# Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

# Turkey Hunt

**Refuge Hunt Program** 

Welcome to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, a popular destination for outdoor recreation. The refuge allows turkey hunting in accordance with state laws and the following refuge specific regulations.

# **Hunt Information**

The refuge allows hunting of turkey during both the spring and fall seasons in accordance with State.

We require a refuge permit for spring turkey hunting. We issue a total of 75 permits through a random pre-season drawing. By entering this drawing hunters become eligible for one of two sessions:

- Session 1 runs May 1-15 for which we issue 50 permits.
- Session 2 runs from May 16-31 for which we issue 25 permits.

Permit applications are accepted online at

https://IroquoisNWR.RecAcces.com from March 1- April 1. There is a \$5 application fee to cover administration costs. If selected, hunters will receive email notification, which will include an electronic copy of their permit and harvest report. Hunters are required to have a copy of their permit with them while hunting and scouting.

There is no permit required for fall turkey hunting.

Dogs are authorized for use during the fall turkey season, but not for the spring, per state regulations.

# **Safety**

Weapons may not be discharged within, into, or across a "No Hunting Zone", or from, on, or across any refuge road. No hunting zones include: the immediate areas around refuge headquarters, refuge residences, the vicinity of Iroquois

Job Corps Center, Swallow Hollow Trail, Onondaga Trail, Kanyoo Trail, HQ Trail, and areas around private residences, farm buildings and structures, per New York State 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).

# **Scouting**

Scouting for fall turkey is permitted from September 1 through the last day of season, and for spring turkey from April 22 to April 30, excluding the State Youth Hunt Weekend. Dogs are prohibited during scouting.

# Vehicles

Vehicles are only allowed on established roads marked open for vehicular travel. Vehicles must be parked off the lane of travel and clear of gates. ATVs and snowmobiles are not allowed.

### **Boats**

Canoes and other non-motorized boats may only be used on Oak Orchard Creek, from Knowlesville Road to Route 63. Hunters may launch boats into Oak Orchard Creek from Route 63, Sour Springs Road, and Knowlesville Road.

# **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 New York regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

#### Access

When: The refuge is open to turkey hunting during the State's spring and fall seasons. Hunters may access the refuge 2 hours before legal sunrise until 1 pm during the spring season and 1 hour after sunset during the fall season.

Where: Turkey hunting is permitted in all areas of the refuge open to hunting. Areas adjacent to bald eagle nests will be closed during the spring turkey season.

Hunters with disabilities please contact the refuge for more information.

# **Blinds and Stands**

Portable stands and blinds may be used in all areas of the refuge during hunting season but must be removed at the end of each hunt day. Trail cameras are prohibited.

# **Harvest Reporting**

All hunters are required to meet statewide requirements for harvest reporting. Spring Turkey hunters are required to turn in a refuge Big Game Harvest Report (FWS Form 3-2359) no later than June 7, whether or not they hunted.

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge 1101 Casey Road Basom, NY 14013-9730 (585) 948-5445 www.fws.gov/refuge/iroquois www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting

Federal Relay Service for the deaf and hard-of- hearing 1-800-877-8339

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1-800-344 Wild http://www.fws.gov

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