



What Do I Need to Hunt Upland Game Birds in NJ?

Area	Hunting License	Pheasant/Quail Stamp	Hunter Orange	Report Harvest
Stocked WMAs	Yes	Yes	Orange Hat* required Firearm	No
Delaware Water Gap NRA	Yes	Yes	Orange Hat* required Firearm	No
Semi-Wild and Commercial Preserves	Yes	No	Yes, except hunting mallards	No, but birds must be tagged.

* A SOLID hunter orange hat (no camouflage/logos) is required as part of the 200 sq. inch hunter orange requirement when hunting small game with a firearm on any pheasant/quail-stocked WMA. (See page 55.)

Firearms, Bows and Ammunition Legal for Upland Game Birds

Weapon Type	Gauge, Caliber or Draw Weight	Projectile(s)	Weapon Transportation
Bow: long, recurve, compound or crossbow capable of firing a single projectile only	35 pounds pull at archer's draw length (long and recurve bows) or peak weight (compound bow) or 75 pounds minimum draw weight (crossbow).	Arrow or bolt with flu flu fletching and using blunt, field, or judo points	All bows MUST be uncocked or uncocked
Shotgun: single or double barrel	Not larger than 10 gauge or smaller than .410 caliber and capable of holding no more than three shells.	No shot larger than #4 fine shot	Shotguns MUST be cased and unloaded while in or on a vehicle, including ATVs/UTVs.

Upland Game Bird Seasons 2024–25

No Sunday hunting except commercial and semi-wild hunting preserves.

Species	Season	Hunting Hours	Bag Limit
Bobwhite quail (wild), Ruffed grouse	Closed statewide		Stocked quail may be taken at Peaslee and Greenwood WMAs identified below and on commercial and semi-wild hunting preserves
Bobwhite quail (stocked)	Nov. 9, 2024 at 8 a.m.–Jan. 31, 2025 Closed Dec. 9–14 & 18, 2024	Nov. 9 only: 8 a.m. – ½ hr after sunset. All other dates: Sunrise – ½ hr after sunset	4 quail May be taken only at: Greenwood Forest WMA, Peaslee WMA ONLY. Pheasant & Quail Stamp required.
Chukar partridge, Hungarian partridge, Pheasant	Nov. 9, 2024 at 8 a.m.–Feb. 17, 2025 Closed Dec. 9–14 & 18, 2024	Nov. 9 only: 8 a.m. – ½ hr after sunset. All other dates: Sunrise – ½ hr after sunset	7 partridge, 2 pheasant See Pheasant Stocking schedule on page 55.
Youth Upland Bird Day Pheasant For properly licensed Youth hunters, under direct supervision of licensed, non-hunting adult (21 or older)	Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024	7 a.m. start (Guided) 1 p.m. start (Open hunt)	2 pheasant See Youth Pheasant Hunt Day Information on page 20.
Youth Pheasant Days For properly licensed Youth hunters, under direct supervision of licensed, non-hunting adult (21 or older)	Nov. 4–8, 2024	Sunrise–½ hr. after sunset	2 pheasant See Youth Pheasant Hunt Days Information on page 20.
Commercial Shooting Preserves Pheasant/Quail/Partridge/Mallard*	Sept. 1, 2024–May 1, 2025	Sunrise–½ hr. after sunset	No limit Must be tagged prior to transport off Commercial Preserve Sunday Hunting Allowed
Semi-Wild Preserves Pheasant/Quail/Partridge*	Nov. 9, 2024 at 8 a.m.–March 15, 2025	Sunrise–½ hr. after sunset	No limit Must be tagged prior to transport off semi-wild area Sunday Hunting Allowed
Crow	Aug. 12, 2024–Dec. 7, 2024 Dec. 16, 2024–March 15, 2025 (Mon., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. only) 8 a.m. start Nov. 9, 2024 on Stocked WMAs	Sunrise–½ hr after sunset	No limit
Woodcock	See <i>Other Migratory Bird Hunting Seasons</i> table on page 63. HIP Certificate Required (\$2)		

Dogs are allowed when hunting pheasant, quail, partridge, crow and woodcock.

* Species restricted to those approved on Commercial/Semi-Wild license.