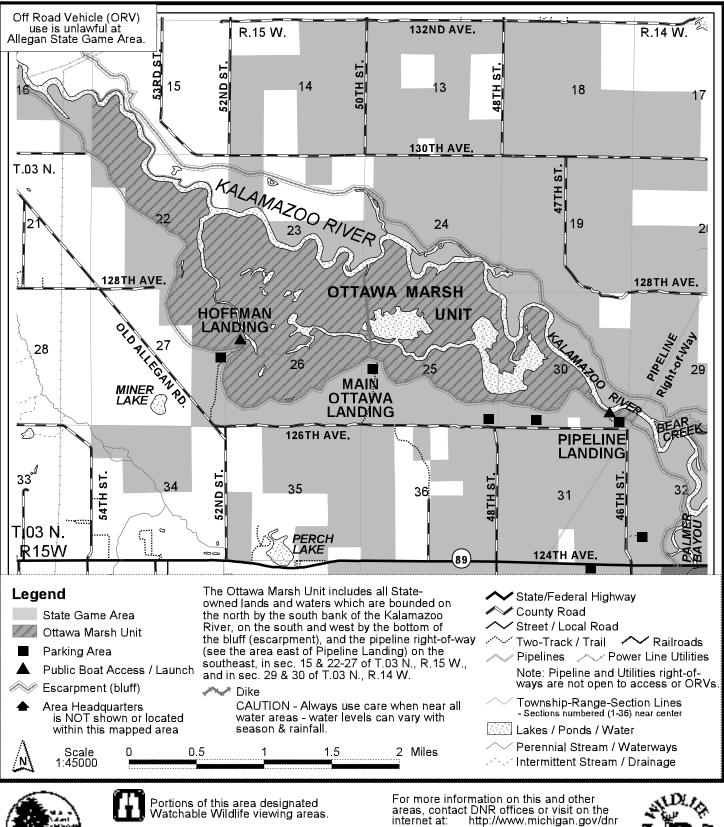


DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OTTAWA MARSH UNIT OF ALLEGAN STATE GAME AREA ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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Hunter Monies Made This Area Possible



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Wildlife Division

OTTAWA MARSH UNIT in ALLEGAN STATE GAME AREA SPECIAL USE AND HUNTING RULES

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(All other applicable State Land Use rules and regulations apply, unless modified by the text below. To review the standard "Wildlife and Game Area - State Land Rules" (IC 2598, rev. 2/07/2006), see the back of most State Game/Wildlife Area maps (except those with Special Use and Hunting Rules); the maps, rules and regulations plus additional details, and more information on this and other areas are available at DNR Offices or on the internet at: http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

NOTE: It is your responsibility as a user of public lands, to ensure you are informed of all current rules and regulations relevant to your activities. The information presented here represents some details relevant to land use, but this is not a complete list of all rules and regulations, and may not be as immediately updated as current legislation and rules. This product is not a legal notice, nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed tool issued for convenience on this specific subject. Contact your local DNR office if you have questions, or to verify regulations relating to possible activities before engaging in those activities. The DNR is on the internet at " http://www.michigan.gov/dnr ".

If you have questions or comments about the area or its management, please contact the Allegan State Game Area Headquarters, at address 4590 - 118th Avenue, Allegan, MI 49010, and phone (269) 673-2430.

ALLEGAN STATE GAME AREA: The Michigan Department of Natural Resources created the Allegan State Game Area in 1964 by combining the Allegan State Forest, the Swan Creek Wildlife Experiment Station and the Fennville State Game Area. The 50,000 acre combined unit provides a wide variety of recreational opportunities throughout the year for everyone with an outdoor interest. It's found off I-196 via Glenn and Fennville exits, and off US-131 via Hopkins, Allegan, and Otsego exits.

The hunting seasons offer a wide variety of hunting opportunities during the appropriate seasons. Bird watchers enjoy the spring and fall migrations of waterfowl, warblers and many other birds. Thousands of Canada geese, mallards and wood ducks may be seen in March and April on the Farm Unit, three miles south of Fennville and in the Swan Creek Marsh, west of the Kalamazoo River along highway M-89. Cameras are welcome, but photographers must respect the refuge borders.

OTTAWA MARSH: The Ottawa Marsh is an important part of the waterfowl habitat complex in western Allegan County. This 1,700-acre marsh, south of the Kalamazoo River and north of highway M-89, is owned largely by the State of Michigan and serves as an overnight resting area for geese and ducks during the fall, winter and early spring. Waterfowl fly from the Ottawa Marsh almost daily to feeding fields and refuges. The Farm Unit of the Allegan State Game Area, located six miles to the southwest of Ottawa Marsh, is both a regulated hunting area, a recreational bird-watching area, and a feeding area for waterfowl.

OTTAWA MARSH UNIT RULES:

- 1. The Ottawa Marsh is open for waterfowl hunting each day of the duck season, early goose season, and the Allegan Local Goose Management Unit (GMU) seasons from opening hour to 3:00 p.m.; it is closed to all microtony bird burting from 2:00 p.m. to the closing hour south day.
- it is closed to all migratory bird hunting from 3:00 p.m. to the closing hour each day.
- It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than federally approved non-toxic shot, except single projectile loads. BBB is the largest shot size permitted.
 - (See Michigan Wildlife Conservation Order sections 3.411 and 3.414 for details).
- 3. No special permits are required.
- 4. A current hunting license with appropriate stamps is required to hunt.
- All blinds erected or constructed for purpose of hunting, any species in any season, must be removed daily. All blinds must have the name and address of the builder permanently affixed to the blind (sign must be un-removable from structure), and they may not be locked. (See Michigan Wildlife Conservation Order in sections 2.9, 2.10, 3.401 and 13.11).
- 6. Hunters are asked to utilize self-service stations to report geese taken during the Allegan Local GMU season. Call office for details.
- 7. If you have questions or need more information, call or contact the Allegan State Game Area Headquarters (listed above),

THESE ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED:

- 1. Shooting from parking areas, except as prescribed under a Use (Handicap) Permit, or from a safety zone.
- 2. Off-road vehicle (ORV) use is unlawful in Allegan State Game Area.
- 3. Leaving cans, glass bottles, or other litter (including spent shot shells), or to possess or consume alcoholic beverages.
- 4. Parking in boat launch area below escarpment. See map for parking lot locations, or call the Game Area Office.
- 5. Other Rules and Regulations for the State Game Area may be posted in the area;

look for additional signs or notices to insure you have a safe hunt.

CAUTION: Use care near all water areas; some of areas may contain deep water, depending on season and rainfall.

<u>BE A SAFE HUNTER</u> - A safe hunter obeys laws governing hunting and boating, is alert to any conditions hazardous to personal safety of the hunter and others. (Rev. 9/2007 –WLD/ MLS)

Equal Rights for Natural Resources Users
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both State and Federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write the Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909-7528, or the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, 3054 West Grand Blvd, Suite 3-600, Detroit, MI 48202, or the Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203. For information or assistance on this publication, or for information about other State land areas, contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-7944, - or - through the intermet at "http://www.michigan.gov/dnr". TTY / TTD (teletype): 711 (Michigan Relay Center). This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.