



# Hunting Opportunities



Shawnee National Forest

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2005



The Shawnee National Forest, USDA Forest Service, is the largest public landowner in the state. This fact, combined with its diversity of habitats, offers sports enthusiasts a range of hunting opportunities. Each year thousands of hunters are attracted to the forest to hunt everything from trophy bucks to upland game and waterfowl. Private land is interspersed with federal and state land. It is the hunter's responsibility to make sure they are on public land. Maps showing national forest land ownership are available for purchase at Shawnee National Forest offices.

The State of Illinois sets hunting seasons and regulations and these rules are applicable to Shawnee National Forest lands. To hunt on the Shawnee National Forest, you must have a valid Illinois hunting license. In addition, to hunt deer or turkey, a special permit must be obtained. If hunting migratory waterfowl, a hunter must have a federal and state migratory waterfowl stamp. Refer to the *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations* guide for specific information on hunting seasons and regulations. This free guide is available by contacting the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, One Resource Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, (217) 782-6384, <http://dnr.state.il.us>.

Much of the Shawnee National Forest is managed for wildlife habitat as part of its multiple-use management program. Mowing, disking or burning maintains wildlife openings. These openings produce more of the "edge effect", supplying food in the openings and shelter in the woods. Roads leading to openings and waterholes are maintained to provide hunter access. Private croplands are interspersed with forested and shrub-covered areas on federal lands.

Please abide by the following regulations and safety reminders to ensure the enjoyment and safety of all Shawnee National Forest visitors.

- Hunting activities are prohibited in or within 150 yards of any building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area, pursuant to 36 CFR 261.10 (d).
- All firearms and bows with arrows should be cased and unloaded while in a recreation area or other public areas.
- Construction of or use of permanent deer stands is not permitted on national forest lands. [Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.58 (v)]
- Use of motorized vehicles off Forest development roads is prohibited within the Shawnee National Forest, pursuant to 36 CFR 261.56.
- Dispersed camping is allowed ¼ mile outside developed campgrounds or developed picnic grounds pursuant to 36 CFR 261.58 (e).
- Proper safety precautions should be adhered to as outlined in the IDNR hunting digest (i.e., blaze orange clothing, etc.)
- Practice the Leave No Trace principles. To learn more visit [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org).

USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# General Hunting Locations

