

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are prohibited on the Refuge:

- Littering
- Feeding bears, alligators, or any wildlife
- Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than those specified by refuge rules
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting or driving any motorized vehicle
- Any activities between legal sunset and sunrise (except permitted hunters under refuge hunt rules)
- Target shooting
- Using areas designated “Area Closed”
- Camping, building fires or overnight anchoring
- Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles
- Cutting firewood or trimming vegetation
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads and pottery shards
- Unrestrained pets
- Parking or hunting within 150 feet of any active oil well site, production facility or equipment
- Fishing with unattended jug, trot, bush or similar lines, nets or traps
- Commercial fishing or crabbing
- Firearms on the Refuge, except by permitted hunters during applicable gun hunt seasons
- Hunting within 150 feet of any public road, refuge road, trail, building, residence, or designated public facility
- Killing of feral and other animals without refuge permit

- Climbing trees by driving nails, spikes, or other objects; using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or permanent steps; or using climbing spikes.
- Hunting in and/or shooting into or across any open field, roadway or canal during hunting seasons.
- Marking with flagging, paper, paint, trash, etc...
- Using man-drives for wildlife
- Trapping without a special use permit

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bayou Teche

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Brochure

Bayou Teche
National Wildlife Refuge
3599 Bayou Black Drive
Houma, LA 70360
337/828 0092
<http://www.fws.gov/bayouteche/>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

June 2008



This is an annual permit. In order to conserve tax dollars, please keep this permit throughout the year.

Bayou Teche Refuge Hunt Permit

October 2008 - October 2009

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your permit to hunt on the refuge. It acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Signature (permits are non-transferable)

Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge

Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge, established in 2001, is located in St. Mary Parish in southeast Louisiana. The 9,028 acre refuge is composed of wet bottomland hardwoods laced with bayous and canals. The primary mission of the refuge is to preserve and manage habitat for the threatened Louisiana black bear. Other objectives are to provide habitat for other fish and wildlife species, environmental education, and opportunities for public recreation. The refuge provides important habitat for the Louisiana black bear, a federally threatened subspecies of the American black bear. It also provides excellent habitat for wading birds, neotropical songbirds, waterfowl, and reptiles and amphibians. The refuge is open year round to the public from sunrise to sunset, with seasonal restrictions in some areas. The refuge can be accessed by vehicle, foot, or boat. Wildlife observation, boating and fishing are allowed on the refuge year round except in areas closed to public access. Hunting is permitted on the refuge in specific areas and under date, time, and lottery restrictions. All open hunting seasons are listed in this brochure.

General Regulations

Hunting, fishing regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of The Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Permits

All Refuge hunters are required to possess a signed Hunt Permit while on the Refuge. Hunt permits are free and are found on the front of this brochure. A signed hunt permit acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. **Other Refuge visitors including fishermen, birders and photographers do not need a Refuge Permit.** However, all Refuge visitors are expected to follow all state and federal regulations including those found in this brochure. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the Refuge website.

All Hunters are required to use the Daily Check Cards to check in and out of the Refuge on each day that they hunt. Gun Deer Hunt permits are available by lottery drawing. Daily Check Cards are available on the Refuge at Unit and Headquarters check stations. Applications for Gun Deer Hunt Season lottery permits will be accepted through October 15 at the Mandalay NWR office, 3599 Bayou Black Drive, Houma, LA 70360 or by fax at 985/853 1079, or by email to Barret_Fortier@fws.gov

Access

The Refuge is accessible by car, truck, foot, ATV, or boat, dependent on the area to be accessed and the time of year. The Alice-C road enters the Garden City unit of the Refuge and provides access by car. Marked un-improved roads crossing farm fields can be used to access the Centerville, Garden City, North Bend-East and North Bend-West units of the Refuge. These are low-grade roads and can be traveled by vehicles only during dry seasons. They are not recommended for driving during wet seasons; travel by ATV or foot is recommended on these roads during those times. Take note of Refuge signs on roads, trails and waterways indicating vehicle type restrictions. Motorized vehicles are only allowed on specifically signed access roads; they are not allowed on trails maintained for public access by foot. Boats can be used on open waterways (canals and bayous) on the Refuge; boats with motors are not allowed on interior waterways designated for non-motorized boats only.

Physically Challenged or Disabled Users

Physically challenged or disabled public users are encouraged to inquire at Mandalay Refuge headquarters for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable.

Fishing

All State of Louisiana fishing limits apply. Recreational fishing is permitted from legal sunrise until legal sunset unless specifically stated. Commercial fishing is not allowed. The use of nets, traps, or unattended lines (trot, jug, bush, etc) is not allowed. Fishing is allowed from shore and from boats in open waterways.

Boating

Recreational boating is allowed in open waterways (canals and bayous). All State of Louisiana boating regulations apply including, but not limited to, running lights, registration, and personal floatation devices. Boating regulations are strictly enforced. Airboat use is not permitted on the refuge.

Hunting

In addition to the **Hunt Permit** and **Refuge Brochure** required for all Refuge hunters, Gun Deer hunters must possess a **Gun Deer Hunt Lottery Permit**. Season permits are granted annually by lottery drawing. Hunters must submit an application for the drawing. Applications for Gun Deer Hunt Season Lottery permits can be found in this brochure and will be accepted through October 15. Applicants will be selected by random computer drawing. All Lottery hunt applicants are required to submit proof of

completion of a State Hunter Education Program. All gun hunters regardless of age must possess proof of completion of a State Hunter Education Program. All hunters must also use **Daily Check Cards** at refuge check stations to check in and out of the refuge each day that they hunt.

- Permits are non-transferable and must be in the hunter's possession at all times while on the refuge during the permitted hunt.
- Hunters are authorized to take only species listed on the season permit. Harming or needlessly disturbing plants or other wildlife is a violation of refuge regulations.
- Each youth of age 17 years or younger must be supervised by an adult of age 21 years or older. All youth hunters and adult supervisors must have proof of completion of a State Hunter Education Course
- Hunters may enter the hunting area no earlier than two hours before sunrise and may remain no later than one hour after sunset.
- Possession of lead shot is prohibited on the Refuge; approved non-toxic shot must be used in shotguns. Possession of buckshot is allowed only during gun deer season.
- Firearms carried in vehicles or boats must be unloaded and encased or dismantled. Loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on a muzzleloader. Archery tackle must be un-cocked with arrow un-nocked from string.
- The possession or distribution of bait or hunting with the aid of bait, including any grain, salt, mineral, other feed or non-naturally occurring attractant on the refuge is prohibited.
- We allow the use of portable deer stands according to State of Louisiana Wildlife Management Area regulations. Only portable stands or blinds may be used. A stand or blind left on the refuge overnight may be used by any hunter on a first-come, first-serve basis. Stands or blinds left on the refuge must be placed in a non-hunting position as per State WMA regulations. Hunting from old stands or blinds erected in past years, or using old structures or camps is strictly prohibited. Live vegetation can not be cut or moved to create blinds.
- The only dogs allowed for hunting are recognized retriever breeds for use in waterfowl hunting. All dogs must be collared with owners name and phone number. Dogs used for chase are not allowed on the refuge.

Archery Deer Season

All archery hunters must use refuge daily check cards to check in and out at designated check stations daily. See the "Hunting Regulations" table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. Bowhunters will be required to possess proof of completion of the International Bowhunters Education Program.

Bows are permitted only during the Refuge archery season. State of Louisiana regulations governing drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., are applicable. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulations governing crossbow use will apply to refuge hunters. No firearms are allowed on the archery hunt.

Gun Deer Season - General and Youth

Gun Deer Hunt Permits are required and are issued by lottery. See the "Hunting Regulations" table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc.

Hunter orange (400 square inches of unbroken hunter orange and a hunter orange cap) must be worn by hunters during gun deer seasons.

During the Youth Gun Deer Hunt, no lottery permit required, each youth (age 17 or younger) must be accompanied (in sight and in normal voice contact) by one non-hunting licensed adult hunter (age 21 or older) and only the youth is permitted to carry a firearm. Youth hunters and adult supervisors must possess proof of completion of a State Hunter Education course.

Small Game Season (squirrel and rabbit)

See the "Hunting Regulations" table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc.

Waterfowl Season

This waterfowl season allows all species of take included in the Louisiana State Waterfowl season and are the same as those described by state waterfowl regulations. One adult can supervise no more than two youth hunters while waterfowl hunting. See the "Hunting Regulations" table in this brochure for dates, bag limits, areas, etc. Only recognized retriever breeds for waterfowl hunting are allowed. Live vegetation can not be cut and used for blinds. We require waterfowl hunters to remove all portable blinds, boats, decoys and other personal equipment by 1 pm daily.