U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge Big Game Hunting Program for 2021 - 2022

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide big game hunting opportunities at Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge (refuge) during the 2021-22 refuge hunting season. Hunting opportunities include: white-tailed deer, wild turkey, coyote, and fox hunting, with some season and weapon restrictions (Figure 1). State safety regulations apply. No hunting allowed in safety zones. Hunters may pass through safety zones, but weapons must be unloaded in the safety zones. Some, but not all



safety zones are marked in the field. It is the hunter's responsibility to know where safety zones are located.

2021 – 2022 Program Details:

- Barrier Beach and Lewis Tract Units match State regulations for deer (September January) and wild turkey (April-May and October) hunting. Deer hunters are allowed to take fox and coyote during the deer season.
- Kettle Pond Unit is archery hunting only. The deer (September January) and fall wild turkey (October) hunting seasons match the State seasons. Deer hunters will be allowed to take fox and coyote during the deer season. Spring wild turkey season is closed.
- Salt Pond Unit is CLOSED for all general hunting (deer and wild turkey) this season due to management activities; however, the refuge will host the veteran deer hunt (November), and the youth deer hunt (December weekends only). Spring wild turkey season is closed.
- Hunters must obtain, sign, and carry a valid Refuge Big Game Hunting Brochure for each season to serve as written permission to access refuge units for hunting.

Safety measures employed:

- All hunters must have a valid State hunting license, which requires a hunter education course;
- No discharge of archery equipment within 200 feet of a dwelling;
- No discharge of firearms within 500 feet of a dwelling;
- No hunting within 100 feet of public trail;
- No hunting in safety zones and no discharge of a weapon from or across a road;
- Refuge visitors recommended to wear blaze orange clothing during hunting season;
- Refuge lands closed to other public uses during youth and veterans deer hunts;
- Public alerted to hunting seasons through news releases, website and Facebook postings, signs on trailhead notice boards, and information available at the visitor center;
- The hunting program will be monitored and adjustments made as deemed necessary.

Figure 1. 2021-2022 Big Game Hunt Map, Ninigret National Wildlife Refuge. Hunt maps were created using GIS mapping for informational use, not for legal purposes.



