

# Erie National Wildlife Refuge

## Upland Small Game/Migratory Bird Hunting



Welcome to Erie National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1959 primarily for migratory birds. Public hunting is a priority public use and can provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly. We allow hunting of upland small game and migratory birds in accordance with Pennsylvania State laws and the following refuge specific regulations.

Upland small game and migratory bird hunting is permitted between September 1 through the end of February.

**Permits**  
Hunting permits are no longer required. However, hunters are still required to know and follow all refuge specific regulations.

**Dog Use**  
Dogs may be used for hunting but must be under the immediate control of the hunter.

**Small Game and Furbearers**  
Hunting of ringneck pheasant, ruffed grouse, cottontail rabbit, squirrels, woodchuck, quail, skunk, fox, raccoon, opossum, weasel, porcupine, and coyote is permitted in Areas A and B.

**Migratory Birds**  
Hunting of mourning dove, rails, common snipe, American woodcock, Canada goose, Mute swan, ducks, coot and crow is permitted in Area B.

**MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING IS NOT PERMITTED IN AREA A.**

**Access**  
We prohibit night hunting. Hunters may access the refuge 2 hours before sunrise and must leave no later than 2 hours after sunset.

**EAGLE NESTS**  
Hunters must remain at least 330 feet away from all eagle nests from January 15th-August 15th.

**Scouting**  
Scouting is allowed from August 25 through the end of February.

**Personal Property**  
Hunters must remove decoys from the refuge daily. Blinds or tree stands may be placed two weeks prior to the area's season and must be removed within two weeks of the seasons end. The blind/stand must be clearly marked with the owner's name, address, or CID number.

Hunters are encouraged to use non-lead ammunition for rifle hunting and is voluntary until 2026.

**Vehicles**  
Vehicle travel is allowed on designated roads and parking areas only. Vehicles must not block access to gates. ATVs and snowmobiles are not allowed.

**Boats**  
We allow non-motorized watercraft to use for waterfowl hunting. All other watercraft use is prohibited.

**To prevent the spread of invasive species such as zebra mussels, it is encouraged that all watercrafts be washed thoroughly prior to use on the refuge**

**Prohibited Activities**

- Using illuminating devices, including automobile headlights, for the purpose of **spotlighting** game species.
- Camping, overnight parking, open fires and littering.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- The use of **game cameras** is not permitted.
- **The use and possession of toxic shot is prohibited for shotgun hunting for all species except bear, deer and turkey.**
- Field possession of migratory game birds is prohibited in areas of the refuge closed to migratory game bird hunting.

**Erie National Wildlife Refuge**  
11296 Wood Duck Lane  
Guys Mills, PA 16327  
814/580 9983  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/erie](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/erie)  
[www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting)

**Federal Relay Service for the deaf and hard-of-hearing 1 800/877 8339**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 1 800/344 WILD**  
<http://www.fws.gov>

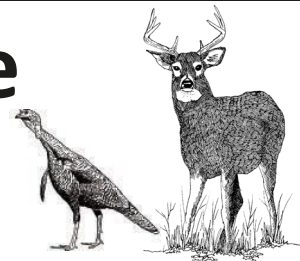
**August 2024**



**Areas Open to Hunting**

Type of Hunting	AREA A	AREA B
<b>SMALL GAME</b> Grouse, Squirrels, Rabbit, Pheasant, Woodchuck, Quail, Skunk, Fox, Raccoon, Opossum, Weasel, Porcupine & Coyote	yes	yes
<b>MIGRATORY BIRDS</b> Mourning Dove, Rails, Common Snipe, American Woodcock, Canada Goose, Mute Swan, Ducks, Coot & Crow	no	yes

# Erie National Wildlife Refuge



## Big Game Hunting

Welcome to Erie National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1959 primarily for migratory birds. Public hunting is a priority public use and can provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly.

Big game hunting is permitted on the refuge only from September 1 through the end of February and for spring gobbler season.

**Permits**  
**Hunting permits are no longer required. However, hunters are still required to know and follow all refuge specific regulations.**

**Hunting Areas**  
 Deer hunting is open accordance to state seasons in areas A and B.

Spring gobbler turkey season is open in areas A and B.

Fall turkey season is open in the following areas A and B.

Bear hunting is open accordance to state seasons in areas A and B.

Feral hog hunting is permitted in areas A and B of the refuge in accordance with all other State hunting seasons September 1 through the end of February.

**Access**

We prohibit night hunting. Hunters may access the refuge 2 hours before sunrise and must leave no later than 2 hours after sunset.

**EAGLE NESTS**

Hunters must remain at least 330 feet away from all eagle's nest from January 15th-August 15th.

**Scouting**

Scouting is allowed from August 25 through the end of February and for the seven days prior to the start of spring gobbler season.

**Personal Property**

Blinds or tree stands may be placed two weeks prior to the area's deer season and must be removed within two weeks of the seasons end. The blind/stand must be marked with the owner's name and address or CID#.

Hunters are encouraged to use non-lead ammunition for rifle hunting and is voluntarily until 2026.

**Hunting Hours**

Are defined in the *Pennsylvania Hunting and Trapping Digest*.

**Vehicles**

Vehicle travel is allowed on designated roads and parking areas only. Vehicles must not block access of gates. ATVs and snowmobiles are not allowed.

**Injuries and Accidents**

Report all injuries and accidents to Refuge Headquarters at the address or number listed below.

**Prohibited Activities**

- Using illuminating devices, including automobile headlights, for the purpose of **spotlighting** game species.
- Camping, overnight parking, open fires and littering.
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- The use of **game cameras** is not permitted.
- The use and possession of toxic shot is prohibited for shotgun hunting for all species except deer, bear and turkey.

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 Guys Mills, PA 16327  
 814/580 9983  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/erie](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/erie)  
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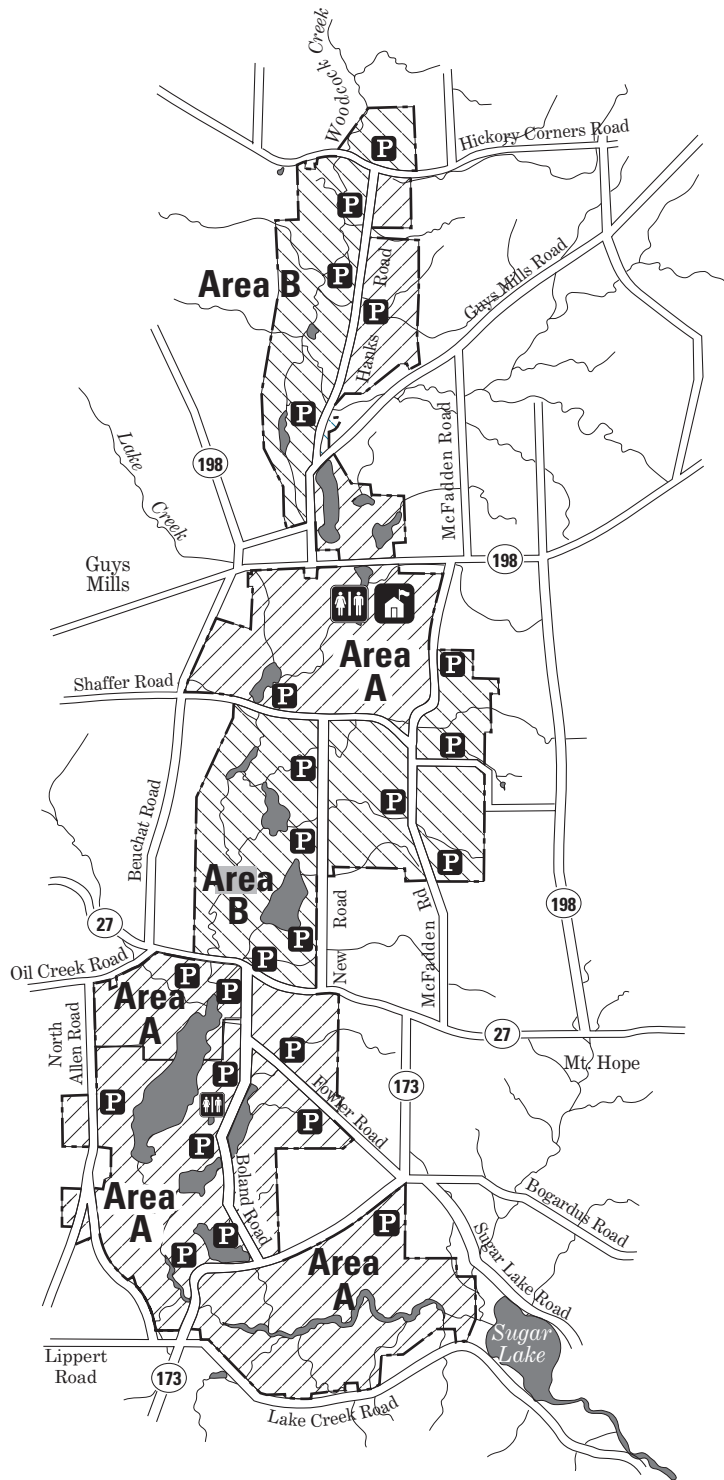
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August 2024



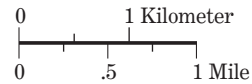
**Areas Open to Hunting**

BIG GAME	AREA A	AREA B
Deer (All Seasons)	yes	yes
Turkey (Spring Gobblers & Fall)	yes	yes
Bear	yes	yes
Feral Hog	yes	yes









# Sugar Lake Division

## Erie National Wildlife Refuge

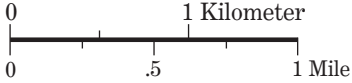
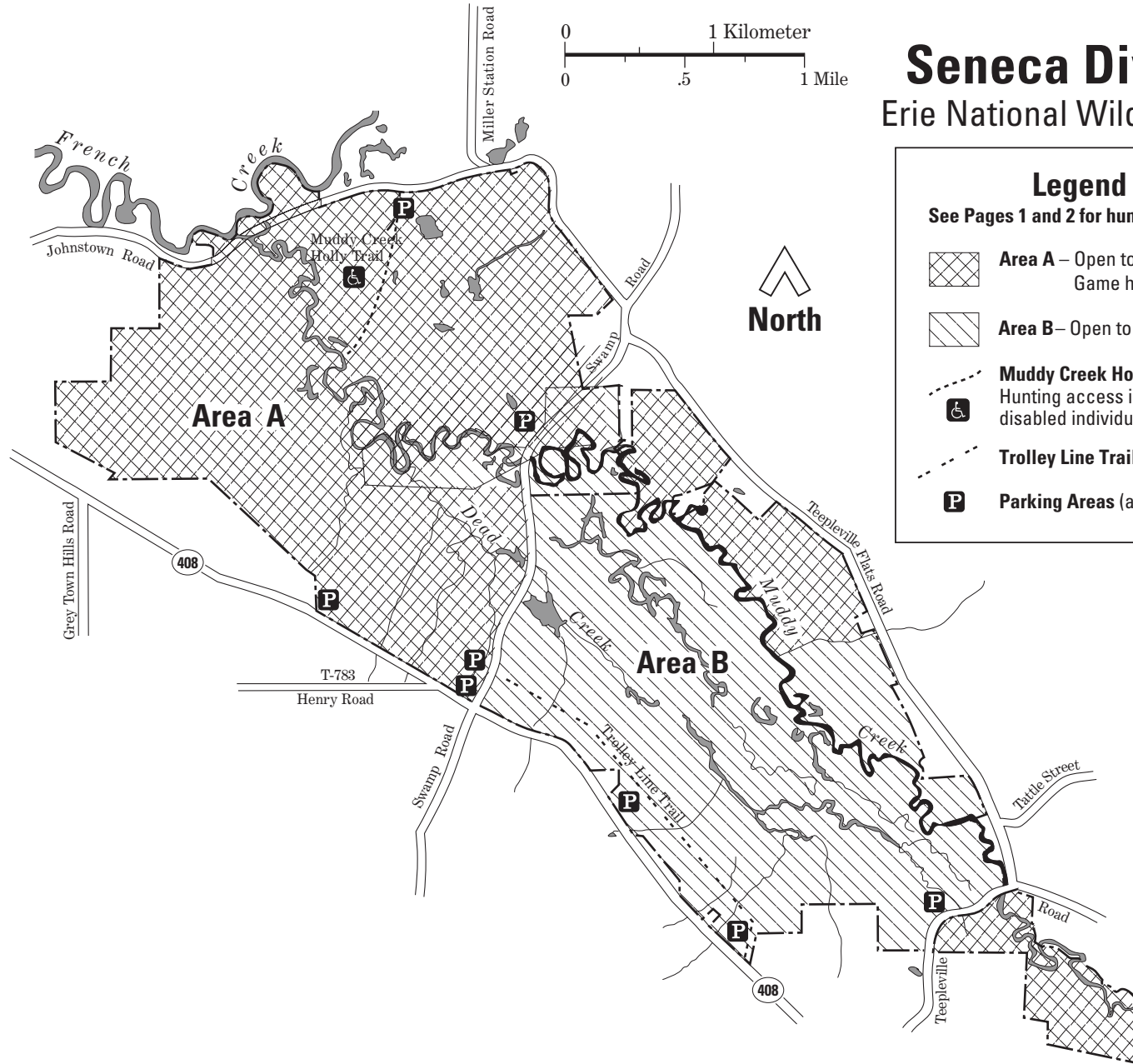


### Legend

See Pages 1 and 2 for huntable species





-  **Area A** – Open to Big and Small Game hunting
-  **Area B** – Open to all hunting
-  **Water Impoundments**
-  **Refuge Headquarters**
-  **Parking Areas** (approximate)
-  **Rest Room**

# Seneca Division Erie National Wildlife Refuge



## Legend

See Pages 1 and 2 for huntable species

-  **Area A** – Open to Big and Small Game hunting
-  **Area B** – Open to all hunting
-  **Muddy Creek Holly Trail**  
Hunting access is available for disabled individuals along trail
-  **Trolley Line Trail**
-  **Parking Areas** (approximate)