

2025 Public Waterfowl Hunting Opportunities (Standard, Disabled and Youth) for The Nature Conservancy's Emiquon Preserve.



Public Waterfowl Hunt Registration Information Requirements

- To apply for any Advanced Drawing you must use the online registration form at this link:
 - <http://preserve.nature.org/page/176364/survey1>
- Fill out the form completely, incomplete registrations will not be considered.
- If you have questions, email: emiquonwaterfowl@tnc.org
- Online applications must be received by 11:59 pm CST on 15 September 2025
- Drawn hunters will be notified by email on or before 1 October 2025
- Drawn hunters may bring up to 3 guests.
- Individuals should only apply once and select all dates they want to hunt.
- Registering by phone or email is not permitted.
- Failure to include all information may disqualify you from the drawing.

Standard waterfowl hunt dates (Sat, Tues, Thurs): Season Dates: Oct. 25 - Dec. 23.

Youth waterfowl hunt dates (Sat, Sun): October 18 and 19.

Disabled individuals waterfowl hunt dates (Fri): October 31, November 7, 21. December 12.

The Emiquon Preserve is private property owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) for ecological purposes. Waterfowl hunting is offered as a public benefit. For this hunting program at Emiquon, any and all decisions by TNC staff or designees are final, and anyone failing to abide by written rules or instructions from TNC staff or designees may have hunting privileges at this Preserve revoked. TNC retains the right to modify these rules and to terminate this program at any time without prior notice.

2025 Rules:

1. Applicants do not choose their hunting site; instead The Nature Conservancy will assign hunting sites and provide a map to those who are drawn.
 2. Each hunter **(up to 4 per stake) must individually sign in** on the "2025 Daily Hunter Harvest Register and Waiver" **no later than 6AM on the morning of the hunt.** The Register/Waiver is located at the small shed in the Public Use Area just east of state Routes 78/97 and about one-half mile north of Dickson Mounds Museum Road. After hunting, each person **must individually sign out by recording their harvest** in the "2025 Daily Hunter Harvest Register and Waiver." Failure to sign in and out could make you ineligible for future hunts. Failure to sign in by 6AM makes your site open to Standby hunters.
 3. Your signature on the Hunter Harvest Register and Waiver is an acknowledgment that you have read, agree with, and will comply with the rules and waiver release. Rules and waiver release will be posted in the same location as Rule #2 above.
 4. After 6AM, any site with no one signed in is open to the first Standby hunter who signs in.
 5. Hunting will be allowed only in areas designated by TNC staff. Hunters must stay within their pre-assigned hunting area and within 500 ft (167 yds) of their stake and must remain a minimum of 600 ft (200 yds) from any other group.
 6. Parking is allowed only at designated areas. Participants may drive only on established/marked roadways. Parking is allowed only on the east side of Clark Road. Note: Parking for each hunt site is limited to a maximum of 4 vehicles.
 7. Currently TNC does not charge a fee for public waterfowl hunting at this Preserve. Becoming a member of The Nature Conservancy is encouraged.
 8. Any hunter under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult. The responsible adult assumes liability for all actions of the minor and must accompany said minor at all times while on the Preserve.
 9. This Preserve has drainage ditches that may be hidden from view under the water. Always keep in mind the location of ditches. Observe extreme caution when wading in any waters.
 10. Only artificial blind materials such as layout blinds or camouflage netting are allowed. No person may bring natural blind materials onto the Preserve. There shall be no cutting, breaking or clearing of vegetation.
 11. The use of Other Power Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMDs) (utility vehicles, ATVs, Segways, golf carts, etc.) on this property has been assessed in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. OPDMDs are prohibited except on disabled individual hunting dates.
 12. Hunters must observe all State and Federal hunting regulations. TNC staff or designees may be present and **violations will be reported to the Conservation Police.**
 13. The following are prohibited: gas-powered motors (not even on the boat); unnecessary shooting or shooting at targets; possession of alcohol; dumping of ashes, trash, garbage, chemical waste or other materials; camping; and open fires.
 14. Collecting and/or removing the following are prohibited: rocks, plants, fossils, plant materials, animals (other than legally taken waterfowl), and artifacts.
 15. Law violations or failing to abide by written rules or instructions from TNC staff or designees constitutes trespassing and may cause hunting privileges to be revoked and/or prosecution for trespassing.
 16. These rules and regulations are subject to change without notice.
 17. Respect the privilege of hunting on this private property and the rights and safety of fellow hunters. **Remove all spent shotgun casings and litter from your hunting site.**
 18. All gear must be removed from the Preserve each day.
 19. **Hunting ends promptly at 12:00 noon and hunters must vacate the hunting site by 1:00 PM.**
- It is approximately 6 miles to the nearest hospital—Mason District Hospital in Havana (309.543.4431 or dial 911).
 - To contact Illinois Department of Natural Resources Conservation Police call Fulton County Sheriff at 309.547.2277.
 - For additional information, contact the Illinois Rivers Program Office at Emiquon by email at Emiquonwaterfowl@tnc.org or phone 309.547.2730.