

# Parker River

## *National Wildlife Refuge Waterfowl Hunting Information*

Thank you for your interest in waterfowl hunting at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Please read the following information thoroughly so that we may ensure your hunting experience is as safe and enjoyable as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Enjoy your visit!

### General

Waterfowl hunting for geese, ducks, and American coot, is permitted only in Areas A, B, and C (see map on reverse) and in accordance with refuge, state, and federal regulations. Sea ducks may be taken in designated hunting areas only when their open season coincides with the open season on “ducks.” Canada goose hunting is permitted in Areas A, B, and C during any state authorized goose season. The refuge will also honor any state authorized Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day(s). Contact the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, at (508) 389- 6300, for more information about these programs.

### Permit, License, and Stamps

A refuge permit is not required for waterfowl hunting. Hunters must comply with all state and federal regulations.

### Blinds

Portable blinds, nets, tarps, or similar forms of temporary concealment are permitted. Digging pits and cutting vegetation are prohibited.

### Shot and Shotshells

Approved non-toxic shot is required and hunters are limited to 25 shot shells per day. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.

### Dogs and Decoys

The use of dogs and artificial decoys is encouraged. Dogs must be under the hunter’s control at all times.

### Other

Entering any portion of the refuge other than Areas A, B, or C to retrieve downed waterfowl, with or without a firearm, is prohibited. Loaded firearms and shooting (including cripples), are prohibited on Plum Island River, Parker River, and Plum Island/Broad Sound, including all islands and sand spits therein. Sunday hunting is prohibited. The use or possession of alcoholic beverages on the refuge is prohibited.

### Access and Hunting Areas

Access to the hunting areas is by foot or boat, with certain restrictions (see below). On-refuge parking is limited, with parking lots filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The refuge entrance gate and parking lots open one hour before legal shooting time. **Launching of motorized boats is allowed from the boat ramp across from Lot 1 only during hunting season and only for the purpose of waterfowl hunting.** Launching motorized boats for scouting purposes prior to hunting is strictly prohibited.

**Area A**—Access by boat from the refuge boat ramp located opposite Parking Lot 1 (vehicles and trailers must be parked in Lot 1) or from off-refuge sites. Check tide times to avoid being stranded on the marsh by a low tide.

**Area B**—Access either by boat from the refuge boat ramp opposite Parking Lot 1 or from off-refuge sites, or by foot from the parking lot via Newbury Neck Road and Marsh Avenue (Newbury, MA). Hunting is allowed only in the area marked by “Public Hunting Area” signs. From the parking lot this area is located approximately 0.3 miles to the left of trail’s end.

**Area C (Nelson Island)** – Access is by foot only. Access from the parking lot off Stackyard Road (Rowley, MA). Hunting within 150 feet of the parking area is prohibited.

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