

**97B.621 RACCOONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Season.** The statewide open season for raccoon may be set by the commissioner.

Subd. 2. **Period for treeing raccoons.** Notwithstanding subdivision 1 and section 97B.005, subdivision 1, a person may use dogs to pursue and tree raccoons without killing or capturing the raccoons during the closed season and a license is not required.

Subd. 3. **Nighttime hunting restrictions.** To take raccoons between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise, a person:

- (1) must be on foot;
- (2) may use an artificial light only if hunting with dogs;
- (3) may use a handgun or rifle capable of firing only rimfire cartridges of .17 or .22 caliber, including .22 magnum; and
- (4) may not use shotgun shells with larger diameter of shot than No. 4 shot.

Subd. 4. **Prohibited methods of taking.** A person may not take a raccoon:

- (1) in a den or hollow tree;
- (2) by cutting down a tree occupied by raccoon; or
- (3) by setting fire to a tree or using smoke.

**History:** 1986 c 386 art 2 s 46; 1987 c 81 s 1; 1993 c 51 s 1; 1993 c 269 s 19; 2005 c 146 s 33; 2008 c 368 art 2 s 56