

## Areas with boat motor restrictions

The restrictions and prohibitions on the use of internal combustion outboard motors (including airboats) for Lake Iamonia and Carr Lake in Leon County, and Lake Miccosukee in Leon and Jefferson counties will not begin until the regular waterfowl and coot season. Outboard motors and airboats may be used on these lakes during the special early duck season.

## Rail and common moorhen

**Season:** Sept. 1 – Nov. 9, 2011

**Shooting hours:** one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

### Bag limits:

Clapper and king rails – daily limit 15, possession limit 30 (singly or in aggregate)

Sora and Virginia rails – daily limit 25, possession limit 25 (singly or in aggregate)

Common moorhen – daily limit 15, possession limit 30  
Purple gallinule – no open season

## Special early duck

**Season:** Sept. 24-28, 2011

**Legal to take:** wood ducks and teal

**Shooting hours:** one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

**Bag limit:** daily limit 4, only 2 of which may be wood ducks; possession limit 8, only 4 of which may be wood ducks. These bag limits are for the special early duck season only.

Taking or attempting to take coots or any species of duck other than wood ducks and teal is prohibited. Hunting is permitted every day in Leon County during the special early duck season.

## September Canada goose

**Season:** Sept. 3-28, 2011

**Legal to take:** Canada geese

**Shooting hours:** one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

**Bag limit:** daily limit 5; possession limit 10  
Canada goose season is open statewide.

## Mourning and white-winged dove

**Season:** First phase – Oct. 1-24, 2011

Second phase – Nov. 12-27, 2011

Third phase – Dec. 10, 2011 – Jan. 8, 2012

**Shooting hours:** First phase -- noon to sunset. Second and third phase – one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. **Bag limit:** 15 doves daily, 30 in possession (singly or in aggregate)

## Snipe

**Season:** Nov. 1, 2011 – Feb. 15, 2012

**Shooting hours:** one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

**Bag limit:** daily limit 8, possession limit 16

## Woodcock

**Season:** Dec. 18, 2011 – Jan. 31, 2012

**Shooting hours:** one-half hour before sunrise to sunset

**Bag limit:** daily limit 3, possession limit 6

## Migratory Bird Permit and Harvest Information Program

If you're going to hunt ducks, geese, coots, common moorhens, rails, snipe, woodcock, mourning doves or white-winged doves in Florida you need to have a Migratory Bird Permit. You can obtain this no-cost permit at the time you purchase your hunting license or at a later date. Permits are available from any license agent, tax collector's office or at [www.wildlifelicenses.com](http://www.wildlifelicenses.com) after answering a few questions about previous year's hunting activities.

Lifetime and five-year license holders will need to obtain a Migratory Bird Permit each year. The following are exempt from this permit: hunters who are under 16 or are 65 years of age or older, military personnel who are home on leave, hunting on their own homestead property or their parents' or minor child's homestead property or certified totally and permanently disabled.

The information you provide when you obtain a Migratory Bird Permit is used in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.). H.I.P. is a system to enable the USFWS to get an accurate reading of how many migratory birds hunters take each year. Some hunters will receive surveys later in the season to record the numbers and species of birds they take during migratory bird hunting seasons. If you receive one of the surveys in the mail, filling it out is optional but extremely important to the future of migratory bird hunting in Florida and the country.

## Crow regulations

**Season:** Aug. 13 – Oct. 30, 2011 Saturdays and Sundays only and Nov. 11, 2011 – Feb. 18, 2012.

**Shooting hours:** one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset

**Bag limit:** no bag or possession limits  
Permit, stamp and license requirements: none

## Wildlife Alert Reward Association

Wildlife law violators are thieves who steal from you and your natural heritage. To report wildlife law violators, call the WILDLIFE ALERT toll-free number, 888-404-FWCC (888-404-3922); cellular \*FWC or #FWC in specific areas. You may qualify for a cash reward from the Wildlife Alert Reward Association.

## Report band numbers two ways

1. BY PHONE: 1-800-327-BAND (1-800-327-2263)

2. ON THE INTERNET: [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov)

You may report by telephone or on the Internet any banded ducks or other migratory game birds that you shoot. Please report these bands. Band recovery information is critical to good management and helps ensure that we can continue to provide duck hunting opportunities. By reporting this information, you will be able to find out when and where your bird was banded. Certificates of Appreciation are sent by the USGS Bird Banding Laboratory to persons reporting band encounters. Due to budget constraints and the desire to reduce paper electronic certificates will be delivered via email, paper certificates will no longer be mailed. The band is yours to keep. Thanks for your participation.

## Attention duck hunters

Only teal and wood ducks are legal to take during the special early duck season. Mottled ducks, also known as Florida ducks or Florida mallards, and black-bellied and fulvous whistling ducks use the same habitats as teal in Florida. Teal are much smaller, have light blue wing patches and rapidly twist and turn in flight. Know the difference! Mottled ducks are a large, mottled brown duck with a light-colored head and neck.. No species of duck may be taken during the special early duck season except wood ducks and teal. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.

If you have any questions about this material, please call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 850-488-4676.

For additional information on federal hunting regulations or violations, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service special agents: Groveland 352-429-1037; Ft. Myers 239-561-8144; Miami 305-526-2610; Vero Beach 772-562-3909 or Tallahassee 850-402-0573.

# 2011-2012 Migratory bird regulations for

dove, snipe, woodcock, rail, moorhen,  
crow and early waterfowl seasons



## Major changes for the 2011-2012 season

Major changes for the 2011-2012 season.

- The season for taking woodcock has been extended by 15 days. Bag and possession limits remain three and six, respectively.

- A summary of the Federal Regulations that pertain to migratory bird hunting is now available at [www.myfwc.com/hunting/by-species/waterfowl](http://www.myfwc.com/hunting/by-species/waterfowl).

## Migratory game birds

Migratory birds are protected by federal law as a result of treaties signed with other countries. Protected migratory birds are listed in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Section. 10.13. This list includes almost all birds found in the United States with the exception of the house sparrow, feral pigeon (commonly called rock dove), European starling, Eurasian collared-dove, mute swan, and upland game birds (which are protected by state laws).

All migratory birds are protected. However, a subset of migratory birds classified as migratory game birds may be hunted in accordance with State and Federal regulations. The list of migratory game birds includes species of ducks, geese (including brant), swans, doves and pigeons, cranes, rails, coots, gallinules and moorhens, woodcock and snipe, if there is an open season. There is no open season in Florida on purple gallinule, cranes, harlequin duck, brant, or geese (except greater and lesser snow and Ross's geese and Canada geese).

## Daily bag and possession limits

**Daily bag limit:** The maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination (aggregate) of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season in any one specified geographic area for which a daily bag limit is prescribed.

**Possession limit:** The maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or a combination of species permitted to be possessed by any one person when lawfully taken in the United States in any one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed.

**Tagging requirement:** No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at his personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed,

unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter, stating his address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed. Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.

**Custody of birds of another:** No person shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

**Transportation of birds of another:** No person shall transport migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

**Species identification requirement:** No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

**Wanton waste of migratory game birds:** No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

**Personal abode:** One's principal or ordinary home or dwelling place, as distinguished from one's temporary or transient place of abode or dwelling such as a hunting club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house used as a hunting club, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used during a hunting, pleasure or business trip.

## Lawful means and methods

Shotguns not larger than 10-gauge (shotguns capable of holding more than three shells must be plugged to a three-shell capacity with a one-piece filler that cannot be removed without disassembling the gun), long and compound bows and arrows, falconry, dogs, artificial decoys and manual or mouth-operated bird calls. Hunting is permitted in the open or from a blind or other type of concealment (except a sink box) or from a floating craft.

## Unlawful means and methods

No persons shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun,

shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machinegun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance

- With a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells
- From or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water
- From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind, except that paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance
- From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress there from has ceased
- By the use or aid of live birds as decoys; although not limited to, it shall be a violation of this paragraph for any person to take migratory waterfowl on an area where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking, confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl
- By the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. This restriction does not apply during dates States have selected under the Conservation Order for light geese (i.e. greater and lesser snow and Ross's geese) or those selected for the control of resident Canada geese. Taking or attempting to take any game species in Florida with recorded game calls or sounds is prohibited (68A-12.002)
- By means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird
- By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited

## Nontoxic shot

No person may take ducks, geese or coots while possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than approved non-toxic shot.

For a list of approved non-toxic shot, see (<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/nontoxic.htm>)

## Permit, stamp and license requirements

All persons taking or attempting to take migratory game birds are required to have a valid Florida Hunting License, Sportsman's License, Lifetime Hunting License, Lifetime Sportsman's License, or Five-year Hunting License and a free Migratory Bird Permit. In addition to a hunting license and Migratory Bird Permit, hunters taking or attempting to take ducks or geese are required to have a Florida Waterfowl Permit (\$5 plus issuance fee) and a Federal Duck Stamp (\$15). The law requires that each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age and older must carry on his person a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) that is validated by the hunter signing the stamp in ink across the face of the stamp. Persons possessing a Florida Resident Sportsman's License, Lifetime Sportsman's License, or Lifetime Hunting License need only the Migratory Bird Permit and the Federal Duck Stamp to take or attempt to take ducks or geese. The Sportsman's License, Lifetime Sportsman's License and Lifetime Hunting License include the Florida Waterfowl Permit. Federal Duck Stamps are available at U.S. Postal Service offices, as well as some retail sporting goods stores and county tax collectors' offices, and online at: [www.duckstamp.com](http://www.duckstamp.com). All other licenses and permits are available at county tax collectors' offices and from subagents, such as sporting goods stores or other retailers selling hunting or fishing equipment. In addition, Florida hunting or fishing licenses may be purchased 24 hours a day with a credit card by calling toll-free 1-888-HUNT-FLORIDA (1-888-486-8356) or online through the FWC's website at [MyFWC.com](http://MyFWC.com). A convenience charge will be added in both cases.

**Exemptions:** Florida residents 65 years of age or older; residents totally and permanently disabled possessing a disability license; and any resident who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, who is not stationed in this state, while home on leave for 30 days or less, upon submission of orders are exempt from hunting license, Migratory Bird Permit and Florida Waterfowl permit requirements and only are required to have the Federal Duck Stamp. Children under 16 years of age are exempt from hunting license, Migratory Bird Permit, Florida Waterfowl permit and Federal Duck Stamp requirements.