



Photos: left to right, top to bottom: painted bunting, wild turkey, greater yellowlegs, white-tailed deer doe and twin fawns, summer tanager, and wood duck, all by Tim Carr:

Welcome

Holla Bend refuge is an important part of our National Wildlife Refuge System. This area was established to provide essential habitat for migratory birds in the Mississippi Valley flyway. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the refuge system and is responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people. So enjoy your visit!

Please Remember

Leave the area as you found it for others to enjoy. Please help keep the wildlife healthy and safe by not feeding or harassing them. Feeding animals causes them to lose their fear of humans and they may become aggressive.

Be respectful of all visitors by obeying the Speed Limits. This is not only for your Wildlife viewing pleasure but also for your safety.

Disturbing or collecting plants, animals and artifacts is strictly prohibited.

Hours of Operation

The refuge is open to visitors daily during daylight hours.

The refuge office is open Monday – Friday from 7 am to 3:30 pm.

The refuge office is closed on weekends and federal holidays.

Please follow these guidelines for a safe and fun visit:

Refuge entry and exit

Access into the refuge is through an automatically time controlled gate. Closing times are posted near the entrance. Entrance fees or passes are required for all vehicles. Allow time to return to your vehicle and leave the area before the gate closes. **Closing times are strictly enforced.**

Driving

Speed limit is **35 mph (unless otherwise posted)** for the safety of the wildlife, visitors, and staff. Follow all state and county driving laws. Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. Unlicensed motorized vehicles including ATVs' are not permitted.

Wildlife Observation, Photography, and Hiking

Enjoy these activities in areas open to public use.

Firearms and Other Weapons

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provisions of state and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.s42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32). Archery tackle and crossbows are permitted during designated hunts only.

Holla Bend

National Wildlife Refuge

Fishing/ Hunting

The refuge is open to hunting and sport fishing (during specific time frames throughout the year) in accordance with Arkansas state laws. Consult the refuge public use regulations or the refuge office for more information.

Motor boating

No airboats, water skiing, jet skis, or other personal watercraft are permitted during the refuge's fishing season. Boating is allowed March – October. Consult the refuge public use regulations or ask at the refuge office for more information.

Pets

Dogs are permitted for raccoon hunting only during specified hunt season. All dogs are required to wear a collar displaying the owner's name, address and telephone number. Other dogs and pets must be confined or on a leash. Horses are prohibited.

Alcohol

Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances are prohibited.

Activities not allowed

Activities such as “geo-caching”, horseback riding, camping and campfires are not permitted on the refuge. Contact the refuge visitor center in advance to confirm that your activity is permitted.

Hunting Season*

White Tailed Deer (Archery/ Crossbow) October-December

White Tailed Deer (Youth Hunt) (Gun) December

Raccoon (Dogs required) February

Spring Turkey (Archery/ Crossbow) April

Spring Turkey (Youth Hunt) (Gun) April

*Please refer to Public Use Regulations or ask at the office for exact game type and hunting dates

Calendar of Events

Best times to view wildlife are early morning and early evening.

December/January

Conditions are best for observing waterfowl and eagles.

March/April

Public fishing starts on March 1. Hawks and owls begin mating and nesting activities. Spring songbird migration is at its peak.

Earth Day

3rd Saturday in April

May

International Migratory Bird Day:2nd Saturday in May

June

White-tailed deer fawns and turkey poults may be seen.

July

Scissor-tailed flycatchers can be seen throughout the refuge.

August

Blue-winged teal begin to arrive.

September

Other waterfowl species begin to arrive.

October

Archery deer hunting, National Wildlife Refuge Week.

National Wildlife Refuge Week

3rd week in October

November

Many species of waterfowl present, Canada and snow geese becoming abundant.

Other programs may be available throughout the year, please contact the refuge for more information on dates and times. (Phone: 479/229 4300)

For more information please contact:

Refuge Manager
10448 Holla Bend Road
Dardanelle, AR 72834
Phone: 479/229 4300
Fax: 479/229 4302
E-mail:hollabend@fws.gov

