

**United States Department of the Interior  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Chesapeake Marshlands NWR Complex  
BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 3, 2012**

**INFORMATION: Allen Johnston, 410-228-5018; Ray Paterra or Thomas Miller, 410-901-6124**

### **Blackwater NWR Announces Dates for 2012 Spring Turkey Hunt**

Refuge Manager Suzanne Baird announced that Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge is accepting applications for the 2012 spring turkey hunt. The refuge hunt season will be Tuesdays and Saturdays beginning April 21, 2012 and concluding on May 22, 2012. Beginning February 10<sup>th</sup>, permit application packets may be picked up at the refuge temporary Visitor Center on Wildlife Drive between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm daily. Applications accompanied by an administration fee of \$10.00 will be accepted by **mail only** and must be received no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>. Check or money order can be made payable to the **Friends of Blackwater**. Permits will be drawn by lottery and each successful hunter will be selected for one day only. Hunters wishing to qualify for Area B1 must provide a copy of an approved Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Wildlife & Heritage Service Application for Permit to Hunt from a Vehicle, along with a completed Turkey Hunt application.

A Youth Turkey Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. Youth hunters must be 16 years of age or younger to participate and accompanied by a licensed or exempt from licensed, non-hunting adult, 21 years of age or older.

All hunting will follow Maryland State regulations and bag limits, and all hunters must possess a valid refuge hunting permit, a Maryland State hunting license and a government issued photo identification. A daily maximum of 14 hunters will be selected for each of the 11 turkey hunting days. Scouting will only be permitted in your hunt zone on the day before your hunt, and on March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00am until sunset. If you have any further questions, please contact Allen Johnston the Blackwater NWR hunt coordinator at 410-228-5018.

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