

Seney

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations



Welcome

Hunting is permitted with a valid Michigan hunting license. In addition to all applicable state regulations, the following refuge regulations apply:

Safety

Hunters must take appropriate state hunter safety certifications.

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.)

- State of Michigan concealed carry permits are not valid in federal buildings.
- Only approved non-toxic shot may be used for hunting ruffed grouse, American woodcock, Wilson's snipe and snowshoe hare.
- Please consider using non-lead ammunition voluntarily to hunt large game. Small pieces of lead left in gut piles may cause lead poisoning in birds and other animals.

Vehicles

Licensed motor vehicles are permitted only on public use roads and trails as shown on the map.

- All-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles are prohibited.
- Vehicles are allowed on refuge roads when gates are open. No off-road travel is allowed with any motorized vehicle.
- Park along roads leaving room for vehicles to pass and do not block gates. Beware of soft shoulders and steep banks.

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 Regulations

Hunting regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting is 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 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.

Access

Hunters may only access the refuge two hours before legal sunrise until two hours after legal sunset. Exception is camping with a camping permit.

Hunters must park in designated parking areas. Parking is also allowed along the roadsides, in pull offs or flat areas as long as they are not blocking roads.

Closed to Hunting

- Areas closed to hunting are considered safety zones for non-hunting recreation opportunities and residences. While hunting near these areas, please be aware that other users may be in the area.
- If a wounded animal enters a closed area, call the refuge headquarters or track it without a firearm.
- If walking through a closed area to access a hunt area, weapons must be unloaded.

Dogs

- Dogs may be used to hunt Wilson's snipe, snowshoe hare, ruffed grouse and American woodcock.
- The use of dogs to hunt black bear and white-tailed deer is prohibited.

Report all Injuries and Accidents

All injuries or accidents occurring on the refuge must be reported immediately to the refuge headquarters at 906-586-9851.

Refuge Headquarters and Visitor Center Hours

Oct. 21 to May 14 - By Appointment

May 15 to Oct. 20 - Tuesday - Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mondays, May 15 to Oct. 20 - By Appointment
Closed Federal Holidays

Staff may be in the field on appointment days.

Visitor Center and Headquarters

1986 River Road
Germfask, MI 49836

906-586-9851

Seney@fws.gov
www.fws.gov/refuge/seney

TTY Federal Relay System: 1-800-877-8339

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

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Shelter and Stand Regulations

- We allow placement of one tree stand or ground blind per hunter during state seasons. We allow ground blinds.
- Blinds and stands must be clearly marked with the owner's name and address and readable from the ground.
- Cutting of any part of shrubs or standing trees (dead or alive) for any purpose is prohibited, except for gathering evergreen boughs Sept-Apr. (see Seney rules and regulations webpage for specific gathering opportunities and harvest limits).
- No screw-in steps or any objects that penetrate the bark of a tree are allowed. Blinds and stands must be removed at the close of hunting season.

Camping Regulations

- During the regular firearms season for white-tailed deer, camping is allowed west of the Driggs River within 10 yards of the road. However, no camping is allowed in the Wilderness or Natural Areas. Camping is not allowed during muzzleloader season for white-tailed deer.
- Free camping permits are required and may be obtained from the refuge headquarters. Camping is allowed from November 13 to December 1. Permits may be acquired before you come. (Email seney@fws.gov for more information)

Prohibited Activities

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

- Possession of alcoholic beverages.
- Baiting and artificial lures are prohibited for all species.
- The possession of bait is prohibited on the refuge.
- Searching for or removal of any natural items such as plants, historic and archaeological features, are protected by Federal law. (see Seney rules and regulations webpage for specific gathering opportunities and harvest limits)
- Use of electronic or photographic trail monitoring devices such as game cameras
- Marking or flagging any tree or other refuge feature with reflectors, paint or other substance.
- Game retrieval/ transportation carts or any other mechanized device used for retrieving game or transportation, are prohibited in the Wilderness Area portion of the refuge.
- Hunting is prohibited within 200 yards of any structures.

Activity	Species	Area A	Area B	Area C	Special Regulations
Small Game	Ruffed Grouse	Closed	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. Only approved non-toxic shot
	American Woodcock	Closed	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. Only approved non-toxic shot
	Wilson's Snipe	Closed	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. Only approved non-toxic shot
	Snowshoe Hare	State Season	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. Only approved non-toxic shot
Archery	White-tailed Deer	State Season	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. All State approved archery equipment is allowed.
Regular Firearms	White-tailed Deer	State Season	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. Please consider using non-toxic ammunition to protect wildlife. The use of dogs to white-tailed deer is prohibited.
Muzzleloading	White-tailed Deer	State Season	State Season	State Season	State regulations apply. Please consider using non-toxic ammunition to protect wildlife. The use of dogs to white-tailed deer is prohibited.
	Black Bear	Closed	State Season	Closed	The use of dogs to hunt black bear is prohibited.
State regulations apply for bag limits.					

Refuge Signs- Know their Meaning!

Refuge
Boundary
Signs



Open to
Hunting
per Refuge
Regulations



Off Limits to
the Public
Unless
Specified



Hunting
Prohibited



National
Wilderness
Area Boundary



This is a unit of the National Wildlife
Refuge System, a network of lands and
waters managed for the benefit of wildlife
and people.



