



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Occoquan Bay

National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Information

The refuge is open seven days a week: April through September – 7 AM to 7 PM; October through March – 7 AM to 5 PM.

Enjoy Your Refuge

Summers are normally hot and humid with biting insects. This is an excellent time to view wildflowers and dragonflies. Wear wide brimmed hats and light colored clothing. Use repellants. Check for ticks!

Fall and Spring are mild and pleasant. Migrating birds flood the refuge, affording exceptional and challenging bird watching opportunities.

Winters are mild with occasional cold, blustery winds across the meadows and off the river.



Over four miles of gravel roads serve as trails and afford easy, casual walking opportunities. To avoid encounters with irritating plants and insects, please walk within the mowed or cleared tracks of the gravel roads.





Wildlife viewing and photography are very popular activities on the refuge. Two observation platforms are located less than a mile from the central parking lot.



Our wildlife drive is a convenient means of touring a portion of the refuge by auto, motorcycle or bicycle. Please stay in your vehicle while traveling the drive and do not block the roadway.

Protect Your Refuge



You may not bring dogs or other pets into the refuge even if left in the vehicle. Guide and service dogs are permitted.



Hunting and fishing are not permitted on the refuge except at certain managed events.



Do not collect or remove any natural or cultural objects including flowers, arrowheads, wood, rocks, feathers or bones.



Ball playing, kite flying, soccer, and other similar sports and recreational activities are not permitted on the refuge.



Do not feed, disturb, capture or release any wildlife. The use of mechanical or electronic devices to lure or attract wildlife is prohibited.



Picnicking is permitted only at the central parking lot. The use of alcohol, fires, and grills are prohibited. Groups of 10 people or more require a special use permit.



Bicycles are allowed only on the entry road and wildlife drive. A bike rack is available at the central parking lot



All visitors must remain on the gravel roads and designated trails. Wandering off trail is not permitted.



Area Closed signs mark additional areas closed to visitors to protect wildlife and plant life.



Parking is permitted only at the central parking lot and visitor contact station.



Drones, fireworks, model airplanes, and other objects launched in the air are prohibited.

Need immediate help? Dial 911- Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge located at 14050 Dawson Beach Road, Woodbridge, VA. Want to report a violation or have a question? Dial 703/490 4979

For more information, consult the refuge brochure or visit our Web site at:

www.fws.gov/refuge/Occoquan_Bay/