

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge

9981 Pacific Street
P.O. Box 399
Prairie City, IA 50228

Refuge Hours: Daylight Hours

Visitor Center Hours: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Sunday - Saturday (March-November)
Monday-Saturday (December - February)

The Visitor Center is open Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day; closed all other Federal holidays.

Phone: 515-994-3400

TTY users may reach Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge through the Federal Information Relay System: 800-877-8339

Internet address:
www.fws.gov/refuge/Neal_Smith

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1-800-344-WILD



Updated August 27, 2020

Neal Smith

National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use and Hunting Regulations 2020-21

The signing of this permit validates it as your general Refuge hunting permit and must be in your possession while participating in authorized Refuge hunting activities. Expiration date: May 16, 2021.

I have read and understand these regulations.

Hunter's signature _____

Date _____

Report all accidents and injuries to the Refuge:
Law Enforcement Officer: (515) 422-4020 (cell)
Refuge Headquarters: (515) 994-3400

For deer hunting, Refuge access is from one hour before official sunrise to one hour after official sunset.

Trapping of fur-bearing animals is prohibited anywhere on the Refuge, including road ditches.

Construction or use of permanent stands or ladders is prohibited. Portable stands may be used but must be removed at the end of each day. Steps, ladders, and stands will be erected in such a way that the trees are not damaged. Spikes, nails and all other items that penetrate the bark of a tree are prohibited.

Shooting on, from, or over any Refuge road within 50 feet of the center line is prohibited.

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited on all National Wildlife Refuges.

The use of hunting dogs is allowed for waterfowl, pheasant and quail hunting during the state approved season, provided the dog is under the immediate control of the hunter at all times.

The training of dogs on the Refuge is prohibited.

Falconry is prohibited on the Refuge.

Please respect our neighbors. State law prohibits shooting within 200 yards of buildings inhabited by people or livestock. Poles marking that distance are located throughout the Refuge. The poles are marked with the color orange.

Please refer to the State of Iowa Migratory Game Bird and Hunting Regulations for shooting hours, clothing requirements, definition of approved weapons, bag limits, license requirements, and other important information. Contact the Iowa Department of Natural Resources at (515)281-5918 or check their web page at www.iowadnr.gov.

Fires on the Refuge are prohibited. Camping on the Refuge is prohibited.

Firearms are permitted on Refuge land in accordance with Federal and State laws. Except for authorized hunting activities, discharge of firearms on Refuge land is prohibited.

Parking is allowed at designated areas which are marked with a "P" for parking. Do not park in any field entrance. (Access must be maintained for emergency, fire and patrol vehicles.) Do not drive into fields or grassland areas.

Overnight parking is prohibited.

The destruction and/or collection of plants, animals, minerals, and artifacts are prohibited on the Refuge.

Use of spotlights or other artificial lights to spot, locate, or take any wildlife within the boundaries of any Refuge or along the right-of-way on public or private roads is prohibited.

ATV use is prohibited.

Shed antler collection is prohibited.

Wild Turkey Seasons

2020 Fall Wild Turkey Season

Combination Gun/Bow	Oct. 12 - Dec. 4
Archery Only	Oct. 1 - Dec. 4 AND Dec. 21 - Jan. 10, 2021

2021 Spring Wild Turkey Season

Youth Season (Resident Only)	April 9 - 11
Season 1	April 12 - 15
Season 2	April 16 - 20
Season 3	April 21 - 27
Season 4	April 28 - May 16
Resident Archery-only Licenses	April 12 - May 16

 **TURKEY HARVEST REPORTING FORM**

NAME of HUNTER: _____

Date of Harvest: _____

Male or Female Harvest? _____

Return form to Front Desk at the Visitor Center or mail to the Refuge

REFUGE SPECIFIC HUNTING REGULATIONS

Non-toxic shot is required for the hunting of all small game, upland game birds, and migratory game birds.

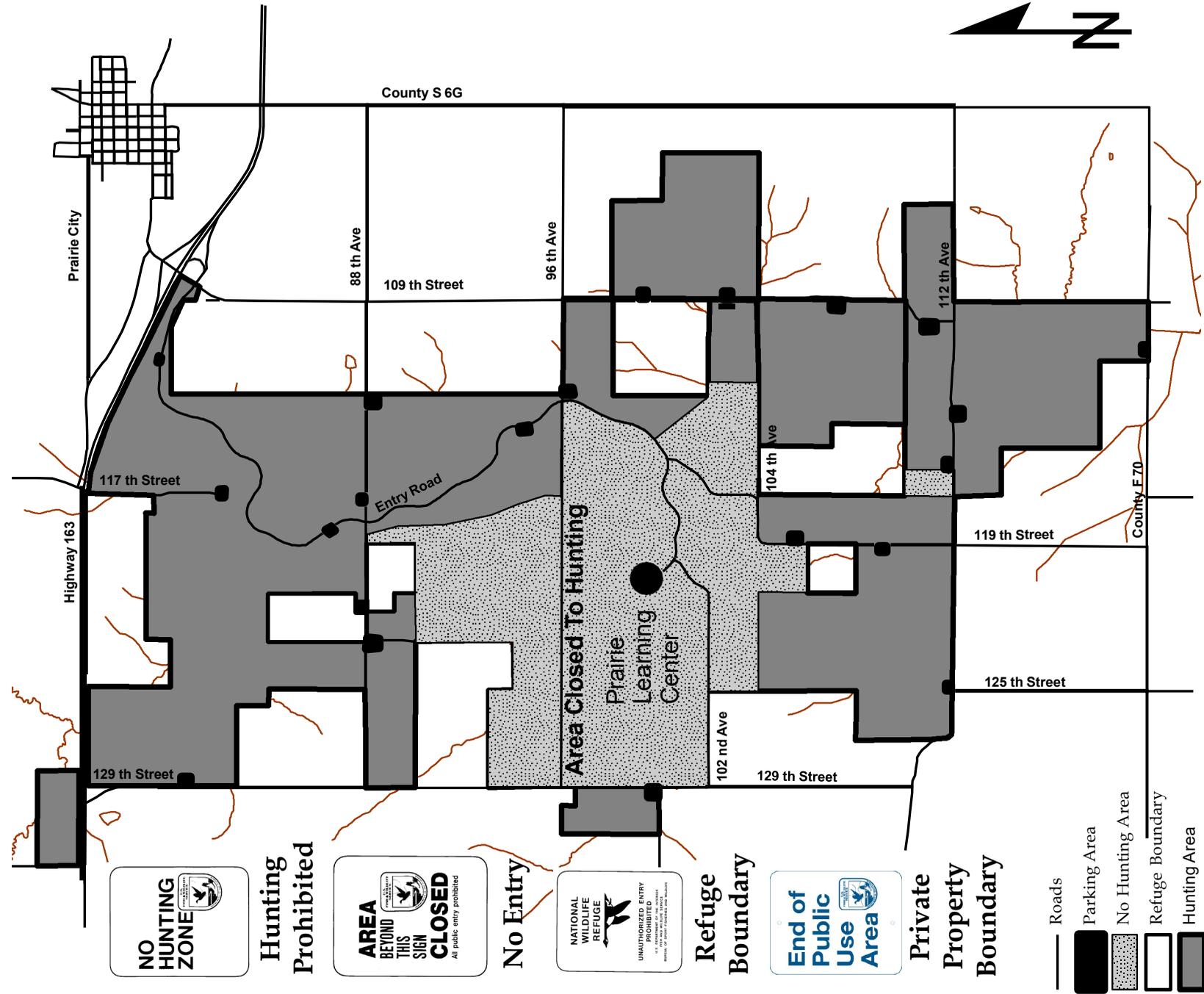
A special Refuge permit is required for all hunting. A signed copy of this brochure in your possession will suffice as a permit.

All successful turkey hunters are requested to report their harvest to the Refuge and to the Iowa DNR.

Hunting is permitted for:

Species	Season
Rooster Pheasant (Youth)	Oct. 24 - Oct. 25, 2020
Rooster Pheasant	Oct. 31 - Jan. 10, 2021
Bobwhite Quail	Oct. 31 - Jan. 31, 2021
Rabbit (Cottontail)	Sept. 5 - Feb. 28, 2021
Squirrel (Gray and Fox)	Sept. 5 - Jan. 31, 2021
Crow	Oct. 15 - Nov. 30 and Jan. 14 - Mar. 31, 2021
Pigeon	Continuous Open Season
Turkey - See Reverse for Spring/Fall Seasons	
Doves (Mourning and Eurasian Collared)	Sept. 1 - Nov. 29
Waterfowl	
September Teal	Sept. 1 - Sept. 16, 2020
Ducks, Coots, and Mergansers	Oct. 3 - Oct. 9 and Oct. 17 - Dec. 8, 2020
Youth Waterfowl	Sept. 26- 27, 2020
Dark and Light Geese (incl. Canada Geese, Brant and White-fronted Geese, white & blue phase Snow Geese and Ross' Geese)	Sept. 26 - Oct. 11 and Oct. 17 - Dec. 8 and Dec. 19 - Jan. 16, 2021
Light Geese Conservation Order	Jan. 26 - May 1, 2021
Whitetail Deer	
Youth Season	Sept. 19 - Oct. 4, 2020
Disabled Hunter Season	Sept. 19 - Oct. 4, 2020
Archery Season	
Early Split	Oct. 1 - Dec. 4, 2020
Late Split	Dec. 21- Jan. 10, 2021
Early Muzzleloader	Oct. 17 - 25, 2020
Late Muzzleloader	Dec. 21 - Jan. 10, 2021
Shotgun	
Season 1	Dec. 5 - 9, 2020
Season 2	Dec. 12 - 20, 2020
Non-resident Holiday	Dec. 24 - Jan. 2, 2021

2020-21 Neal Smith NWR Hunting Area Map



Contact Refuge Before Hunting for current Prescribed Fire Units