LIMITED-LICENSE HUNT CALENDAR:

Spring Wild Turkey
Application Period: Jan. 1 – Feb. 1
Drawing results posted online: March 1

Bear
Application Period: May 1 – June 1
Drawing results posted online: June 29

Elk
Application Period: May 1 – June 1
Drawing results posted online: June 29

Fall Wild Turkey
Application Period: July 1 – Aug. 1
Drawing results posted online: Aug. 11

Antlerless Deer
Application Period: July 15 – Aug. 15
Drawing results posted online: Sept. 1

Reserved Waterfowl
Application Period: Aug. 1 – Aug. 28
Drawing results posted online: Sept. 17

2017 Pure Michigan Hunt
Application Period: March 1 – Dec. 31
Drawing results posted online: Jan. 23, 2017

Early Antlerless Firearm:
Sept. 17 – 18

Liberty Hunt:
Sept. 17 – 18

Independence Hunt:
Oct. 13 – 16

Archery:

Regular Firearm:
Nov. 15 – 30

Muzzleloading:
Zone 1 & 2: Dec. 2 – 11
Zone 3: Dec. 2 – 18

Late Antlerless Firearm:

*It is highly recommended that the 2016 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Digest, or other species-specific hunting digests be consulted for a more complete list of dates and regulations regarding each hunt period. www.mi.gov/dnrdigests
Friends and neighbors,

Autumn in Michigan highlights a time-honored tradition here in our state. Michigan’s abundant natural resources make it one of the top destinations for hunters. Hunting is a favorite pastime that helps manage our wildlife populations and boosts tourism to strengthen Michigan’s economy. Outdoor sporting in Michigan attracts roughly 750,000 hunters each year, resulting in an estimated $1.3 billion more per year for Michigan’s economy. I support hunters and the Pure Michigan industries they support. It is an excellent recreational activity that attracts outdoor enthusiasts to our state’s finest forests, lakes and rivers to honor the hunting legacy of many Michigan families. It provides a platform to engage young people by teaching them the importance of hunter safety and training, and also allows them to develop fundamental survival skills and a fond appreciation for nature.

Within this newsletter you will find information on Michigan’s most recent legislation as it relates to hunting and other useful information. Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL WEBBER
State Representative, District 45

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**Hunting seasons**

- **Cottontail Rabbit & Snowshoe Hare:** Sept. 15, 2016 – March 31, 2017
- **Crow:**
  - Aug. 1 – Sept. 30 and
  - Feb. 1 – March 31, 2017
- **Ducks, Coots & Mergansers:**
  - North: Sept. 24 – Nov. 20 and Nov. 26 – 27
  - Middle: Oct. 1 – Nov. 27 and Dec. 17 – 18
- **Fox – Gray & Red:**
  - Oct. 15, 2016 – March 1, 2017
- **Pheasant (male only):**
  - Zone 1 (partial): Oct. 10 – 31
  - Zone 2, 3: Oct. 20 – Nov. 14
- **Quail:**
  - Oct. 20 – Nov. 14
- **Ruffed Grouse:**
- **Sharp-tailed Grouse:**
  - Oct. 10 – 31
- **Squirrel – Fox & Gray:**
  - (black phase included):
  - Sept. 15, 2016 – March 1, 2017
- **Woodcock:**
  - Sept. 24 – Nov. 7

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**PROHIBITING THE REMOVAL OF COLLARS FROM HUNTING DOGS**

The Michigan House of Representatives recently approved legislation to prohibit the removal of collars from hunting dogs. Some animal rights organizations have used extreme measures to disrupt legal hunting and this bill will help protect hunting dogs, giving owners peace-of-mind during hunting season.

I support House Bill 5215, which would make it a civil infraction with a fine ranging from $1,000 to $2,500 for an individual other than the owner who removes the collar from a hunting dog. Taking the collars off hunting dogs puts the animal at risk by lowering the chances the animal will be reunited with its owner.

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**PRESERVING MICHIGAN’S HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING HERITAGE**

Legislation was introduced to preserve Michigan’s hunting, fishing and trapping heritage by establishing them as protected rights under the Michigan Constitution.

I want to ensure the right to hunt for all Michiganders by protecting this important legacy in the constitution. House Joint Resolution H would add language to the constitution granting people the right to hunt, trap, fish and harvest game or fish owned by the state, except for instances that break the law or interfere with scientific management. The resolution also constitutionally requires the state to keep public land and water open to those activities, regardless of sufficient staff or funding to manage the natural resources. Michiganders should have the opportunity to protect our state’s longstanding hunting traditions for themselves and generations to come. These traditions add to Michigan’s historic and cultural diversity and should be constitutionally guaranteed.