



# New Jersey Fish & Wildlife



## Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt Information

### **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

1. The application is available on New Jersey Fish & Wildlife's R3 website or at: [\*\*Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt Lottery Application\*\*](#)
2. The application period is **September 1st to September 25th of each year.**
3. There can only be one application per hunter. If you submit more than one, your application will be forfeited.
4. Each hunter can ONLY choose up to **10 days** for possible dates to be awarded.
5. Lottery results will be sent out by **October 2nd of each year**, via email.
6. An email address is mandatory. Email is how we will notify you.
7. Awarded participants will be contacted and will be sent confirmation and information on their Blind# as well as GPS coordinates and detailed maps of the blinds. Successful applicants for Youth and Military Hunt Dates will be notified prior to that event. ***Participants NOT awarded a blind will be notified as well.***

### **CANCELATION POLICY:**

1. If you cannot make your awarded reservation, we ask that you email us at [\*\*tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov\*\*](mailto:tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov) or call **609-947-5824** at least 24 hours in advance. Failure to notify R3 staff of your cancellation will impede future considerations for the Tuckahoe Managed Hunt Program.
2. If there is a cancellation 2 weeks in advance, another lottery will be conducted to fill that empty blind.

### **BASIC HUNTING GUIDELINES:**

1. Waterfowl hunters are **Required** to have in their possession:
  - a. **Valid New Jersey Hunting License**
  - b. **HIP Certification**
  - c. **Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) and**
  - d. **NJ State Waterfowl Stamp**
2. In addition to special site regulations, ALL migratory bird seasons, possession limits, and general regulations are in effect. Any violation may result in immediate dismissal from the hunt. Please click link for [\*\*Regulations and Bag limits\*\*](#).
3. Apprentice hunters must be supervised by a licensed hunter.

## **HUNT SITE INFORMATION:**

All gates to the impoundments located on the Tuckahoe WMA will be closed approximately one week prior to the beginning of the South Zone Duck Season (two segments). During this restricted period, there will be **NO** hunting from or adjacent to the impoundment roadways, except for the hunting of waterfowl on days designated by New Jersey Fish & Wildlife. During the South Zone Duck season, hunting will be limited to three days per week (Monday, Wednesday and Saturday) as designated by New Jersey Fish & Wildlife. Hunting hours will be **½ hour before sunrise to 12:00 p.m. Impoundment gates will lock at 1:00 p.m.** If hunters are not out by 1:00 p.m. they will lose eligibility to participate in any hunt days for the remainder of the hunting season and/or subsequent seasons involving this program.

- **Report Times:** Individuals successfully selected for a blind reservation must check in at the Hunter Registration Shed **2 hours before sunrise** for the hunt day, or the blind reservation is forfeited. You will have a **30-minute Grace period** to check in at the Registration Shed or your blind will be forfeited.
- **Check In Process:** Each lottery winner is awarded a blind and prior to their hunt date, they will know which blind number they have received. The morning of the hunt, hunters are **REQUIRED** to check in 2 hours before sunrise at the Hunter Registration Shed at the Tuckahoe W.M.A. Hunters will have a 30-minute grace period after check in time, if the hunter has not checked in by that time, their blind will be forfeited. The staff at the registration shed will ask for each hunters' CID numbers and email. Any registered group will be free to utilize the R3 duck decoys from the Decoy Loaner Program (please request decoys during the application process).
- **Check Out Process:** Hunters are **REQUIRED** to check out any time before **1:00 p.m.** by returning to the Hunter Registration Shed. This includes returning loaner decoys (if applicable) and completing the **REQUIRED** exit surveys. Hunters must complete an exit survey by either scanning the QR code to complete the survey on their mobile device or email. It is **ESSENTIAL** that you fill out an exit survey.

## **HUNT BLIND INFORMATION:**

1. All hunting blind sites require moderate physical exertion to access.
2. It is highly recommended that hunters plan to bring small boats such as kayaks/canoe Jon boat and/or an equipment/gear sled to access blind sites from the designated parking locations. For ALL hunt sites, BRING ONLY WHAT YOU CAN CARRY AND/OR FLOAT IN.
3. Blinds accommodate a maximum of four hunters, although you may hunt alone.
4. Hunting from banks or dikes is NOT allowed. Hunters that opt not to hunt from the maintained blind must stay within 150' of assigned blind. Since other hunters will be utilizing this area, venturing away from your designated blind is not allowed.
5. No hunting is allowed within 450' seaward of the dike impoundments ([See map](#)).
6. Upon leaving the blind or hunting area, groups may not return.

## **DECOY LOANER PROGRAM:**

Decoys (which consist of a mix of appropriate species) will be available for loan to groups on their hunt day. You must reserve these decoys at the time of your application prior to the season's start. The decoys are Texas-rigged ahead of time. This loaner equipment must be checked out and must be returned onsite by 1:00 p.m. or will be deemed as stolen state property. Failure to return equipment will preclude the violator from eligibility of hunt days for the remainder of the hunting season and subsequent seasons and subject to legal procedures.

## **SAFETY INFORMATION:**

1. Please use caution driving all access and dike roads as there are many potholes.
2. Be very careful of driving and parking within the confines of the impoundments. Please **Do Not** go off designated areas to avoid ending up off road or in an unexpected and unsafe situation.

## **HELPFUL RESOURCES:**

Waterfowl ID: [Waterfowl ID | Ducks Unlimited](#)

Hunting Setups: [Hunting Five Classic Habitats \(ducks.org\)](#)

Public Land Tips: [Public Waterfowling Secrets \(ducks.org\)](#)

Waterfowl Calling: [Learning to Call Ducks in the Digital Age](#)

Waterfowl Decoys: [Decoy Tips & Strategy - Ducks Unlimited](#)

Recipes: [Duck & Goose Recipes | Wild Game Cooking – Ducks Unlimited](#)

## IMPORTANT FAQ's

- ***Can I scout the location prior to hunting?***

**YES.** There will be an Open House/Scouting Day each year on the **Saturday and Sunday** the week before the **Youth Waterfowl Hunt Day (South Zone)** date. (Generally, the first week in October) Lottery winners will be notified of this date when contacted about their blind information. Open House will run from **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Gates will be unlocked, and hunters can drive/walk the impoundments as well as ask questions with NJ Fish & Wildlife R3 Staff. Gates will be locked starting the **Monday, before the Youth Waterfowl Day.**

- ***Can I bring waders or a boat to walk my assigned blind during the Open House?***

**YES.** During the Open House you are more than welcome to bring all equipment necessary to explore your assigned blind.

- ***Can an awarded lottery day be transferred to another hunter?***

**NO.** If you cannot make it, you must cancel your blind reservation.

- ***What do the blinds look like?***

Each blind includes a bench and a shooting rack that can be switched to either side of the blind. The blinds are also on a floating base that is anchored in place. Each blind is camouflaged with grass mats and accommodates up to 4 hunters or 3 hunters and a dog comfortably. Each blind has 1 door. Reflectors will guide you to the door-side of the blind for access. Blinds will also have rubberized floor mats.



***Grassed blind on float with flip gates***



***Inside of blind with gun rest and bench***



- ***How far is the drive to the blind location parking area?***

The drive from the Registration Shed to the blinds are only 5-8 minutes depending on which blind you are awarded.

- ***How far is the walk to the blinds?***

The walk to each blind should not take longer than a maximum of 20 minutes. Specific distances will be given out by each blind as they are all different.

- ***Which blinds require boats (canoe/kayak/Jon boat)?***

Blinds 1 & 6 require boat access. Blinds 2-5 can be walked (depending on water levels). Kayaks or floating equipment sleds will help get you these blinds as well.

- ***How deep is the water?***

The water levels will be fluctuating throughout the season which is why we recommend that each group comes prepared with chest waders, flotation device, such as a gear sled or kayak to float or drag out your gear.



Gear Sleds can be used for both your gear and to lean on to help you increase your buoyancy to get through any muddy sections.

- ***Is it muddy?***

Depending on the day & water level, there is a decent amount of mud. Each blind has reflectors to keep you on the right path. It's also highly recommended to use a walking/mud stick. This will help with muddy conditions when getting to your blind.

- ***What do I do with my boat when I get to the blind?***

Hide/attach it behind the well-camouflaged blind. There are anchor poles at the base of the blind that you can tie up to if necessary, bring camo-netting to help hide your boat.

- ***Is there an easier accessible blind for someone with limitations?***

Each blind requires a moderate level of physical fitness to get to.

- ***What species of Decoys should I bring? How many?***

The most common ducks in the impoundments are mallards, pintails, gadwall, black ducks, and teal. Generally, a dozen or so should do the trick. Your call.

- ***What kind of boots/waders are needed?***

Water levels within the impoundment fluctuate, it is essential that each hunter brings waders, **preferably chest waders**.

- ***What if there is ice on the impoundments or bad weather?***

R3 Staff will do what we can to inform hunters of the conditions as we get further into winter conditions. We do not have the resources to give or have updates daily but will try our best to convey as much information as we can. Keep your eye on forecasts as you would in any other hunting condition.

- ***Can I bring my hunting dog?***

**YES.** You are more than welcome to bring your hunting dog. We do want to give you the heads up that the blinds become tight with the maximum number of hunters (4) in the blind and a dog. We recommend if you are bringing a hunting dog, you may only want to have three hunters in the blind.

- ***Do I have to retrieve my own ducks that I harvested?***

**YES.** You will be responsible for retrieving the ducks that you harvest. You should be able to retrieve your ducks harvested by foot, however, we recommend that you bring a flotation device/boat such as a kayak or a sled to make the retrieval easier.

***How do I get to Tuckahoe W.M.A.?***

**Address (2201 Tuckahoe Rd. Woodbine, NJ) or check the map at:**

**[Tuckahoe Managed Waterfowl Hunt Shed](#)**

- **From the Garden State Parkway (North and/or South)**, take Exit 25 (Marmora) Turn on Roosevelt Blvd. and take until it merges with Tuckahoe Rd. Make RIGHT onto Wood Rd. The Hunter Registration Shed is ½ mile once you turn onto Wood Rd. and will be on your RIGHT. Just follow our signs.
- **From the West**, take Rt. 50 to intersection with Tuckahoe Road and make LEFT onto Wood Rd. The Hunter Registration Shed is ½ mile once you turn onto Wood Rd. and will be on your RIGHT. Just follow our signs.
- ***Who do I contact if I have questions?***  
You can email [tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov](mailto:tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov) or you can call **609-947-5824**.

