



A larger version of this map is available upon request from our Visitor Center.

This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses (hunting, fishing, sightseeing, etc.) in accordance with refuge regulations.

This area is closed to all entry. No hunting, fishing or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails are open to the public.

This area is closed to all hunting. Firearms and archery equipment are strictly prohibited (see map).

Waccamaw NWR does not require hunters to check-in game that is killed on the Refuge. However, we would like for hunters to complete the Harvest Form below so that we have a record of how many game animals are being killed each year. This information will allow us to evaluate our hunting seasons and units and make changes where necessary to improve the hunting experience. Please fill out this form at the end of the hunting season and mail it to our visitor center at 21424 N. Fraser St., Georgetown, SC 29440. Thank you very much for your cooperation and dedication to conserving our wildlife.

Harvest Form

Species	Date Killed	Hunting Unit	Male or Female / # Killed
Deer			
Hogs			
Waterfowl			
Raccoon			
Squirrel			
Snipe			

cut along dashed line

Welcome to Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 550 National Wildlife Refuges in the U.S. and its territories. The mission of the National Wildlife Refuge system is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitats within the U.S. for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. Hunting is one of the many necessary tools used to responsibly manage wildlife populations. Maintaining a balanced population by removing surplus animals ensures the overall health and viability of all wildlife populations that depend on the managed habitats that this Refuge provides.

General Provisions and Access

The provisions listed below supplement the general regulations which govern the legal use of NWRs and their hunting programs as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges 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 (50 CFR Part 32).

A Refuge general hunt permit is required for all hunters and is located on the front of this brochure. This permit along with state hunting licenses, & photo identification must be carried at all times while hunting and is not valid until signed & dated by the hunter. By law, National Wildlife Refuges are closed to all recreational activities unless expressly permitted.

Only the hunts listed within this brochure are allowed on the Refuge. Hunting on the Refuge is only allowable in those areas outlined in the attached map which are open to hunting. When permitted, hunting, fishing, and other public uses will be in accordance with applicable state regulations and the following special refuge regulations unless otherwise listed.

The following regulations apply to all types of hunting on the refuge.

Check In
No check-in is required.

Weapons

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges 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 (50 CFR Part 32).

Discharging firearms or weapons on a National Wildlife Refuge is prohibited unless specifically authorized. Discharging a weapon for a purpose other than to take legal game animals during established Refuge hunting seasons is prohibited. Discharging any firearm from a boat or vehicle is strictly prohibited (except hunting waterfowl). All firearms must be unloaded and dismantled (or cased) while being transported in a vehicle. Crossbows, blow guns, and poison tipped arrows are prohibited. Only muzzleloading rifles using a single projectile are permitted during muzzleloader hunts.

Ammunition

Non-toxic shot is required when hunting with shotguns with the only exception being slugs. **Buckshot is prohibited on all Refuge hunts and may not be in possession at any time while on the Refuge.** Use of full metal jacketed bullets or rimfire ammunition during big game hunts is prohibited.

Refuge/Cultural and Historic Resources

All federally owned property including natural, historic, and archeological features are protected by Federal Law. Searching for or the removal of objects of antiquity or other historic value is strictly prohibited.

Closed Areas and Times

Designated areas will be closed seasonally to hunting, fishing, and all other public access to provide resource protection and reduce migratory bird disturbance. Other areas may be closed for special management and safety reasons.

The Refuge is closed everyday from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise except when allowances are made for specific Refuge hunts.

Hunters may enter the Refuge no earlier than 5 am on hunt days and must leave the Refuge no later than 1 hour after legal sunset except during the state waterfowl season where waterfowl hunting is allowed on the Refuge (see waterfowl regulations.)

Areas on the Refuge that are open to hunting will be closed to the general public during big game (deer, turkey and hog) hunts.

Alcohol

Alcohol is prohibited during Refuge hunts. Possession of an open container of alcohol while hunting on the Refuge is prohibited.

Other Regulations

Use of ATVs and airboats to access Refuge lands is prohibited.

Special Hunting Regulations

Permits

A signed and dated Waccamaw NWR Refuge Hunting Permit, along with proper state hunting license, and photo identification (such as a state driver's license) are required for all hunts. All permits and licenses must be in your possession at all times upon entering Refuge property.

Hunters using the Refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, vehicles, and their contents by USFWS or SCDNR Officers.

Baiting

Baiting and/or hunting in the vicinity of bait are prohibited. Baiting includes, but is not limited to, the distribution of grains, feeds, salts, mineral blocks, meats, fruits, and other consumable items.

Dogs

Dogs may be used for duck, snipe, raccoon, squirrel, and during special hog hunts. Dogs must be leashed and under control of the owner when not in pursuit of authorized game animals. All dogs are required to wear a collar displaying the owner's name, address, and phone number.

Vehicles

Only legally licensed vehicles are allowed on the Refuge. Vehicles are allowed only on established roads marked open. All other roads may be traveled on foot or by bicycle. The speed limit on all Refuge roads is 15 mph unless otherwise posted. Vehicles may not block access gates and must be parked off of the road. **ATVs are prohibited.**

Youth Hunting

A youth hunter is defined as a hunter under the age of 16. All youth hunters must show proof of successfully completing a state approved hunter education program and must carry it with them at all times while hunting or carrying/possessing firearms or weapons on the Refuge. During any Refuge big game hunts (Deer, Hog), youth must be directly supervised (within sight and normal voice range) by an adult at least 21 years of age possessing a state hunting license, Refuge hunting permit, & photo identification. Each adult may only supervise **one** youth. During small game hunts, each adult may supervise a maximum of two youths.

Hunter Education

Refuge hunters under the age of 16 must show proof of successfully completing a state approved hunter education program and must carry it with them at all times while hunting or carrying/possessing firearms or weapons on the Refuge.

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Permit and Regulations 2010-2011

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge Hunt Permit

Name: _____

Address: _____

I have read and understand the regulations governing hunting on Waccamaw NWR.

Signature _____

Date: _____

This permit must be carried on your person at all times and is not valid until signed and dated. Unless you are issued an additional permit for a quote hunt, this permit will serve as your refuge hunt permit. This permit is valid for the duration of this year's refuge hunt season.

Hunting Stands

Deer and feral hogs must be hunted from an elevated stands. Boats are not considered hunting stands and **shooting game (except waterfowl) from a boat is prohibited.**

Only one portable stand per hunter is permitted and must be clearly marked with the hunters full name and phone number. Placing deer stands on the Refuge more than three days prior to the opening day of a specific hunt is prohibited. All deer stands must be removed from the Refuge no later than three days after each Refuge big game hunt.

The use of nails, screws, or bolts to attach a hunting stand to a tree or hunting from a tree where a metal object has been driven to support a hunter is prohibited.

Living trees or plants may not be trimmed or cut down or damaged in any manner. Any stands found within designated hunt areas outside of allowed periods will be confiscated.

Tree Marking

You may use flagging to mark entry sites from roads or trails and again at the stand site. You may use clothes pins with reflective tape between these sites to mark the route to the stand. Hunters must label all such markers with their full name and remove them at the end of the hunt.

Man-Driving

Deer and hog hunting by “man driving” are prohibited. A man drive is defined as an organized hunting technique including two or more hunters where an attempt is made to drive game animals from cover to shoot, kill, or move animals towards other hunters.

Prehunt Scouting

We allow scouting all year during daylight hours except during the State waterfowl season.

During the waterfowl season, we allow scouting Monday through Friday only. The possession of firearms on the Refuge outside of designated hunting seasons is subject to regulations outlined in 50 CFR part 27. Game/ Trail cameras and other scouting devices are prohibited.

Hunter Orange

Hunters must wear a hat, coat or vest of solid visible fluorescent orange during all big game hunts (deer, hog) except for wild turkey.

Prohibited Activities

- Hunting from permanent blinds. Also, you must remove portable blinds and decoys at the end of each day's hunt.
- Camping, overnight parking, open fires, and littering.

- Using illuminating devices for the purpose of spotlighting deer.
- Game/trail cameras and scouting devices are prohibited on Refuge property.
- Hunting for wildlife on any Refuge unit other than that which is officially opened and posted.
- Entering or discharging a weapon within, into, or across a “No Hunting Zone” or “Closed Area”.
- Hunting on Sunday.
- Hunting or shooting any game (except waterfowl) from a boat.
- Hunting from within 100 feet of any roadway, whether open or closed to vehicular traffic or from within 300 yards of any residence or designated hunter check station is prohibited.
- Destroying or cutting vegetation. The possession of axes, saws, machetes, or other tools used for cutting vegetation are not permitted on the Refuge while scouting or hunting.
- Man-drives, stalk hunting, dog drives, and hunting from artificially pruned trees.

Refuge Hunting Seasons

Unit 1 Hunting Sessions:

Deer / Hog

Archery: September 7 - 18 and October 4 - 9

Archery & Muzzleloader: October 18 - November 6

Modern Weapons, Archery, & Muzzleloader:
November 29 - December 11

Squirrel

November 8 - March 1

No small game hunting during deer/hog hunts.

Snipe: not permitted

Waterfowl: waterfowl hunting is allowed until 12 noon each Saturday and Wednesday during the State waterfowl season only on Refuge tracts in Unit 1 that are **along the Great Pee Dee River.** Tracts in Unit 1 that are along the Waccamaw River are closed to waterfowl hunting. Hunters may enter the Refuge no earlier than 5 am on hunt days and must be off of the Refuge by 2 pm.

Raccoon

December 13 – March 1 (Wednesday & Saturday nights only)

Turkey: not permitted

Unit 3 Refuge Sessions:

Deer / Hog

Modern Weapons, Archery, and Muzzleloader:
September 27 – October 2 and November 15-27

Hog Hunt: March 1-31

Buckshot and rimfire firearms prohibited. No limit.

Special Hog Hunts

Determined as needed after annual hog hunt.

Snipe

Allowed Wednesday and Saturday between February 1 and Close of Federal Season, nontoxic shot required.

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting prohibited in this area.

Raccoon

February 1- March 1 (Wednesday and Saturday nights only)

Squirrel: not permitted

Turkey: not permitted

*A larger version of the Hunting Units Map is available upon request. Contact the visitor center at 843/527 8069 to request one.

Harvest Limits

Deer:

The Refuge limit on deer is one antlered buck for each hunt session. **Two additional antlerless deer per season may be harvested during coinciding SCDNR Game Zones 4 and 5 antlerless deer days.** All other wildlife may **not** be harassed in any manner. Legal hunting hours are from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. No Sunday hunting. Primitive weapons (archery/muzzleloaders) may be used during the modern weapon hunt. If a scheduled Refuge deer hunt falls within the state waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting is not permitted until after the deer hunt concludes.

Hogs:

No limit. You may take feral hogs during all Refuge deer hunts. There is no size or bag limit on hogs. Special hog hunts may be offered during and after deer season to further control this invasive species. All feral hogs must be dispatched before removing them from the Refuge. Use of dogs for hog hunting is prohibited except during special hunts when a maximum of four bay dogs will be allowed per hunting party. Catch dogs are prohibited.

Squirrel:

Gray squirrel only. Fox squirrels are protected. Bag limit is 10 squirrels per hunter per day. One treeing dog allowed per hunter. Hunting from a boat is prohibited. **Non-toxic shot is required for shotguns.**

Migratory Birds:

Same as state and federal limits. Non-toxic shot is required when hunting waterfowl and snipe. See above for specific dates/days the Refuge is open to hunting migratory bird species.

Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge
21424 North Fraser Street
PO Box 1439
Georgetown, SC 29440
843/527 8069
ftp://southeast.fws.gov/waccamaw
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
http://southeast.fws.gov

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