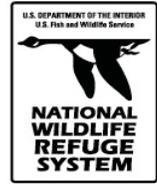


Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

Refuge Regulations



General Refuge Regulations

1. Pursuant to Title 18, Assimilative Crimes Act, Virginia and North Carolina state law may apply on the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Example – Public consumption of alcohol is prohibited in Virginia.

2. Refuge trails are open to hiking and biking. Visitors must stay on designated trails.

3. Collecting (includes catch and release); attempting to handle or harming any plant or animal life is prohibited.

4. Feeding wildlife is prohibited.

5. Refuge entrances are open daily from sunrise to sunset. No overnight use is permitted.

6. All pets must be kept on a hand-held leash at all times.

7. Playback recorders or devices are prohibited because they adversely affect wildlife behavior.

8. Access to refuge at any location other than through designated trails and roads is prohibited.

9. ATV's are prohibited on the refuge.

10. Refuge wide speed limit is 25 MPH unless otherwise posted.

Fishing and Boating Regulations

1. Fishing and boating shall be in accordance with all applicable Federal and State law.

2. Lake Drummond is restricted to a boat with a motor capable of no more than 25 horsepower.

3. Fishing is allowed on Lake Drummond and in the Feeder Ditch on the east side of Lake Drummond during daylight hours only.

4. A Virginia freshwater fishing license is required to fish on Lake Drummond. All state fishing regulations apply.

5. Fishing from banks is prohibited.

6. Fishing lines must be attended at all times while fishing on the refuge.

7. Swimming or diving is prohibited.

8. A public boat ramp is located north of the Feeder Ditch off of Highway 17 which connects Lake Drummond to the Dismal Swamp Canal. Access to Lake Drummond is through the Feeder Ditch. Boats must be small enough to portage around the spillway or be lifted by the tram which restricts boats to a 1000 pounds weight limit.

9. A boat launch access permit is required for vehicular access to the boat ramp on Interior Ditch Road on the west side of Lake Drummond.

Permit Requirements:

a. Daily authorization is required prior to entering the refuge. Each permittee must make a reservation by calling the refuge office. Reservations for week days must be made no more than one day in advance. Weekend reservations must be made on Fridays.

b. The permit allows vehicle access to launch a boat. Permittee must be transporting a boat.

c. Permit must be read and signed by permittee and approved permit displayed within the windshield of the vehicle where it can be seen and read.

d. Permittee must sign in and out in the register located at the entrance gate each time they enter and leave the refuge.

e. Vehicle must be parked in such a manner as to permit access by other vehicles. Blocking the boat ramp is prohibited.

g. All other refuge regulations apply.

Hunting Regulations

Refer to annual White-tailed deer and American black bear hunt regulations.

For more information
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