



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Lake Woodruff

National Wildlife Refuge

Spring Turkey Hunt Regulations 2026

Welcome

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge is located in the western section of Volusia County, Florida, near DeLeon Springs. The designated hunt areas contain approximately 11,000 acres of woodlands and bordering marsh.

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge
2045 Mud Lake Road
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130
Phone: 386/985 4673 • Fax: 386/985 0926

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

March 2026

Designated Hunt Areas

Western Unit

Includes Harry's Creek Swamp (all land between the St. John's River and Norris Dead River); Dexter, Tick, and Jones Islands, approximately 8,000 acres.

Note: Access to the Western Unit is by boat only, and participants must furnish their own transportation. There are a number of launching ramps and fishing camps that rent boats in the general area. The waters within the refuge are difficult to navigate at night.

Eastside Unit

Includes approximately 1,000 acres of refuge lands west of the CSX Railroad to the East Marsh. The unit begins south of the East Side Road and continues south to the end of East Side Road and to the west up to the marsh line. Access to the Eastside Unit is only permitted from the Mud Lake Road entrance. Access from the railroad right of way is prohibited. The East Side Road may be open up to a week before each hunt for scouting. Stands, blinds, flagging, or other marking is prohibited until two days before your permitted hunt.

Volusia Tract

Lies between Highland Park Road and Shell Road west of the CSX Railroad, and is approximately 2,000 acres. Access from the railroad right of way is prohibited. Motorized travel is prohibited.

General Hunting Regulations

The regulations listed below supplement the General Regulations, which govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 32. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations and subject to the following conditions.

- Successful hunters are required to report their harvest to the FWC's Harvest Reporting System within 24 hours. Harvest Reporting guidance can be found at: MyFWC.com/HarvestReport.
- These reports allow us to better determine population health, numbers, and stability. Listed below are Refuge-specific regulations that pertain to Lake Woodruff NWR. These regulations may be modified annually or as habitat, populations, or other conditions change. Violation of regulations may result in the loss of hunting privileges. Scouting in the hunt area, whether or not you hold a permit for the current hunt, is not permitted during quota hunts.

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge 2026

Turkey Hunt Permit

Name _____

Address _____

I have read and understand the Lake Woodruff NWR hunt regulations.

Signed _____

(This permit only valid when signed and accompanied by a Lake Woodruff Spring Turkey Hunt Quota Permit)

This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- No overnight use is permitted on the refuge. No one may enter the hunt area prior to two hours before sunrise, and all hunters must clear the area by two hours after sunset.
- Target practice, airboats, fires, and dogs are prohibited on the refuge.
- We prohibit hunting with dogs; however, we are allowing the limited use of trained tracking dogs but only with prior authorization by the Refuge Manager.
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
- It is unlawful to drive nails, spikes, or other metal objects into any tree, or to hunt from any tree in which a metal object has been driven.
- No person shall cut, blaze or destroy any tree or remove any tree, shrub, or protected plant.
- See state regulations for complete hunter safety requirements.
- Littering and digging anywhere on the refuge are prohibited.
- Only turkey and hogs are legal to take.
- Only bows, crossbows, and shotguns using a #2 shot size or smaller are permitted.
- Legal shooting hours are from ½ hour before sunrise until 1 pm.
- Stands or blinds may be set up two days prior to the hunt you are permitted for and must be removed the last day of your permitted hunt. Stands must be clearly marked with your permit number. No more than one stand or blind per permit may be on the refuge at any time, unless a permitted hunter is accompanied by a youth hunter. Stands for youth hunters must be placed within sight and normal voice contact of permitted hunter's stand and marked with the permit number and the word "youth".
- Hunters using flagging or other trail marking material must print their permit number on each piece or marker. Flagging and trail markers may be set-up two days prior to the hunt you are permitted for and must be removed the last day of your permitted hunt. Hunters who do not print their permit number on each marker, or do not remove their flagging or marking material by the last day of their permitted hunt will be cited for littering. Flagging, markers, or stands placed more than two days prior to the hunt will be removed and could result in loss of refuge hunt privileges.

Family Spring Turkey Permits

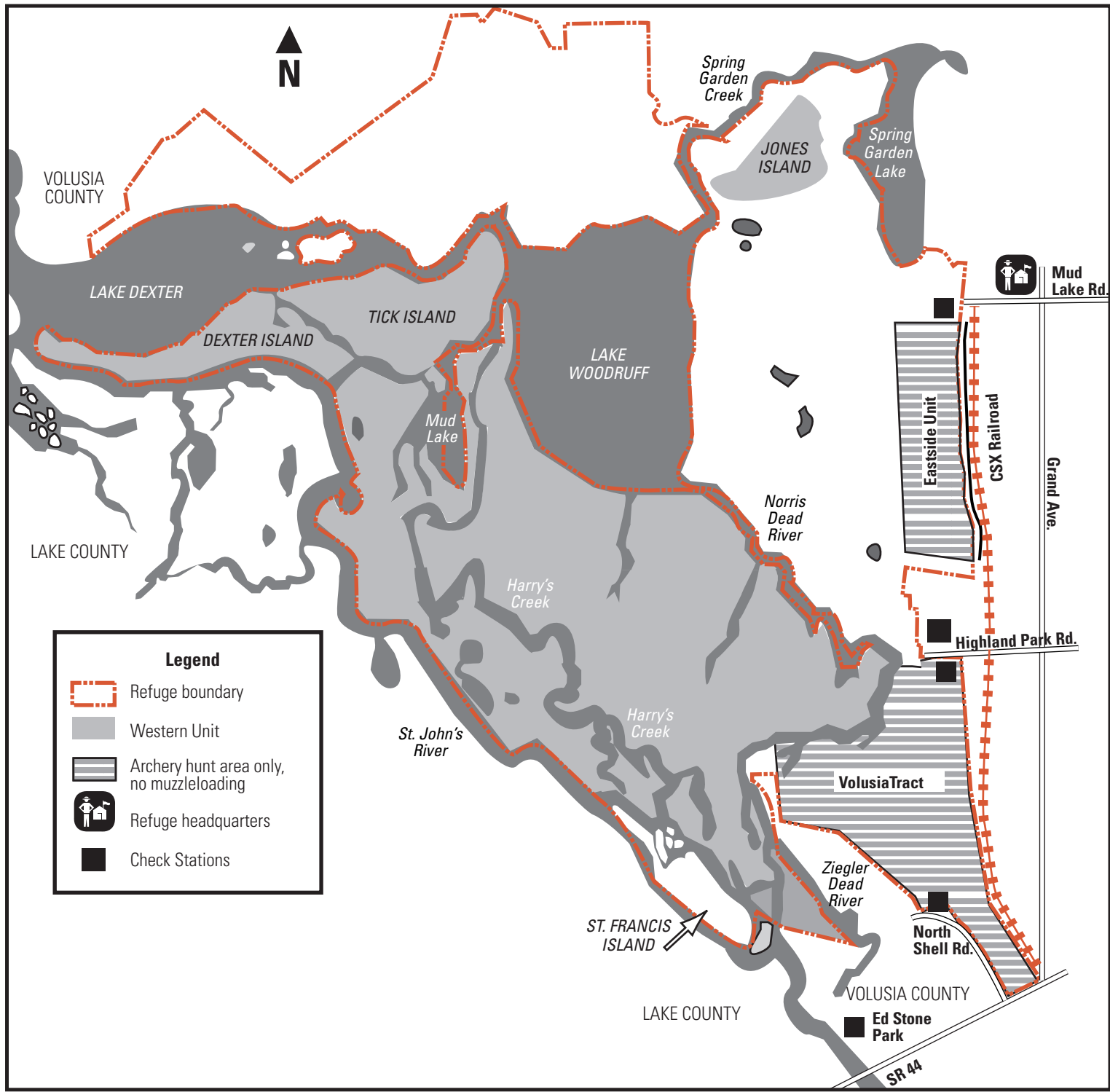
Adults 18 years of age or older must acquire a free, non-transferable Lake Woodruff Family Spring Turkey Quota permit. The permit allows one adult to supervise a youth under the age of 16, the adult must remain within sight and normal voice contact with the youth. Only the youth is permitted to harvest.

Family Spring Turkey Quota Permits are issued through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's (FWC) Recreational Licensing Issuance Services (RLIS) system. Applicants must be 18 years of age to apply. Permits that are lost or stolen may not be replaced.

To apply, go to <http://myfwc.com/license/limited-entry-hunts/>. Scroll down to "National Wildlife Refuge Hunts" and select "Lake Woodruff Family Spring Turkey Hunt." Once selected, scroll to the bottom of the page and select "Apply Online."

Permits will be issued through a random drawing. The application Periods will begin at 10am Eastern time on November 1, 2026 until November 30, 2026.

Once you have obtained the quota permit from FWC, sign the front of this brochure to acknowledge you have read and understand these refuge-specific regulations before hunting. You will be required to have the applicable FWC hunt licenses, the Quota Permit, and signed brochure on your person.



Legend

- Refuge boundary
- Western Unit
- Archery hunt area only, no muzzleloading
- Refuge headquarters
- Check Stations

If you have any problems with the issuance of your permit, please contact the FWC at 850/488 3641 (Monday-Friday 8 am - 5 pm). Submitting false information or using another person's identity without their consent is considered identity theft and may result in felony charges and the loss of hunting privileges.

Spring Family Turkey Hunt
March 12-14, 2027 and
March 19-21, 2027

The permit bag limit is 1 bearded turkey or gobbler harvested by the youth hunter only. Adults with required licenses and permits for taking wild turkeys may participate when in the presence of a youth, but may not harvest a wild turkey.

