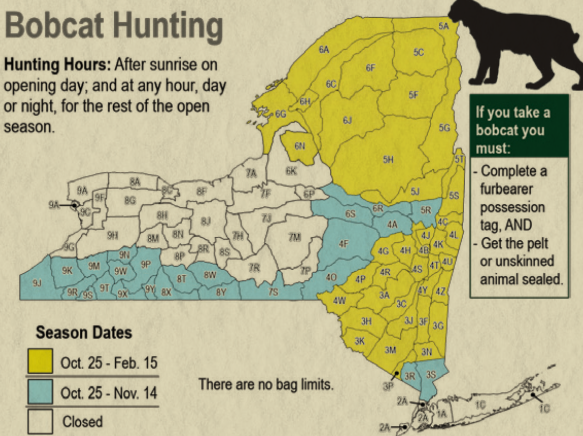
All other areas of New York: Sept. 1 Feb. 28

Daily bag limit of 6 total, regardless of species

Red squirrels are unprotected, and may be hunted at any time without limit.

## Bobcat Hunting

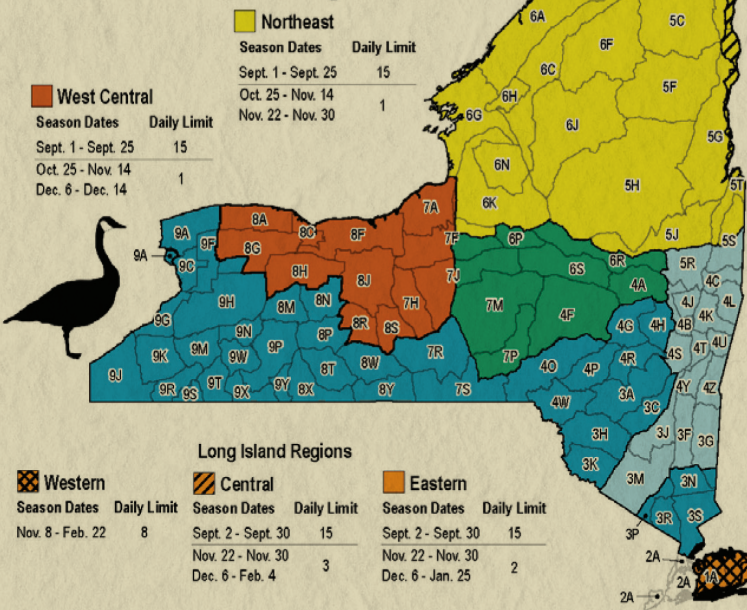
Hunting Hours: After sunrise on opening day; and at any hour, day or night, for the rest of the open season.



Season Dates
Oct. 25 - Feb. 15
Oct. 25 - Nov. 14
Closed

There are no bag limits.

## Canada Goose Hunting



Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 25 - Nov. 14	1
Nov. 22 - Nov. 30	1

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 25 - Nov. 14	1
Dec. 6 - Dec. 14	1

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Nov. 8 - Feb. 22	8
Sept. 2 - Sept. 30	15
Nov. 22 - Nov. 30	3
Dec. 6 - Feb. 4	2

## Lake Champlain

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	8
Oct. 11 - Nov. 9	1
Dec. 1 - Jan. 19	5

## East Central

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 25 - Nov. 14	1
Nov. 22 - Nov. 30	1

## Hudson Valley

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Nov. 8 - Dec. 7	1

## South

Season Dates	Daily Limit
Sept. 1 - Sept. 25	15
Oct. 25 - Jan. 12	5

## Closed

## WOODCOCK

Season Dates
Oct. 1 Nov. 14
Closed

## CROW

Season Dates
Sept. 1 Mar. 31 (Fridays, Saturday, Sundays & Mondays Only)
Closed



# 6 Hunting Season Guide

## Bobcat Trapping



### Season Dates

- Oct. 25 - Feb. 15
- Oct. 25 - Nov. 14
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

## River Otter Trapping



### Season Dates

- Nov. 1 - Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 - Feb. 28
- Closed

There are no bag limits.



If you take a bobcat, otter, fisher, or marten, you must:

- Complete a furbearer possession tag, AND
- Get the pelt or unskinned animal sealed.

## Fisher & Marten Trapping

To trap marten, you also need a free permit from a Regional Wildlife Office.



### Season Dates

- | Season Dates      | Species            |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Nov. 1 - Nov. 30  | Fisher and marten. |
| Oct. 25 - Dec. 10 | Fisher only.       |
| Oct. 25 - Oct. 30 | Fisher only.       |
| Closed            |                    |

### Species

There are no bag limits for fisher. Season limit of 6 marten.

## Raccoon, Red Fox, Gray Fox, Skunk, Coyote, Opossum & Weasel Trapping



Northern-Southern Zone Line

### Season Dates

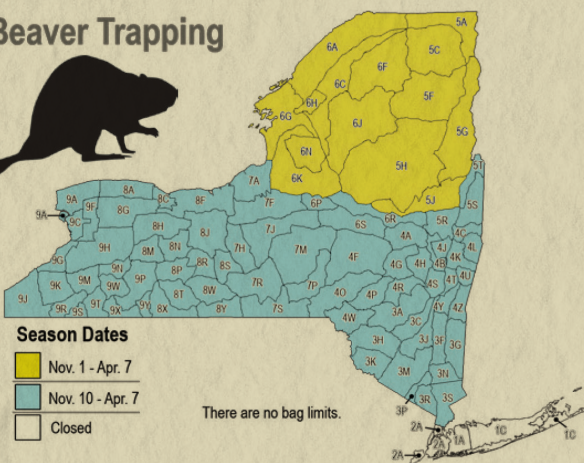
- Oct. 25 - Feb. 15\*
- Nov. 1 - Feb. 25, except closed for coyote

There are no bag limits for these species.



\*In the Northern Zone, body gripping traps set on land may not be set with bait or lure if the fisher and marten season is closed.

## Beaver Trapping



### Season Dates

- Nov. 1 - Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 - Apr. 7
- Closed

There are no bag limits.

## Mink & Muskrat Trapping

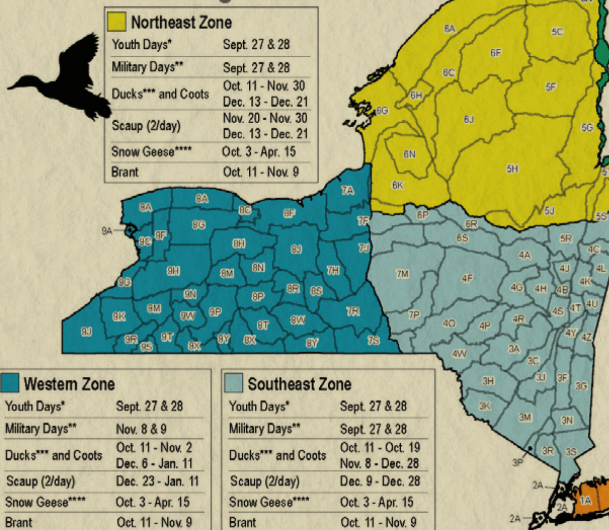


### Season Dates

- Nov. 1 - Apr. 15
- Nov. 10 - Apr. 7
- Nov. 10 - Feb. 15
- Dec. 15 - Feb. 25

There are no bag limits for these species.

## Waterfowl Hunting Seasons



Northeast Zone	
Youth Days*	Sept. 27 & 28
Military Days**	Sept. 27 & 28
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 11 - Nov. 30
Scaup (2/day)	Nov. 20 - Nov. 30
Snow Geese****	Oct. 3 - Apr. 15
Brant	Oct. 11 - Nov. 9

Lake Champlain Zone	
Youth Days*	Sept. 27 & 28
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 11 - Nov. 2
Scaup (2/day)	Nov. 22 - Dec. 28
Snow Geese****	Dec. 9 - Dec. 28
Brant	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31
	Jan. 16 - Apr. 15
	Oct. 11 - Nov. 9

Long Island Zone	
Youth Days*	Nov. 8 & 9
Military Days**	Nov. 8 & 9
Ducks*** and Coots	Nov. 22 - Nov. 30
Scaup (2/day)	Dec. 6 - Jan. 25
Snow Geese****	Jan. 6 - Jan. 25
Brant	Nov. 24 - Mar. 10
	Dec. 27 - Jan. 25

Western Zone	
Youth Days*	Sept. 27 & 28
Military Days**	Nov. 8 & 9
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 11 - Nov. 2
Scaup (2/day)	Nov. 22 - Dec. 28
Snow Geese****	Dec. 9 - Dec. 28
Brant	Oct. 3 - Apr. 15
	Oct. 11 - Nov. 9

Southeast Zone	
Youth Days*	Sept. 27 & 28
Military Days**	Sept. 27 & 28
Ducks*** and Coots	Oct. 11 - Oct. 19
Scaup (2/day)	Nov. 8 - Dec. 28
Snow Geese****	Dec. 9 - Dec. 28
Brant	Oct. 3 - Apr. 15
	Oct. 11 - Nov. 9

## SNIPE, RAILS AND GALLINULES

- Sept. 1 Nov. 9
- Closed

A migratory duck stamp is not required to hunt these three groups of birds.

HIP registration is required for each of these species except crow.







NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

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SEE INSIDE FOR  
2025-26  
HUNTING FEES  
AND REGULATIONS.

New York State Assembly • Albany, NY 12248

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Albany, NY  
Permit No. 75

# New York State License Fees

Annual Hunting License		
Ages 12-15	\$5	\$5
Ages 16-69	\$22	\$100
Ages 70+	\$5	\$100
Bowhunting Privilege	Resident	Non-resident
Ages 12-15	\$4	\$4
Ages 16-69	\$15	\$30
Ages 70+	No fee	\$30
Muzzleloading Privilege	Resident	Non-resident
Ages 14-69	\$15	\$30
Ages 70+	No fee	\$30
Turkey Permit	Resident	Non-resident
Ages 12+	\$10	\$20

Active military  
and some veter-  
ans may qualify  
for reduced fees.

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NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

Lifetime License (Residents Only)		Cost
Hunting & Fishing	(Ages 5-11), \$765 (Ages 12-69), \$65 (Ages 70+)	\$535
Hunting		\$535
Bowhunting		\$235
Trapping		\$395
Muzzleloading		\$235
Fresh Water Fishing	\$460 (Ages up to 69) \$65 (Ages 70+)	