

2017-18 *Arkansas*

WATERFOWL HUNTING GUIDEBOOK



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Main Office Contact Information

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Important Numbers

Stop Poaching Hotline

Toll-free: 800-482-9262

#TIP (#847) for AT&T users (charges apply)

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Text a Tip (TIP411)

Text AGFC and your tip to TIP411 (847411)

Texts are completely anonymous

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www.agfc.com

Wildlife Hotline

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Toll-free: 800-440-1477

Boating Education Classes

Toll-free: 877-493-6424 (office hours only)

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www.reportband.gov

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www.agfc.com

Hunter Education Classes

Toll-free: 800-482-5795, or register-ed.com

Replace a Lost Hunter Education Card

Toll-free: 800-830-2268, or lostmycard.com

Regional Office Contact Information

WMD Region 1 • Northeast Office

600-B East Lawson • Jonesboro, AR 72404

Toll-free: 877-972-5438

WMD Region 2 • East Central Office

1201 North Highway 49 • Brinkley, AR 72021

Toll-free: 877-734-4581

WMD Region 3 • Southeast Office

771 Jordan Drive • Monticello, AR 71655

Toll-free: 877-367-3559

WMD Region 4 • South Central Office

500 Ben Lane • Camden, AR 71701

Toll-free: 877-836-4612

WMD Region 5 • Southwest Office

7004 Highway 67 East • Perrytown, AR 71801

Toll-free: 877-777-5580

WMD Region 6 • Hot Springs Office

350 Fish Hatchery Road • Hot Springs, AR 71913

Toll-free: 877-525-8606

WMD Region 6 • Fort Smith Office

8000 Taylor Ave. • Fort Smith, AR 72916

Toll-free: 877-478-1043

WMD Region 7 • Northwest Office

455 Dam Site Road • Eureka Springs, AR 72631

Toll-free: 866-253-2506

WMD Region 8 • North Central Office

1125 Hwy 56 • Calico Rock, AR 72519

Toll-free: 877-297-4331

WMD Region 8 • West Central Office

1266 Lock and Dam Road • Russellville, AR 72802

Toll-free: 877-967-7577

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This guidebook is also available online at **www.agfc.com**

New This Season

- A free annual WMA General Use Permit (WMP) is now required to hunt and trap on all WMAs. The Sweet 16 Permit no longer exists. (see Page 10)
- An electronic copy of a State-issued license, permit, or stamp can be carried in place of a paper copy. (see Page 11) Federal duck stamps must be in possession while hunting.
- Guiding is prohibited on national wildlife refuges. (see Page 35)
- The ban on any electronic or mechanical device that simulates movement, except jerk strings, on any Commission-owned WMA or lake and national wildlife refuges includes teal and youth seasons. (see Page 43)
- Boating restrictions have expanded to any Commission-owned or controlled WMA. (see Page 44)
- A nonresident must purchase a Nonresident 5-Day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit for each WMA they hunt. Only six 5-day permits may be purchased per season. The nonresident WMA waterfowl annual permit has been eliminated. (see Page 44)
- Cost of nonresident 5-day WMA waterfowl permits increased to \$30.50 (see Page 44)
- All-day hunting is allowed on Blue Mountain WMA, J. Perry Mikles/Blue Mountain SUA and Ozark Lake WMA. (see pages 46, 54 and 55)
- Electronic registration is required for waterfowl hunters on Frog Bayou. (see Page 51)
- All-day youth waterfowl hunting is allowed on Saturday and Sunday only by online permit on the Conway George Tract at Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMA and Freddie Black Chockraw Island WMA and Deer Research Area West Unit. (see pages 51 and 57)

Season Dates Summary

Duck, Coot and Merganser

Nov. 18-26, 2017 • Dec. 7-23, 2017 • Dec. 26, 2017-Jan. 28, 2018

Duck daily bag limit – 6, which may include no more than:

4 mallards (2 hens), 3 scaup, 3 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 1 canvasback, 1 black duck, 1 mottled duck. If not listed, up to 6 ducks of a species (including teal) may be taken.

Coot daily bag limit – 15.

Merganser daily bag limit – 5, which may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers.

Possession limit for ducks, coots and mergansers is three times the daily bag limit.

Special Youth Waterfowl Hunt

Dec. 2, 2017 and Feb. 3, 2018 On these days, youths 15 and younger may harvest ducks, geese, coots and mergansers. Youths who have completed a hunter education course must be accompanied by a mentor 18 or older. Youths who have not completed a hunter education course must be accompanied by a mentor 21 or older. Mentors may not hunt, but may call waterfowl. Shooting hours and bag limits are the same as the regular duck and goose seasons. Youth hunters can hunt on wildlife management areas 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset these two days. WMA General Use Permits are not required for youth hunters.

Light Goose Conservation Order (Snow, Blue and Ross's)

Oct. 7-Nov. 14, 2017, Jan. 29-Feb. 2, 2018 and Feb. 4-April 25, 2018

Special regulations apply during the conservation order.

- There is no bag limit or possession limit.
- Hunters may use electronic calls.
- Hunters do not need a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp, or HIP registration but must have a valid hunting license from any state (excludes youths 15 and younger).
- Hunters may use unplugged shotguns.
- Shooting hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset.
- Hunters must call 800-364-4263(GAME) or go to www.agfc.com to receive a free snow goose registration permit.

Snow, Blue and Ross's Goose

**Nov. 15-Dec. 1, 2017 and
Dec. 3, 2017-Jan. 28, 2018**
Daily bag limit – 20
No possession limit

Light Goose Conservation Order (Page 4)

**Oct. 7-Nov. 14, 2017
Jan. 29-Feb. 2, 2018
Feb. 4-April 25, 2018**
No daily bag or possession limit

White-fronted Goose

**Nov. 15-Dec. 1, 2017 and
Dec. 3, 2017-Jan. 28, 2018**
Daily bag limit – 3
Possession limit – 9

Early Canada Goose

Sept. 1-30, 2017 (statewide)
Daily bag limit – 5
Possession limit – 15

Canada Goose

**Nov. 15-Dec. 1, 2017 and
Dec. 3, 2017-Jan. 28, 2018** (statewide)
Daily bag limit – 2
Possession limit – 6

Mourning, White-Winged and Eurasian Collared-Dove*

**Sept. 2-Oct. 22, 2017
Dec. 8, 2017-Jan. 15, 2018**
Mourning and White-Winged dove
daily bag limit – 15
Mourning and White-Winged dove
possession limit – 45
*No daily bag or possession limit on Eurasian
collared-dove. (Eurasian collared-dove must
remain fully feathered in the field.)

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news in Arkansas or just want to talk
to like-minded folks?**

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Virginia Rail and Sora (combined)

Sept. 9-Nov. 17, 2017
Daily bag limit – 25
Possession limit – 75 (combined)

Snipe

Nov. 1, 2017-Feb. 15, 2018
Daily bag limit – 8
Possession limit – 24

Common Gallinule and Purple Gallinule (combined)

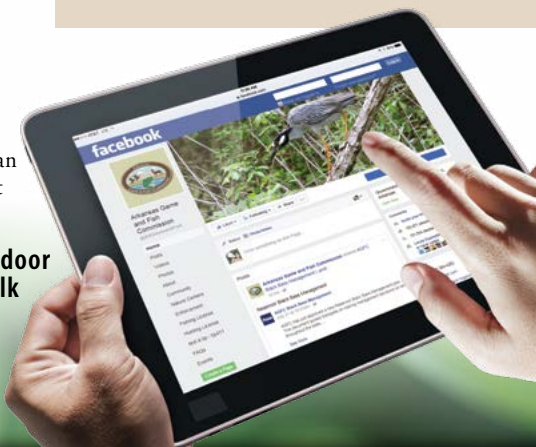
Sept. 1-Nov. 9, 2017
Daily bag limit – 15
Possession limit – 45

Woodcock

Nov. 4-Dec. 18, 2017
Daily bag limit – 3
Possession limit – 9

Daily Bag Limit – The total limit of a specific migratory game bird species that may be taken in one day.

Possession Limit – The total limit of a specific migratory game bird species that may be in your possession at any time, whether on your person or stored in another location.



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Sunrise/Sunset Table for Little Rock

Shooting hours for ducks and geese are 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset. See Page 45 for shooting hours on wildlife management areas. Add 1 minute for each 9 miles west or subtract 1 minute for each 9 miles east of Little Rock (straight-line distance).

	October		November		December		January		February		March		April	
	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)	Rise (AM)	Set (PM)
1	7:04	6:53	7:30	6:15	6:59	4:58	7:17	5:09	7:08	5:39	6:38	6:05	6:56	7:31
2	7:05	6:52	7:31	6:14	6:59	4:58	7:17	5:10	7:07	5:40	6:37	6:06	6:55	7:31
3	7:06	6:50	7:32	6:13	7:00	4:58	7:17	5:11	7:06	5:41	6:36	6:07	6:53	7:32
4	7:06	6:49	7:33	6:12	7:01	4:58	7:17	5:12	7:05	5:42	6:35	6:08	6:52	7:33
5	7:07	6:47	7:34	6:11	7:02	4:58	7:17	5:13	7:04	5:43	6:33	6:09	6:51	7:34
6	7:08	6:46	6:35	5:11	7:03	4:58	7:17	5:13	7:03	5:44	6:32	6:10	6:49	7:34
7	7:09	6:45	6:36	5:10	7:04	4:58	7:17	5:14	7:03	5:45	6:31	6:10	6:48	7:35
8	7:10	6:43	6:37	5:09	7:04	4:58	7:17	5:15	7:02	5:46	6:29	6:11	6:47	7:36
9	7:10	6:42	6:38	5:08	7:05	4:58	7:17	5:16	7:01	5:47	6:28	6:12	6:45	7:37
10	7:11	6:41	6:39	5:07	7:06	4:59	7:17	5:17	7:00	5:48	6:27	6:13	6:44	7:38
11	7:12	6:39	6:40	5:07	7:07	4:59	7:17	5:18	6:59	5:49	6:25	6:14	6:43	7:38
12	7:13	6:38	6:41	5:06	7:07	4:59	7:17	5:19	6:58	5:50	7:24	7:15	6:41	7:39
13	7:14	6:37	6:42	5:05	7:08	4:59	7:17	5:20	6:57	5:51	7:23	7:15	6:40	7:40
14	7:14	6:35	6:43	5:05	7:09	5:00	7:16	5:21	6:56	5:51	7:21	7:16	6:39	7:41
15	7:15	6:34	6:44	5:04	7:09	5:00	7:16	5:22	6:55	5:52	7:20	7:17	6:38	7:42
16	7:16	6:33	6:45	5:03	7:10	5:00	7:16	5:23	6:54	5:53	7:18	7:18	6:36	7:42
17	7:17	6:32	6:45	5:03	7:11	5:01	7:16	5:24	6:53	5:54	7:17	7:19	6:35	7:43
18	7:18	6:30	6:46	5:02	7:11	5:01	7:15	5:25	6:52	5:55	7:16	7:19	6:34	7:44
19	7:19	6:29	6:47	5:02	7:12	5:01	7:15	5:26	6:50	5:56	7:14	7:20	6:33	7:45
20	7:19	6:28	6:48	5:01	7:12	5:02	7:15	5:27	6:49	5:57	7:13	7:21	6:31	7:46
21	7:20	6:27	6:49	5:01	7:13	5:02	7:14	5:28	6:48	5:58	7:11	7:22	6:30	7:46
22	7:21	6:26	6:50	5:01	7:13	5:03	7:14	5:29	6:47	5:59	7:10	7:23	6:29	7:47
23	7:22	6:25	6:51	5:00	7:14	5:03	7:13	5:30	6:46	6:00	7:09	7:23	6:28	7:48
24	7:23	6:23	6:52	5:00	7:14	5:04	7:13	5:31	6:45	6:01	7:07	7:24	6:27	7:49
25	7:24	6:22	6:53	4:59	7:15	5:05	7:12	5:32	6:43	6:02	7:06	7:25	6:25	7:50
26	7:25	6:21	6:54	4:59	7:15	5:05	7:12	5:33	6:42	6:03	7:05	7:26	6:24	7:50
27	7:26	6:20	6:55	4:59	7:15	5:06	7:11	5:34	6:41	6:03	7:03	7:27	6:23	7:51
28	7:27	6:19	6:56	4:59	7:16	5:07	7:10	5:35	6:40	6:04	7:02	7:27	6:22	7:52
29	7:27	6:18	6:57	4:59	7:16	5:07	7:10	5:36			7:00	7:28	6:21	7:53
30	7:28	6:17	6:58	4:58	7:16	5:08	7:09	5:37			6:59	7:29	6:20	7:54
31	7:29	6:16			7:16	5:09	7:08	5:38			6:58	7:30		

Source: The United States Naval Observatory Web site. See <http://aa.usno.navy.mil> for times and locations other than Little Rock.

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Waterfowl Population and Harvest Status

Breeding Habitat and Population Status

Water levels in the Prairie Pothole Region of Canada and the north-central United States, the key producers of ducks across North America, were good to excellent in 2017. Habitat conditions in most prairie and parkland regions were about the same as 2016. However, habitat conditions in some portions of the region declined after surveys were complete. Drying conditions could highlight recent declines in habitat, particularly in the eastern Dakotas, in part due to continued loss of Conservation Reserve Program lands.

Biologists estimated 6.1 million ponds this year across the Prairie Pothole Region and Boreal Forest in Canada. This is 22 percent higher than 2016 and 17 percent higher than the long-term average. The estimated total duck population was 47.3 million, only slightly below 48.4 million ducks in 2016 and still 34 percent above the long-term average. Estimated mallard abundance was 10.4 million, down from the 2016 estimate of 11.8, but still 34 percent above the long-term average population for this species.

Wintering Duck Populations

AGFC biologists conduct three to four aerial waterfowl surveys each year to estimate duck abundance across three primary regions: the Arkansas River Valley, Mississippi Alluvial Valley (Delta) and southwest Arkansas. The surveys are conducted in mid-November, early December, early January and mid-January. A summary of the results of each survey is posted at: www.agfc.com/aerialsurveys.

During the November survey, observers estimated only 269,561 ducks in the Delta, including 82,912 mallards, and a total of 7,444 ducks in the surveyed portion of the Arkansas River Valley, including just 917 mallards. Southwest Arkansas's total duck count was 14,690, with 5,165 mallards. The Delta mallard and total duck population estimates were the lowest recorded since AGFC began formal surveys in 2009 and well below the 2009-2016 long-term November averages of 251,870 and 809,840, respectively.

Observers noted extensive fall tillage of agriculture fields throughout the Delta, which likely combined with limited winter rain and natural flooding to reduce food availability for waterfowl during the 2016-17 wintering period.

Biologists observed nearly 50 percent of mallards in the Delta in buttonbush and agricultural reservoirs, more permanently flooded habitats. Another 40 percent of mallards in the Delta were observed in moist-soil habitats and agricultural fields artificially flooded in anticipation of duck season. In the Arkansas River Valley, biologists saw most mallards and other ducks in the permanent waters of Lake Dardanelle.

In December, biologists estimated 750,174 ducks in the Delta, including 445,364 mallards, and 21,278 ducks in the Arkansas River Valley, including 12,364 mallards. The southwest Arkansas duck population estimate was 39,360, including 34,946 mallards. The Delta mallard population estimate is lower than the 2009-2016 average December count of a little over 700,000, but was up slightly from the 2015 December mallard estimate and was a huge increase from the paltry 82,912 mallards estimated in November. The total December duck population estimate was much lower than the long-term average (more than 1.3 million).

More than 70 percent of mallards in the Delta were in rice fields and other agricultural habitats, 10 percent were in moist-soil habitats. The first substantial series of cold fronts last fall provided increased waterfowl habitat immediately before this survey. Rainfall amounts were not extremely high, but appear to have been sufficient to flood large areas of previously dry agricultural lands. Clearly, mallards and other ducks driven to Arkansas by the cold air behind these fronts quickly settled in this newly available habitat. In contrast, major rivers and their tributaries showed increased flows but typically not enough to cause widespread overbank flooding.



AGFC biologists conduct three to four aerial waterfowl surveys each year to estimate duck abundance throughout the season.

Midwinter Migration

Duck population estimates increased during the midwinter waterfowl survey but remained below average. The Delta duck population was slightly more than 900,000 ducks, including more than 650,000 mallards. This was the second lowest midwinter survey estimate since formal counts began in 2010. Observers counted about 32,000 ducks in southwest Arkansas, including about 19,000 mallards. Population estimates in the Arkansas River Valley were slightly over 12,000 and 43,000 for mallards and all ducks, respectively.

Habitat conditions improved, with more agricultural fields flooded than in previous surveys. However, flooding was not extensive enough to substantially increase habitat in traditional bottomland hardwood forest corridors (e.g. the Cache and White rivers).

Delta duck population estimates increased slightly to more than one million ducks during the late January survey, while mallard estimates declined to about 560,000. Observers counted only about 26,000 ducks in southwest Arkansas, almost 14,000 of which were mallards. Population estimates in the Arkansas River Valley were just over 48,000 and 60,000 for mallards and all ducks, respectively.

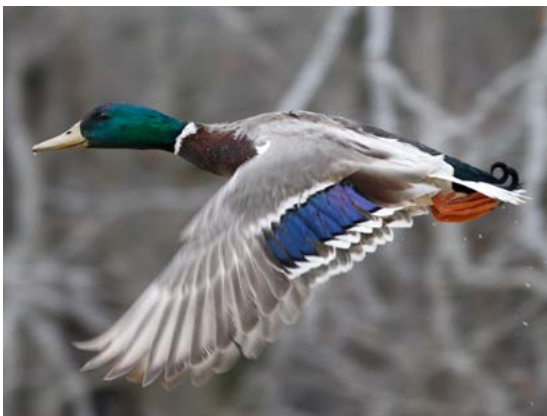
Observers noticed a stark increase in the amount of flooded agricultural fields ("sheet water") compared to previous surveys this wintering period. Population estimates did not increase much, but concentration areas shifted, likely in response to this new habitat. However, increases in available habitat were likely short-lived in many locations, and rains were insufficient to provide runoff necessary to substantially increase flooding on bottomland hardwood habitats.

The 2016-17 wintering period was quite warm, which was similar to the year before, but it also was noticeably drier, leaving much potential waterfowl habitat unflooded. Ducks migrating with cold fronts found limited habitat in Arkansas throughout the 2016-17 wintering period. Like 2015-16, however, a few periods of extreme cold appear to have moved birds along migration routes and changed local and regional habitat availability frequently.

Hunter Participation

Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp sales increased slightly from 2015-16 to 100,743. The single-season record was set in 2014-15 at 104,629 and sales have averaged 98,991 during the last five seasons. Resident duck stamp sales declined slightly to 51,582 and nonresident stamp sales increased to 49,161. Nonresident waterfowl hunters hunting on WMAs are required to possess a Nonresident WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit. The number of distinct purchasers buying these permits rose from 7,426 in 2015-16 to 8,452 in 2016-17, with a 2007-08 through 2016-17 average of 5,945 distinct purchasers buying these permits.

Duck harvest rose slightly in 2016-17. Arkansas duck hunters harvested an estimated 620,654 mallards last year, up from just over 501,000 during the 2015-16 duck season. Arkansas hunters harvested well over twice the number of mallards as the next highest state in the U.S. In fact, hunters in only one other state harvested more than 200,000 mallards (Missouri, 230,665). Total estimated duck harvest last season was 1.13 million, up from 929,734 in 2015-16. Arkansas goose hunters continue to rank near the top of the nation in arctic goose harvest, taking 62,389 light geese (snow, blue, and Ross's) and 70,777 white-fronted geese during the regular 2016-17 season. Participants in the light goose conservation order also harvested an estimated 232,087 light geese.



Arkansas hunters harvested more than 620,000 mallards in 2016-17. The next closest state in mallard harvest was Missouri with 230,000.

Preserving Arkansas's Waterfowl Legacy

Adding and Improving Waterfowl Habitat

The AGFC manages about 70,000 acres of wetlands on state-owned or cooperatively managed wildlife management areas in Arkansas. Unlike agricultural fields many private land duck hunters use, public wetlands are predominantly greentree reservoirs, which are artificially flooded bottomland hardwood forests, and moist-soil units, which are open lands intensively managed for seed-producing plants preferred by waterfowl. Most of these areas are open to public hunting, although some areas are maintained as rest areas to offer disturbance-free habitat for wildlife.

The AGFC constantly works on waterfowl-habitat projects throughout the state, including: acquiring new lands; establishing new moist-soil management units; improving wetland unit hydrology; and, repairing, replacing or installing new water-delivery infrastructure. Much of this work is being completed with nonresident Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp and nonresident WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit funds earmarked for waterfowl habitat conservation on WMAs. These funds, along with private donor funds, are being used to leverage Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration and North American Wetlands Conservation Act dollars to complete millions of dollars of projects on WMAs. The most recent additions to this list are nearly 1,400-acres added to Frog Bayou WMA in northwest Arkansas and extensive enhancements underway at Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA in central Arkansas.

Delayed Water Control to Help Suffering Habitat

During the last few years, AGFC staff and partners have assessed forest health and hydrology to determine the best path forward toward sustainable management of more than 50,000 acres of greentree reservoirs on AGFC WMAs.

Historically, the primary objective of GTRs was to replace the natural, sporadic flooding cycle of bottomland hardwood forests into one that floods more reliably, providing consistent habitat for migrating waterfowl and waterfowl-hunting opportunities in the short term.

However, consistent flooding that favors duck season dates over natural timing and frequency has slowly changed forest composition and health. In some cases, these changes have caused the loss of this valuable habitat and hunting opportunity entirely. Scientific information gained during the last few decades encourages a more natural and sustainable management philosophy for GTRs. The AGFC is planning long-term management for GTRs using this new information, but it will mean changes to familiar flooding patterns.

Typical weather patterns call for relatively dry conditions in September and October, with rainfall increasing later. Widespread flooding normally did not occur in Arkansas until December and January. This matches the long-term pattern of the arrival of migrating mallards, the chief species relying on bottomland hardwood systems in Arkansas. It also coincides with peak acorn drop in red oak species preferred in bottomland hardwood systems.

WILLOW OAK IN SUMMER

Illustration by Greta James

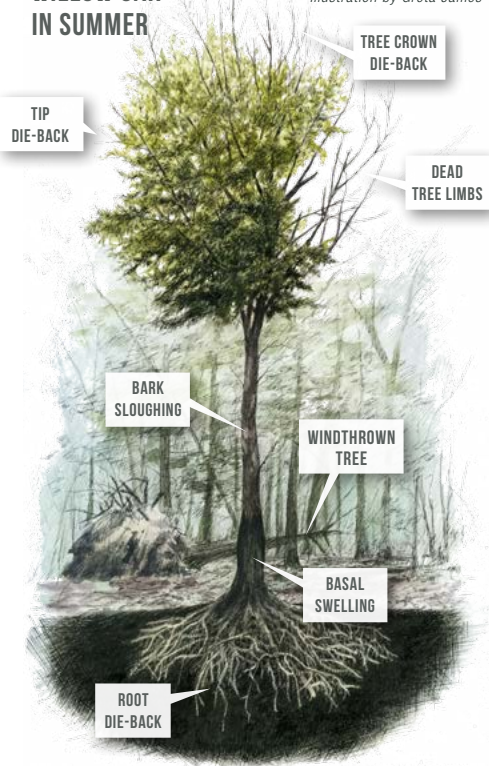




Illustration by Greta James

All Acorns Are Not Equal

Acorns available in newly flooded hardwood forests provide ducks large amounts of energy needed for the stress of winter and flight north. Not all oaks offer the same benefit to waterfowl, however. For example, the overcup acorn, with its large cap, often is too large and difficult for ducks to swallow. Smaller acorns with small caps are preferred by ducks, and the most preferred by mallards tend to be Nuttall and willow oak acorns. The shelter of these areas also provides important isolation habitat to strengthen pair bonds. Flooded hardwoods also contain protein-rich invertebrates to meet the needs of female mallards in particular, which use the nutrients for feather molt and preparation for egg-laying. The depth at which bottomland hardwoods are flooded is critical to their health, as well as their attractiveness to ducks. Dabbling ducks, and mallards in particular, require shallow water to feed. Mallards can rarely feed in water deeper than 12 inches, with an optimal depth of 2 to 8 inches.

In theory, GTR management is not detrimental to bottomland hardwood forests. Trees should be flooded only after they enter dormancy and floodwaters should be removed before spring growth begins. However, duck hunting popularity has increased pressure to provide public duck hunting areas, threatening the objectives of providing sustainable duck habitat. Prolonged flood conditions and the consistency at which many GTRs have been flooded have caused inadvertent damage to the trees. Those specifically at risk are the red oak species providing the most benefit to ducks, such as Nuttall and willow oak. These trees become stressed when their roots and trunks are repeatedly covered with water during the growing season. Decades of stress and tree mortality have gradually shifted the forest composition to favor more water-tolerant species, such as overcup oak, water hickory, water elm and buttonbush. These species are less beneficial to ducks than the red oaks they are replacing.

Modifying Management

AGFC-managed GTRs still provide a valuable resource to ducks and duck hunters, but how they are managed must change if we wish to continue enjoying good duck hunting on these areas and the AGFC is to provide long-term waterfowl habitat. The AGFC will evaluate and develop detailed plans for each AGFC-managed GTR in coming years. All plans will follow a more natural flood plan than the current system of holding water at a constant, high level targeted for the opening of duck season. The most notable change must be in the timing, depth and frequency at which we intentionally flood GTRs. To this end, the AGFC revised all infrastructure-operation management dates for existing GTRs and implemented these revisions beginning with the 2017-18 wintering period. A table showing operation dates and much more information can be found at www.agfc.com/gtr.

Licensing and Permits

A Waterfowl Hunter 16 or Older Must Carry:

1. **A valid license** (See 4 below) coded DSR (Resident Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp: \$7), DSN (Nonresident Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp: \$35), or PLD (65+ Resident Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp).
2. **A valid federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp** (\$25), signed in ink across the face (code on electronic stamp valid for 45 days);
3. **Proof of Arkansas HIP registration; and**
4. **One of the following hunting licenses:**
 - Resident Wildlife Conservation License (HNT), \$10.50
 - Resident Sportsman's License (RS), \$25
 - 65+ Resident Annual Sportsman's License (PAH), \$3.50
 - 65+ Resident Sportsman's License (see Page 13) (PLH), \$25
 - 65+ Resident Combination License (see Page 13) (PLC), \$35.50
 - Resident Military Retiree Lifetime Hunting License (MRH), \$25
 - Resident Military Retiree Lifetime Combination License (MRC), \$35.50
 - Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Hunting License (VLH), \$1.50
 - Resident Disabled Military Veteran Lifetime Combination License (VLC), \$3.00
 - 3-year Resident Disabled Sportsman's License (RDH), \$25
 - 3-year Resident Disabled Combination License (RDC), \$35.50
 - Nonresident 5-Day Small Game Hunting License (SG5), \$70
 - Nonresident Annual Small Game Hunting License (NRH), \$110
 - Nonresident 1-Day All Game Hunting License (AG1), \$55
 - Nonresident 3-Day All Game Hunting License (AG3), \$125
 - Nonresident 5-Day All Game Hunting License (AG5), \$180
 - Nonresident Annual All Game Hunting License (NBG), \$350
 - Lifetime Sportsman's Permit (Arkansas Waterfowl Stamp not required) (LSP), \$1,000
5. **In addition to a valid hunting license, nonresidents must carry the following permit before hunting waterfowl on certain WMAs. See pages 42-62.**
 - Nonresident 5-Day Wildlife Management Area Waterfowl Hunting Permit (see Page 43) (NW5), \$30.50
6. **A free WMA General Use Permit when hunting or trapping on any WMA (WMP). See pages 42-62.**

How Do I Buy a License?

- Licenses are available over the counter at AGFC regional offices, nature centers and many sporting goods stores across the state.
- Call 501-223-6349 or 800-364-GAME (4263) between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
- Visit www.agfc.com, click “Buy Licenses.”

Telephone and online purchases must be made by credit card. Small game and fishing privileges become effective immediately. A valid printed license or acceptable electronic format license must be in your possession before hunting big game (deer, turkey, bear, elk or alligator). Lifetime, disability and commercial licenses are not available by phone or online.



What Kinds of Licenses or Permits Do I Need to Hunt in Arkansas?

If you are 16 or older, an Arkansas hunting license is required to hunt wildlife unless you are on a licensed game-bird shooting resort that supplies pen-raised birds. The license must be carried with you. If you guide, aid or assist someone else for pay or other value, you must have a guide license.

How Do I Replace a Lost License?

Beginning in summer 2017, the AGFC’s licensing system now allows purchasers to print his or her own license at home, or print them at license vendors around the state. Should a licensee lose the original license, he or she simply has to reprint it. License information can also be retrieved via smart phone/mobile device.

Do I Qualify as a Resident?

- Any person that physically inhabits a bona fide residence within Arkansas for at least 60 days and declares themselves a full time resident.
- Full time students of Arkansas schools, colleges or universities (with proof of enrollment)
- Residents that are full time students of schools outside of Arkansas
- Active-duty military personnel assigned to duty stations in Arkansas
- Active-duty military who were Arkansas Residents when entering service regardless of where they are stationed

What Are Disability Licenses?

Resident disabled hunters may purchase a three-year disability hunting license for \$25 or a three-year combination license for \$35.50 (includes fishing privileges) through the Little Rock AGFC office. Proof of 60 days Arkansas residency and proof of 100 percent disability from the Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs or the Railroad Retirement Board is required.

What Is HIP Registration?

Each year, before hunting migratory game birds, hunters 16 years and older must register for the Harvest Information Program (HIP) at any license dealer or online at www.agfc.com.

Proof of Arkansas HIP registration must be carried while hunting.

Which Licenses Do Hunting Guides Need?

A guide is someone who guides hunters for pay or other consideration. Residents and nonresidents may not guide on any land owned or leased by AGFC or any NWR.

- Resident guide license -\$25.00
- Nonresident guide license -\$150.00

These license are available from AGFC offices (see Page 1), expire June 30 and do not include hunting privileges.

Who Needs a Hunter Education Card?



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Ducks of Arkansas



Mallard drake

Look for a green head and a sharp contrast between the chestnut breast and gray belly.

Mallard

Length – 24 inches

Roughly 50 percent of ducks taken in Arkansas are mallards. More mallards are shot in Arkansas than in any other state.



Mallard hen



Black Duck

Length – 24 inches

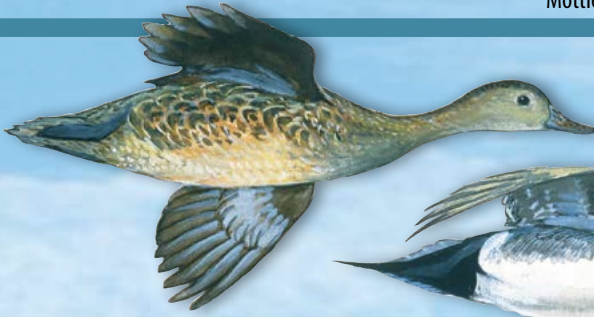
Looks like a dark version of a mallard hen. White underwings and pale head contrast with a dark body. Often flies with mallards. Hens and drakes have a similar appearance. Fewer than 2,000 are taken in Arkansas each year.

Mottled Duck

Mottled ducks are rare in Arkansas. Drake and hen mottled ducks look like hen mallards, but the body feathers are a little darker than the mallard, yet not as dark as a black duck, and have the characteristic mottling shown in this illustration. The wing patch has a blue-green tint, no front white bar and a rear faded white stripe may be present.



Illustrations by Bob Hines. Courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
Mottled duck illustration by Aaron Johnson.

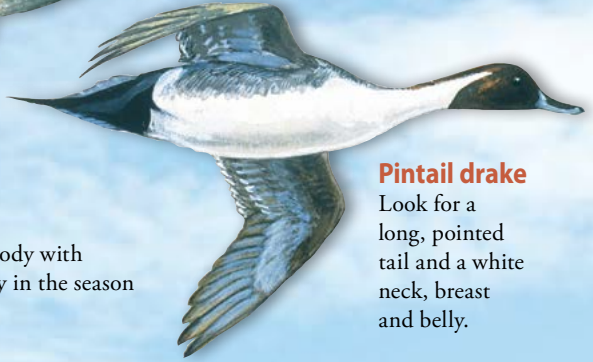


Pintail hen

Northern Pintail

Length – 26 inches

Look for a long, streamlined body with narrow wings. Often seen early in the season and again in January.



Pintail drake

Look for a long, pointed tail and a white neck, breast and belly.



Gadwall drake

Gadwall

Length – 21 inches

Look for a white patch on the back of each wing and a white belly. A gadwall flock looks like a flock of small, slim mallard hens.



Gadwall hen

Wood Duck

Length – 18½ inches

Frequents woods along streams or flooded timber. Commonly breeds in Arkansas.



Wood duck drake

Look for a long tail, a large head held high in flight and a white belly and chin.



Wood duck hen

Frequently emits a long squealing call in flight.

American Wigeon

Length – 21 inches

Look for a showy white belly and a light blue bill tipped with black. Generally seen in small flocks and taken in low numbers.



Wigeon hen



Wigeon drake

Look for white patches on the shoulder, white forehead and a green eye band.

Northern Shoveler

Length – 21 inches

Has an undeserved reputation for being poor table fare.



Shoveler drake

Look for a wide, spoon-like bill, a white breast, a dark belly and pale blue shoulder patches.

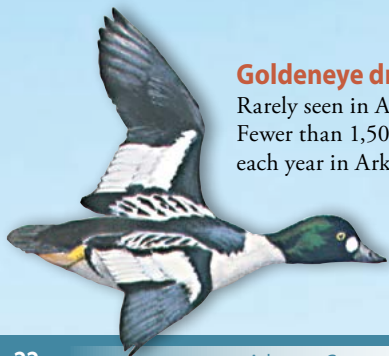


Shoveler hen

Look for an orange, spoon-like bill. Otherwise, looks like a small mallard hen.

Goldeneye drake

Rarely seen in Arkansas. Fewer than 1,500 shot each year in Arkansas.



Common Goldeneye

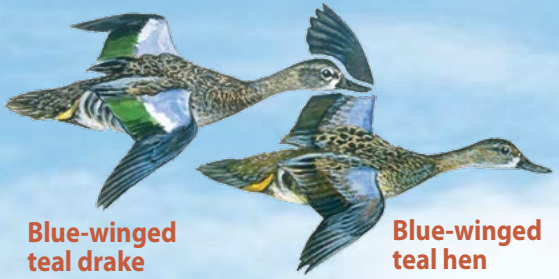
Length – 19 inches

Distinctive wing-whistling sound in flight has earned the name of “whistlers.” These are active, strong-winged fliers moving singly or in small flocks. Generally seen on large rivers and lakes. Look for chunky body, fast direct flight, flash of white on wing.

Blue-winged Teal

Length – 16 inches

Look for rapid, twisting flight in dense flocks. Shoulders are pale blue. Less than one-third the size of a mallard. Most have migrated through Arkansas to Mexico and Central America by mid-October.



Blue-winged teal drake

Blue-winged teal hen



Green-winged teal hen



Green-winged teal drake

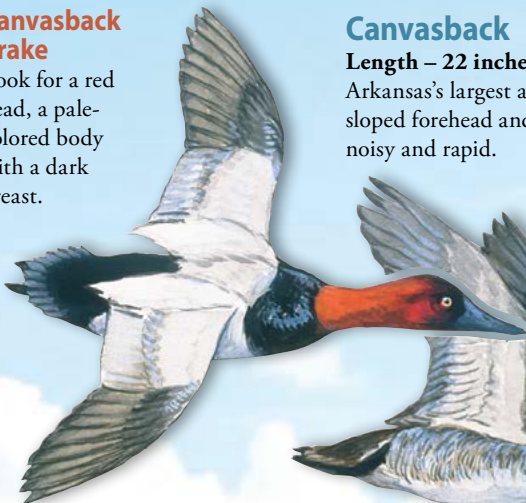
American Green-winged Teal

Length – 15 inches

The smallest duck seen in Arkansas. A fast duck that flies in dense flocks similar to those of blue-winged teal. Both sexes appear pale underneath and dark on top. Two pale lines on the top of wings are often visible. Teal prefer shallow water and are common in rice fields.

Canvasback drake

Look for a red head, a pale-colored body with a dark breast.



Canvasback

Length – 22 inches

Arkansas's largest and fastest duck. Look for a sloped forehead and a dark bill. Wingbeats are noisy and rapid.

Canvasback hen

The same distinctive profile as the drake.



**Redhead
drake**



**Redhead
hen**

Ruddy Duck

Length – 15½ inches

When flying, their small wings stroke so fast they resemble bumblebees.

Hens and drakes are similar in appearance during fall. Look for white cheek patch on males. Often seen on minnow ponds and large lakes with buffleheads.



**Ruddy duck
drake**

Ruddy duck hen



**Bufflehead
drake**

Bold black-and-white pattern.



Bufflehead hen

Bufflehead

Length – 14½ inches

Small, fast-flying duck. Look for white on its head and wings. Plump appearance. Often seen with ruddy ducks.



Ring-necked drake

Ring-necked Duck

Length – 17 inches

Swift, erratic flight. Look for a dark head and breast with a white belly. Dark back and wings help distinguish this duck in flight from scaup. Often seen in rice fields and agricultural reservoirs.



Ring-necked drake eclipse



Ring-necked hen



Scaup drake

Commonly seen on the Arkansas River late in the season.

Scaup

Length – 18½ inches

Looks similar to a ring-necked duck but with a white back, bright blue bill and white on its wings.



Scaup hen

Look for a distinct white face patch.

Hooded Merganser

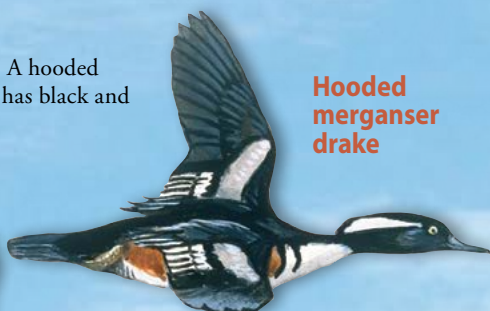
Length – 21½ inches

Mergansers have narrow, pointed bills. A hooded merganser is small with a “hood,” and has black and white on each wing patch feather.

**Hooded
merganser
hen**



**Hooded
merganser
drake**



Red-breasted Merganser

Length – 23 inches

Uncommon. Flight is strong and direct, usually low over the water. Difficult to distinguish in flight from the common merganser. Female's head and neck are paler than female common merganser.

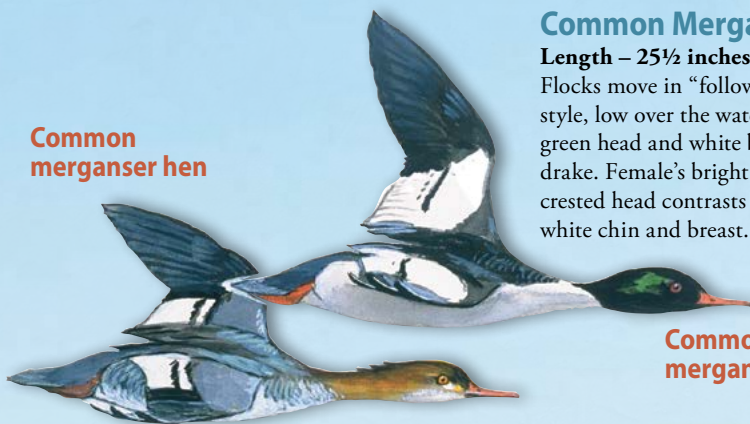
**Red-breasted
merganser
hen**



**Red-breasted
merganser
drake**



**Common
merganser hen**



Common Merganser

Length – 25½ inches

Flocks move in “follow the leader” style, low over the water. Look for green head and white body on the drake. Female's bright chestnut, crested head contrasts sharply with white chin and breast.

**Common
merganser drake**



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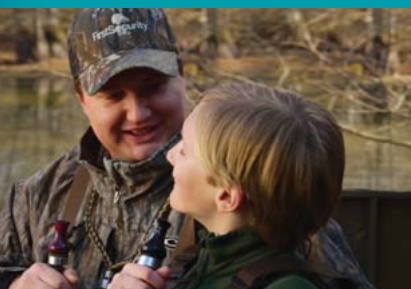
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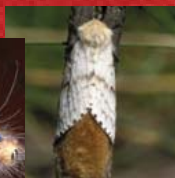
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General Hunting Regulations

Captive Mallards and Live Decoys

It is illegal to hunt migratory waterfowl over live decoys at any time. It is illegal in Arkansas to release captive-reared mallards unless:

- The owner is operating and the hunter is shooting at a Commission-licensed game bird shooting resort.
- The owner has a valid shoot-to-kill retrieving dog training permit and legally purchased the mallards from the holder of a wildlife breeder/dealer permit or has legally imported the mallards into Arkansas in accordance with an AGFC wildlife importation permit. Shoot-to-kill retrieving dog training permits are available through any AGFC wildlife management employee or wildlife officer.

Transferring Wildlife

It is illegal to possess wildlife harvested by someone else, unless accompanied by a signed statement from the taker, stating name, address, species, date taken and license number. **See example at bottom of page.**

A driver's license number with state of origin may be substituted for the hunting license number. A hunter education card number or date of birth may be substituted for the hunting license number for hunters under 16 years of age.

Failure to Report a Hunting- or Trapping-Related Incident

It is unlawful for persons to fail to immediately report a hunting- or trapping-related incident involving personal injury above basic first-aid treatment to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission so an investigation may be conducted.

If the incident involves only one individual and they are admitted to the hospital and incapacitated for any length of time, the incident should then be reported as soon as possible.

To report hunting- or trapping-related incidents, please call 800-364-4263.

Transferring fish or wildlife to another person?

Stay legal. Make sure you provide this information with the transfer.

I, _____ Hunting, Fishing or Driver's License No.* _____

give possession to _____

the following wildlife (quantity and type) _____,

taken on _____ • _____

Date

Today's Date

Signature of Giver

Address of Giver

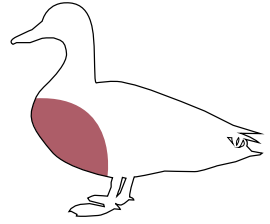
Check Number (required for big game)

* A hunter education card number or date of birth may be substituted for hunters under 16.

Wanton Waste

It is illegal to discard (or allow to go to waste) any edible portion of game birds taken.

Edible portions for game birds are breasts.



Legal Hunting Equipment

Legal Shot

Hunters may have only U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-approved nontoxic shot in their immediate possession when hunting waterfowl.

Hunters may use only nontoxic shot size T (.2-inch diameter) and smaller when hunting waterfowl and coots. Other migratory birds may be taken with nontoxic shot size T and smaller or lead shot size BB (.18-inch diameter) and smaller.

Baiting Laws

Complete information about baiting is available from:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: www.fws.gov/le/huntfish/waterfowl_baiting.htm

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service:
www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/PDF/FSA-9082.pdf

Who Is Responsible?

Hunters, guides and landowners are responsible for understanding and obeying regulations about baiting and knowing the conditions of the area to be hunted.

What Is a Baited Area?

A baited area is where salt, grain or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered in such a way to lure or attract waterfowl or doves to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

For How Long?

An area is considered baited for 10 days following the complete removal of salt, grain or other feed.

What Are the Penalties for Baiting?

Baiting migratory game birds is a criminal offense with fines up to \$200,000 and a one-year prison term. Hunting over a known baited area can result in fines up to \$15,000.

What Is the Liability Standard?

Federal rules prohibit the taking of migratory game birds by the aid of baiting or over any baited area, if the person knows or reasonably should know, that the area is baited.

Example: If a hunter hires a guide who has spread corn throughout the hunting area, but the corn is underwater where the hunter cannot detect it and reasonably had no knowledge that the bait was present, the hunter would not be guilty of hunting over bait. Hunters should ask guides or landowners if the area has been baited.

What Is the Difference Between Baiting Doves and Waterfowl?

Agricultural crops may be manipulated for doves, but not for waterfowl and coots.

Dove hunting is allowed over lands planted by means of top sowing or aerial seeding, if seeds are present solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting or a normal agricultural soil stabilization practice.

Example: A dove hunter may legally hunt over a field of sunflowers that has been mowed but may not hunt waterfowl in the same field.

What About Normal Agricultural Operations?

Normal agricultural operations are those that have been conducted in accordance with official recommendations of state cooperative extension specialists.

State extension specialists will be relied upon to give expert advice if questions arise over what are considered normal agricultural operations in that area.

Example: Questions about normal and ratoon rice production will be directed to the state extension specialist on rice.

What Is Considered Natural Vegetation?

Migratory game birds may be hunted over manipulated natural vegetation.

Example: Thinning brush from overgrown, privately owned wetlands to improve habitat for wintering waterfowl is considered manipulating natural vegetation.

Is Planted Millet Considered a Crop?

Planted millet is treated like an agricultural crop and may not be manipulated if you intend to hunt waterfowl. Millet that grows on its own in subsequent years (sometimes called “volunteer”) is considered natural vegetation and may be manipulated at any time without restriction.

Can I Put Up a Blind?

Hunters may conceal a blind on privately-owned property using vegetation from agricultural crops or natural vegetation as long as it does not result in the exposing, depositing or scattering of grain.

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Hunting from a Boat



Anyone born after 1986 and of legal age to operate a motorboat must have successfully completed an approved AGFC

boating education course and carry proof of completion while operating any motorboat on Arkansas waters.

A motorboat is defined as any vessel operated upon water propelled by sail or machinery, whether or not the machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

The boating education course teaches the fundamentals of safe and responsible boating and is written on a sixth-grade reading level. The AGFC offers the following options for taking the boating education course:

The classroom course is a minimum six hours of instruction including the examination. This option is free.

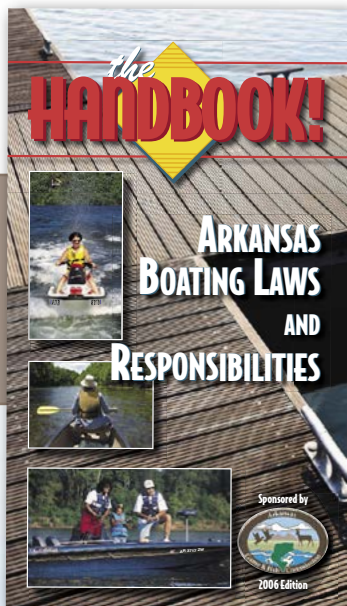
The internet course is available online. Students study the material and take the examination in person. There is a \$24.50 charge.

After successful completion of one of these options, the student will be mailed a Boating Education Card.

Information and class schedules are available online at www.agfc.com or by calling 501-223-6377 (Little Rock) or 877-493-6424 (toll-free).

The Handbook of Arkansas Boating Laws and Responsibilities

This compilation of Arkansas and federal boating laws is available by calling the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission at 501-223-6379 (Little Rock) or email Stephanie.Weatherington@agfc.ar.gov.



Hunting from a boat is boating!

Remember to wear a life jacket and follow boating regulations.

Property Regulations

Hunting Near a Residence

Hunters lawfully present through ownership or lease agreement may hunt on their own property, regardless of distance to another person’s residence.

However, all other hunters using firearms within 150 yards of a residence or using archery equipment within 50 yards of a residence must have written permission from the owner or occupant of that residence.

Hunting on Private Property

Find out who owns the land or water and get verbal or written permission (see example below) from the landowner or leaseholder before hunting, fishing, trapping or releasing hunting dogs or pursuing wildlife with dogs on private property.

Written permission is not required if the person hunting is a relative of the landowner or lessee and permission can be verified.

Permission to Hunt Card

I have given _____
sportman's name

permission to _____ on my land
hunt, fish, trap, release dogs or pursue wildlife with dogs

(_____) for this period of time:
location

state beginning and ending days, months and years

Signed, _____
landowner or lessee signature

landowner or lessee name, printed

Phone _____ Today's date _____

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Federal Regulations Overview



In addition to state regulations, the following federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting and storing of migratory game birds.

It is illegal for waterfowl hunters to be guided on National Wildlife Refuges. Both hunters and guides are subject to penalties.

Caution: The following material is a summary. Each hunter should also consult the federal regulations found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20 (available at <http://tinyurl.com/huntingwaterfowl>). More restrictive regulations may apply to national wildlife refuges and state wildlife management areas.

Illegal Hunting Methods

You may not hunt migratory waterfowl:

- 1) With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.
- 2) From a sink box or any other low floating device that conceals you beneath the surface of the water.
- 3) From a motorboat or sailboat, unless you shut the motor off or furl the sail and the vessel is no longer in motion.
- 4) Using live birds as decoys.
- 5) Using recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds.
- 6) While possessing any shot other than approved nontoxic shot.
- 7) With a shotgun that can hold more than three shells, unless you plug it with a one-piece filler that cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.
- 8) From or by means, aid or use of any motorized vehicle or aircraft. If you are a paraplegic or are missing one or both legs, you may hunt from a stationary motorized land vehicle.

Wanton Waste

You must make a reasonable effort to retrieve and keep all migratory game birds you kill or cripple while in the field. You must immediately kill any wounded birds you retrieve and count those birds toward your daily bag limit.

Rallying

You may not hunt migratory game birds that have been concentrated, driven, rallied or stirred up with a motorized vehicle or sailboat.

Tagging

You may not give your birds to another person in the field, regardless of whether or not they are properly tagged. You may not leave migratory game birds in the custody of another person unless you tag the birds with your signature, address, number of birds identified by species and the date you killed them.

Dressing

You may not completely field-dress waterfowl before taking them from the field. The head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached while you transport them to your home or processor.

Dual Violation

A violation of a state migratory game bird regulation is also a violation of federal regulations.

Duck Stamp

If you are 16 or older, you must carry a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp. You must sign the stamp in ink across the face before hunting.

Protected Birds

Federal law prohibits the killing of nongame migratory birds.

For More Information

If you have additional questions about waterfowl hunting, contact Division of Law Enforcement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 81, Post Office Building, Little Rock, AR 72201. Telephone: 501-324-5643, or contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1500 Museum Road, Suite 105, Conway, AR 72032. Telephone: 501-513-4474.

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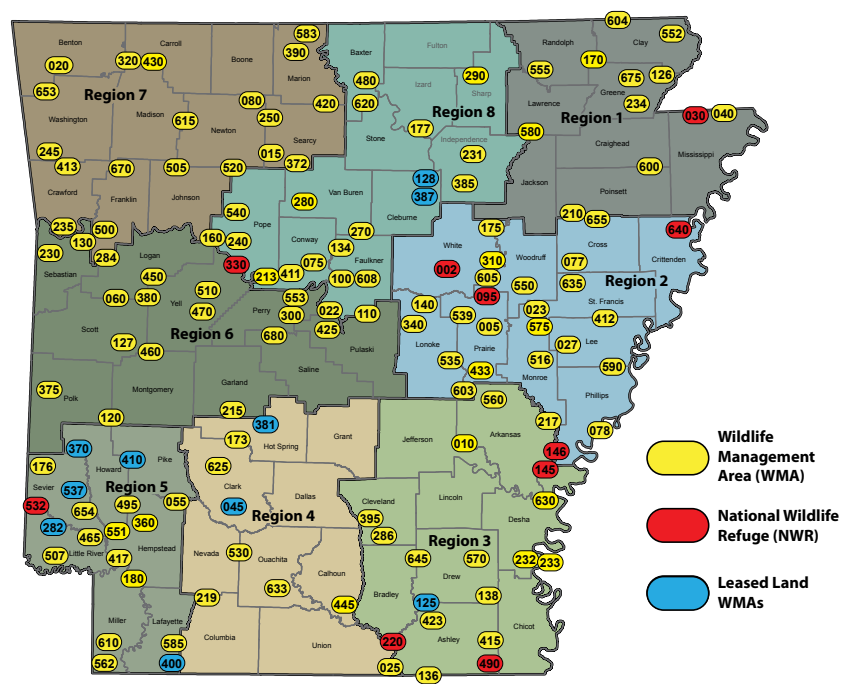
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Wildlife Management Regions and National Wildlife Refuges with Special Regulations



Contact Numbers:

Region 1 — Northeast

600-B East Lawson • Jonesboro, AR 72404
Toll-free: 877-972-5438

Region 2 — East Central

1201 N. Highway 49 • Brinkley, AR 72021
Toll-free: 877-734-4581

Region 3 — Southeast

771 Jordan Drive • Monticello, AR 71655
Toll-free: 877-367-3559

Region 4 — South Central

500 Ben Lane • Camden, AR 71701
Toll-free: 877-836-4612

Region 5 — Southwest

7004 Highway 67 East • Perrytown, AR 71801
Toll-free: 877-777-5580

Region 6 — West Central

8000 Taylor Avenue • Fort Smith, AR 72916
Toll-free: 877-478-1043

Region 7 — Northwest

455 Dam Site Rd. • Eureka Springs, AR 72631
Toll-free: 866-253-2506

Region 8 — North Central

1125 Hwy 56 • Calico Rock, AR 72519
Toll-free: 877-297-4331

Region 8 — West Central

1266 Lock and Dam Road • Russellville, AR 72802
Toll-free: 877-967-7577

General WMA Regulations

A free annual WMA General Use Permit is required to hunt or trap on all WMAs. Permits are available online at www.agfc.com or by calling 800-364-4263 or any regional office.

Waterfowl Guides

It is illegal for waterfowl hunters to be guided on wildlife management areas, special use areas or national wildlife refuges. Both hunters and guides are subject to penalties.

Nonresidents

Nonresidents need a valid Arkansas hunting license with a valid Arkansas waterfowl stamp or code (DSN) and a permit to hunt waterfowl on certain wildlife management areas. If you are a nonresident waterfowl hunter intending to hunt on a WMA, check your destination on pages 45-62. The Nonresident 5-day Wildlife Management Area Waterfowl Hunting Permit costs \$30.50, and is valid for a single WMA. Limit six, 5-day permits per waterfowl season. The permit is available online, by telephone or from license dealers. See Pages 10-11. Nonresidents will also need a free WMA General Use permit when hunting on any WMA.

Hunting Ends at Noon

Shooting ends at noon except where noted on pages 45-62. Waterfowl hunters on WMAs must cease all shooting at noon from Nov. 18- Jan. 28. Waterfowl hunters must also be off water-inundated areas or natural/man-made water courses by noon from Nov. 18-Jan28. Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset on Jan. 26-28 and Dec. 2 and Feb. 3 (Youth Waterfowl Hunts) on WMAs.

No Equipment Left Overnight

Waterfowl decoys, dog stands and platforms may not be left out overnight on wildlife management areas, special use areas or wildlife demonstration areas, including river channels within exterior boundaries of WMAs. Boats cannot be left overnight except on Dave Donaldson Black River WMA at slough boat access points and in boat staging areas after 2 a.m. each morning. Boats in staging areas must be occupied.

Vegetation Destruction Prohibited

On Commission-owned WMAs, it is illegal to use or possess chainsaws, handsaws, hatchets, axes, weed trimmers, string trimmers or other cutting devices. Chemical defoliant also are prohibited. Exceptions to this rule include: hunting knives, pocketknives and pocket saws; campers in designated camping areas; and trappers using hatchets during trapping season.

If AGFC personnel find any evidence of sawing, trimming, herbicide-treating or manipulating, the area will be marked with a sign and marked with red paint to prohibit waterfowl hunting.

Permanent Duck Blinds

It is illegal to build, erect or hunt from a duck blind (any structure fabricated from metal, lumber, wire, nylon or other building materials) which is not removed or torn down each day at the end of shooting hours. This applies to all WMAs including river channels within exterior boundaries of WMAs.

Special Youth Waterfowl Hunt

Hunting is allowed by youths 15 and younger during the Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3. During this hunt, youths have no shot shell limit on WMAs and may hunt from 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset. Details are on Page 4.

Certain Waterfowl Decoys Prohibited

It is unlawful on any Commission-owned WMA or lake and national wildlife refuge to possess, or take or attempt to take waterfowl with the use of, any simulated wing movement decoy or any decoy other than an artificial decoy that imitates the appearance of waterfowl: no moving parts or electrical components; and is not subjected to any artificial means that makes it appear to move, splash or cause ripples. Exception: Manually operated "jerk strings" may be used to simulate movement.

Simulated Wing Movement Decoys

Simulated wing movement decoys are any electric, mechanically operated, wind-powered, or manually powered apparatus or device that simulates wing movement, including any device that spins one or more fixed- or stationary-winged decoys around a central axis.

Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Permit

In addition to a valid Arkansas hunting license, nonresidents must purchase a permit to hunt waterfowl on certain wildlife management areas during regular duck season. There will be a limit of six 5-day permits per waterfowl season per person. The price for the 5-day Nonresident Waterfowl WMA Permit has increased to \$30.50.

Nonresidents 5-Day WMA Waterfowl Permits are required for the following WMAs:

- Bell Slough/Camp Robinson
- Beryl Anthony Lower Ouachita
- Big Lake
- Cut-Off Creek
- Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc
- Dave Donaldson Black River
- Earl Buss Bayou DeView
- Ed Gordon Point Remove
- Frog Bayou
- Galla Creek
- George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto
- Harris Brake
- Henry Gray Hurricane Lake
- Holland Bottoms
- Lake Overcup
- Petit Jean River
- Rex Hancock Black Swamp
- St. Francis Sunken Lands
- Seven Devils
- Sheffield Nelson Dagmar
- Shirey Bay Rainey Brake
- Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms
- Sulphur River
- Trusten Holder
- Craig D. Campbell Lake Conway Reservoir

Boating Regulations on WMAs

It is unlawful to operate a boat in any manner that is hazardous to persons or property on any part of a WMA including ramps, structures, boat lanes or other areas.

Examples of illegal boating practices include:

- 1) Weaving through congested vessel traffic;
- 2) Jumping the wake of another vessel too close to such other vessel;
- 3) Operating a vessel when visibility is obstructed;
- 4) Moving at a speed that exceeds the safe and reasonable limits under the circumstances or that creates a hazardous wash or wake upon approaching or passing vessels;
- 5) Inattentive operation;
- 6) Failure to keep a proper lookout;
- 7) Failure to observe navigation rules;
- 8) Colliding with, striking or bumping another vessel, object or person;
- 9) Operating while intoxicated or under the influence of any narcotic drug, barbiturate, or marijuana or while under any physical or mental disability so as to be incapable of operating safely under the circumstances;
- 10) Swerving at the last possible moment to avoid collision where correction reasonably could have been made earlier;
- 11) Otherwise operating a vessel in a manner that endangers life, limb or property.
- 12) Impeding the normal and reasonable movement of boating traffic, except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with the law of regulations.
- 13) With the exception of meeting oncoming boats, all boating traffic must proceed in single-file with no passing allowed, exception when boats have exited the current direction of travel or are no longer under power.
- 14) All boating traffic on a WMA must maintain a minimum distance of 100 feet (approximately 6-boat lengths) between boats.

Any person found guilty of negligent operation (unintentional hazardous operation) may be fined \$250 to \$2,500, may be sentenced up to 60 days in jail and will be prohibited from accessing any WMA for one year from date of conviction.

Any person found guilty of reckless operation (intentional hazardous operation) may be fined \$500 to \$5,000, may be sentenced up to 90 days in jail, will be prohibited from accessing any WMA for one year from date of conviction and lose hunting and fishing privileges statewide for one year from the date of conviction.

WMA-specific Details

Mobility Impaired Access = ●

A free annual WMA General Use Permit is required to hunt or trap on all WMAs. Permits are available online at www.agfc.com or by calling 800-364-4263 or any regional office.

Unless noted, migratory game bird season dates are the same as statewide seasons. Commission-controlled Waterfowl Rest Areas are closed Nov.1-Feb. 15. Check your specific WMA for exceptions. For shooting hours, refer to Page 43.

Bayou Meto WMA (Zone 010) ●

AGFC 877-367-3559 • 33,832 acres • Arkansas, Jefferson counties

- See George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto WMA

Beaver Lake WMA (Zone 020)

Corps of Engineers 866-253-2506 • 8,007 acres • Benton, Carroll, Madison, Washington counties

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during the waterfowl season.

Bell Slough WMA (Zone 022)

AGFC 877-967-7577 • 2,040 acres • Faulkner County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Waterfowl hunters may not possess shotgun shells containing shot larger than No. 2 and may possess no more than 15 shells unless hunters are in camping, parking or boat-launching areas or during the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Airboats may not be operated within Bell Slough WMA during duck season.
- Non-motorized boat access to water trails in afternoon during duck season is allowed.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Hunters gaining access to Grassy Lake from Bell Slough are not required to have a sportsman's pass, but must stay in or on the water. For information on the sportsman's pass, call 501-212-5230.

Beryl Anthony Lower Ouachita WMA (Zone 025) ●

AGFC / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-836-4612 • 7,020 acres (Includes Coffee Prairie Natural Area) • Ashley, Union counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Hunters may not enter the WMA before 4 a.m. (excluding the Ouachita River) waterfowl hunting ends at noon.
- All waterfowl hunting equipment (blinds, guns, decoys, etc.) must be removed by noon each day. Fishing and non-hunting activities allowed.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Airboats may not be operated within Beryl Anthony Lower Ouachita WMA (excluding the Ouachita River) during duck season.

Big Lake WMA (Zone 040) ●

AGFC 877-972-5438 • 12,320 acres • Mississippi County

- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - The North/South Ditch.
 - All lateral ditches and borrow pits.
- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 44 for exact code.
- Mallard Lake is closed to hunting except the early teal season. Fishing and non-hunting activities are allowed.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Any firearm being transported in Ditch 28 must be dismantled or unloaded and cased.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.

Blue Mountain WMA (Zone 60)

Corps of Engineers 877-478-1043 • 4,000 acres • Logan and Yell Counties

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during the waterfowl season.

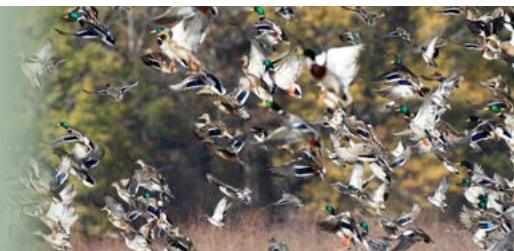
Brewer Lake/Cypress Creek WMA (Zone 075)

City of Conway 877-967-7577 • 1,200 acres • Conway County

- The lake is closed to hunting.

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Camp Robinson SUA (Zone 100)

AGFC 877-967-7577 • 4,029 acres • Faulkner County

- Waterfowl season is closed. See Craig D. Campbell Lake Conway Reservoir.

Camp Robinson WMA (Zone 110)

National Guard 501-212-5230 • 19,648 acres • Faulkner, Pulaski counties

- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Waterfowl hunters may not possess shot shells containing shot larger than No. 2 and may possess no more than 15 shells unless hunters are in camping, parking or boat launching areas or during Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Access to the Grassy Lake area may be closed for military reasons. Hunters must comply with post restrictions. Hunters must carry a sportsman's pass to hunt. Call for additional information; phone 501-212-5274.
- Hunters gaining access to Grassy Lake from Bell Slough are not required to have a sportsman's pass but must stay in or on the water.
- All hunters, including permit holders, are required to purchase and present a sportsman's pass and sign in/out at the Main Gate Visitor Center (Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.) on Military Drive, which will require a valid DL, vehicle registration, proof of insurance and a background check at least 3-5 days prior, each time that they enter. Please contact Post Lodging at 501-212-5274, the Department of Public Safety at 501-212-5280 or visit Caution-www.arguard.org for additional information. Vehicular access is limited to designated improved surface roads. For access restrictions that affect all users during waterfowl season, check the waterfowl guidebook or visit Caution-www.agfc.com/camprobinsonwma. Military Department activities take precedence over recreational activities and may cause changes to access requirements, dates and available training areas without notice.

Cane Creek Lake

AGFC / U.S. Soil Conservation Service / Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism 870-628-4714 • 1,700 acres • Lincoln County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Waterfowl hunting ends at noon.

Cedar Creek WMA (Zone 127)

AGFC 877-478-1043 • 103 acres • Scott County

- Closed to waterfowl hunting.

Coal Pile Lake

AGFC 877-367-3559 • Desha County

- Closed to hunting. Fishing and non-hunting activities are allowed.

Craig D. Campbell Lake Conway Reservoir

AGFC 877-967-7577 • 6,700 acres • Faulkner County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Closed to waterfowl hunting except on Caney Creek, Dix Creek, Palarm Creek and Pierce Creek bays outside posted buffer zones.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Waterfowl hunting ends at noon.

Cut-Off Creek WMA (Zone 138) ●

AGFC / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-367-3559 • 8,725 acres (includes Cut-Off Creek Ravines Natural Area) • Drew County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Travel by boat is allowed only on Cut-Off Creek.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Cut-Off Creek.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Airboats may not be operated during duck season.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Waterfowl hunters may not possess shot shells containing shot larger than No. 2 and may possess no more than 15 shells unless hunters are in camping, parking or boat launching areas or during the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.

Cypress Bayou WMA (Zone 140)

AGFC 877-734-4581 • 1,663 acres • Lonoke, White counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Airboats may not be operated within Cypress Bayou WMA during duck season.

Dardanelle WMA (Zone 160)

Corps of Engineers 877-478-1043 • 42,500 acres • Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Pope, Yell counties

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during the waterfowl season. Waterfowl hunting ends at noon on the McKennon Bottoms and the Potter's Pothole Units although hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset Jan. 26-28 and during the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.
- Waterfowl hunting is not allowed on that part of Big Spadra and Little Spadra creeks north of the railroad, east of Crawford Street, south of I-40 and west of Arkansas Highway 103.
- Dogs and hunting or trapping devices are not allowed on Johnson County WRA. Access on Johnson County WRA on Nov. 1-3 is limited to Mobility Impaired Permit Gun Deer permit holders.
- Additional Corps of Engineers regulations apply. Contact COE, P.O. Box 1087, Russellville, AR 72801, 479-968-5008.

Dave Donaldson Black River WMA (Zone 170) ●

AGFC 877-972-5438 • 25,482 acres • Clay, Greene, Randolph counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed within the Black River.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 3 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Little River
- Closed to all access (except in the Black River, designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Lake Ashbaugh is closed to all hunting except early teal season. Fishing and non-hunting activities are allowed.
- Hubble Lake is closed to all hunting except early teal season. Fishing and non-hunting activities are allowed.
- Winchester WRA and the Brookings moist-soil units are open to deer modern gun youth hunt permit holders only Nov. 4-5 and deer muzzleloader permit holders Oct. 21-25.
- Decoys may be left overnight in slough boats. Slough boats may be left overnight at designated locations. Visit www.tinyurl.com/davedonaldson for more details.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.

DeGray Lake WMA (Zone 173)

Corps of Engineers 877-836-4612 • 14,000 acres • Clark, Hot Spring counties

- A mobility-impaired waterfowl hunt will be held and administered by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel on the Lower DeGray Lake Waterfowl Rest Area. A free permit is required. During this hunt, access on the Lower DeGray Lake Waterfowl Rest Area is limited to mobility-impaired permit holders. The hunt is Jan. 20-21, 2018. Call 870-246-5501 for permit details and application.
- Within the boundaries of the Lower DeGray Lake Waterfowl Rest Area, all killing devices are prohibited except by permitted participants of special hunts and archery equipment used for bow fishing.
- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during the waterfowl season.
- No hunting within designated recreation areas.



Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois D'Arc WMA (Zone 180)

AGFC 877-777-5580 • 13,658 acres • Hempstead County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc Lake WRA is open for fishing and non-hunting access.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Boats are not allowed on the greentree waterfowl area 14 days before duck season opens. Boats with outboard motors larger than 25 horsepower, surface-drive motors larger than 37 horsepower and airboats may not be used (except for Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc Lake).
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.

Earl Buss Bayou DeView WMA (Zone 210) ●

AGFC 877-972-5438 • 4,501 acres • Poinsett County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Lake Hogue is closed to all hunting except early teal season. Fishing and non-hunting activities are allowed.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Thompson Tract boat ramp and boat run.
 - North Oliver Campground primitive boat access, including the natural slough.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Airboats may not be operated within Earl Buss Bayou DeView WMA during duck season.

Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA (Zone 213) ●

AGFC / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-967-7577 • 8,854 acres (includes Goose Pond Natural Area) • Conway, Pope counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - West Fork Point Remove Creek.
 - East Fork Point Remove Creek.
- Closed to all access (except in designated parking areas and boat launch ramps) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Airboats may not be operated within Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA during duck season.
- Steve Frick Waterfowl Rest Area is open to deer modern gun permit holders only Nov. 4-8.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.

Electric Island WMA (Zone 215)

AGFC 877-525-8606 • 118 acres • Garland County

- Closed to waterfowl hunting.

Fort Chaffee WMA (Zone 230)

U.S. Army 877-478-1043 • 66,000 acres • Crawford, Franklin, Sebastian counties

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during the waterfowl season.

**Freddie Black Choctaw Island WMA and Deer Research Area
(West Zone 232, East Zone 233)**

AGFC 877-367-3559 • 9,501 acres • Desha County

East Unit:

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Airboats may not be operated within the Freddie Black Choctaw Island WMA and Deer Research Area (both units, excluding the Mississippi River) during duck season.

West Unit:

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Closed to waterfowl hunting except youth waterfowl permit holders and their mentors during permit hunts.
 - Visit www.agfc.com and click on "Buy Licenses" to apply.
 - All day hunting on Saturday and Sunday only.
 - Hunting allowed in designated locations through online permit lottery.
 - No more than four participants per party are allowed in each designated location, minimum of one mentor per party not to exceed one mentor per youth hunter, all members of the party may hunt.

Frog Bayou WMA (Zone 235)

AGFC 877-478-1043 • 790 acres • Crawford County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites and parking areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- No boat motors are allowed on Frog Bayou WMA.
- Hunters must park in designated areas.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Online permit/registration at www.agfc.com

Galla Creek WMA (Zone 240) ●

AGFC 877-967-7577 • 3,329 acres • Pope County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated parking areas and boat launch ramps) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Airboats may not be operated within Galla Creek WMA during duck season.

George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto WMA (Zone 010) ●

AGFC 877-367-3559 • 33,832 acres • Arkansas, Jefferson counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- **Duck daily bag limit** - 4, which may include no more than:
3 mallards (2 hens), 3 scaup, 3 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 1 canvasback, 1 black duck and 1 mottled duck. Daily limit of 4 mergansers, which may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers.
- Boats with outboard motors larger than 25 horsepower or surface-drive motors of more than 37 horsepower and airboats may not be used.
- No boats allowed on the Government Cypress Walk-in Waterfowl Impoundment. For a map of the Government Cypress Walk-In Waterfowl Impoundment, visit www.agfc.com/bayoumeto.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Mulberry Access (includes all of Salt Bayou Ditch to the confluence of Little Bayou Meto).
 - Buckingham Flats Access (includes Big Bayou Meto).
 - Cannon Brake Access to include Little Bayou Meto only within the Cannon Brake Impoundment.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- Waterfowl hunters may not possess shotgun shells containing shot larger than No. 2 and may possess no more than 15 shells unless hunters are in camping, parking or boat-launching areas or during the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.

Harris Brake WMA (Zone 300)

AGFC 877-525-8606 • 2,700 acres • Perry County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Open for waterfowl hunting Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.
- Hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until noon, except the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts and the last two days of the last duck season, when waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset.
- During duck season, other hunters may hunt only during the same hours and days as duck hunters, except for those deer archery hunting, squirrel hunting, rabbit hunting and trapping and hunting furbearers at night.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed within Harris Brake Lake.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Airboats may not be operated within Harris Brake WMA (excluding Harris Brake Lake) during duck season.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Harris Brake Lake is closed to hunting, except for Canada goose hunting Sept. 1-15.

Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA (Zone 310) ●

AGFC 877-734-4581 • 17,524 acres • White County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed in the White River and Little Red River.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 3 – When the main gate at Mitchell Corner is open, boats are allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Bollie Pond, Big Hurricane Lake (to include Little Hurricane), Big Bell Lake (to include Little Bell), Whirl Lake, Honey Lake, Willow Pond and Mallard Pond.
 - Three Sisters Boat Trail from Mitchell Corner main boat ramp to Glaise Creek.
 - Glaise Creek from the WMA's north boundary to the main water-control structure at Whirl Lake.
- Exception 4 – When the main gate at Mitchell Corner is closed, boats are allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Glaise Creek (to include Glaise Creek access trail #2 from Mitchell Corner north boat ramp to the creek channel) from the WMA's north boundary to the main water-control structure at Whirl Lake.
 - Three Sisters Boat Trail from Mitchell Corner main boat ramp to Glaise Creek.
 - Whirl Lake to include Whirl Creek.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3 (except in the White River and Little Red River).
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Boat motors larger than 50 horsepower and airboats may not be used during duck season.

Holland Bottoms WMA (Zone 340) ●

AGFC / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-734-4581 • 6,190 acres (includes Holland Bottoms Natural Area Willow Oak Forest Preserve) • Lonoke County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Tommy L. Sproles Lake Pickthorne is closed to waterfowl hunting.
- The Willow Oak Forest Preserve Natural Area is open to waterfowl hunting.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Airboats may not be operated within Holland Bottoms WMA (excluding Tommy L. Sproles Lake Pickthorne) during duck season.

J. Perry Mikles Blue Mountain SUA (Zone 380)

Corps of Engineers 877-478-1043 • 4,000 acres • Logan County

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during waterfowl season.
- Closed to all activities when “Field Trial In Progress” signs are displayed. A schedule listing the dates of field trials will be posted at area headquarters and on www.agfc.com.

Lake Catherine

1,940 acres • Garland and Hot Springs Counties

- It is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl from a watercraft or other floating device on Lake Catherine. It also is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl within 1,000 feet of any residence, dwelling or occupied structure on Lake Catherine.

Lake Hamilton

7,460 acres • Garland County

- It is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl from a watercraft or other floating device on Lake Hamilton. It also is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl within 1,000 feet of any residence, dwelling or occupied structure on Lake Hamilton.

Lake Overcup WMA (Zone 411)

AGFC 877-967-7577 • 1,340 acres • Conway County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Waterfowl hunting ends at noon.

Maumelle River WMA (Zone 425)

Central Arkansas Water 877-525-8606 • 17,370 acres • Pulaski County

- Closed to waterfowl hunting.

Mike Freeze Wattensaw WMA (Zone 433) ●

AGFC 877-734-4581 • 19,184 acres • Prairie County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Airboats may not be operated within Mike Freeze Wattensaw WMA during duck season.

Nimrod Lloyd Millwood WMA (Zone 470)

Corps of Engineers 877-478-1043 • 25,000 acres • Yell County

- Waterfowl hunting ends at noon within the Lloyd Millwood Greentree Reservoir. Nimrod Lloyd Millwood WMA lands lying outside the Lloyd Millwood Greentree Reservoir are open to all-day hunting.

Ozark Lake WMA (Zone 500)

Corps of Engineers 877-478-1043 • 7,834 acres • Crawford, Franklin counties

- Waterfowl hunting is allowed 30 minutes before sunrise until sunset during waterfowl season.
- Dyer Lake waterfowl units: hunting ends at noon.

Petit Jean River WMA (Zone 510) ●

AGFC 877-478-1043 • 15,502 acres • Yell County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed on Petit Jean River and Kingfisher Lake.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3 (except in the Petit Jean River and Kingfisher Lake).
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Airboats may not be operated within Petit Jean River WMA (excluding Petit Jean River and Kingfisher Lake) during duck season.

Rex Hancock Black Swamp WMA (Zone 550)

AGFC / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-734-4581 • 7,221 acres (includes Cache River Natural Area) • Woodruff County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Gregory Access (County Road 758) to include the ditch to the Cache River
 - Float Road Access (County Road 752) to include the marked trail to the Cache River.
 - Cache River within the boundaries of the WMA.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- No camping allowed in parking areas at Gregory and Float Road access ramps during waterfowl season.

Rick Evans Grandview Prairie WMA (Zone 551)

AGFC 877-777-5580 • 4,895 acres • Hempstead County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Waterfowl hunting is not allowed on WMA lakes or ponds.

St. Francis National Forest WMA (Zone 590)

USDA Forest Service 877-734-4581 • 21,201 acres • Lee, Phillips counties

- Waterfowl hunting ends at noon.
- Boat motors over 10 horsepower are prohibited.

St. Francis Sunken Lands WMA (Zone 600) ●

AGFC / Corps of Engineers / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-972-5438 • 30,574 acres (includes Singer Forest Natural Area)
Clay, Craighead, Greene, Poinsett counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Waterfowl rest areas located in Sections 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 11N, Range 6E and Section 17, Township 12N, Range 6E are closed to access Nov. 1-Feb. 15 with one exception. The Snowden Field Waterfowl Rest Area levee is open to foot traffic around the north end of the unit to allow access to public land.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.

Seven Devils WMA (Zone 570)

AGFC / Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 877-367-3559 • 5,032 acres (includes Seven Devils Swamp Natural Area) • Drew County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Waterfowl hunters may not possess shot shells containing shot larger than No. 2 and may possess no more than 15 shells unless hunters are in camping, parking or boat launching areas or during the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.
- Airboats may not be operated within Seven Devils WMA during duck season.

Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMA (Zone 575) ●

AGFC 877-734-4581 • 10,297 acres • Monroe County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Robe Bayou from the WMA northern boundary to the low water crossing at I-40.
 - Gator Pond to include only the open water pond area.
 - Bayou DeView designated water trail.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites and parking areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Conway George Tract:
 - Closed to all access from Nov. 16 to Feb. 3, except youth waterfowl permit holder and their mentors during permit hunts.
 - Visit www.agfc.com and click on "Buy Licenses" to apply.
 - All day hunting on Saturday and Sunday only.
 - Hunting allowed in designated locations through online permit lottery.
 - No more than four participants per party are allowed in each designated location, minimum of one mentor per party not to exceed one mentor per youth hunter, all members of the party may hunt.
- Airboats may not be operated within Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMA during duck season.

The AGFC Waterfowl Hunting Guidebook only covers the basics.

Be an informed hunter! The official AGFC code of regulations is available at:

www.agfc.com/codebook

Shirey Bay Rainey Brake WMA (Zone 580) ●

AGFC 877-972-5438 • 11,308 acres • Lawrence County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
 - Exception 1 – Boats allowed within the Black River.
 - Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
 - Exception 3 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m. on the following waters:
 - Shirey Bay, Horseshoe Lake and Hill Slough.
 - The diversion ditch from county Road 317 to the diversion ditch water-control structure.
- Closed to all access (except within the Black River, in designated campsites, parking areas, boat launch ramps and boat staging areas) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Waterfowl rest areas are open to deer modern gun youth hunt permit holders only Nov. 4-5.
- Boats with outboard motors larger than 25 horsepower, surface-drive motors larger than 37 horsepower and airboats may not be used.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Waterfowl hunters may not possess shot shells containing shot larger than No. 2 and may possess no more than 15 shells unless hunters are in camping, parking or boat launching areas or during the Special Youth Waterfowl Hunts, Dec. 2 and Feb. 3.

Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms WMA (Zone 605) ●

AGFC 877-734-4581 • 5,002 acres • White County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- Boats with outboard motors larger than 25 horsepower, surface-drive motors larger than 37 horsepower and airboats may not be used.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident Wildlife Management Area Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) in addition to their permit acquired through the daily drawing to hunt waterfowl.
- From Nov. 18-26, 2017, Dec. 7-23, 2017, and Dec. 26, 2017-Jan. 28, 2018, Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms WMA is open for waterfowl hunting only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Anyone entering flooded areas must have a signed Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms Waterfowl Hunting Daily Use Permit on their person.
 - On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, non-restricted permits are available at the parking area at the end of Cypert Road (south of headquarters), the **east end of Jones Island Road (Cypert Tract)** and boat ramps A and B. Hunters are not restricted to designated locations on these days.
 - On Saturdays and Sundays, a limited number of permits will be available by drawing. Permits will be for designated locations. The permit drawing will take place at the area headquarters two hours before legal shooting time. There may be a total of four hunters per party for each designated hole drawn.
 - Five permits, one mobility-impaired blind permit and one youth blind permit will be available through online drawing. Visit www.agfc.com and click on "Buy Licenses" to apply.
 - All permits must be carried while hunting, completed and returned to the collection box at the end of the hunt.
 - Permits are not required during the Youth Waterfowl Hunt except for the youth blind permitted hole.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
 - Exception 1 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except in designated campsites, parking areas and boat launch ramps) from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.

Sulphur River WMA (Zone 610)

AGFC 877-777-5580 • 16,520 acres • Miller County

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- No boats allowed from noon to 4 a.m., Nov. 18-Jan. 28.
Exception 1 – Boats allowed within the Sulphur River and Mercer Bayou.
Exception 2 – Boats allowed from noon until 6:30 p.m., Dec. 2, Jan 26-28 and Feb. 3.
- Closed to all access (except within the Sulphur River, Mercer Bayou, in designated campsites, and parking areas from 2 a.m. to 4 a.m., Nov.18-Jan. 28 and Feb. 3.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- Airboats may not be operated within Sulphur River WMA (excluding Sulphur River and Mercer Bayou) during duck season.

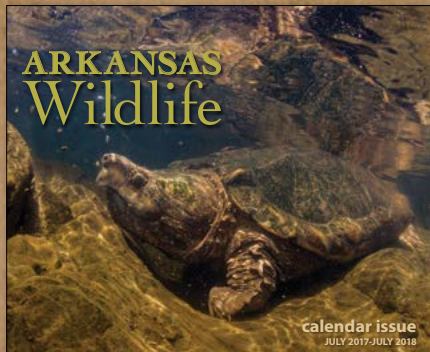
Trusten Holder WMA (Zone 630) ●

AGFC 877-367-3559 • 8,173 acres • Arkansas, Desha counties

- It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except jerk strings. See Page 43 for exact code.
- See Page 44 for boating restrictions.
- Nonresidents need a Nonresident 5-day WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit (Page 12) to hunt waterfowl.
- In areas where the park boundary follows the shoreline, a “no hunting” buffer zone (marked with signs or buoys) has been established. Possession of a loaded firearm within this zone is prohibited.
- Airboats may not be operated within Trusten Holder WMA (excluding Arkansas River, Arkansas Post Canal, Merrisach Lake, Moore Bayou and Post Lake) during duck season.

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NWR-specific Details



Most U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuges require that a signed permit be carried while hunting. Contact the refuge for this permit and for additional refuge regulations. **Unless noted, migratory game bird and waterfowl season dates, hunting times and regulations are the same as statewide.**

It is unlawful to use any device that simulates wing movement or movement of any kind through electrical or mechanical means, except traditional jerk strings. See Page 44 for exact code. It is unlawful to guide or be guided on any NWR.

Bald Knob NWR (Zone 002) www.fws.gov/baldknob

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 501-724-2458 • 15,022 acres • White County

- Waterfowl hunters may possess no more than 25 shotgun shells (including shells in vehicle).
- Hunting parties must stay at least 100 yards apart.
- Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge earlier than 4 a.m.
- Decoys, blinds and all other equipment must be removed daily by 1 p.m.
- Dove and snipe: State seasons except ends at noon each day during regular waterfowl season. Dogs permitted.
- Woodcock: State seasons. Dogs permitted.
- Duck and coot: hunting ends at noon.
- Goose: hunting ends at noon. All day hunting permitted for geese (all applicable species) during the light goose conservation order. The 25 shell possession limit for waterfowl hunting does not apply to goose hunting during the light goose conservation order.

Big Lake NWR (Zone 030) www.fws.gov/biglake

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-564-2429 • 11,038 acres • Mississippi County

- Migratory game birds: closed

Cache River NWR (Zone 095) www.fws.gov/cacheriver

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-347-2614 • 68,000 acres • Jackson, Monroe, Prairie, Woodruff counties

- Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge earlier than 4 a.m.
- Decoys, blinds and all other equipment must be removed daily by 1 p.m.
- Boats are prohibited on the Refuge from 12 a.m.-4 a.m.
- Dove and snipe: State seasons except ends at noon each day during regular waterfowl season. Dogs permitted.
- Woodcock: State seasons. Dogs permitted.
- Duck and coot: hunting ends at noon.

- Goose: hunting ends at noon. All day hunting permitted for geese (all applicable species) during the light goose conservation order.
- Special youth quota permit waterfowl hunts. Bayou DeView and Roundpond Units. Available only to youth under 16. Applications will be received November 1-30, 2017. Visit www.fws.gov/cacheriver/youthwaterfowl for complete details.

Dale Bumpers White River NWR www.fws.gov/whiteriver (South Zone 145, North Zone 146)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-282-8200 • 160,000 acres • Arkansas, Desha, Monroe, Phillips counties

- Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge earlier than 4 a.m.
- NORTH UNIT (north of Highway 1)
 - Duck and coot: Hunting ends at noon.
- SOUTH UNIT (south of Highway 1)
 - Duck and coot: Closed
Exception: Jacks Bay Hunt Area open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays during duck season. Hunting ends at noon. Boating is prohibited in the hunt area, except during designated hunt days and times.

Felsenthal NWR (Zone 220) www.fws.gov/felsenthal

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-364-3167 • 65,000 acres • Ashley, Bradley, Union counties

- Waterfowl hunters may possess no more than 25 shotgun shells (including shells in vehicle). All waterfowl hunting equipment, including blinds, boats, guns, decoys, etc., must be removed by 1:30 p.m.
- Duck, goose and coot: hunting ends at noon. Closed during permit deer hunts.
- Woodcock: Closed during permit deer hunts.
- Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge earlier than 4 a.m.

Holla Bend NWR (Zone 330) www.fws.gov/hollabend

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 479-229-4300 • 7,057 acres • Pope County

- Migratory game birds: closed.

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Overflow NWR (Zone 490) www.fws.gov/felsenthal/overflow

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-473-2869 • 13,000 acres • Ashley County

- Waterfowl hunters may possess no more than 25 shotgun shells (including shells in vehicle).
- Duck, goose and coot: hunting ends at noon.
- Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge earlier than 4 a.m.
- Boat motors over 25 horsepower are prohibited and all boats are prohibited from 1:30 p.m.-4 a.m. during waterfowl season.
- All waterfowl hunting equipment including blinds, boats, guns, decoys, etc. must be removed by 1:30 p.m.

Pond Creek NWR (Zone 532) www.fws.gov/felsenthal/pondcreek

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-289-2126 • 27,000 acres • Sevier County

- Duck, goose and coot: hunting ends at noon. Closed during permit deer hunts.
- Waterfowl hunters may not enter the refuge earlier than 4 a.m.
- All waterfowl hunting equipment including blinds, boats, guns, decoys, etc. must be removed by 1:30 p.m.

Wapanocca NWR (Zone 640) www.fws.gov/wapanocca

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 870-343-2595 • 5,485 acres • Crittenden County

- Migratory game birds: closed.

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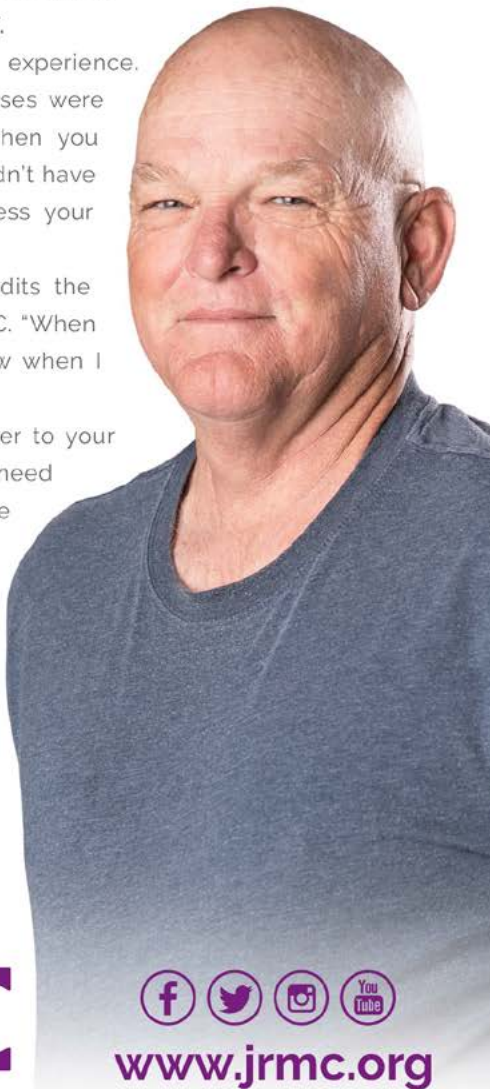
Richard Bland, of Taylor, Ark., was having severe pain in his arm and back and sought help from surgeons at **Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff.**

He is more than pleased with his experience. He explained why recently. "The nurses were better than anywhere I've been. When you needed help, they were there. You didn't have to ask twice, you didn't have to press your button twice."

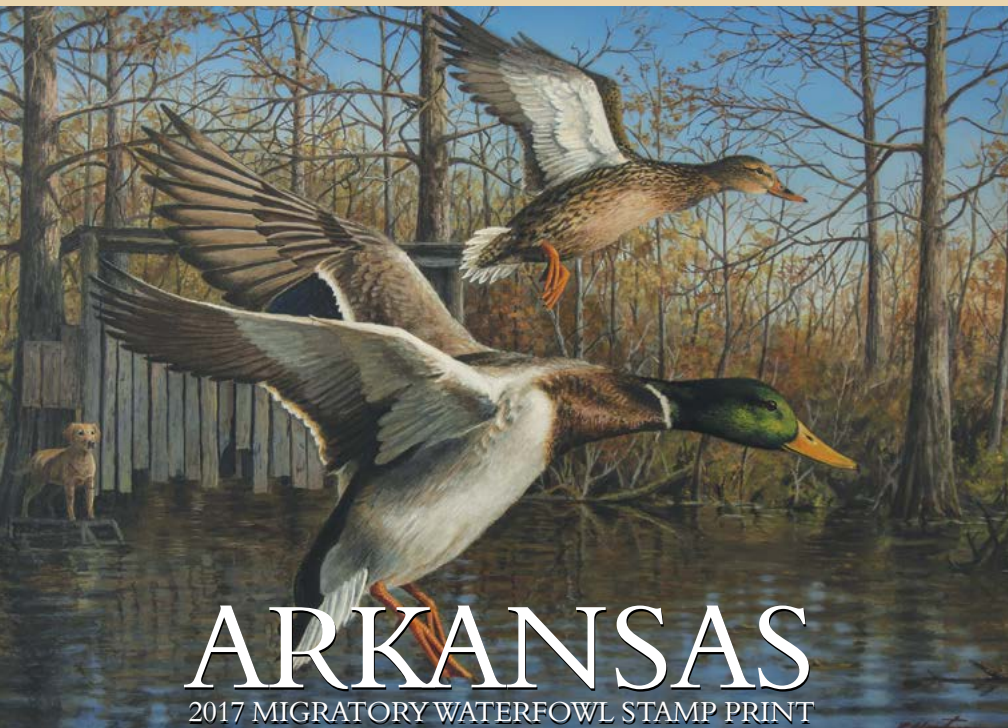
Bland is now pain free and credits the care and surgery he received at JRMC. "When I woke up, everything worked. I knew when I woke up, that I was fixed."

"Closer to home keeps you closer to your family. When you have surgery you need your family there to help you, and mine were right beside me all the time," Bland said.

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"SLOUGH BLIND AT GOOSE POND"

THE PROGRAM:

The year 2017 marks the 36th year of the Arkansas Duck Stamp program and the second year to be published by the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation. The program has raised millions which have been used by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission for waterfowl research and to acquire land for the creation of safe refuges for our abundant wildlife. Our rich heritage is steeped with stories of "flooded timber hunting, the original duck and goose call makers and old time serious duck and goose hunters and their camps." It is little wonder that our Duck Stamp program is the most successful of them all. (Save your stamps.)

"Slough Blind at Goose Pond" by Robert Hautman is the first painting he has done for the Arkansas Duck Stamp Program.

THE ARTIST:

Robert credits his success to the influence of his parents and a supportive family environment. In 1987 he won his first contest, the Minnesota Duck stamp, with a pair of Buffleheads. He has been painting, doing shows, and winning contests ever since. Other wins include the 1997-98 and 2001-02 Federal Duck Stamps, the 1999 and 2011 Texas Duck Stamps, and the 1999 SCWA Stamp. Robert currently resides on a farm in western Minnesota where he is working to restore parts of the land back to wetlands and prairie. Learn more at www.hautman.com.

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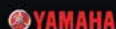
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