

Cross Creeks General Hunting Regulations

Established in 1962, the 8,862 acre Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge is one of 568 National Wildlife Refuges across the country. Cross Creeks is open to hunting during specific refuge seasons for the following species: squirrel, white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and resident Canada goose. Hunters may only take coyote and beaver incidental to a scheduled refuge hunt for the species listed in this brochure with any weapon legal for that hunt. No taking of turtles, crawfish or bullfrogs on refuge. Hunting is permitted on various portions of Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge with the exception of those areas marked “Closed” on the map or by “Closed Area” signs on refuge lands or waters. Applicable Federal and State law and regulations apply. Mobility impaired hunters can contact the refuge office for accessible areas.

Refuge Annual Hunting Permits

Each quota or non-quota hunter, age 17 and older, must have on his person a valid State hunting license AND a Refuge Annual Hunting Permit. There is a \$15.00 fee for this permit which is valid for all quota and non-quota hunting. If you have been drawn for a quota hunt and already have your Refuge Annual Hunting Permit, there is no additional permit fee. The permit fee is non- refundable and the permit is non-transferable. The permit is valid on both Cross Creeks and Tennessee National Wildlife Refuges.

Refuge Annual Hunting Permits can be obtained from all Tennessee (TWRA) licensing agents. Please use code 064 when purchasing a refuge permit through a TWRA licensing agent.

Youth Hunters

Hunters age 6 through 16 must be accompanied by an adult 21 years old or older who has a refuge hunting permit on his person. The adult must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the youth supervised. For small game hunts, the adult may supervise no more than two youths. For big game hunts, the adult may supervise no more than one youth.

Quota Hunts

Deer

All refuge quota hunts require an application. See section “How to Apply.” All deer killed on the refuge must be checked at the nearest check station or online, or by TWRA’s mobile app. Make sure Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge is noted as “location of kill or kill code 104.”

Deer taken during refuge quota hunts and youth hunts are not counted in regular season bag and possession limits. Scouting during quota hunts and youth hunts is

prohibited. Both Cross Creeks and Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge will hold their quota hunts on the same weekends. Hunters must choose a refuge in which to apply. If drawn, hunters must have on their person a quota hunt permit in addition to the Annual Hunt Permit and a valid State license.

Earn-a-Buck

One antlerless deer must be taken before harvesting an antlered deer. The antlerless deer can be taken on any hunt, including archery, refuge or statewide youth or muzzleloader hunts, prior to the quota hunt. The earn-a-buck antlerless deer must be taken on Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge. This requirement is only applicable for the two firearms quota hunts.

How to Apply for Quota Hunts

Online Applications

You can now apply for quota hunts online at <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/CrossCreeks>. Online applications are the quickest and easiest way to apply and provide you with a confirmation number for your records once your application is complete. If at all possible, complete an online application. Deadline to apply is midnight August 1st.

If no computer access

If you do not have access to a computer, you can contact the refuge office at 731/642 2091 to complete your application by phone. Online applications are strongly encouraged to ensure that applications are received in a timely and complete manner.

Please note, submissions of any person’s name more than once for the same Hunt Type will result in disqualification.

Group Applications:

Up to five hunters may apply as a hunt party. If you are applying online, you will be able to enter the other members of your group during the online application process. You will only need to enter your hunt selections once during the process, but you will need the name, email, and address information for the other hunters in your group. Any online applications that are received separately will be treated as separate groups.

Preference Points

Hunters have the opportunity to gain preference points in the draw. Each time you apply and are not drawn for a permit you will receive one preference point. Groups of individuals with the highest average preference points will be drawn first, groups and individuals with the next highest will be drawn second, etc. until all permits are filled. After you are drawn for a quota hunt permit, your preference points equal zero. The preference points for a hunt party will be determined by taking an average of all the hunters in the party. When applying, hunters will need to use the same name as it appears on their driver’s license. If your official name changes, please contact the refuge office.

Drawing Notification

The drawing will be held after August 1st and notifications will be sent out on August 6th. If refuge staff completed your online application for you, your notification complete with a confirmation number will be mailed to you.

If you applied online, your notification will be sent by email. If you do not receive your notification email, be sure to check your spam folder. If you applied online, you can also check your status and download your permit on the refuge website at www.fws.gov/refuge/CrossCreeks. You will need your confirmation number and your email address submitted for the application. If you do not receive notification on the drawing or cannot check it on the refuge website, please contact Kinsail Corporation at 703/994 4194 or by email at service@kinsail.com.

2016-2017 Season Dates and Regulations for Refuge Hunts

Hunters may only take coyote and beaver incidental to scheduled refuge hunts listed below. The hunting of any other species not listed below is not permitted. This includes but is not limited to bobcat, river otter and fox. All state bag limits, season lengths and weapon regulations apply unless otherwise specified.

Type	Season dates	Bag limits	Refuge specific regulations
Squirrel	Fall Statewide Season through November 14. Spring squirrel hunt open with statewide season. Season closed during the weekend quota hunts, refuge and statewide youth hunts.	State bag limits apply.	Dogs are permitted.
Resident Canada Goose	September 1: coincides with state season. Closed the day before the start of early wood duck/teal season. Goose hunting is allowed in fields and water in hunt areas 1 and 2 only.	State bag limits apply.	We permit the use of dogs to retrieve geese. Hunting from an agricultural field that was not harvested is prohibited with the exception of winter wheat. Shooting across any public use road is prohibited. It is illegal to cut corn stalks or other vegetation on the refuge. You may use only portable blinds, and you must remove all boats, blinds, and decoys from the refuge at the end of each day’s hunt. Permanent and/or pit blinds are prohibited.
Deer/Turkey (archery only)	Statewide season through November 14. Season closed during the weekend quota deer hunts, refuge and statewide youth hunts.	Three deer, only one can be antlered. Turkey and deer taken are counted as part of the statewide bag limit. Any antlerless deer harvested prior to refuge quota hunts can count as an earn-a-buck deer. Must be harvested on Cross Creeks NWR.	State tagging regulations apply. Make sure that Cross Creeks NWR is noted as “location of kill or kill code 104”. Scouting during quota hunts and refuge and statewide youth hunts is prohibited.
Deer-Quota Hunt (gun/archery/muzzleloader)	October 21-23, 2016 November 11-13, 2016	Three deer, only one can be antlered. One antlerless deer must be taken before harvesting an antlered deer. Deer taken are bonus deer. Any antlerless deer harvested on the refuge prior to refuge quota hunts can count as an earn-a-buck deer. Must be harvested on Cross Creeks NWR.	Quota Hunt Permit required. State tagging regulations apply. Make sure that Cross Creeks NWR is noted as “location of kill or kill code 104.” Scouting during quota hunts, refuge and statewide youth hunts is prohibited.
Youth Deer (gun/archery/muzzleloader)	October 1-2, 2016 Also open during statewide youth hunt, October 29-30, 2016	Three deer, only one can be antlered. Deer taken are counted as bonus deer. Any antlerless deer harvested on the refuge prior to refuge quota hunts can count as an earn-a-buck deer. Must be harvested on Cross Creeks NWR.	A Refuge Annual Hunt Permit is not required for a youth hunter, but is required for the supervising adult. State tagging regulations apply. Make sure that Cross Creeks NWR is noted as “location of kill or kill code 104.” Scouting during quota hunts and refuge and statewide youth hunts is prohibited.
Deer (muzzleloader)	November 5-10, 14, 2016	State bag limits apply. Deer taken are counted as part of the statewide bag limit. Any anterless deer harvested on the refuge prior to refuge quota hunts can count as an earn-a-buck deer. Must be harvested on Cross Creeks NWR.	A Refuge Annual Hunt Permit is not required for supervising a youth hunter, but is required for the supervising adult. Scouting during quota hunts, refuge and statewide youth hunts is prohibited.
Spring Turkey	Spring turkey season is open during statewide season, including youth hunt.	State bag limits apply. Turkeys taken are counted as part of the statewide bag limit.	A Refuge Annual Hunt Permit is not required for a youth hunter, but is required for the supervising adult. Calling or attempting to call turkeys on the refuge is prohibited from March 1 until the opening of turkey season.

Cross Creeks General Regulations

Only legally licensed vehicles are allowed on the Refuge. Vehicles must remain on Refuge roads that are shown on map and designated as open. ATV and golf cart use on the Refuge is prohibited. Parking must not impede the flow of traffic or block gates.

Littering, vandalism or tampering with water control structures is strictly forbidden.

Public access to the refuge is limited to daylight use only, (30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset).

During hunting season, hunters may access the refuge two hours prior to sunrise to two hours after sunset.

Facilities and activities accessible to the disabled are available. Please ask for details.



This sign and yellow paint clearly marks all refuge property. **It is your responsibility to know where the property lines are and hunt within the boundaries.**



This area is closed to all entry. No entering, hunting or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails beyond this sign are open to the public. Some of these signs may have dates indicating the length of time the area is closed.



This area is closed to **all** vehicles, and horseback riding. Entry is only permitted by foot or bicycle.



This area is closed to all hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt within 100 yards of a private dwelling, and to access the refuge across private land without permission from the private landowner. Shooting from or across any road is prohibited.

Carrying, possessing, or discharging fireworks, or explosives on a national wildlife refuge is prohibited.

Firearms are permitted in accordance with state laws.

Weapons legally possessed for hunting are the same as those prescribed by the state of Tennessee.

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

Camping and campfires on the refuge are prohibited.

Horseback riding is allowed on refuge roads open to vehicle traffic.

Bicycles can be used on refuge hunts but must remain on refuge paved or graveled roads.

Dogs are allowed for small game hunting and retrieval of geese during the early goose season. All dogs must be restrained by chain or leash if not being legally used for hunting. Dog owners/handlers must have a collar on each dog with the owners name, and address/or telephone number.

Temporary blinds or stands permitted on the day of the hunt only. All blinds and stands must be removed at the end of each day’s hunt.

It is unlawful to mark any tree or other feature with paint or similar substance. Please remove all flagging tape and other marking material upon leaving the Refuge.

All hunters born after January 1, 1969, must have completed a hunter safety course as demonstrated by card or certificate.

Hunters must wear on the upper portion of their body and head a minimum of 500 square inches of fluorescent orange during all refuge quota hunts, youth hunts and muzzleloader hunt.

Field dressing deer within 50 yards of a public road or trail is prohibited.

It is illegal to cut corn stalks, trees or other vegetation on the refuge.

Hunting within 50 yards of a public road is prohibited.

Cross Creeks General Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is permitted on Cross Creeks NWR at a level compatible with the environment, providing recreational opportunities and permitting the use of a renewable resource.

The regulations listed supplement the general regulations governing fishing on a national wildlife refuge as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 32. Sport fishing will be in accordance with applicable state regulations, subject to the following special regulations.

The open season for Elk and South Cross Creek Reservoirs and all the refuge pools is from March 16 through November 14 during daylight hours. Sport fishing from a boat is permitted year-round, 24 hours a day, in the waters of Barkley Lake.

All waters on Cross Creeks shall follow Barkley Reservoir state creel and size limits.

Trotlines, limblines, jugs, and slat baskets are not permitted in refuge pools, impoundments and on Elk Reservoir and South Cross Creeks Reservoir.

We do not allow taking of frogs, turtles and crawfish.

We prohibit leaving boats unattended on the refuge after daylight use hours.

We allow bow fishing in refuge impoundments and on Barkley Lake.

Boats are restricted to “idle speed/no wake” on all refuge pools and impoundments.



Swimming is prohibited in refuge impoundments, or from boat docks and boat ramps.

Improved and unimproved boat launching ramp. (See map for ramp locations).

Cross Creeks
National Wildlife Refuge
643 Wildlife Road
Dover, TN 37058
931/232 7477
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/crosscreeks>

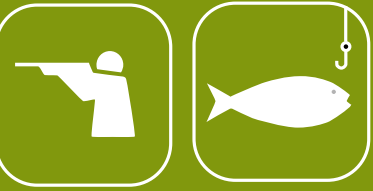
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

June 2016



Cross Creeks

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2016-2017



- **Refuge now open for state deer muzzleloader hunt Nov. 5-10, 14, 2016.**
- **The Refuge Annual Hunt Permit may be purchased only through TWRA licensing agents using code 064.**
- **When checking deer or turkey taken on the refuge, use kill code 104. Deer or turkey can be checked at a checking station, online, or by using TWRA's mobile app.**
- **Both Cross Creeks and Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge will hold their quota hunts on the same weekends. Hunters must choose a refuge in which to apply.**
- **Earn-a-buck antlerless deer can now be taken on any refuge hunt prior to the quota hunt including archery, refuge and statewide youth and muzzleloader hunts. Antlerless deer must be taken on Cross Creeks hunts.**

Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge

Hunt Areas

-  Hunt Area 1
-  Hunt Area 2
-  Hunt Area 3
-  Hunt Area 4
-  No Hunt Zone

Hunt Area Location	Hunt Area Number	Permits Available (per quota hunt)
South Side: Northwest of Pool 5 Bridge	1	30
South Side: Southeast of Pool 5 Bridge	2	40
Northside: East of North Cross Creek Road	3	30

