

Wisconsin

2014 Wolf

Hunting and Trapping Regulations

Oct. 15, 2014 - Feb. 28 2015*

*See Page 2 for information on early season closure.



Photo credit DNR

This young wolf was photographed in north central Wisconsin in June of 2013. Young wolves begin to travel extensively with their packs by early fall and will disperse to find their own territory, usually around 2 - 3 years of age.

Remember

Report your wolf within 24 hours of harvest by calling 1 (855) 299-9653 between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Contact the DNR call center at 1 (888) 936-7463 and provide a current e-mail address if you would like e-mail notification of zone closures.



This pamphlet gives you a summary of Wisconsin's wolf hunting and trapping laws and how they affect you; it is not a complete set of all the hunting related laws.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
PUB-WM-538-2014



Harvest License Issuance

Resident License: \$49; Non-resident License: \$251

- A wolf harvest license and a valid, unused wolf pelt tag are required to be in your possession while hunting or trapping wolf. If selected to receive a wolf harvest license, you must purchase a wolf harvest license prior to hunting or trapping wolf.
- Applicants who are successful in the random or preference drawing or who fail to apply for either a preference point or a license at least once during any 3 consecutive years will lose all previously accumulated preference points. Applicants who do not want to be entered for the license drawing in a particular year may choose to apply for a preference point.
- There is no minimum age restriction to apply for a preference point. A person must be at least age 10 before they may purchase a wolf harvest license unless they only intend to trap wolf and have completed trapper education.
- Members of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard who are selected for a license through the cumulative preference system and are unable to hunt or trap wolves during this license year because of active duty service can choose to receive a preference point in lieu of the license.
- A person may not purchase more than one wolf harvest license valid for the same wolf season.

Hunter and Trapper Education Requirements

- Persons born on or after Jan. 1, 1973 who intend to **hunt** wolf with a firearm, bow or crossbow must present their hunter education certificate or proof of successful completion of basic training in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves or National Guard to purchase a wolf harvest license unless participating in the hunting mentorship program (visit dnr.wi.gov keywords “mentored hunting” for more information).
- Persons who intend to **trap** wolf must successfully complete a Wisconsin trapper education course or other approved trapper education course unless exempt from this requirement. See the *2014 Trapping Regulations* for exemptions.
- Voluntary wolf trapper education courses are offered. This voluntary course is supplemental to the required trapper education course and does not authorize permit holders to trap wolf. Visit dnr.wi.gov keywords “wolf trapper ed” for more information.

Transfer of License and Preference Points

- Wolf harvest licenses may be transferred to a youth or adult who is eligible to use the license, provided the transfer application is received at least 15 days prior to the start of the season. Preference points may be transferred to a youth upon the death of the preference point holder. Call the DNR call center at 1 (888) 936-7463 for more information.
- A resident who chooses to transfer their wolf harvest license to a non-resident must pay the difference in license fees at the time of the transfer application. A person transferring their license to another person may not be paid or receive any other consideration for the transfer of the license.

Hunting and Trapping Season Information

Season Dates: Oct. 15 - Feb. 28, 2015*

*The DNR may close a wolf harvesting zone to both wolf hunting and trapping if the season quota in a particular zone is likely to be reached prior to the end of the season or if closure is deemed necessary for biological reasons.

If early closure of a wolf zone is necessary, it will take effect 24 hours after the DNR has:

- 1.) posted notice of the closure at dnr.wi.gov;
- 2.) announced the closure on the telephone reporting system at 1 (855) 299-9653, and;
- 3.) issued a press release announcing the closure.

Note: it is the hunter’s or trapper’s responsibility to determine the closure status of a wolf zone prior to attempting to hunt or trap wolf in that zone. If you are unsure, call the telephone reporting system listed above or contact the DNR call center at 1 (888) 936-7463.

Zones

• During the 2014 season, wolves may be pursued statewide*, except for zones that are closed early to effectively manage the wolf population in that zone.

*Wolf harvest licenses and tags are not valid and may not be used within the exterior boundaries of the Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Menominee and Red Cliff reservations nor within the designated Stockbridge-Munsee wolf zone except with DNR depredation permits.

Blaze Orange Clothing

- Blaze orange clothing requirements apply when hunting wolves whenever there is also a season open for hunting deer with firearms. See the *2014 Deer Hunting Regulations* for season dates.

Hunting in State Parks

- For information about hunting in state parks see the *2014 Small Game Hunting Regulations* or visit dnr.wi.gov keywords “hunting state parks”.

Hunting and Trapping on the St. Croix Riverway

- Hunting is allowed according to Wisconsin state regulations with a few exceptions in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. For more information, please visit www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/hunting.htm.
- Trapping is restricted in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. For more information visit www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/trapping.htm. The National Park Service has specific regulations on these sites to inform the public of special federal regulations already in place.

Methods for Hunting

- A wolf harvest license and carcass tag authorizes hunting of wolf by any of the following methods:
 - an authorized firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow (see below);
 - with the use of dogs to track or trail wolf from Dec. 1 - last day of season;
 - predator calls, including electronic calls, and;
 - bait that does not contain animal parts, animal by-products other than liquid scents or substances poisonous to canines. See page 4 for additional restrictions on baiting.

See the *2014 Small Game Hunting Regulations* for additional hunting, firearm, bow and crossbow restrictions that apply to hunting of all species.

Firearms and Crossbows Authorized for Wolf Hunting

- Authorized firearms or crossbows include:
 - centerfire rifles .22 caliber or larger;
 - muzzleloaders that are discharged from the shoulder and fire shot larger than size BB or fire a single ball or projectile at least .45 caliber if smoothbore or .40 caliber if the barrel is rifled;
 - black powder handguns which are .44 caliber or larger, have a minimum barrel length of seven inches and fire a single projectile weighing 138 grains or larger;
 - handguns with a minimum barrel length of 5½ inches and loaded with centerfire cartridges of .22 caliber or larger;
 - shotguns larger than .410 that fire slugs or shotshells loaded with shot larger than size BB, or;
 - crossbows that have a minimum 100 pound draw weight, a working safety and use bolts or arrows of not less than 14 inches in length with a broadhead.

Telemetry Devices

It is *illegal* to:

- use radio-telemetry or similar equipment to locate, pursue or hunt any wolf that has been fitted with a radio transmitter.

Note: it is legal to possess a radio-telemetry receiver if pursuing a wolf with dogs that are equipped with radio transmitters and the device is only used for locating transmitters attached to the dogs.

Dogs

- Hunting with the aid of dogs used to track or trail wolves is legal from Dec. 1 - last day of season.

It is *illegal* to:

- hunt wolves with dogs unless the person using the dogs has on their person rabies tags and license tags for each dog;
- hunt wolves with a dog that is not tattooed or that isn't wearing a collar with the owner's name and address attached;
- allow a dog to kill any wild animal. The use of firearms, crossbows and bow and arrow are the only legal hunting methods allowed to kill a wolf;
- use more than six dogs in a single pack to hunt wolf, regardless of the number of people assisting the holder of the wolf harvest license or the dog's ownership;
- hunt wolves with dogs outside of the hunting hours listed on pages 6 - 7;
- allow dogs to run on DNR lands from April 15 - July 31, unless the dog is on a leash no longer than 8 ft. in length; this rule does not apply to Class 1 field trial grounds, DNR lands open to dog training or trials, or after June 30, when training dogs to track bear, rabbit or raccoon on lands open to hunting, or;
- hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of any dog from May 1 to June 30 in the portion of the state north of the highways shown on the map to the right; except as authorized for raccoon and rabbit dog trials or training under the authority of a dog trial or training license.



Night Hunting

It is illegal to:

- hunt wolves outside of the hours listed on pages 6 and 7.

Bait

Bait or feed may be placed and used for the purpose of hunting wolves.

It is illegal to:

- place, use, or hunt over bait or feed for wolves:
 - from Mar. 1 - Oct. 7, 2014 and from Mar. 1 - Oct. 13, 2015;
 - in excess of 10 gallons;
 - that is not totally enclosed in a hollow log, a hole in the ground or stump which is capped with logs, rocks or other naturally occurring and unprocessed substances which prevent deer from accessing the material. Liquid scent does not need to be enclosed, but is considered part of the 10 gallon limit;
 - unless, when the bait site is checked or re-baited, all bait that has been uncovered is again enclosed and made inaccessible to deer;
 - unless the person placing the bait possesses a valid wolf harvest license or written authorization* from the holder of a valid wolf harvest license to place and maintain a bait site for the licensee, or;
 - containing any animal part, animal by-product other than liquid scent or substances that are poisonous to canines.

*Written authorization must include:

- 1.) the name, address and phone number of the licensee;
- 2.) the name, address and phone number of the person placing or maintaining the bait site, and;
- 3.) the county, town and property owner's name for the location where the licensee has authorized assistance with the bait site.

Note: wolves may be hunted over bait or feed lawfully placed for hunting bear or training bear dogs when bear hunting season was open or for hunting deer as long as the wolf season is open and the bait site does not contain any material that is poisonous to canines.

Methods for Trapping

Cable Restraints

It is illegal to:

- set, place or operate any cable restraint for wolves except from Dec. 1 - Feb 28, 2015.

To be a legal set, the cable restraint must:

- be 10 ft. or less in length with a diameter of $\frac{3}{32}$ inch or larger and be composed of multiple strands of galvanized aircraft cable wire;
- have cable stops that ensure that the portion of the cable which makes up the noose loop may not be longer than 48 inches when fully open or less than 8 inches when fully closed;
- be set with the bottom of the cable loop six to 14 inches above the surface, where the surface is soil, ice, crusted or packed snow or any other hard surface;
- include a reverse-bend washer lock with a minimum outside diameter of 1¼ inches and a 1,500 pound roller (or barrel) swivel that acts as the maximum opening cable stop, and;
- be staked in a manner that does not allow the restraint device to reach any part of a fence, rooted woody vegetation greater than ½ inch in diameter or any other immovable object or stake that could cause entanglement.

Traps

It is illegal to:

- set, place or operate steel-jawed foothold traps with a maximum jaw spread width of more than 7 inches from Oct. 15 - Nov. 30, except as a waterset or any foothold trap larger than 8 inches at any other time or as a waterset.
- place or use sight exposed bait consisting of feathers, animal flesh, fur, hide or entrails within 25 ft. of any trap, snare or cable restraint, or;
- set any trap, including cable restraints and snares, for which a trapping license is required, unless a metal tag* is attached.

*The tag must be stamped or engraved legibly with the name and address or customer ID number of the operator of the trap. Heavy-duty stamped tags are recommended.

See the *2014 Trapping Regulations* for additional trap type, size and placement restrictions that apply to trapping of all species, including wolves.

Incidental Take: it is legal to retain any raccoon, coyote, fox or bobcat taken incidentally with a cable restraint if it is the open season for hunting or trapping the animal and the trapper has the necessary unfilled license, permits and tags for that species.

Dispatch Methods: a wolf caught in a trap may only be killed with a firearm. Alternative methods for dispatch are illegal. Age, mentoring and accompanying requirements apply to the use of a firearm (for more information, visit dnr.wi.gov keywords “mentored hunting”). Though not a legal firearm for the use of hunting a wolf, a licensed wolf trapper may use a .22 caliber rimfire cartridge to kill a wolf lawfully caught in a trap. A person who has legally trapped a wolf but is prohibited from possessing a firearm may authorize a companion who can legally possess a firearm to kill the trapped wolf humanely with a firearm.

Tagging and Registration

Upon killing a wolf, the harvester must do all of the following:

- 1.) immediately validate and attach the pelt tag to the wolf in the manner described on the tag. After skinning the wolf, the carcass tag shall be attached to the skinned carcass and the pelt tag shall be left attached to the pelt;
- 2.) notify the DNR within 24 hours of harvesting the wolf by calling 1 (855) 299-9653 between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.;
- 3.) exhibit the pelt and “skinned-out” carcass for registration with an authorized DNR representative no later than 5 days after the month of harvest (contact the local Conservation Warden or service center to determine available times for registration), and;
- 4.) surrender the skinned out carcass or any part of the carcass required by the department for population monitoring*.

*Persons who intend to have the wolf mounted by a taxidermist may exhibit the wolf to the department for registration without separating the pelt. The skinned carcass must be surrendered to the department within 30 days of registration.

It is illegal to:

- possess a wolf carcass or pelt longer than 5 days after the month of harvest without registering the pelt with an authorized DNR representative;
- possess, control, store or transport a wolf carcass unless it is tagged as required. The removal of a pelt tag from a wolf prior to registration results in the wolf being untagged and illegal to possess;
- transfer, give, trade, sell or purchase a raw pelt or unskinned carcass of a wolf without a registration tag attached and locked to the pelt;
- remove the pelt and registration tag prior to its removal by a fur dresser or taxidermist at the time of preparation;
- possess, loan or borrow a license or pelt tag, or;
- place a wolf pelt tag on a wolf that has been harvested by another person.

Note: a person is not allowed to tag a wolf that was intentionally or accidentally caught in a trap set by another person. The person who tags a wolf must be the person who made the trap set.

Note: a person who harvests a wolf that has an attached or implanted radio telemetry device must return the device to the DNR.

Attacks on Domestic Animals

On private lands, the landowner, lessee, occupant of the land or any other person with permission of the landowner, lessee or occupant may shoot and kill any wolf in the act of killing, wounding or biting a domestic animal. Shootings shall be reported to a department Conservation Warden within 24 hours. The wolf carcass must be surrendered to the department.

Hunting and Trapping Hours

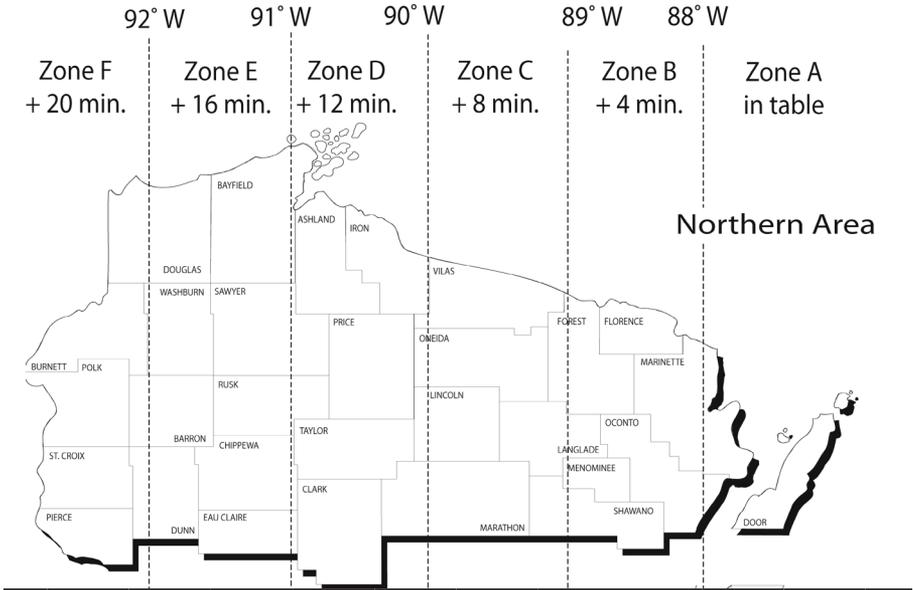
It is illegal to:

- hunt wolves outside of the hunting hours listed on pages 6 and 7.
 - “hunt” or “hunting” includes shooting, shooting at, pursuing, taking, capturing, killing or attempting to capture or kill any wild animal.

Trapping Hours are from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. and normal trap check periods apply. See the *2014 Trapping Regulations* for more information.

Northern Area Hunting Hours

Calculating Hunting Hours: determine your location in the Northern Area (see map below) and add the minutes shown in the zone in which you are hunting to the opening and closing times listed in the Northern Area Hunting Hours table.

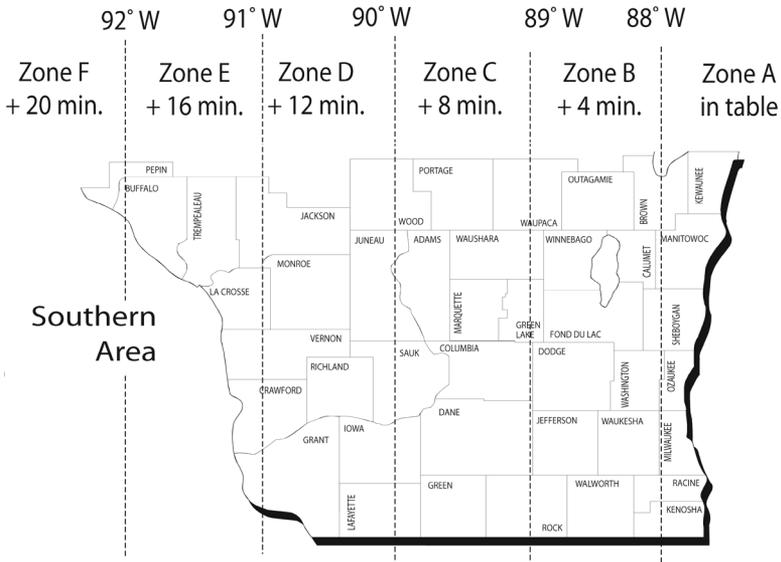


NORTHERN AREA HUNTING HOURS - ZONE A

Day	October 2014		November 2014		December 2014		January 2015		February 2015		Day
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	
1	-	-	7:00	5:57	6:40	4:28	7:01	4:37	6:42	5:16	1
2	-	-	6:01	4:55	6:42	4:27	7:01	4:38	6:41	5:18	2
3	-	-	6:03	4:54	6:43	4:27	7:01	4:39	6:39	5:19	3
4	-	-	6:04	4:53	6:44	4:27	7:01	4:40	6:38	5:20	4
5	-	-	6:06	4:51	6:45	4:26	7:01	4:41	6:37	5:22	5
6	-	-	6:07	4:50	6:46	4:26	7:01	4:42	6:35	5:23	6
7	-	-	6:09	4:49	6:47	4:26	7:00	4:43	6:34	5:25	7
8	-	-	6:10	4:47	6:48	4:26	7:00	4:44	6:33	5:26	8
9	-	-	6:11	4:46	6:49	4:26	7:00	4:45	6:31	5:28	9
10	-	-	6:13	4:45	6:50	4:26	6:59	4:46	6:30	5:29	10
11	-	-	6:14	4:44	6:51	4:26	6:59	4:47	6:29	5:31	11
12	-	-	6:16	4:43	6:52	4:26	6:59	4:49	6:27	5:32	12
13	-	-	6:17	4:41	6:52	4:26	6:58	4:50	6:26	5:34	13
14	-	-	6:18	4:40	6:53	4:26	6:58	4:51	6:24	5:35	14
15	6:37	6:24	6:20	4:39	6:54	4:27	6:57	4:52	6:22	5:37	15
16	6:38	6:23	6:21	4:38	6:55	4:27	6:56	4:54	6:21	5:38	16
17	6:39	6:21	6:22	4:37	6:55	4:27	6:56	4:55	6:19	5:40	17
18	6:41	6:19	6:24	4:36	6:56	4:27	6:55	4:56	6:18	5:41	18
19	6:42	6:17	6:25	4:35	6:57	4:28	6:54	4:58	6:16	5:42	19
20	6:43	6:16	6:27	4:35	6:57	4:28	6:54	4:59	6:15	5:44	20
21	6:45	6:14	6:28	4:34	6:58	4:29	6:53	5:00	6:13	5:45	21
22	6:46	6:12	6:29	4:33	6:58	4:29	6:52	5:02	6:11	5:47	22
23	6:47	6:11	6:31	4:32	6:59	4:30	6:51	5:03	6:09	5:48	23
24	6:49	6:09	6:32	4:32	6:59	4:30	6:50	5:05	6:08	5:50	24
25	6:50	6:07	6:33	4:31	7:00	4:31	6:49	5:06	6:06	5:51	25
26	6:52	6:06	6:34	4:30	7:00	4:32	6:48	5:07	6:04	5:52	26
27	6:53	6:04	6:36	4:30	7:00	4:32	6:47	5:09	6:03	5:54	27
28	6:54	6:03	6:37	4:29	7:00	4:33	6:46	5:10	6:01	5:55	28
29	6:56	6:01	6:38	4:29	7:01	4:34	6:45	5:12	-	-	29
30	6:57	6:00	6:39	4:28	7:01	4:35	6:44	5:13	-	-	30
31	6:59	5:58	-	-	7:01	4:36	6:43	5:15	-	-	31

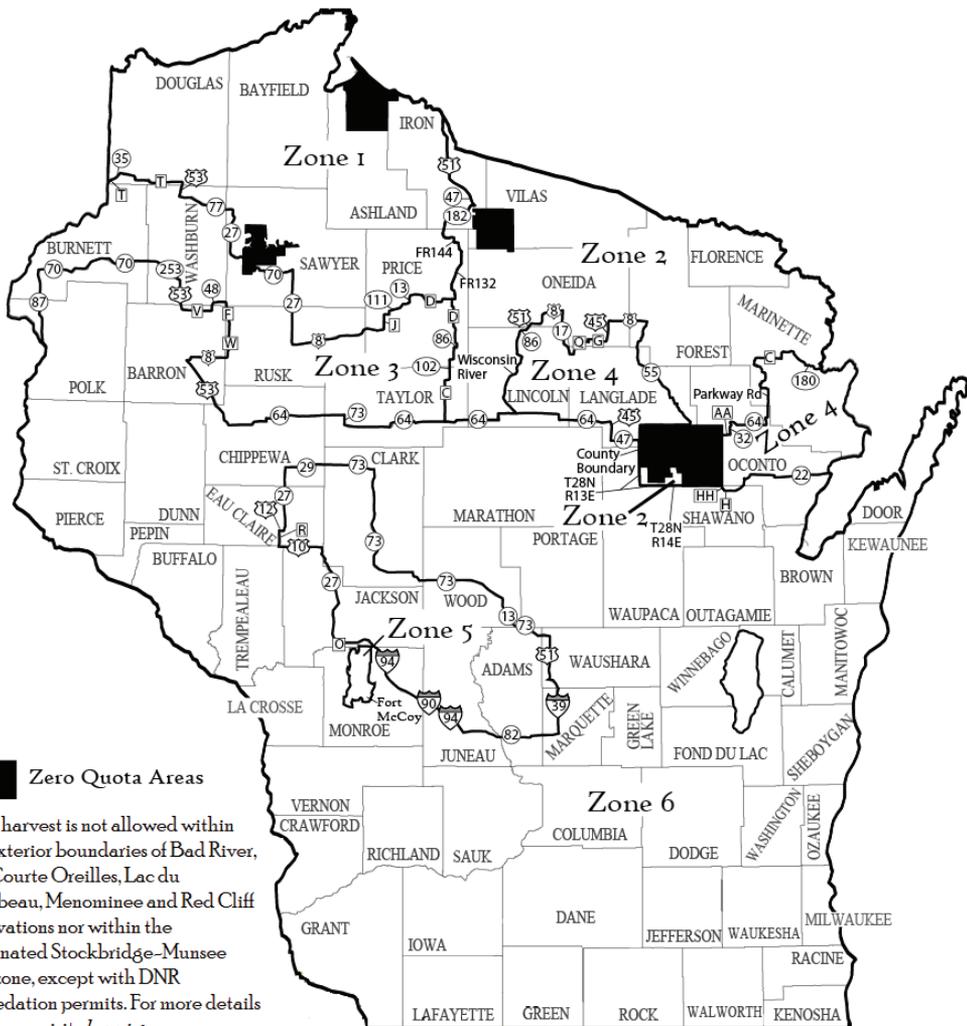
Southern Area Hunting Hours

Calculating Hunting Hours: determine your location in the Southern Area (see map below) and add the minutes shown in the zone in which you are hunting to the opening and closing times listed in the Southern Area Hunting Hours table.



SOUTHERN AREA HUNTING HOURS - ZONE A

Day	October 2014		November 2014		December 2014		January 2015		February 2015		Day
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	
1	-	-	6:57	6:02	6:35	4:35	6:55	4:44	6:38	5:22	1
2	-	-	5:58	5:00	6:36	4:35	6:55	4:45	6:37	5:23	2
3	-	-	6:00	4:59	6:37	4:34	6:55	4:46	6:36	5:24	3
4	-	-	6:01	4:58	6:38	4:34	6:55	4:47	6:34	5:26	4
5	-	-	6:02	4:56	6:39	4:34	6:55	4:48	6:33	5:27	5
6	-	-	6:03	4:55	6:40	4:34	6:55	4:49	6:32	5:28	6
7	-	-	6:05	4:54	6:41	4:34	6:54	4:50	6:31	5:30	7
8	-	-	6:06	4:53	6:42	4:34	6:54	4:51	6:29	5:31	8
9	-	-	6:07	4:52	6:43	4:34	6:54	4:52	6:28	5:33	9
10	-	-	6:09	4:51	6:44	4:34	6:54	4:53	6:27	5:34	10
11	-	-	6:10	4:49	6:45	4:34	6:53	4:55	6:26	5:35	11
12	-	-	6:11	4:48	6:45	4:34	6:53	4:56	6:24	5:37	12
13	-	-	6:13	4:47	6:46	4:34	6:53	4:57	6:23	5:38	13
14	-	-	6:14	4:46	6:47	4:34	6:52	4:58	6:21	5:39	14
15	6:35	6:27	6:15	4:45	6:48	4:34	6:52	4:59	6:20	5:41	15
16	6:36	6:26	6:17	4:44	6:48	4:35	6:51	5:01	6:18	5:42	16
17	6:38	6:24	6:18	4:44	6:49	4:35	6:51	5:02	6:17	5:43	17
18	6:39	6:22	6:19	4:43	6:50	4:35	6:50	5:03	6:15	5:45	18
19	6:40	6:21	6:20	4:42	6:50	4:36	6:49	5:04	6:14	5:46	19
20	6:41	6:19	6:22	4:41	6:51	4:36	6:49	5:06	6:12	5:47	20
21	6:43	6:18	6:23	4:40	6:51	4:37	6:48	5:07	6:11	5:49	21
22	6:44	6:16	6:24	4:40	6:52	4:37	6:47	5:08	6:09	5:50	22
23	6:45	6:15	6:25	4:39	6:52	4:38	6:46	5:10	6:08	5:51	23
24	6:47	6:13	6:27	4:38	6:53	4:38	6:46	5:11	6:06	5:53	24
25	6:48	6:12	6:28	4:38	6:53	4:39	6:45	5:12	6:05	5:54	25
26	6:49	6:10	6:29	4:37	6:54	4:40	6:44	5:13	6:03	5:55	26
27	6:50	6:09	6:30	4:37	6:54	4:40	6:43	5:15	6:01	5:57	27
28	6:52	6:07	6:31	4:36	6:54	4:41	6:42	5:16	6:00	5:58	28
29	6:53	6:06	6:32	4:36	6:54	4:42	6:41	5:18	-	-	29
30	6:54	6:04	6:34	4:35	6:54	4:43	6:40	5:19	-	-	30
31	6:56	6:03	-	-	6:55	4:43	6:39	5:20	-	-	31



NOTE CONCERNING FORT MCCOY: Access is by special permit only. Wolf harvesting will not be allowed during the 2014-15 season. Call (608) 388-3337 for more information.

Questions?

Call or visit our website to find a DNR Service Center near you:

1 (888) WDNR INFO (1-888-936-7463) • local (608) 266-2621
TTY Access via relay - 711

Staff are available seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Hmong and Spanish speaking representatives are available.

dnr.wi.gov

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.



Scan to call the
DNR Call Center