

Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting and Fishing Information



The Blue Goose is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



Welcome
Welcome to Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Located in the flood plain of Neosho River Valley, this 18,500-acre Refuge was established in 1966. The Flint Hills NWR is an “overlay project” on the John Redmond Reservoir Project, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control reservoir. Portions of the land and waters are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Prohibited Activities**
- Trapping.
 - Camping and fires.
 - Possessing or discharging fireworks or explosives.
 - Use of ATVs and UTVs.
 - Air-thrust or in-board water-thrust boats.
 - All commercial activities, including guided hunts and fishing.
 - Possession or consumption of alcohol while hunting.
 - Disturbing or collecting natural items (antlers, skulls) or historic and archeological features.

Firearms
Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands must comply with all provisions of State and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32.)

Vehicles/Boats
Only licensed vehicles are allowed on designated Refuge roads. All vehicles and boats must comply with State and Federal regulations.

Hunting Regulations
Hunting is in accordance with State regulations. In addition, Refuge-specific regulations must be followed and are listed in the table below.

Activity			Season Dates	Other Regulations	
White-tail Deer	State season dates apply	Youth and Disabled Deer – No rifles or pistols allowed, only shotguns Either-sex Firearms Deer – No rifles or pistols allowed, only shotguns Pre-Rut White-tail Antlerless Deer Only – No rifles or pistols allowed, only shotguns with slugs or muzzleloader. White-tail Antlerless Only – No rifles or pistols allowed, only shotguns with slugs or muzzleloader. Extended White-tail Deer – No rifles or pistols allowed, only shotguns with slugs or muzzleloader.			
Pheasant, prairie chicken, quail, rabbit, squirrel	State season dates apply	State season dates apply		State-approved equipment and non-toxic shot only.	
Badger, bobcat, coyote, fox, mink, muskrat, opossum, raccoon, striped skunk, weasel	State season dates apply	State season dates apply		All hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Beaver and otter harvest are prohibited.	
Coot, crow, duck, goose, mourning dove, rail, snipe, woodcock	State season dates apply	State season dates apply		All of the Neosho River is closed from November 1st – March 1st.	
Turkey	State season dates apply	State season dates apply		State-approved equipment and non-toxic shot only.	

Hunting and Fishing Regulations
Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Hunting and fishing are allowed on the Refuge in accordance with State regulations and the Refuge-specific regulations in this brochure.

Parking
Parked vehicles must not impede traffic. Hunters can park in designated areas and along the shoulder of Refuge roads within one car width from the nearest edge of the road. Parking is not allowed in front of gates.

Closed Areas
Refuge lands north of the Neosho River are closed to all public entry from November 1 to March 1 to provide a sanctuary for migratory birds. Refer to the map for these areas.

All of the Neosho River is closed from November 1st – March 1st.

Dogs
Dogs are prohibited while hunting coyotes, furbearers, and turkeys. Dogs can be used while hunting migratory birds and upland game.

Baiting/Spotlighting/Monitoring Devices
The distribution of bait or hunting over bait is prohibited. The use of artificial light to locate wildlife is prohibited. The use of electronic or photographic trail monitoring devices is also prohibited.

Flint Hills National Wildlife Refuge
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Hartford, KS 66854
620-392-5553

flinthills@fws.gov
www.fws.gov/refuge/flint-hills

For State Transfer Relay Service
TTY / Voice: 711

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
www.fws.gov

For Refuge Information
1-800-344-WILD

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Accessibility
Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. For more information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, www.doi.gov/accessibility.

An accessible waterfowl hunting blind (see map) is available on a first-come, first-served basis for hunters with disabilities. The hunter must request a Special Use Permit (SUP) from the Refuge Manager before hunting and is required to have proof of need for accessible facilities from the State they reside in. No more than two hunters or helpers can accompany or enter the designated area with the SUP holder present. The SUP holder and accompanying hunters or helpers must hunt from this designated blind. The vehicle used to access the blind must be parked inside the locked gate on Blackbird Lane after dropping off persons and equipment at the blind.

Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is allowed on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State fishing regulations, except the take of reptiles and amphibians is prohibited.

Tree Stands / Blinds / Decoys

One portable blind or stand is allowed per hunter. Hunters can place blind or stand on the Refuge no more than 14 days prior to the season, and it must be removed within 14 days of the close of the season. Portable blinds must be removed at the end of each day's hunt. Portable blinds and stands must be labeled with the owner's Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPPT) number. Labels must be clearly visible from the ground. Nails, screws, screw in steps, or other items that penetrate the outer bark of a tree are prohibited. Decoys must be removed at the end of each day's hunt.

