

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird Hunting



We allow hunting of migratory birds on designated areas of the refuge subject to certain conditions.

Thank you for your interest in waterfowl hunting at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Please familiarize yourself with the following information to insure that your hunting experience is as safe and enjoyable as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact the refuge if you have any questions or concerns. Enjoy your visit!

All hunters must comply with Federal, State and refuge-specific rules and regulations. Please refer to the Massachusetts Hunting and Fishing Guide for clothing requirements, definition of approved weapons, bag limits, license requirements, and other important information. Contact MassWildlife at (508) 389-6300 or check their web page at <https://www.mass.gov/hunting-regulations>.

Allowed Species

Ducks, geese, brant, coots, mergansers, Virginia rail, sora rail, Wilson's snipe, and American woodcock may be hunted in accordance with all State regulations. Parker River NWR is located within Massachusetts Coastal Zone for migratory bird hunting. Sea ducks may be hunted only when their open season coincides with the open season for "Ducks."

Permits

No refuge permit is required to hunt migratory game birds.

Access

Plum Island—Access for the Youth Waterfowl hunt will be through the main entrance only. Please consult refuge manager for details.

Area A—Access by boat or by foot from non-refuge areas.

Area B—Access either by boat, by foot from the refuge parking lot via Newbury Neck Road and Marsh Avenue (Newbury, MA), or by foot from non-refuge areas. 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 either by boat, by foot from the refuge parking lot at the end of Stackyard Road (Rowley, MA), or by foot from non-refuge areas. Hunting within 150 feet of the refuge parking lot is prohibited.

Area D—Access is by boat only.

Reminders

- The refuge entrance gate opens 1 hour before legal shooting hours.
- Launching of motorized boats is allowed from the Lot 1 boat ramp, only for purposes of hunting. Launching motorized boats for scouting purposes prior to hunting is prohibited.
- Anyone hired to assist or guide hunter(s) must obtain, possess, and carry a valid Special Use Permit issued by the refuge manager.
- Dogs are allowed for migratory game bird hunting; however, they must be under the hunter's control at all times.
- Digging pits and cutting vegetation are prohibited.
- Shooting across refuge roads, boundaries, and within or into administratively closed zones is prohibited.
- Hunting is prohibited on the Plum Island River, the mouth of the Parker River, and Plum Island/Broad Sound, including all islands and sand spits therein.
- Approved non-toxic shot is required. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.
- Littering, including shotgun shell hulls, is prohibited.

For more information, contact:

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
6 Plum Island Turnpike
Newburyport, MA 01950
(978) 465-5753
www.fws.gov/refuge/parker_river/

Federal Relay Service
for the deaf and hard-of-hearing
1 800/877 8339

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>
July 2019



Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird Hunting

