



MAGEE MARSH CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNT



Congratulations for being selected to participate in the **Magee Marsh Wildlife Area Controlled Waterfowl Hunt**. This letter provides you with background information on the wildlife area.

Purchased in 1951 by the Ohio Division of Wildlife, Magee Marsh is one of the few remaining wetland complexes on the Lake Erie shoreline. This 2,200 acre wetland is a part of what was once called the Great Black Swamp, an area from Cleveland to Detroit which totaled over 300,000 acres. During the early 1900's, John N. Magee had plans to dike off and drain the marsh utilizing its fertile soil for agricultural purposes. However, after several years of high lake levels, farming this area became impossible. Mr. Magee then made plans to maintain the site for private duck hunting and furbearer trapping. With these plans, Magee Marsh became a reality. Today, Magee remains a diked wetland comprised of emergent marsh, wet prairies and forested beach ridge. It is also home to the Sportsmen's Migratory Bird Center.

Magee Marsh is managed as a diked wetland to provide habitat for a variety of wetland wildlife. By manipulating water levels, different plant communities can also be maintained. Various management strategies are used to attract waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, and furbearers. The water levels inside the 12 separate wetland compartments comprising Magee Marsh can be maintained independently of each other, thus creating diverse habitat types.

There are several controlled opportunities to hunt waterfowl at Magee Marsh. The first is the Teal and Early Goose season hunt. This opportunity is made available through an annual, in-person drawing. The next are the Computer lottery drawings (adult and youth), for which you have been selected. Hunters will have the opportunity to harvest the early migrants consisting of (but not limited to) Wood Ducks, Green Winged Teal, Pintail, Wigeon, Shoveler as well as Mallards and Canada Geese. This occurs during both the state-wide youth season and the first two weeks of the regular waterfowl season and are half day hunts. These hunts provide a unique opportunity in which Division of Wildlife personnel provide transportation to and from the hunting blinds. The last opportunity is the daily hunt. This hunt will run through the remaining dates available in the waterfowl season on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. A drawing will be held on each hunt morning where hunters can select a hunting blind. This will be an all-day hunt and hunters must utilize their own boats for access.



Division of Wildlife, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MAGEE MARSH CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNT RULES AND CONDITIONS



This information sheet contains directions and information for the traditional Magee Marsh Waterfowl Hunt.

REGULATIONS FOR CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNTS

The migratory waterfowl hunting laws are in effect with the following additional restrictions:

1. Hunters must be checked in not later than **5:30 a.m.** to the check station located at **13229 West State Route 2, Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449**, where blinds will be assigned. (The check station will be open at 5:00 a.m.). Click [here](#) for directions.
2. Your special hunting permit must be presented at the check station along with your hunting license containing your Customer ID number, HIP number, federal migratory bird hunting and conservation stamp, and Ohio wetlands habitat stamp. Note: youth hunters under 18 do not need the Ohio wetlands habitat stamp and youth hunters under 16 do not need either stamp.
3. Hunting hours – legal shooting time until NOON. Hunters are required to return their daily harvest card to the check station after the end of the day's hunt.
4. Hunters may take all legal waterfowl in accordance with bag limits set for the waterfowl hunting season as stated in the Ohio Hunting & Trapping Regulations. Refer to the Ohio Hunting & Trapping Regulations for more details.
5. All shooting must take place at the assigned blind, or within 75 yards of the assigned blind.
6. Two hunters allowed per blind.
7. Each hunter may possess not more than 25 non-toxic shot shells.
8. No person shall participate in this controlled hunt on the area more than once during the open season.
9. A mobility impaired accessible blind is available. Please contact Magee Marsh Wildlife Area at (419) 898-0960, Ext. 30 one week prior to scheduled hunt.
10. Don't forget you need all of the following:
 - a. Your hunting license
 - b. Customer ID number
 - c. Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp
 - d. Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp endorsement
 - e. HIP Registration endorsement
 - f. Special Area Hunting Permit
11. All blinds are on water – chest waders are required. Boats will be provided, but hunters must provide their own decoys. Retrievers are recommended. (Once hunters have left their blinds, except to retrieve cripples, they will not be permitted to return.)
12. If unable to attend the hunt on your assigned day, please attempt to transfer your permit or call Magee Marsh Headquarters (419/898-0960, Ext. 30). NOTE: It is unlawful for any person to buy, sell, trade, or barter any Division of Wildlife issued controlled hunting, fishing or trapping permit.
13. **Failure to follow these controlled hunt rules and conditions could result from dismissal from the hunt, in addition to criminal charges pursuant OAC 1501:31-9-01(u).**

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