

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, Massachusetts has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and fishing, that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and

Whereas, hunting and fishing continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and over recent years have offered a growing number of participants an opportunity to connect with nature while simultaneously providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency and both mental and physical health benefits; and

Whereas, Massachusetts' sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game and its Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and Division of Marine Fisheries to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitats; and

Whereas, hunting and fishing license fees help fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and

Whereas, In addition to license fees, hunters self-imposed excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, fishing tackle, and motorboat fuels, to raise additional conservation funds, generating more than \$24 million last year to fund the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game. This system is largely recognized as the most effective user-pays—public benefits model in the world; and

Whereas, More than 300,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending more than \$1 Billion while engaged in their pursuits; and

Whereas, This spending supports over 9,000 jobs in Massachusetts and generates \$130 Million in state and local taxes; and

Whereas, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society,

Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 26th, 2026, to be,

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

And urge all the residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of September, in the year two thousand and twenty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fiftieth.

BY HER EXCELLENCY

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A blue ink signature of Maura T. Healey, written in a cursive style.

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A blue ink signature of Kimberley Driscoll, written in a cursive style.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A blue ink signature of William Francis Galvin, written in a cursive style.

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts