

Dove Draw Information Wilbur Wright Fish & Wildlife Area

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in an Indiana Dove Hunt Draw. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Allowed Equipment: The shotgun used must not be capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler that cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.

Restrictions:

- Non-toxic shot is required.
- All dove hunters are limited to a maximum of 50 shells per hunter.
- All trash should be removed from the field after the hunt. Spent hulls are considered trash.
- Do not shoot up, down, or behind the length of shooting strips. Only shoot over mowed fields.
- An HIP number is required to hunt doves. Hunters must register [online](#) or by calling 260-323-5378.

There is no cost to register.

Bag Limit:

The daily bag limit is 15 mourning doves. The possession limit is 45 mourning doves.

Hunting Hours:

Shooting hours for dove are noon until 6 p.m. ET from Sept. 1-2.

Hunt Information:

The first two days of dove season at Wilbur Wright FWA are by draw or reservation only. When applying for the 2026 Dove Season hunt, you may choose from two hunt periods:

- Monday, Sept. 1, 2026
- Tuesday Sept. 2, 2026

To claim your reservation, you must check in at the property office/shop area before 11:00 a.m. ET (10:00 a.m. CT) on the day of your hunt. Each managed dove field at Wilbur Wright FWA will be marked with evenly spaced and numbered stakes. Hunters who have been awarded a reservation may pick their preferred field and stake in order of their given draw number. If you do not claim your reservation by the times indicated above, your spot will be given to another hunter or forfeited entirely. You may bring a hunting partner with you during your hunt. You and your hunting partner will draw a single hunting stake and sit together.

You must carry with you and return the one-day permit received upon drawing a unit. Each permit has an area to indicate your harvest records and additional information. Please complete your permits to the best of your ability. Permits can be returned at the property office or at any self-service kiosk around the property.

Area information:

Wilbur Wright Fish & Wildlife Area is 1,070 acres of river valleys and associated uplands in Henry County. The Big Blue River is the western boundary, and the dark, organic soil floodplain occupies approximately one-third of the property. The remainder of the property is the adjacent uplands and the Little Blue River valley. The property has areas of mature woods, fallow cropland, prairie grasses and forbs, and other areas of early to mid-successional habitat. There are also areas of annual and perennial wildlife food plots, and there is a small wetland near the Big Blue River. An ADA accessible hunting area featuring a mix of upland and woodland is located on the property.

The property has two managed dove fields available and will award reservations to 8 hunters each of the first two days of season. Both of our dove fields can be accessed by a brief walk and both fields will have parking nearby. We always attempt to leave standing cover near each stake for hunter concealment. The dove fields will differ in quality and size given the many factors that may affect the outcome of sunflower plantings. Accurate field maps will be posted to the property web-page when we can determine the success of each field. Maps can be found here around one month before season opens: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/properties/wilbur-wright-fwa/>

The first two days of dove season are very popular at Wilbur Wright FWA. We ask that everyone do their part to keep litter contained and showcase ethical hunting to help preserve our natural resources for generations to come.

If you have questions about property rules, accessing dove fields, or other specifics, please call or visit the main office.

Contact:

If you have further questions, please contact the Wilbur Wright property office at 765-529-9581.

Address: 2239 N State Rd 103, New Castle, IN, 47362

WILBUR WRIGHT FISH & WILDLIFE AREA

2239 N. State Rd 103 | New Castle, IN 47362 | 260-468-2165
1,070 Acres | Established 1974

