

## PUBLIC USE REGULATIONS for Trempealeau NWR

Refuge Hours – The Refuge is open during daylight hours only.

Closed Areas – Public entry is not allowed in areas posted “AREA CLOSED”

Archeological Resource Protection –

- It is illegal to search for or remove artifacts from public lands.
- Caching items (geocaching) or searching for caches is not allowed.
- The following restrictions are in place to protect archeological resources:
  - Black Oak Island is closed to unsupervised public entry.
  - Visitors must remain on the gravel road on Kiep’s Island.
  - Access from the Refuge to Trempealeau Mountain is closed.

Bicycles –

- Bicycling is allowed only on designated roads
- Unlicensed motorized bicycles and scooters are not allowed.
- Bikes are not allowed on hiking trails.

Vehicles –

- Vehicle operators must comply with posted traffic signs and State regulations. The speed limit is 25 mph on all roads.
- Only vehicles licensed for highway use are allowed.
- Vehicles must remain on designated roads or parking areas.
- Off road vehicles are not allowed, including snowmobiles, motorized bikes, and all-terrain vehicles.

Parking –

- Parking beyond vehicle control barriers or on the grass or other vegetation is not allowed.
- Vehicles may not block any road, fire lane, boat ramp, access gate, or other facilities.
- Parking in a manner to create a safety hazard, or endanger any person, property, or environmental feature is prohibited.
- Any vehicle parked in violation may be impounded at owner’s expense.

Camping – Camping is not allowed on the Refuge

Fires- Fires are not allowed on the Refuge

Littering – Littering is prohibited. All trash must be taken with you when you leave.

Alcohol- Entering or remaining on the Refuge when under the influence of alcohol is prohibited.

Possession or use of alcohol by persons under 21 years of age is prohibited.

Boats- Hand powered or electric motors only

Hunting- Designated portions of the Refuge may be open to deer and waterfowl hunting. Drawings and special reservations are used to award opportunities. Special Use Permits are required. Contact the Refuge Office for information.

- All pedestrians must wear blaze orange during the deer gun hunt.
- Firearms must be unloaded and dismantled or cased except as authorized by a valid Special Use Permit.
- Archery equipment is authorized only with a valid Special Use Permit.
- Discharging or possessing all other weapons is prohibited.
- Use of a spot light is prohibited.

Trapping- Trapping is allowed by Special Use Permit. Trapping units are auctioned in the fall.

Contact Refuge Office for information.

Fishing- All Refuge waters are considered inland waters. Wisconsin fishing regulations for inland waters apply.

- Turtle harvest is not allowed.
- Release of live bait is prohibited.
- Archery, spearing, or netting fish is not allowed.
- Night-lighting fish is not allowed.

Collecting

- Mushrooms, raspberries and blackberries may be collected for personal consumption.
- Collecting any other plants, animals, antlers, artifacts or other natural objects is not allowed
- Collecting of snakes, turtles, frogs or other reptiles and amphibians is illegal.

Domestic Animals

- The Refuge is closed to unconfined domestic animals (cats, livestock, exotic pets)
- Horses are not allowed
- Field trials, commercial or organized dog training is not allowed.
- Dogs are permitted on a leash shorter than 6 feet.
- Hunting dogs are allowed when working with a permitted hunter.

Other

- Entering within a 100 meter radius of an active bald eagle nest is prohibited from February 1 to July 1.
- Fire wood cutting is allowed by special use permit. See manager.
- Personal belonging may not be left unattended on the Refuge.
- Fireworks are prohibited on the Refuge.
- Group activities require approval of the manager who may issue a special use permit with restrictions on group size, location and timing of use, and specific activities.

For questions regarding these public use regulations, please contact the refuge Manager during office hours.