

2008/2009 Hunting Seasons on the Appalachian Trail

Hunting regulations and seasons vary widely along the Appalachian Trail. Although the A.T. is a unit of the National Park system, it traverses many different types of public lands—including parks, forests, refuges, and game lands. Regulations and dates may vary from county to county, within a county, or on different sides of the A.T. Because of the complexity of compiling and consolidating accurate information for the entire A.T. in a single chart, hikers are urged to double-check hunting season dates locally by contacting state fish and game offices listed below.

Wear blaze orange where hunting is allowed on or near the A.T. in fall, winter or spring, and take other safety precautions. Learn the regulations and hunting seasons for the areas you will be hiking in before you go. Only large game and firearm (including muzzle-loader) seasons are listed below. Small game seasons may run from September through May.

For more information, visit ATC's website at www.appalachiantrail.org.

Dates shown: **July 18, 2008** through **May 31, 2009**. 2009 data is incomplete. Note that some states prohibit hunting on Sundays.

State	Deer Firearm	Large game Firearm	Large game Bow	Turkey Firearm	Contact
Maine (excluding Sundays)	Oct. 25 – Nov. 29	Oct. 25 – Nov. 29	Sep. 6 – Dec. 13	Oct. 18 - 24	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (207) 287-8000 http://www.maine.gov/ifw/
New Hampshire	Oct. 25 – Dec. 7	Oct. 18 – 26 Sep. 1 – Nov. 25	Sep. 15 – Dec. 15	Oct. 13 – 17	New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (603) 271-2461 http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Hunting/hunting.htm
Vermont	Nov. 8 – Dec. 14	Sep. 1 – Dec. 14	Oct. 4 – Dec. 14	Oct. 25 – Nov. 9	Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (802) 241-3700 http://www.anr.state.vt.us/fw/fwhome/
Massachusetts (excluding Sundays)	Dec. 1 – 31	Sep. 9 – 20 Oct. 13 – Nov. 22	Oct. 13 – Nov. 22	Oct. 27 – Nov. 1	Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (508) 389-6300 http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/
Connecticut (excluding Sundays)	Nov. 1 – Dec. 31		Sep. 15 – Dec. 31	Oct. 4 – 31	Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (860) 424-3000 http://www.ct.gov/dep
New York	Nov. 15 – Dec. 16	Nov. 15 – Dec. 16	Oct. 18 – Nov. 14 Dec. 8 – 16	Oct. 1 – Nov. 14 Apr. 25 – 26 May 1 – 31	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Bureau of Wildlife (518) 402-8883 http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/hunting.html
New Jersey	Dec. 1 – 30		Sep. 27 Oct. 4 – Nov. 29 Jan. 1 - 31	Oct. 27 – Nov. 1	New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife (609) 292-2965 http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/
Pennsylvania (excluding Sundays)	Dec. 1 – Jan. 10	Sep. 1 – 27 Nov. 3 – 8 Nov. 19 – Dec. 6	Sep. 24 – 26 Nov. 19 – 20 Dec. 1 – 6	Nov. 1 – 22 Apr. 25 – May 25	Pennsylvania Game Commission (717) 787-6286 http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/
Maryland (excluding Sundays)	Oct. 16 – Jan. 3	Oct. 20 – 25	Sep. 15 – Oct. 15 Oct. 20 – Nov. 28 Dec. 15 – 19 Jan. 5 – 31	Oct. 25 – Nov. 22	Maryland Department of Natural Resources Wildlife and Heritage Division (410) 260-8540 http://www.dnr.state.md.us/huntersguide/

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West Virginia (excluding Sundays)	Oct. 31 – Nov. 1 Nov. 24 – Dec. 27	Sep. 18 – 27 Nov. 24 – Dec. 31	Oct. 18 – Dec. 31	Oct. 25 – Nov. 22	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (304) 822-3551 http://www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/hunting.shtm
Hikers in these regions should check both West Virginia and Virginia hunting seasons. The A.T. in northern Virginia between Route 7/Snickers Gap and Harpers Ferry, and in central Virginia twenty miles north of Pearisburg is on the West Virginia/Virginia state line.					
Virginia (excluding Sundays) No hunting is allowed in Shenandoah National Park.	Nov. 1 – Jan. 3	Nov. 24 – Jan. 3	Sep. 6 – Nov. 14 Dec. 1 – Mar. 28	Oct. 25 – Nov. 7 Nov. 27 Dec. 1 – Jan. 3 Apr. 11 – May 16	Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (804) 367-1000 http://www.dgif.state.va.us/hunting/
Tennessee*	Nov. 1 – 9 Nov. 22 – Dec. 14 Dec. 20 – Jan. 7		Sep. 27 – Jan. 11	Nov. 15 – 21 Dec. 15 – 19 Mar. 21 – 22 Mar. 28 – May 10	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (615) 781-6500 http://www.state.tn.us/twra/
Hikers in these regions should check both Tennessee and North Carolina hunting seasons. Much of the A.T. north of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is on the Tennessee/North Carolina state line.					
North Carolina* (excluding Sundays) No hunting is allowed in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.	Oct. 6 – 11 Nov. 15 – Dec. 20	Oct. 13 – Nov. 22 Dec. 15 – Jan. 1	Sep. 8 – Nov. 14	Jan. 12 – 17 Apr. 4 Apr. 11 – May 9	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (919) 707-0050 http://www.ncwildlife.org/
Georgia	Oct. 11 – Jan. 1	Oct. 11 – Dec. 7	Sep. 13 – Oct. 10 Jan. 2 – 31	Mar. 21 – May 15	Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division (770) 918-6400 http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us