

# 2007 – 2008 Deer Hunting

## *Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge*



Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), one of 9 management units in the Long Island Complex, established in 1947, is located along the Carmans River in Suffolk County, New York. Public hunting is permitted with appropriate permits during specific times of the year. The hunting program is administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in cooperation with the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation.

### **Hunting Regulations**

The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting is permitted in accordance with all applicable State and Federal regulations and is subject to special regulations. Hunters are required to read all hunting materials provided.

*General Information*     Hunters must apply and be selected for a refuge hunting permit. Forty-four archery permits will be issued for each archery hunt period and 17 permits will be issued for the shotgun hunt period. Refuge hunting permits are issued on a lottery system for each specific hunt periods.

*Permitted Take*             Hunters must take two antlerless deer before taking an antlered deer. The third deer may be of either sex. Hunters must use their New York State issued deer tags for all deer taken. Deer Management Program (DMP) tags will NOT be available through the refuge but are available through all licensing facilities.

*Hunt Periods*                 Archery hunting opportunities will be available during the following periods:

- November 4 – 6, 2007
- November 30 – December 2, 2007
- December 14 – 16, 2007

Shotgun hunting opportunities will be available on:

- January 16 and 17, 2008

Once selected, hunters will be notified with specific scouting dates.

*Application*                 **NEW THIS YEAR** – Two hunters may apply together on one application for each hunt type. A hunter's name may appear only on one application per hunt type. Applications must be postmarked or returned to the refuge by August 24, 2007. The lottery drawing will be held on September 7, 2007 at the refuge office. Hunters are not required to attend the lottery drawing.

*Orientation*                 All selected hunters must complete and pass a refuge specific orientation test (will be mailed to all selected hunters). Tests must be returned postmarked by October 5, 2007.

*Permits*                         Hunters will be assigned a specific hunting unit as identified on their permit. While scouting, permittees must carry a valid NY Hunting License and a valid Wertheim NWR Deer Hunting Permit. While hunting, permittees must turn in their valid NY Hunting License at check-in and carry their valid Wertheim NWR Deer Hunting Permit on their person. Permits are not transferable. The Wertheim NWR Deer Hunting Permit is not valid until signed.

*Hunter Orange*                 Shotgun hunters must wear in a conspicuous manner on head, chest and back a minimum of 400 square inches of solid fluorescent orange clothing. Camouflage orange alone is not permitted.

*Tree Stands*                 **NEW THIS YEAR** – Portable tree stands may be left on the refuge at your own risk but must be removed at the end of your 2 or 3 day *hunt period*. Stands must have the hunter's name and address on it.

*Trail markers*                 We do not permit the marking of any tree, trail, or other refuge feature with flagging, paint, reflective material or any other substance.

<i>Hunting Hours</i>	Hunters may enter the refuge no earlier than one hour before shooting time and leave no later than one hour after shooting hours.
<i>Parking</i>	Hunters must park in designated refuge hunt parking areas only and display a refuge parking permit face-up on the vehicle dashboard (parking permit will be sent to selected hunters). Blocking gates, roads and buildings will result in being towed in addition to a fine!
<i>Closed Areas</i>	There is a designated 500-foot “No Hunt Buffer” surrounding refuge hunting units. Hunting in this area is prohibited. See refuge hunt map for detailed location (map will be sent to selected hunters). Please respect adjacent landowners and do not trespass.
<i>Nature Trails</i>	Other outdoor enthusiasts may be using the Carmans River during the hunting season. Extreme caution should be taken when hunting near the river. Refuge nature trails will be closed to non-hunters during the hunting periods.
<i>Check Station</i>	Hunters must check in at the refuge check station at the beginning of each hunt day and check out at the end of each hunt day, even if no deer were harvested.
<i>Disabled Hunters</i>	The refuge offers a hunt unit that meets ADA accessibility requirements. Hunters possessing a state-issued “Permit for Hunter with Disability” will be placed in this unit if selected. Contact the refuge office for details.
<i>Law enforcement</i>	Individuals utilizing the refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents by federal or state law enforcement officers.

### **Prohibited Activities**

- Littering
- Use of a spotlight or other artificial light may not be used to locate wildlife
- Baiting or hunting over bait, salt or any attractant
- Driving or screw a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or hunt from any tree in which such an object has been driven
- Trimming or cutting vegetation
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages
- Use of ATVs and/or dirt bikes
- Target practice
- Camping and campfires
- Overnight parking
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts
- Pets are not permitted at anytime.

### **An Important Message**

Our wildlife is a valuable resource. Laws and regulations are intended to protect the public and resources, while allowing for some consumptive use. Hunters are encouraged to report any violations they may encounter to a State or Federal employee. The future of hunting on the refuge requires responsible hunter behavior and compliance with regulations. *Thank you. Have a safe and enjoyable hunting experience.*

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Please visit our web site for more information: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/longislandrefuges>