

General Hunting Regulations

A Refuge permit is required for all hunting activities. Permits are non-transferable and must be signed by the hunter and carried at all times while on the refuge in possession of hunting gear. A permit is located on the front of this brochure or can be downloaded and printed from the refuge website at <http://www.fws.gov/cacheriver>. An additional permit is required for the Quota Gun Deer Hunt.

Hunter Orange or Chartreuse must be worn in accordance with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission regulations during Quota Gun and Muzzleloader Deer hunts.

Portable, pop-up blinds must have 144 square inches of blaze orange or chartreuse visible from all sides of the blind during firearms big-game seasons on the Refuge.

Dog training allowed Sep. 1- Apr. 1.

Bag limits for all species except deer are the same as state limits unless specified otherwise.

Stop Poaching Hotline 1 800/482 9262

Mobility-impaired Hunters

Mobility-impaired hunters may apply for a refuge Special Use Permit allowing the specialized use of ATVs. For more information, please call the refuge office at 870/347 2614.

Prohibited hunting activities include:

- We prohibit leaving any tree stand, ground blind or game camera on the refuge without the owner's name and address clearly written in a conspicuous location.
- The use of dogs for deer hunting is prohibited.
- Commercial guiding/hunting.
- Driving or screwing any metal object into a tree or hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been driven or screwed to support a hunter.
- Building or hunting from permanent blinds or stands.
- Hunting from a vehicle or use of a vehicle as a deer stand.
- Possession or distribution of bait or hunting over bait, salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for wildlife.
- Hunting from mowed or maintained roads (except for waterfowl hunting while roads are flooded).
- Possession or use of lead shot or buckshot while hunting.
- Possession or use of alcoholic beverages while hunting.

■ Hunting, taking, possessing, or attempting to take wildlife using a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or organization providing assistance, service, or equipment.

■ The use of natural scents or lures that contain natural deer and elk urine or other biofluids.

Hunters Under the Age of 16

Anyone born after 1968 must complete a hunter education course and carry a valid hunter education card to hunt in Arkansas. Children under 16 may hunt without hunter education as long as they are under the direct supervision of an adult who is 21 years old and has a valid hunting license. Home state hunter education cards will be honored.

Specific Hunting Regulations

Refuge hunting regulations differ from surrounding deer zones and state seasons as follows:

* NOTE: The Refuge is CLOSED to all entry and public use during Quota Gun Deer Hunt November 10 – 18, 2018. Only Quota Gun Deer Hunt permit holders are allowed to enter or use the Refuge during this hunt and only for the purpose of deer hunting and the incidental take of feral hogs.

Migratory Birds

Only non-toxic shot may be possessed or used for all migratory bird hunting.

Waterfowl (Duck, Coot and Geese): State Seasons (except closed November 10 – 18, 2018) during the Quota Gun Deer Hunt)*

Morning (until 12 noon) hunting only throughout the entire season.

NOTE: All-day hunting permitted for geese (all applicable species) during the State Conservation Order

State bag limit(s) apply.

Hunters must pick up and remove shell casings and boxes from the refuge.

Decoys, blinds, boats, and all other equipment must be removed daily by 1 pm.

It is unlawful to possess, or take or attempt to take waterfowl with the use of, any simulated wing movement decoy or any decoy other than an artificial decoy that imitates the appearance of waterfowl: no moving parts or electrical components; and is not subjected to any artificial means that makes it appear to move, splash or cause ripples from the first day of the first segment of regular

duck season through the last day of the last segment of regular duck season including teal and youth waterfowl season. **Exception:** Manually operated “jerk strings” may be used to simulate decoy movement.

Boats are prohibited on the Refuge from 12 am - 4 am.

Waterfowl hunters may enter the Refuge no earlier than 4 am.

Cutting or creating holes or other manipulation of vegetation (cutting bushes, mowing, weed-eating, etc.) or hunting from manipulated areas is prohibited.

Dogs are permitted.

Waterfowl (Special Youth Quota Permit Hunt): Bayou DeView and Roundpond Units. Available only to youth under 16. Applications will be received November 1 - 30. For more information, call the refuge office or visit our website for complete details: www.fws.gov/cacheriver/youthwaterfowl

Dove and Snipe: State seasons* except ends at noon each day during regular waterfowl season. Dogs permitted.

Woodcock: State seasons.* Dogs are permitted.

Small Game

Only rifles chambered for rimfire cartridges or shotguns with non-toxic shot may be used for all small game hunting.

Squirrel: September 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019.* Dogs are permitted. Note: No road hunting allowed.

Rabbit: September 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019.* Dogs are permitted.

Quail: November 1, 2018 - February 3, 2019.* Dogs are permitted.

Furbearer: Beaver, muskrat, nutria, armadillo and coyote may be taken incidental to any refuge hunt by the use of the device appropriate for that hunt and according to any applicable state regulations.

Feral Hog: In cooperation with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Feral Hog Control Program, feral hogs may only be taken on the refuge during the quota gun and muzzleloader deer hunts and by archery hunters from November 1 - December 31. Feral hogs are destructive and non-native animals that are incompatible with refuge management. Live hogs may not be possessed, transported, or released on the refuge.

Raccoon: September 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019.*

Dogs are required for hunting raccoons at night.

Opossum: September 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019.* Dogs are required for hunting opossum at night.

Trapping

December 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019. REFUGE SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUIRED. Trapping permitted according to State regulations. Waterfowl sanctuaries are closed to all public entry and use November 15 - February 28. Contact refuge office at 870/347 2614 for additional details and requirements.

Big Game

For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, Zone 095 must be immediately recorded on your hunting license. In addition, all deer harvested on the refuge must be checked according to state regulations.

Only portable stands may be used and the owner's name and address must be permanently affixed to the stand. A portable hunting stand is any device or structure used for the purpose of hunting that can be carried in its entirety and erected by hand including but not limited to tripod stands, lean-to stands, lock-on stands, ladder stands and climbing stands. Stands may be erected 7 days prior to the refuge deer season and must be removed from the waterfowl sanctuary prior to Nov. 15 and from the rest of the Refuge within 7 days of the closing of archery season.

Deer Limits and Refuge Legal Buck Definition

A legal buck on the Refuge is defined as any male deer (**no antler restriction**). Deer harvested on the Refuge are NOT bonus deer.

Refuge wide season limit is four deer, no more than two bucks, which may include:

Deer (Archery/Crossbow): September 22, 2018 - February 28, 2019.* Either sex. State limit applies.

Deer (Muzzleloading): October 20-24, 2018 and December 29 - 31, 2018 Either sex. One deer only may be taken during each hunt.

Deer (Youth Gun): November 3-4, 2018. One buck and one doe, or two does.

Deer (Quota Gun): Quota hunt permit required. November 10 - 18, 2018.* One buck and one doe, or two does.

NOTE: Only shotguns with slugs, legal pistols, and muzzleloaders shooting a single projectile may be used on the Dixie and Plunkett Farm Units during the youth and quota gun deer hunts.

NOTE: Holders of refuge Quota Gun Deer Hunt permits are NOT entitled to camp on State WMAs during the refuge Quota Gun Deer Hunt.

To apply for a Quota Gun Deer Hunt permit:

Hunt permits are \$12.50 and must be purchased from the Refuge website at www.fws.gov/cacheriver. Check the Refuge website for permit availability. Quota permits issued first come, first served until the quota is reached, or until October 31, 2018. Permit requests will NOT be accepted in person.

NOTE: Permits are non-transferable and nonrefundable, even in the event of refuge deer hunt closures due to flooding.

Refuge lands located in Flood Prone Region B will close to all deer hunting when the White River gauge at Augusta reaches 31 feet, as reported by the National Weather Service at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/data/LZK/RVSLZK>. This restriction is lifted when the gauge at Augusta falls below 30 feet and the White River gauge at Georgetown falls to or below 19 feet.

Refuge lands located in Flood Prone Region C will close to all deer hunting when the Cache River gauge at Patterson exceeds 10 feet, as reported by the National Weather Service at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/data/LZK/RVSLZK> and will reopen when the same gauge reading falls below 8.5 feet.

Refuge lands located in Flood Prone Region D will close to all deer and turkey hunting when the White River gauge at Clarendon reaches 28 feet, as reported by the National Weather Service at: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/data/LZK/RVSLZK> and will reopen when the same gauge reading falls to or below 27 feet.

Turkey-Fall 2018 Gun: Closed.

Turkey-Fall 2018 Archery/Crossbow: Closed.

Turkey-Spring 2019 Gun: State season on all refuge lands located south of Interstate 40. Remainder of the refuge is closed with the exception of those refuge lands included in the combined Black Swamp WMA/Cache River NWR hunts administered by the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission.

