

## Welcome

Kankakee National Wildlife Refuge is an extraordinary place for wildlife and people. Because it is a wildlife refuge, regulations have been established to provide wildlife and their habitats with adequate protection. Please observe these regulations so that the refuge will continue to be an extraordinary place for both you and wildlife to enjoy.

## Safety

To ensure both your safety, the safety of others, and the safety and protection of wildlife and habitat, please be aware of the following regulations. At any time, hunters may encounter other recreational users.

## To Report Violations

- To report a wildlife violation call 1-844-397-8477 (FWS-TIPS)
- Illinois Tip Line 1-877-236-7529 (2DNRLAW)

## Physical Location of Visitor Parking Area

*(Parking area located 0.10 miles south of)*

**7923 S 17000E Rd**

**Pembroke Township, IL 60958**

## Refuge Office

**6316 Harts Road**

**Ringwood, IL 60072**

**815-677-7958**

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

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

**1-800-344-WILD**

**August 2023**



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Kankakee

## National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area Hunting Regulations



### 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

Motor vehicles are not permitted unless within the designated parking areas. ATVs, OHVs, and OHMs are prohibited. Foot travel is allowed on all portions of the refuge.

### 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 Equal Opportunity, <https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eo/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 Illinois 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 one hour before legal sunrise until one hour after legal sunset.

### Species

All refuge wildlife are protected, except those species for which hunting is specifically authorized. Only the animals listed below may be hunted; all other game species are closed

- Deer (archery and gun)
- Turkey

### Fishing

No fishing opportunities are currently available and the collection of frogs and turtles is prohibited.

### Ammunition

Hunters may only possess and use approved non-toxic shot while on the refuge. All other state specific regulations for Firearm and Archery Equipment Regulations apply.

Activity	Season Dates	Hunt Hours	Special Regulation
<b>Archery Deer</b>	October to January	State Shooting Hours	State regulations apply
<b>Muzzleloader Deer</b>	December	State Shooting Hours	State regulations apply
<b>Deer Shotgun</b>	November to December	State Shooting Hours	State regulations apply
<b>Turkey (archery and shotgun)</b>	March to May	State Shooting Hours	State regulations apply
<b>Turkey Archery (Fall)</b>	October to January	State Shooting Hours	State regulations apply
<b>Turkey Shotgun (Fall)</b>	October to November	State Shooting Hours	State regulations apply

### Artificial Lights

You may not use a spotlight, headlight or other artificial light to spot, locate or take any wild animal in the refuge.

### Blinds/Tree Stands

We prohibit the building or use of permanent stands or blinds on the refuge. No nails, screw-in steps, wire, screws, bolts, or other items that penetrate the outer bark may be used. Portable tree stands and ground blinds must be set up and removed each day and used in accordance with state regulations.

### Clothing

Hunters must wear an article of blaze orange/pink consistent with state regulations.

### Prohibited Activities

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

- Trapping
- Camping, overnight parking, and open fires.
- Use of motorized vehicles, horses or other domestic livestock for big game retrieval or recreational trail riding or any other purpose.
- Leaving property overnight. All property brought onto the refuge must be removed at the end of each day. This includes items like decoys, blinds, trail cameras, portable stands, climbing sticks and trash.
- Marking or flagging any tree or other refuge feature with reflectors, paint, or other substance.
- Organized deer drives. We define a "deer drive" as an organized or planned effort to pursue, drive, chase, or otherwise frighten or cause deer to move in the direction of any person(s) who is part of the organized or planned hunt and known to be waiting for the deer.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Distribution of feed or bait, or hunting over bait; including, but not limited to salts and minerals.
- Target shooting
- Training of dogs and/or allowing dogs off leash while on refuge.
- Abandoning, discarding or otherwise leaving of personal property, animal carcasses, trash, refuse, rocks, wood or other debris.
- Destructing, defacing, disturbing or unauthorized removal of any natural object, artifact, cultural resource or government property.
- Cutting, mowing, sawing, digging, collecting, injuring or removing vegetation. (Collection of fruits of the earth (seeds, fruits, nuts and berries) for personal food or medical use in modest quantities is permitted.
- Introducing, liberating, or placing plants or animals or their parts on refuge lands or waters.
- Launching, landing or disturbing of wildlife by aircraft (drones) on the refuge, includes for recreational or commercial purposes.
- Commercial enterprise without a special use permit.
- Use or possession of any illegal drug or drug paraphernalia.

**Portions of the land within or surrounding the boundaries of the refuge are private. Persons wishing to hunt on private land must gain permission from the landowner.**

