



2024 Mourning Dove Hunting Fact Sheet

The 2024 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 hunters (age 16 years and older) and all nonresidents are required to have a 2024 small game hunting license and habitat stamp, as well as a 2024 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 2024, 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 also 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 2024-25 Public Access Atlas, which is available online at OutdoorNebraska.org/PublicAccessAtlas.

- **North-Central:** Bobcat (6 acres wheat [2 fields]), Calamus Reservoir (12 acres of milo/millet [4 fields], 10 acres sunflowers/annual weeds [4 fields]), Harold W. Andersen (2 acres annual weeds, 2 acres milo, 1 acre corn), Keller (stock tank overflow), Leonard A. Koziol (15 acres annual weeds, 5 acres milo, 4 acres corn), Myrtle Hall (annual weed patches scattered throughout pastures), Pine Glen (3 acres wheat), Plum Creek Valley (2 stock tank overflows), Pressey (105 acres annual weeds, 35 acres milo), Sherman Reservoir (100 acres annual weeds, 100 acres milo, 78 acres corn), Thomas Creek (3.5 acres wheat [3 fields]).
- **Northeast:** Black Island (1 acres milo/milo/annual weeds, 1 acre sunflowers, 1 acre hemp/annual weeds), Council Creek: (5 acres milo/millet), Cowgill: (3 acres milo/millet), Don Dworak (20 acres milo), Elk Point Bend (40 acres milo/millet/annual weeds, 5 acres sunflowers), George D. Syas (20 acres milo), Grove Lake (10 acres wheat stubble, 30 acres harvested rye), Oak Valley (10 acres milo/ milo/annual weeds, 1 acre wheat), Thompson-Barnes (2 acres sunflowers/millet), Wilkinson (40 acres milo, **non-toxic shot only**), Wood Duck (10 acres milo/annual weeds, 2 acres sunflowers/wheat).

- **Southeast:** Alexandria (9 acres millet [1 field]), Branched Oak (18 acres wheat [4 field], 18 acres sunflowers [5 fields], 14 acres corn/annual weeds [3 fields]), Dry Sandy (7 acres sunflowers [1 field]), Little Salt Creek West (4 acres sunflowers [1 field], 3 acres milo [1 field]); **non-toxic shot only**, Osage (25 acres sunflowers [5 fields], 20 acres wheat stubble [3 fields]), Pawnee (7 acres sunflowers [2 field]), Rake's Creek (3.5 acres sunflowers [3 fields]), Rose Creek (4.5 acres sunflowers [1 fields]), Sora (32 acres wheat stubble/wheat [1 field] **non-toxic shot only**), Twin Lakes (24 acres sunflowers [4 fields], 9 acres wheat [2 fields]), Wildwood (18 acres sunflowers [5 fields], 6 acres wheat [3 fields]), Yankee Hill (17 acres sunflowers [3 fields], 14 acres milo [3 fields]).
- **Southwest:** Cedar Valley 14 acres annual weeds, 2 stock ponds with adjacent annual weeds, 4 stock tanks with adjacent annual weeds), Clear Creek (44 acres rye/triticale stubble, 10 acres sunflowers, 20 acres milo, 20 acres sorghum, 5 acres oats, 100+ acres annual weeds, **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), 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 (13 stock tanks/1 stock pond with adjacent annual weeds, marijuana patches in grazed pastures).
- **South-Central:** Bassway Strip (10 acres milo [10 fields]), Bittern's Call (80 acres annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**), Cornhusker (155 acres annual weeds/ corn, soybean, milo foodplots), Cozad (3 acres milo [3 fields]), Dogwood (1 acre milo, 2 acres sunflowers [2 fields]), Martins Reach (3 acres milo), Pintail (15 acres milo/annual weeds, 18 acres new grass seeding/annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**), Narrows WMA (8 acres milo/annual weeds), Sacramento-Wilcox (60 acres wheat stubble, 70 acres milo standing, 100 acres annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**).
- **Panhandle:** Arnold Trupp (1.5 acre millet/milo/oats [2 fields], 6.5 acres millet), Bighorn (27 acres rye/wheat), Bordeaux Creek (100 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 15 acres millet/milo, 12 acres rye, 3 acres oats), Box Butte Reservoir (1 acre millet/milo, 15 acres grass planting with annual weeds), Buffalo Creek (3.5 acres millet/milo/oats [3 fields], 1 acre oats), Chadron Creek Ranch (12 acres rye), Fort Robinson WMA (8 acres rye), Gilbert-Baker (9.5 acres rye), Kiowa (2 acres millet/milo/oats), Metcalf (11 acres rye), Nine Mile Creek (5.5 acres millet/milo/sunflowers, 1.5 acres millet/milo/oats), Petersen (70 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 11.5 acres oats/milo/sunflowers, 9 acres rye), Ponderosa (30 acres grass planting with annual weeds, 33 acres rye), Smith Lake WMA (2 acres annual sunflowers), 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.