

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

Small Game and Other Migratory Bird Hunting

Welcome to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1958 primarily for nesting, resting, staging and feeding waterfowl. The varied habitat of Iroquois Refuge supports many other wildlife species such as resident and migratory birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and amphibians as well as diverse plant life. Public hunting is a tool used to manage wildlife populations competing for limited habitat. Hunting can also provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly. While visiting the refuge please observe the following:

We allow hunting in accordance with state laws and the following regulations.

The refuge is open from sunrise to sunset. Night hunting is prohibited

We require daily permits

Obtain and drop off permits at one of the hunter kiosks. Kiosks are located at (1) Kanyoo Nature Trail, (2) the north end of Feeder Road at Dunlop Rd., (3) Route 63 ¼ mile north of Oak Orchard Ridge Rd., (4) Onondaga Nature Trail and (5) on Knowlesville Road ½ mile north of Roberts Rd. Before you hunt fill out and sign Part A of the white "Deer Hunt Registration" cards and deposit it in the drop box. Write your name and date on Part B and carry it with you. This is your permit for the day. At the end of the day, complete the harvest report section and deposit it in any of the five drop boxes.

To protect waterfowl and other migratory birds from potential lead poisoning, nontoxic shot is required for the shotgun hunting of all species except deer and turkey.

Hunting is not permitted in the following zones:

(1) the immediate area around headquarters, (2) refuge residences, (3) the vicinity of the Iroquois Job Corps Center, (4) Swallow Hollow, Onondaga and Kanyoo Nature Trails and (5) safety zones around private residences adjacent to the refuge. During the regular deer season, access on Onondaga Nature Trail is limited to deer hunters only. All other areas of the refuge are open to deer hunting.

During any firearms big game season, ALL hunters MUST wear in a conspicuous manner on head, chest and back, a minimum of 400 square inches of SOLID-COLORED hunter orange clothing or material. This includes muzzleloader as well as the regular season.

Vehicles

Stay on public roads. Off road travel, ATV's and snowmobiles are not allowed. Please, do not block gates or roads.

Boats

We allow canoes or other boats without motors on Oak Orchard Creek from Knowlesville Road to Route 63 only. You may launch boats from Route 63, Sour Springs Road and Knowlesville Rd. The creek passes through wooded swamp. Expect obstructions and variable water levels.

Small Game and Furbearers

We allow hunting of ringneck pheasant, ruffed grouse, cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, coyote, raccoon, skunk, opossum, and fox.

We allow hunting during state seasons, but not before October 1 or after February.

We allow hunting in all areas of the refuge, except No Hunting Zones.

Migratory Birds (woodcock, snipe and rail)

We allow hunting on refuge areas east of Sour Springs Road only except No Hunting Zones.

We allow hunting within state seasons.

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov>

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