



2020 Mourning Dove Hunting Fact Sheet

The 2020 Nebraska dove season (mourning dove, Eurasian collared-dove, and white-winged dove) starts Sept. 1 and runs through Oct. 30, with aggregate daily bag and possession limits of 15 and 45, respectively. Shooting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset, and doves must be shot in flight. Resident dove 16 years and older, and all nonresidents, are required to have a 2020 small game hunting license and habitat stamp, as well as a 2020 Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration number. HIP numbers are free and can be obtained by registering online at OutdoorNebraska.org/hip or by contacting any Game and Parks district office or service center. State and federal duck stamps are NOT required to hunt doves. Eurasian collared-doves may be harvested between Oct. 31 and Aug. 31, with bag and possession limits of 15 and 45, respectively.

Dove hunters are encouraged to look for leg bands on any doves they harvest. Biologists in Nebraska and from across the country placed bands on thousands of doves during summer 2020, and hunters can play a vital role in dove management by reporting any bands they recover. To report recovered bands, visit reportband.gov. Nebraska is partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in collecting mourning dove wings from hunters. Randomly selected dove hunters from the HIP database will be asked to save one wing from each dove they harvest during the first week of the season and mail them, postage free, to the USFWS.

Sunflowers, millet, or wheat, which generally provide good dove hunting opportunities, have been planted at the Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) listed below. *Preseason scouting will improve your hunting success and is highly recommended.* Publicly accessible lands, including federal, state, and private lands enrolled in the Open Fields and Waters Program, can be found in the 2020-21 *Public Access Atlas* available online at OutdoorNebraska.org/PublicAccessAtlas.

- **North-Central:** *Bobcat* (12 acres millet/milo/annual weeds), *Calamus Reservoir* (10 acres shredded wheat [3 fields], 15 acres annual weeds [2 fields]), *Fred Thomas* (stock tank overflow), *Harold W. Andersen* (2 acres annual weeds), *Keller Park* (stock tank overflow), *Leonard A. Koziol* (10 acres annual weeds), *Myrtle Hall* (5 acres shredded wheat [2 fields], 25 acres millet [1 field], 15 acres annual weeds [1 field]), *Pine Glen* (7 acres sunflowers/milo/annual weeds [east side]), *Plum Creek Valley* (stock tank overflow east of county road), *Pressey* (20 acres annual weeds), *Sherman Reservoir* (12 acres wheat, 100 acres annual weeds), *Thomas Creek* (5 acres sunflower/milo/annual weeds).
- **Northeast:** *Black Island* (2 acres sunflowers/millet/milo/annual weeds), *Council Creek* (10 acres millet/milo/annual weeds), *Don Dworak* (10 acres millet/milo/annual weeds), *Elk Point Bend* (50 acres sunflowers/millet/milo/annual weeds), *George D. Syas* (25 acres millet/milo/sunflowers/annual weeds, 5 acres wheat stubble), *Grove Lake* (20 acres annual weeds/millet/milo/oats [6 fields]), *Oak Valley* (20 acres sunflowers/millet/milo/annual weeds, 4 acres wheat stubble), *Thompson-Barnes* (8 acres sunflowers/millet/milo/annual weeds),

Wilkinson (25 acres annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**), Wood Duck (30 acres sunflowers/millet/milo/annual weeds, 3 acres wheat stubble).

- **Southeast:** Alexandria (11 acres sunflowers [3 fields]), Alexandria SW (11 acres sunflowers [4 fields], 2 acres wheat stubble), Branched Oak (11 acres wheat stubble [3 fields], 25 acres sunflowers [6 fields]), Dry Sandy (3.5 acres sunflowers), Flathead (5 acres sunflowers), Helmuth Public Access Area (4 acres sunflowers [2 fields]; **non-toxic shot only**), Little Blue (3 acres sunflowers), Little Salt Creek West (3.5 acres sunflowers; **non-toxic shot only**), Meridian (2.5 acres sunflowers), Olive Creek (4.5 acres sunflowers [2 fields]), Osage (37 acres sunflowers [7 fields], 28 acres wheat stubble [3 fields]), Pawnee (12.5 acres sunflowers, 1 acre wheat stubble [2 fields]), Rake's Creek (5 acres sunflowers [4 fields]), Rose Creek (8 acres sunflowers [3 fields]), Rose Creek West (8.5 acres sunflowers [2 fields]), Sora (47 acres wheat stubble, **non-toxic shot only**), Twin Lakes (18 acres sunflowers [5 fields], 13 acres wheat stubble [3 fields]), Twin Oaks (11.5 acres sunflowers), Wildwood (11 acres sunflowers [3 fields], 10 acres wheat stubble [3 fields]), Yankee Hill (17 acres sunflowers [4 fields]).
- **Southwest:** Cedar Valley (8 acres milo, 1 acre sunflowers, 10 acres annual weeds, 3 stock tanks/1 stock pond with adjacent annual weeds), Clear Creek (88 acres rye/wheat stubble [5 fields], 41 acres milo/annual weeds [9 fields], 40 acres annual weeds [5 fields], **non-toxic shot only**), Enders Reservoir (6 fields of annual weeds, 5-20 acres in size), Medicine Creek (20 fields of wheat stubble, 6-25 acres in size; marijuana patches in grazed pastures, 2-3 acres), North River (8.5 acres milo/annual weeds, 60 acres annual weeds), Red Willow Reservoir (marijuana patches in grazed pastures, 2-3 acres; 5 acres ragweed/annual weeds), Swanson Reservoir (12 fields of wheat stubble, 5-24 acres in size; marijuana patches in grazed pastures, 2-3 acres; 10 acres milo), Wapiti (6 acres milo, 100+ acres annual weeds, 13 stock tanks/1 stock pond with adjacent annual weeds).
- **South-Central:** Bassway Strip (100 acres annual weeds), Bittern's Call (50 acres annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**), Cornhusker (56 acres milo, 120 acres annual weeds, 27 acres rye/sunflowers), Cozad (25 acres annual weeds), Dogwood (60 acres annual weeds), Pintail (15 acres milo/annual weeds [4 fields], **non-toxic shot only**), Narrows WMA (10 acres milo/annual weeds); Elm Creek (5 acres milo/annual weeds); Sacramento-Wilcox (60 acres wheat stubble, 45 acres annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**).
- **Panhandle:** Arnold Trupp (1 acre millet), Bighorn (27 acres rye/wheat), Bordeaux Creek (130 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 15 acres millet/milo, 15 acres rye, 26 acres oats), Box Butte Reservoir (75 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 2 acres millet/milo/sunflowers [2 fields]), Buffalo Creek (5 acres millet/milo [4 fields]), Chadron Creek Ranch (12 acres rye), Fort Robinson WMA (8 acres rye), Gilbert-Baker (9.5 acres rye), Metcalf (11 acres rye), Nine Mile Creek (7 acres millet/milo [3 fields]), Petersen (32 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 11.5 acres oats/milo/sunflowers, 9 acres rye), Ponderosa (10 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 2.5 acres millet/milo, 33 acres rye), Williams Gap and Cedar Canyon can also provide good hunting opportunities around stock ponds or tanks.

Other public and private lands throughout the state can provide good dove hunting opportunities depending on local conditions. Contact your nearest Game and Parks district office or service center for area-specific information. Remember that hunters must obtain landowner permission prior to accessing privately-owned lands in Nebraska.