



# 2025 Mourning Dove Hunting Fact Sheet

The 2025 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 2025 small game hunting license and habitat stamp, as well as a 2025 Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration number. HIP numbers are free and can be obtained by registering online at [OutdoorNebraska.org/hip/](https://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 2025, and hunters can play a vital role in dove management by reporting any bands they recover. To report recovered bands, visit [reportband.gov](https://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 2025-26 *Public Access Atlas*, which is available online at [OutdoorNebraska.org/PublicAccessAtlas](https://OutdoorNebraska.org/PublicAccessAtlas).

- **North-Central:** **Bobcat** (4 acres wheat, 4 acres annual weeds), **Calamus Reservoir** (12 acres of milo/millet [4 fields], 10 acres sunflowers/annual weeds [4 fields]), **Keller** (stock tank overflow), **Leonard A. Koziol** (10 acres annual weeds, 5 acres wheat), **Myrtle Hall** (19 acres of cane millet [1 field], 30 acres of harvested oats/cover crop mix [1 field]), **Pine Glen** (2 acres wheat, 2 acres annual weeds), **Plum Creek Valley** (2 stock tank overflows), **Pressey** (70 acres annual weeds), **Sherman Reservoir** (100 acres annual weeds, 10 acres wheat), **Thomas Creek** (2.5 acres wheat, 2.5 acres annual weeds).
- **Northeast:** **Black Island** (1 acres milo/milo/annual weeds, 1 acre wheat stubble, 1 acre hemp/annual weeds), **Council Creek**: (5 acres milo/millet), **Cowgill**: (1 acre milo/millet), **Don Dworak** (7.5 acres milo/millet), **Elk Point Bend** (40 acres milo/millet/annual weeds, stock tank overflow), **George D. Syas** (8 acres milo/millet, 9 acres spring wheat), **Grove Lake** (10 acres wheat stubble, 30 acres harvested rye, 10 acres milo/millet/annual weeds), **Oak Valley** (15 acres milo/ milo/annual weeds, 2 acre wheat stubble, 1 acre sunflowers), **Red Fox** (2 acres milo/millet, 1 acre annual weeds), **Thompson-Barnes** (15 acres milo/annual weeds), **Wood Duck** (20 acres milo/millet/annual weeds, 3 acres sunflowers, 10 acres annual weeds).

- **Southeast:** Alexandria (7 acres sunflowers [1 field]), Branched Oak (23 acres sunflowers [5 fields], 14 acres wheat [3 fields], 20 acres idle crops [3 fields]), Dry Sandy (5 acres sunflowers [1 field]), Little Salt Creek West (3 acres sunflowers [1 field]) **non-toxic shot only**, Osage (15 acres sunflowers, 15 acres wheat, 10 acres idle weeds), Pawnee (7 acres sunflowers [2 field]), Rake's Creek (6.5 acres sunflowers, 5.5 acres milo, 2 acres annual weeds), Rose Creek (4.5 acres sunflowers [1 field]), Schilling (24 acres sunflowers) **non-toxic shot only**, Twin Lakes (21 acres sunflowers [4 fields], 17 acres wheat [4 fields]), Wildwood (11 acres sunflowers [3 fields], 3 acres wheat/annual weeds [2 fields]), Yankee Hill (14 acres sunflowers [3 fields]).
- **Southwest:** Cedar Valley (3 acres sunflower/millet food plots [2 fields], 9 acres milo [3 fields], 10 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 millet, 40 acres small grain food plot mix, 40 acres annual weeds, 1 stock tank, **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), Ogallala Strip (20 acres rye/sunflowers, 10 acres millet, 20 acres annual weeds, 1 stock tank), Red Willow Reservoir (marijuana patches in grazed pastures, 2-3 acres; 5 acres ragweed/annual weeds), Swanson Reservoir (6 fields of wheat stubble, 6-25 acres in size; marijuana patches in grazed pastures, 2-8 acres; 7 fields of cane, 4-13 acres), Wapiti (13 stock tanks/1 stock pond with adjacent annual weeds, marijuana patches in grazed pastures).
- **South-Central:** Bittern's Call (80 acres annual weeds and stock tank) **non-toxic shot only**, Cornhusker (140 acres annual weeds/ corn, soybean, milo food plots), Cozad (2 acres mowed rye/annual weeds [2 fields]), Martins Reach (3 acres milo), Pintail (10 acres milo, 20 acres grass planting/annual weeds, **non-toxic shot only**), Narrows WMA (7 acres milo), Sacramento-Wilcox (65 acres wheat stubble, 80 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 (15 acres millet/milo, 10 acres rye), 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 (10 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 millet/sorghum, 9 acres rye), Ponderosa (12 acres oats, 10 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.