



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

**Great Swamp
National Wildlife Refuge**



**We honor those
who've paid the
price of freedom
with their lives.**

***In Memoriam
A Fallen Comrade
Rich Guadagno
September 11, 2001***



USFWS/Tom Jasikoff

"This photo illustrates Rich's compassionate and humble nature. Rich was also a man who stood for principles, and I'm sure he served a crucial role in preventing the hijackers from accomplishing their despicable and vile intentions. Rich is an American patriot and I salute him as a friend and hero." --Tom Jasikoff

Rich started his career in the early to mid-1980s as a temporary biologist with the New Jersey Fish and Game Department and then at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. His first permanent position with the Service came in 1987, when he was hired by Law Enforcement as a wildlife inspector, stationed in Philadelphia. In 1988, he was a refuge manager trainee at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge and attended Basic Refuge Academy. Many of his Academy classmates remember his passion for wildlife management. Subsequent refuge career moves brought Rich to Prime Hook (Delaware), Supawna Meadows (New Jersey), and Baskett Slough and Ankeny National Wildlife Refuges (Oregon).

Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge is located in northern New Jersey, 26 miles west of New York City. The refuge was born in 1960 of a grassroots effort to protect the Great Swamp from development as a jetport. It is a mixed hardwood freshwater swamp, interlaced with slow-moving streams, grasslands, upland forest and five small impoundments. The largest breeding population of wood ducks in New Jersey and one of the largest bluebird populations in the state occur at Great Swamp. The refuge was designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1966, and it has the first designated (1968) wilderness area administered by the Department of Interior. More than 350,000 people visit the refuge each year.

For more information, go to the [Rich Guadagno Memorial](#)

Hudson River / New York Bight Ecosystem

Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Web pages are under development.

Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
152 Pleasant Plains Road
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920-9615

Bill Koch, Refuge Manager
Paul Steblein, Deputy Refuge Manager
Office Contact: Kathy Rosado

Phone: 973-425-1222
Fax: 973-425-7309
E-mail: FW5RW_GSNWR@fws.gov



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