

## Information about the blind at Erickson Waterfowl Production Area

The accessible blind is available for public use on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the year. It may however, be reserved by waterfowl hunters with mobility challenges during any waterfowl season (September – January). To reserve the blind, contact St. Croix Wetland Management District by calling 715-246-7784 or email [stcroix@fws.gov](mailto:stcroix@fws.gov). If the blind is unoccupied ½ hour before legal shooting time, the blind is again available on a first-come, first-served basis for any public user.

- Maximum occupancy is 4 people. Hunting dogs are welcome.
- Please keep the area looking natural by packing out any litter including shotgun shells as a courtesy to other users.
- Please close the door to the blind during and after use to avoid wind damage.

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How many people will the blind hold?

A: Maximum occupancy is 4 people including 2 people in wheelchairs. Hunting dogs are welcome in the blind or non-hunting dogs on a leash.

Q: Do I need a reservation to use the blind?

A: The blind is open to the public, year-round at no cost on a first-come, first-served basis. However, during any waterfowl season (usually September – January), the blind can be reserved by waterfowl hunters with mobility challenges. If the blind is unoccupied 1/2 hour before legal shooting time, the blind is available on a first-come basis.

Q: Who qualifies to reserve the blind?

A: Anyone that is eligible to receive a hunting permit for persons with disabilities from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or a member of their hunting party can reserve the blind.

Q: How do I reserve the blind?

A: To reserve the blind at Erickson WPA contact St. Croix Wetland Management District office at 715-246-7784 or email us at [stcroix@fws.gov](mailto:stcroix@fws.gov). Office hours are Monday – Friday, 7:30am – 3:30pm. Simply, provide your name and telephone number. As a courtesy to others, please cancel 48 hours in advance.

Q: How do I know if the blind is reserved?

A: No reservations are necessary outside of the waterfowl hunting season (February – August) as the blind is available on a first-come basis. During the waterfowl season (September – January), contact the St. Croix Wetland Management District office at 715-246-7784 or email [stcroix@fws.gov](mailto:stcroix@fws.gov) to inquire whether the blind is reserved. Otherwise, if the blind is unoccupied

1/2 hour before legal shooting time September - January, the blind is available on a first-come first-served basis by any member of the public.

Q: How far in advance can I reserve the blind?

A: You can make reservations for any date throughout the waterfowl season (including early goose and teal if applicable), starting August 15 each year. As a courtesy to others, please cancel 48 hours in advance.

Q: How long is the trail to the blind?

A: The trail to the blind is fully accessible and is about 175' in length.

Q: Where is the Erickson WPA blind located?

A: The address to the accessible parking lot for the blind is 1935 145<sup>th</sup> St. New Richmond, WI 54017 which is located 0.6 miles north of the intersection of 145<sup>th</sup> St. and State Hwy 64 on the eastern edge of New Richmond, WI. Follow the trail about 175' east through the prairie to the blind on the edge of the wetland.

Q: How often will the blind be cleaned or disinfected?

A: The blind will be checked periodically by staff and volunteers for litter. However, there will be no regular cleaning/disinfection schedule as the blind is only partially enclosed. Users are encouraged to follow [CDC guidelines](#) to protect themselves and others from Coronavirus disease.

Q: Are there any special hunting regulations on Erickson WPA?

A: Waterfowl Production Areas are open to all applicable federal and state laws including State of Wisconsin, Hunting Regulations and seasons except where noted. In addition the following general regulations apply:

- Placement of bait and hunting over bait is prohibited (50 CFR Ch.1 §32.2)
- Non-toxic shot is required for ALL hunting (does not apply to rifle bullets or shotgun slugs) (50 CFR Ch.1 §32.2)
- No personal possessions can remain on WPA lands overnight including, blinds, tree stands, decoys and game cameras
- The use of nails, wire, screws or bolts to attach a stand to a tree, or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven to support a hunter is prohibited on wildlife refuge areas (50 CFR Ch.1 §32.2).
- Damage to trees is prohibited, including cutting shooting lanes
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited (50 CFR Ch.1 §32.2).
- Shining or spotlighting wildlife is prohibited (50 CFR Ch. 1 §27.73)
- The use of hunting dogs is allowed, provided the dog is under the immediate control of the hunter at all times
- Only non-motorized boats are allowed

The Erickson Waterfowl Production Area Accessible blind and trail is a cooperative project between the Friends of St. Croix Wetland Management District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with generous funding and support provided by:

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