



### Public Use Regulations

To protect the natural resources of the refuge and to provide all visitors with a safe, enjoyable recreation experience, please follow these guidelines:

- Alcoholic Beverages - Entering or remaining on the refuge when under the influence of alcohol is prohibited. The possession or use of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited. Contributing alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of 21 is prohibited.
- Boating - Crab Orchard Lake has a 150 feet No Wake Zone along the shoreline.
- Camping - Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds.
- Campfire - Campfires are allowed only in designated areas where controlled structures are provided.
- Collecting - Disturbing, injuring, or collecting plants, animals, or objects of antiquity without a special use permit is prohibited.
- Domestic Animals - Unconfined domestic animals are prohibited on the refuge, except controlled hunting and retrieving dogs during the hunting season.
- Group Events - A special use permit is required to hold a group event on the refuge to which the public is invited, whether or not an use fee is charged.
- Fireworks - Possession or use of fireworks or explosives is not allowed on the refuge.
- Private Structures - Private structures of any kind are not allowed on the refuge without a special use permit, except for temporary blinds and stands which must be removed at the end of each day.
- Swimming - Swimming is prohibited at Devils Kitchen Lake, the closed portion of Crab Orchard Lake, marina areas, and within 100 feet of boat ramps, spillways, causeways, and dams. Public nudity and scuba diving are prohibited.



- Vegetation - Cutting, removing, or damaging any tree or other vegetation, standing or down, live or dead, is prohibited, without a written permit.
- Vehicles - Motorized vehicles are prohibited on Refuge lands except on designated public roads and routes of travel. Parking beyond vehicle control barriers, or on grass or other vegetation is prohibited.
- Recreation Use Fees - Entrance and User fees are required for all vehicles and boats using the refuge. Passes are available at the refuge Visitor Information Center and Campgrounds.
- Bicycling - Bicycling is permitted only on roads open to motorized vehicles and trails established especially for bicycles.
- Collecting Wild Foods - Fruits, nuts, berries and fruiting bodies of mush rooms may be gathered by hand for personal use for consumption. Commercial use of these products are prohibited.
- Rock Climbing - Rapelling, free-style and technical rock climbing is prohibited.

### Fee Program

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge has entrance and lake use fees. All vehicles entering and vessels using Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge are required to have a pass.

### Upland Game Hunting

- Hunters may hunt upland game on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations
- Upland game hunting is prohibited in the controlled goose hunting area during the goose hunting season.
- Use of rifles or handguns with ammunition larger than .22 caliber rim fire are prohibited.
- Use of black powder firearms up to and including .40 caliber are permitted.
- Hunters must possess and use only nontoxic shot except turkey hunters who may possess and use lead shot.
- Restricted Area turkey hunters are required to check in at the Visitor Center prior to hunting.

- Hunters may hunt white-tailed deer on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:
- Restricted Area deer hunters are required to check in at the Visitor Center prior to hunting.
- Archery deer hunting is permitted in accordance with State regulations.
- Firearm deer hunting is prohibited in the Controlled Goose Hunting Area, all refuge lands NORTH of IL State Route 13 and NORTH of the Crab Orchard Lake emergency spillway and west of Crab Orchard Lake. (See Map)
- Hunting stands and blinds must be removed at the end of each day's hunt.
- Handgun deer hunting is permitted in accordance with State Regulations.



### Controlled Goose Hunting Area

- Marking trails with paint, flagging, reflectors, tacks or other marmade materials is prohibited.
- Dog training is permitted in designated areas by special use permit only.
- Youth hunters under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. Hunters born after January 1, 1980, must show proof that they have successfully completed a Hunter Education Course.
- Hunters must possess and use only nontoxic shot.
- Goose hunters must use temporary blinds. Permanent blinds are not permitted on the refuge.
- Waterfowl hunting is not allowed in the restricted use area of Crab Orchard Lake.
- Blinds must be a minimum of 200 yards apart and removed at the end of each day's hunt.
- Blinds on Crab Orchard Lake must be on shore or anchored a minimum of 200 yards away from any shoreline.

- During goose season, all waterfowl hunters must attend a special drawing the day of the hunt prior to hunting in this area. All hunters must report their harvest at the end of each day's hunt.
- Waterfowl hunting is permitted from established blinds or markers only.
- No firearm deer hunting is permitted within the Controlled Goose Hunting Area.
- Upland game hunting is prohibited in the Controlled Goose Hunting Area during goose season.
- During goose season, turbearer hunting is permitted from sunset to sunrise in the Controlled Goose Hunting Area.



### Permits

The Refuge General Hunt Permit on the front of this brochure must be signed and in the hunter's possession while hunting on the refuge. Trapping, the Refuge requires a Special Use Permit authorized by the Refuge Manager. Hunters must possess all State required licenses, stamps and permits for the species hunted.

Hearing impaired persons may contact Crab Orchard through the Federal Relay Number at 1 800/877 8339.

<http://midwest.fws.gov/craborchard>

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



### Motorized Vehicles

Only legal licensed vehicles are allowed on the refuge. All vehicles are restricted to roads that are designated on the refuge map. Vehicle may be parked along side roads in a manner that will not block gates or interfere with the normal flow of traffic. ATV's are prohibited except by disabled persons possessing a refuge special use permit.

### Boats

The use of boats is authorized on the refuge. Boats may not be left overnight on the refuge.

### Specific Hunting Regulations

- Hunting is prohibited within 50 yards of all designated public use facilities including, but not limited to, parking areas, picnic areas, campgrounds, marinas, boat ramps, public roads and established hiking trails listed in the refuge trail brochure.
- State season and bag limits apply unless otherwise specified.
- Only Illinois legal game species may be taken in the Open Area of the refuge during the state season. All other animals are protected.
- Possession and use of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.
- Hunting is prohibited in areas closed to hunting as indicated on the accompanying map or as otherwise posted. It is illegal to drive or screw any metal objects into a tree or to hunt from a tree in which a metal object has been driven or screwed.



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Crab Orchard

National Wildlife Refuge  
Hunting & Public Use  
Regulations



### Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge General Hunt Permit

This permit must be completed to be valid and must be carried by the hunter while hunting on the refuge. It is not transferable.

I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations.

Signature

Firearms and archery tackle are permitted only during designated hunts. Weapons legally possessed for hunting on the refuge are the same as those prescribed by the State of Illinois. Firearms carried in vehicles or boats must be unloaded and encased or dismantled. Possession or discharging firearms or any other weapons on the refuge is prohibited unless specifically authorized for hunting.

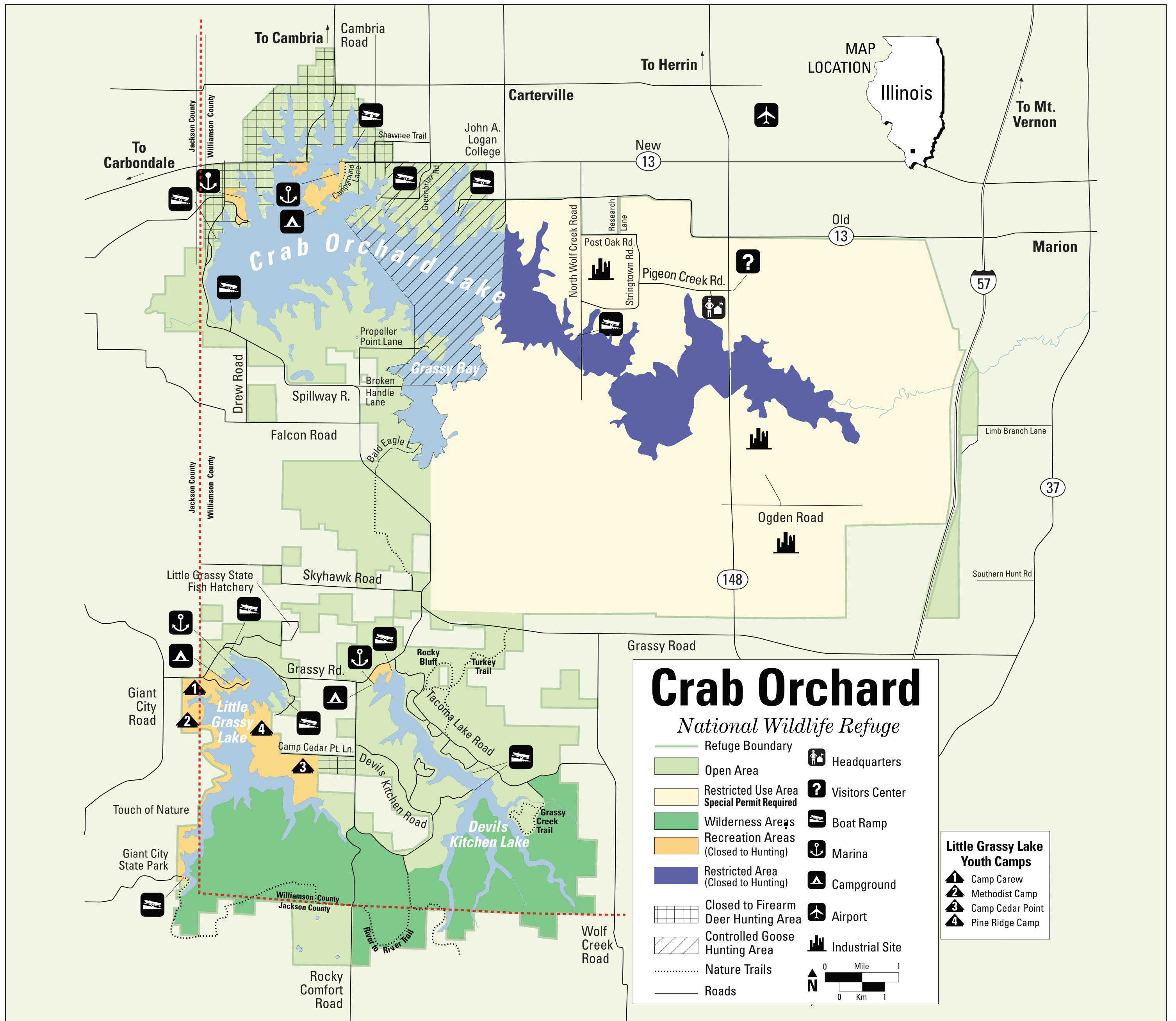
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Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge established in 1947, contains 44,000 acres. For management purposes, the lands with in the refuge have been divided into an Open Area and a Restricted Area. The Restricted Area contains 21,000 acres and is only open to public hunting by special permit. The Open Area contains 23,000 acres where public hunting is permitted in accordance with state hunting seasons.

The possession of lead shot is prohibited refuge wide, except:

- During deer and turkey hunts, lead ammunition legal for taking deer and turkey may be used.
- Small game and turbearers may be hunted with .22 and .17 caliber rimfire lead ammunition during open season.





## Crab Orchard

### *National Wildlife Refuge*

Refuge Boundary	Headquarters
Open Area	Visitors Center
Restricted Use Area Special Permit Required	Boat Ramp
Wilderness Areas	Marina
Recreation Areas (Closed to Hunting)	Campground
Restricted Area (Closed to Hunting)	Airport
Closed to Firearm Deer Hunting Area	Industrial Site
Controlled Goose Hunting Area	
Nature Trails	
Roads	

#### Little Grassy Lake Youth Camps

- Camp Carew
- Methodist Camp
- Camp Cedar Point
- Pine Ridge Camp

### FEE SCHEDULE

#### Entrance Fees

Vehicle (1 day) .....	\$2.00 per vehicle (covers all passengers)	Golden Age Passport .....	\$10.00 US residents age 62 or older lifetime pass
Vehicle (7-days) .....	\$5.00 per vehicle (covers all passengers)	Golden Eagle Passport .....	\$65.00 valid for one year from month purchased.
Vehicle (annual pass) .....	\$15.00 first vehicle (July - June) .....	Golden Access Passport .....	Free - medically determined to be permanently disabled lifetime pass.
Federal Duck Stamp (annual pass) (July - June) .....	\$15.00 first vehicle (covers all passengers)		

For a family purchasing an annual entrance pass (excluding the Golden Age and Access Passports) additional annual passes for immediate family members at the same address will be \$ 5.00.

#### Lake Use Fees

All vessels/boats using the refuge will be assessed a lake use fee charge. This includes vessels that are in dry storage and/or maintained in slips at the marinas.

Vessel (1 day) .....	\$2.00 per vessel
Vessel (7-days) .....	\$5.00 per vessel
Vessel (annual pass) .....	\$10.00 first vessel
(July - June) .....	\$5.00 each additional vessel

Holders of Golden Age and Golden Access Passports are authorized a 50% discount of the full value price for Lake Use Fees. Additional annual vessel passes are already discounted, therefore all additional passes are \$ 5.00.

In order for the pass to be valid it must be affixed directly to the vessel on the port (left) bow next to, but not overlapping the state registration.

#### Special Recreation Permit Fees

For specialized uses such as group activities, recreational events and rental fees.

Fish-off Permit .....	\$35.00 per organization (permit allows the organization to host one fish-off at each of the three lakes per season)
Special Deer Hunt .....	\$ 5.00 per person per season