



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Dove Hunting 2016

Balcones Canyonlands

National Wildlife Refuge

Dove season at Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge is from noon to sunset during the first four days of dove season.

Refuge staff established and improved habitat at several sites totaling 15 acres with native sunflowers. Approximately 279 acres are open and available for dove hunting. A pond and one stream bisect a portion of this dove hunting area.

Hunting Permits

To obtain a dove hunting permit:

Hunters will need to purchase permits at the dove hunting area during the designated hunting times and dates.

A dove hunting permit is \$20.00. This permit is good for all four afternoon hunts.

Balcones Canyonlands NWR will only be accepting \$20.00 cash which will be inserted in a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service envelope. This envelope will be provided at the hunting unit and the hunter will then place that envelope with the cash inside the honor vault. The hunter will need to detach the receipt of the envelope which will also serve as their permit.

Dove Hunting Regulations

In addition to Federal regulations, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department laws and regulations are in effect unless further restricted by Federal law or regulation.

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 in 50 CFR).

- You must pay for, possess, and carry a Refuge permit while hunting.
- We require proof that hunters possess a valid Texas hunting license.

- Legal game includes mourning doves, white-winged doves, rock doves (pigeons) and Eurasian collared-doves.

- **We require the use of non-toxic shot, approved for waterfowl hunting** (such as steel or bismuth).

- We prohibit shooting at other birds or wildlife during this hunt.

- All hunters must be 9-years old or older. An adult hunter 18 years of age or older must supervise hunters ages 9-16 .

- We allow scouting on the property *only* during the designated dove hunting times and dates.

- We allow the use of dogs for retrieving game birds; they must be under the handlers control at all times.

- We prohibit the use or possession of alcohol of any kind on refuge lands.

- Shotguns must be plugged and hold no more than three shells at one time.

- We may immediately close the entire Refuge or any portion thereof to hunting for the protection of resources as determined by the Refuge Manager.

- No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit for mourning and white-winged doves. Rock doves and Eurasian collared doves have no bag limit.

- Hunters shall kill wounded birds immediately and include these in the daily bag limit.

- We allow vehicular travel on designated roads and in parking areas. We prohibit hunting from roads and blocking access to any road or trail entering or on the Refuge.

- Mandatory parking in designated areas.

- Please observe the 25 mph speed limit and exercise caution when driving on the asphalt road since this road is used by trucks entering and exiting the adjacent quarry.

- A hunter may bring up to two guests. Guests may not carry, hold, or shoot a firearm. Guest must remain with and be in sight of permitted hunter.

Hunting Safety

- Do not shoot at low-flying birds under any circumstance.

- Do not shoot at birds perched on power lines.

- Be aware of the positions of your fellow hunters.

For Further Information

Balcones Canyonlands
National Wildlife Refuge
24518 FM 1431, Box 1
Marble Falls, TX 78654
512/339-9432

May 2016



**Balcones Canyonlands NWR
Map to Dove Hunting Area**

