



GRAND RIVER WILDLIFE AREA

Trumbull County

DISTANCE FROM MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS

45 miles from Cleveland
16 miles from Warren
32 miles from Youngstown
54 miles from Akron

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Grand River Wildlife Area is located in Northeast Ohio near West Farmington in Trumbull County. The majority of the area is located within a 100 year flood plain and has been deemed a state wetland focus area. Primary management is for wetland dependent species of wildlife and public recreation

The 7,750-acre area is predominantly flat in topography. Numerous swamps beaver impoundments, and over forty man-made marshes can be found here. The Grand River and five tributary streams meander through the wildlife area, subjecting much of it to flooding during heavy rains and spring thaws. About 46 percent of the area is second growth hardwoods, 49 percent is openland, cropland, and brushland, and 5 percent is wetland and water.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Purchase of land for this wildlife area began in 1956. A portion of the purchased land was cropland; much of which is in crop rotation to benefit wildlife. The primary uses of the wildlife area are public hunting, trapping, and fishing. Other uses such as hiking and bird watching have become increasingly popular. Over 40 man-made marshes have been constructed, totaling approximately 300 acres. The water levels in these wetlands are managed primarily for waterfowl. They also provide nesting sites for local migratory species and benefit all other wetland species of plants and animals.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Panfish and bass are the major species of pond fish.

Many kinds of songbirds can be found throughout the area, especially during spring and fall migrations. The wide variety of habitats makes Grand River a primary choice of bird watchers.

A three-quarter mile wildlife observation trail including a boardwalk across a beaver impoundment can be found on Hoffman Norton Road. Beaver, river otter, and a great variety of songbirds may be observed.

HUNTING, TRAPPING, AND FISHING

Deer, turkey, and squirrel are the most popular forest game species. Waterfowl hunting is very good especially in the secluded beaver marshes and swamps. Upland hunting is good for rabbits, pheasants, and woodcock. Trapping opportunity is excellent for all furbearers. A permit is required to trap beaver and otter. Hunting for raccoons is excellent.

Pond fishing is fair for bass and panfish.

UNUSUAL FEATURES

The northern portion of the area is comprised of extensive swamp forests which were once typical of much of northeast Ohio. This portion of the Grand River watershed is one of the largest areas of semi-wilderness remaining in heavily populated northeast Ohio, and probably the only public hunting area in the vicinity where even the experienced outdoorsman should take precautions against becoming lost.

UNUSUAL FEATURES

The pristine, meandering Grand River and its tributaries provide good habitat for colonies of beavers. The combination of beaver impoundments, good water quality, and a large variety of fish species has made it possible to reintroduce river otters here. During the winter of 1986-87 an initial experimental release was made in an attempt to establish a reproducing population of otters in the Grand River watershed. Another release was made in spring 1988. Current river otter populations have expanded so dramatically throughout the state that their endangered species status has been removed. In 2005 Ohio initiated its first river otter trapping season.

PUBLIC USE FACILITIES

Parking lots are strategically situated throughout the area. Parking in non-designated areas is prohibited.

A bird dog field trial area is maintained near the southeast end of the wildlife area. Field trials may be held there by permit-holding clubs during the field trial season (September-October, March-April). Other compatible uses of the wildlife area are permitted in the field trial area during the field trial season and throughout the year.

A hand trap range is located on State Route 88, east of State Route 534. Only shot shells and clay targets are permitted.

A supervised 60-bench Class A rifle and pistol range is located on Hoffman Norton Road north of State Route 88. A permit is required. For further information consult your *Ohio Hunting and Trapping Regulations*, Publication 85.

An Electronic All Purpose Vehicle access lane is maintained for the mobility impaired. A permit is required for EAPV use.

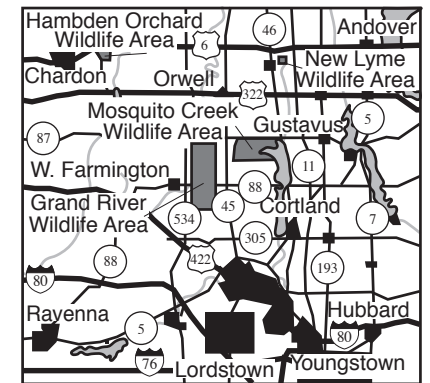
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from the, Grand River Wildlife Area, 6686 SR 534, West Farmington, Ohio 44491; telephone (330) 889-3280 or from the Wildlife District Three Office, 912 Portage Lakes Dr, Akron, Ohio 44319; telephone (330) 644-2293. Grand River Target Range, 6693 Hoffman Norton Rd, Bristolville, Ohio 44402 (330) 889-3524.

TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to curtail poaching throughout the state. TIP is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should call the TIP toll-free hotline, 1-800-POACHER.

VICINITY MAP



GRAND RIVER WILDLIFE AREA

Trumbull County
Public Hunting & Fishing
7,750 Acres

LEGEND

- Pond
- Marshland
- Brushland
- Woodland
- Grassland
- Field Trial Area
- Shooting Range
- Hand Trap Range
- Parking
- Accessible Electric APV Trail - Permit Required
- State Boundary
- Pipeline

