Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

Upland Small Game/Other Migratory BirdHunting

Welcome to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1958 primarily for migratory birds. Public hunting is a priority public use and can provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly. We allow hunting of upland small game and migratory birds other than waterfowl in accordance with State laws and the following refuge specific regulations.

Upland small game and other migratory bird hunting begins concurrent with the State seasons for each species and concludes at the end of the State season or on the last day of February, whichever comes first. Other migratory bird hunting is not permitted when waterfowl hunting is taking place on the refuge except that permitted waterfowl hunters actively hunting in the waterfowl hunt zones may take other migratory birds in addition to waterfowl. Upland small game and other migratory bird hunters (non-waterfowl) may access the refuge from sunrise to sunset.

To protect waterfowl and other migratory birds from potential lead poisoning, nontoxic shot is required for the shotgun hunting of all species except deer and turkey.

Permits

The refuge is currently reviewing our hunt program and information may change year to year. Please check back periodically to make sure you are in compliance.

Although possession of a refuge permit is not required for small game hunting hunters are still required to know and follow all refuge specific regulations.

Hunters are required to meet statewide harvest reporting requirements.

Small Game and Furbearers

We allow hunting of ringneck pheasant, ruffed grouse, cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, coyote, raccoon, skunk, opossum, and fox.

Other Migratory Birds

We allow hunting of woodcock, snipe, rail and gallinule. Other Migratory Bird Hunting is permitted east of Sour Springs Road except during waterfowl hunting times. During waterfowl hunt times, other migratory birds may be hunted by permit in waterfowl hunt zones (see the Waterfowl Hunting Factsheet). Upland small game hunting is permitted in all areas of the refuge open to hunting.

No Hunting Zones/Closed Area

No Hunting Zones include but are not limited to: the immediate area around the refuge office; around refuge residences; the vicinity of the Iroquois Job Corps Center; Swallow Hollow, Kanyoo, Headquarters, and Onondaga Nature Trails and safety zones around private residences adjacent to the refuge.

Permission must be obtained from refuge personnel to enter a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" for the purpose of tracking and/or retrieving legally taken game animals.

Scouting

Scouting is allowed from September 1 through the end of February. Dogs are prohibited during scouting.

Blaze Orange

Hunters are not required by law to wear fluorescent orange while hunting in New York however, the wearing of florescent colors is highly recommended.

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, kayaks and other non-motorized boats are permitted on Oak Orchard Creek only, from Knowlesville Road to Route 63. You may launch boats from Route 63, Sour Springs Road and Knowlesville Road. As you pass through wooded swamp, expect obstructions and variable water levels.

Prohibited Activities

- The distribution of bait, or hunting over a baited area.
- Using illuminating devices, including automobile headlights, for the purpose of spotlighting game species.
- Camping, overnight parking, open fires and littering.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Weapons may not be discharged within, into or across a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area"; or from, on or across any refuge road or designated foot trail. Hunting from within 500 feet of any residence or refuge building is prohibited.
- Hunters may not possess axes, hatchets, saws, nails, tacks, paint or flagging for the marking of trees and shrubs.
- Night hunting is prohibited

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

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 1 800/344 WILD http://www.fws.gov









