



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Archery Hunt Regulations and Permit

## *Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge*

### Hunter Orange

Hunters must visibly wear 400 square inches of hunter orange including 144 square inches visible on both the chest and back, and a hunter orange cap or hat visible on the head. Hunter orange camouflage patterns may be worn. Hunters may take off hunter orange at hunt blind or stand.

### Archery Hunt Dates

Refuge Units 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 will be open for scouting and archery hunting. Hunt Units or areas within a unit may not be reserved.

### Closed Areas

The following areas are closed to hunting: Adolph Thoma, Jr. County Park in Unit 3, Units 1, 4, 7 and all areas posted "No Hunting Zone" or as indicated on the Archery Hunt Map.

### Scouting Access

Scouting access hours are from official sunrise to official sunset. A permitted hunter, and a limit of two non-permitted individuals accompanying the hunter, may enter the Hunt Units during the scouting period. A Refuge-issued Hunt Permit must be conspicuously displayed on vehicle dashboard. Possession of firearms or archery equipment is not permitted during scouting or pre-hunt stand placement.

### Hunters 17 and Younger

Each youth hunter, ages 9 through 17 must be accompanied by an adult with a hunt permit age 21 or older at all times during the hunt.

### Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages and drugs on the Refuge is prohibited.

### Bait

The possession and/or distribution of bait or hunting over bait is prohibited.

### Parking and Vehicle Access

Vehicle parking is allowed at the parking areas in Unit 6; along the roadsides of Buena Vista Road, Lakeside Drive and County Road. Motorized vehicle access is allowed on Refuge roads that are not closed by gates or signs. All other roads may only be accessed by foot or bicycle.

### Flagging and Markers

The use of flagging and markers to mark trails and stands is prohibited.

### Hunting Access

Hunters may enter the Refuge one hour before legal shooting hours (1-½ hours before official sunrise) and must depart by 1-½ hours after official sunset. Only permitted hunters will be allowed in the Hunt Units during the archery hunts. Hunters who need to track game after sunset must contact the Hunt Check Station for authorization (956/371-0773).

### Hunting Stands and Blinds

We allow hunting from portable stands or blinds, or by stalking and still hunting. There is a limit of one blind or stand per permitted hunter. You must attach hunter identification (name and phone number), to the blind or stand. We prohibit attaching blinds and stands to trees or making blinds and stands from natural vegetation. You must remove all blinds and stands at the end of your hunt period.

### Other Uses

We prohibit use of or hunting from any type of watercraft or floating device. We prohibit the possession or use of dogs while scouting or hunting.

### Legal Weapons

Bows and arrows must meet minimum requirements of Texas State laws and regulations. Only long bows, compound bows and recurved bows are permitted. We prohibit target practice or "sighting-in" on the refuge. Crossbows may be used by hunters with an upper limb disability but a special use permit is required—contact Refuge Manager by October 31.

### Legal Species and Bag Limit

Two-deer bag limit: one male (antlered or button buck) and one female, or two females per hunt permit. There is no bag limit on feral hogs and nilgai antelope. Hunting of javelina is prohibited. You may not kill or wound an animal covered in this section and intentionally or knowingly fail to make a reasonable effort to retrieve and include it in your bag limit. Hunters are required to check all game at the Refuge check station. Feral hogs do not need to be checked, but must be reported.

### Tagging

You must properly tag white-tailed deer immediately upon harvest. Mark the kill location as Laguna Atascosa Refuge in Cameron County.

### Camping

We allow camping only at Adolph Thoma, Jr. County Park (956/748-2044). Hunters are not allowed to enter or exit the refuge hunt units directly via the county park.

### Field Dressing

Hunts are primitive; therefore, assistance from Refuge personnel will be very limited to none. Make harvest plans accordingly. Harvested game must be field dressed before removal from the hunt unit. You may quarter your game. You may use a non-motorized cart/wagon to transport harvested game.

We reserve the right to revoke or deny any permit for up to five years due to unsafe conduct or violation of one or more refuge regulations.

For this Hunt Permit to be valid, a refuge official must issue a permit number and hunt dates when the hunter pays their hunt fee. Hunters must sign and date below that they have read and agree to abide by these regulations. These signed regulations and permit must be carried on your person when scouting or hunting on the refuge.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Hunt Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Refuge Official Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hunter's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### For Additional Information

Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge  
22817 Ocelot Road  
Los Fresnos, Texas 78566  
956/748-3607  
956/748-3609 Fax  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/laguna\\_atascosa](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/laguna_atascosa)

**July 2015**

# Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge

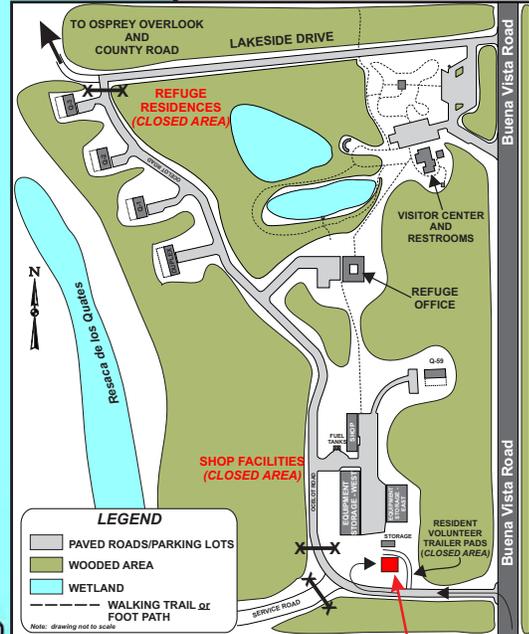


**Adolph Thoma, Jr. County Park**  
(Camping Allowed)

## ARCHERY HUNTS ONLY UNIT MAP



Laguna Madre



**LEGEND**  
 PAVED ROADS/PARKING LOTS  
 WOODED AREA  
 WETLAND  
 WALKING TRAIL or FOOT PATH  
Note: drawing not to scale

**HUNT CHECK STATION**

## ARCHERY HUNTS ONLY UNIT MAP

### LEGEND

- Refuge Boundary
- Refuge Areas Open to Hunting
- REFUGE AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING
- Private Property
- Hunt Unit Boundary
- Service Road
- Tour Road
- Mudflats
- Wetlands

**NOTICE**  
100-YARD WIDE "NO HUNTING ZONE" ALONG 1.25 MILE SECTION OF SOUTH BOUNDARY ROAD

