

Harbor Island

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations



Welcome

Harbor Island National Wildlife Refuge is in the Potagannissing Bay of Lake Huron, Michigan, just south of the Canadian border. The refuge's biggest island, Harbor Island, is 695-acres and has a large marsh-lined harbor popular with boaters. The islands have sandy beaches and mature stands of balsam fir, white cedar, paper birch, sugar maple and red oak. The gently rolling terrain of the island peaks around 100-feet above lake level. Standerson Island is 25-acres located just to the north west of Harbor Island.

Safety

Please be aware of your surroundings. The islands are popular with local boaters and you may encounter hikers and day use visitors. Due to the islands' proximity to Canada the best number to call for emergencies is 906-495-3312 or 911.

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

ATVs, UTVs and snowmobiles are prohibited.

Boats

The refuge allows boats to pull up along the shoreline.

Accessibility Information

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 Civil Rights, <https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/public-civil-rights>.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Hunting and fishing regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. 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 will be in accordance with applicable State of Michigan regulations subject to the conditions stated below. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the refuge website.

Species and season dates align with Michigan state seasons, except for no night hunting. The refuge is only open during daylight hours.

Access

Hunters may only access the refuge one hour before legal sunrise until one hour after legal sunset.

1674 Refuge Entrance Road
Seney, MI 49883

906-586-9851
TTY Federal Relay System: 1-800-877-8339

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1-800-344-WILD (9453)

Emergency Number
906-495-3312

August 2026



Huntible Species:

- Bear
- Bobcat
- Coot
- Coyote
- Crow
- Dark Geese
- Duck
- Fox
- Gallinule
- Groundhog/Woodchuck
- Grouse
- Light Geese
- Opossum
- Porcupine
- Rabbit & Hare
- Raccoon
- Rail
- Skunk
- Snipe
- Squirrel
- Teal
- Turkey
- Weasel
- White-Tailed Deer
- Woodcock

Tree Stands and Blinds

You must remove boats, blinds, blind materials, stands, decoys, and other hunting equipment for migratory game bird hunting from the refuge at the end of each day.

Deer hunters may place one portable stand or blind on the refuge for use while deer hunting, but only during the open deer season. The stand must be clearly labeled with the hunter's Michigan license/sportsmen's ID number. The blind must be removed by the end of the season.

Hunting with Dogs

We allow the use of dogs while hunting game birds in accordance with Michigan state regulations, provided the dog is under the immediate control of the hunter at all times.

Hunting other species with dogs is prohibited.

Non-toxic Ammunition

For hunting, you may possess only approved non-toxic shot shells while in the field, including shot shells used for hunting wild turkey.

We encourage hunters to use non-toxic ammunition for all hunting including big game hunting to help protect wildlife.

Non-toxic Tackle

We encourage anglers to use non-toxic tackle to help protect wildlife. Ingesting lead can be deadly to wildlife.

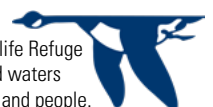
To Report Violations

Turn In a Poacher (TIP) Line: 1-844-FWS-TIPS (1-844-397-8477).

Prohibited Activities

By law, recreational activities on national wildlife refuges are prohibited unless expressly permitted.

- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages
- Camping and Fires
- Horses
- Searching for or removal of any natural items such as antlers, skulls, plants, historic and archaeological features, is prohibited by Federal law.
- Use of electronic or photographic trail monitoring devices.
- Marking or flagging any tree or other refuge feature with reflectors, paint, or other substance.
- The taking of any mussels (clams), crayfish, leech, frog, toad, salamander, snake, lizard, turtle and other non-fish species by any method on the refuge.
- Night hunting and fishing



Standerson
Island



Harbor
Island



Refuge
Boundary

Island GPS Coordinates
46.04377493039754,
-83.77055139768487



North

0

0.45 Kilometers

0

0.6 Miles

Drummond
Island