



Did you know?

- On November 26, 2018 the new Fish and Wildlife Licensing Service is available! You will be able to buy an Outdoors Card, fishing licences and small game licences, as well as select 2019 products.
- From November 19 to 25, 2018 – to support transition to the new licensing service, no fishing or hunting licensing products will be available for purchase online, from licence issuers or from participating ServiceOntario locations.
- From November 19 to December 31, 2018 – as the ministry transitions to the new licensing service, 2018 hunting licences that require a game seal will not be available for purchase.

Ontario's new rules and regulations fact sheet

With the launch of the new fish and wildlife licensing service, a number of rules and regulations for fishing and hunting in Ontario are changing. Listed below is a summary of the new regulation changes.

Important changes that take effect November 26, 2018:

Outdoors Card

- Only one type of Outdoors Card will be issued (there will no longer be different types of Outdoors Cards for anglers and hunters).
- Hunters and anglers purchasing an Outdoors Card for the first time or renewing their Outdoors Cards will receive the new Outdoors Card (single version).
- A hunter's accreditation stored on a hunter's profile in the new fish and wildlife licensing service will be used to determine what licences a person can buy.
- All existing Outdoors Cards will remain valid until the expiry date on the card.
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Licence Summary

- The ministry is introducing a Licence Summary, a document that will list valid fishing and hunting licence products. A new Licence Summary will be issued to you each time you purchase a new licence product.
- This will allow clients to carry a single Licence Summary instead of having to carry individual fishing and hunting licences.
- Clients will have the option to print their Licence Summary from home (as many times as needed), at a participating ServiceOntario or licence issuer location or have the option to carry it in a digital format (e.g. on a smartphone). Note: an administration fee will apply for clients who require a duplicate or re-print of a Licence Summary at a ServiceOntario or licence issuer).
- Clients must carry their Outdoors Card, their hunting or fishing licence (either listed on their Licence Summary or printed on the back of their Outdoors Card), and any relevant tag(s).



Important changes that take effect January 1, 2019:

Tags will replace game seals:

- Tags will authorize the holder to hunt a member of a species of game wildlife specified on the tag, subject to conditions specified on the tag.
- Tags are available for purchase online through the licensing service, or at a licence issuer or participating ServiceOntario.
- Tags can only be printed once. Clients can print their tag at home on regular paper, or at a licence issuer or participating ServiceOntario. Any replacement tags (e.g. lost, damaged) are required to be printed by a licence issuer or participating ServiceOntario. Clients will generally only be able to print their tags after draw results are available. Note: an administration fee will apply for clients who require a duplicate or re-print of a Licence Summary at a ServiceOntario or licence issuer).
- If clients do not have a computer or printer or prefer to buy or print a tag in person, they can visit a licence issuer or participating ServiceOntario location. Tags will not be mailed to clients.
- Specific tagging instructions will be provided with the tag when it is printed. Clients should ensure the tag remains visible for inspection when attaching the tag to the harvested animal.
- Tags must remain intact and readable at all times. It is the tag holders' responsibility to ensure paper tags are protected from the weather or other types of damage.
- Clients must also:
 - Never make a copy of a tag (only the original may be in the possession)
 - Notch the tag with the day, month, and time immediately after the kill, at the site of the kill and before moving the animal.
 - You may attach the tag to the animal at any time; however you must attach the tag if you are not immediately accompanying the animal or immediately available to produce the tag for inspection. Tags must remain with the animal until it has been transported to the site of processing and is being processed for long-term storage (e.g. it is being cut, wrapped and frozen).

Remember:

- You can still visit a licence issuer or participating ServiceOntario location to buy a tag in person.

Mandatory Hunter Reporting

- The ministry is changing their approach to hunter reporting. Beginning on January 1, 2019, all hunters that purchase or are issued a tag to hunt moose, elk, deer, bear, wild turkey and wolf/coyote (in WMUs where a tag is required) must complete a hunter report even if the client did not hunt or harvest an animal. This includes apprentice hunters who have purchased their own licences and tags (see details below).
- Clients will now have the option to complete reports online or by phone. Clients will no longer receive postcard surveys by mail.
- In general, hunters will be required to submit a report within 14 days of the close of the season for the province.
- The ministry will be able to track which hunters have completed reports, provide email reminders to hunters of the reporting deadlines and apply automatic consequences for not completing a mandatory report (e.g. prevent a client from purchasing a specific hunting licence). Hunters can find more details on important reporting dates and how to submit reports in the 2019 Hunting Regulations Summary.



Important changes that take effect January 1, 2019:

Apprentice Hunters

- If a hunter is between the ages of 12 – 14, they will be considered an apprentice hunter effective January 1, 2019.
- Apprentice hunters will need to buy an Outdoors Card to participate in the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program. The Outdoors Card will replace the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Card.
- Apprentice hunters who do not wish to purchase their own licences who currently have a valid hunter apprenticeship safety card can continue to use this card until its expiry date or until the age of 15.
- Apprentice hunters will have the option to buy select hunting licences and tags that are not obtained through a draw, providing them with their own bag limit.
- Hunters 15 years of age and older must purchase an Outdoors Card and their own licences/tags in order to hunt.

Dog Licences

- As of January 1, 2019, three separate dog licences (moose/deer, bear and raccoon) will be combined into a single dog licence. The new dog licence will allow the dog to participate in the hunt for moose, deer, black bear and/or raccoon at night in areas where hunting with dogs is permitted.
- If a hunter is using more than one dog for any of the three activities, each dog must be licensed.

Hunting on a game bird hunting preserve

- Residents are no longer required to have a small game licence, and non-residents are no longer required to have either a non-resident small game licence or a non-resident game bird hunting preserve licence.
- Both residents and non-residents wishing to hunt on a game bird hunting preserve will only be required to be in possession of a:
 - valid Outdoors Card
 - proof of hunting accreditation (e.g.: a Licence Summary)

2019 Wolf/Coyote Game Tags

- Clients will be able to purchase their 2019 wolf/coyote tags when the new service goes live at the end of November.
- 2019 tags are NOT valid until January 1 and cannot be used during the end of the 2018 calendar year.

Reminder

Hunting related changes do not come into effect until January 1, 2019.

Keeping you in the know

The ministry will continue to provide information updates to the public on the new licensing service.

- visit ontario.ca/outdoorscard
- follow us on Twitter and Facebook, @fishwildlifeON