
2024 IPLA Waterfowl Hunt Draw Information

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in a 2024 Indiana IPLA Waterfowl 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.

Applying:

The application period for the 2024 Indiana IPLA Waterfowl Hunt Draw is Aug. 19, 2024 – Sept. 15, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted. You must obtain a valid Indiana hunting license, and an Indiana waterfowl privilege stamp prior to applying. Visit our page on [waterfowl & migratory game birds](#) to learn more about waterfowl hunting requirements. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt waterfowl.

A HIP number and Federal Duck Stamp is also required to hunt waterfowl. Hunters must register at indianaoutdoor.IN.gov or by calling 866-671-4499. There is no cost to register for a HIP number.

Restrictions:

Allowed Equipment:

- Nontoxic shot is required for all waterfowl hunting nationwide.
- 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.
- It is illegal to use a shotgun larger than 10-gauge.

Bag Limit:

- The daily bag limit for coots is 15. The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, which may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers. The daily bag limit for ducks is 6, which may include no more than 4 mallards (2 of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 canvasbacks, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 2 black ducks, 1 mottled duck, and 1 scaup. The daily bag limit for geese is three.
- The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit.

Hunting Hours:

- Legal shooting hours for ducks and geese is one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Hunt Information: The time frame for this hunt is the regular waterfowl hunting season, ending Nov. 30, 2024. There will be a second draw for the remaining portion of the waterfowl season (Dec. 1, 2024 – Jan. 12, 2025) at a later date. Hunters will only have access to the IPLA property during the window for which they are selected. IPLA waterfowl hunters must follow all state waterfowl hunting seasons in the chart below.

*Season Summary:

Ducks, Coots, & Mergansers

North Zone: Oct. 19 - Dec. 8
Dec. 28 - Jan. 5

Central Zone: Nov. 2-10
Nov. 23 - Jan. 12

South Zone: Nov. 9-10
Nov. 30 - Jan. 26

Canada Geese

North Zone: Oct. 19-27
Nov. 23 - Feb. 9

Central Zone: Nov. 2-10
Nov. 23 - Feb. 9

South Zone: Nov. 9-10
Nov. 23 - Feb. 15

* For full season date details, see [Migratory Game Bird Seasons](#).

- All hunters must follow all laws and obtain all necessary permits and licenses as outlined in the Indiana Hunting & Trapping Guide (including license requirements, bag limits, etc.).
- Hunters are permitted for waterfowl hunting only. Removal of anything from the property other than harvested waterfowl is prohibited.
- Drawn hunters are allowed to bring up to three (3) additional hunting partners. The drawn hunter must be present during the hunt. Additional hunting partners must also sign the release of liability waiver.
- Hunt survey must be completed by the drawn hunter. Failure to complete the hunt survey jeopardizes future eligibility in IPLA. Note: The hunt survey does not replace the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) reporting requirement.
- Cutting trees and tree limbs is prohibited.
- Dogs are allowed.
- Non-motorized watercraft and electric trolling motors are allowed (NO gas motors).
- Youth hunters (17 and younger) must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 18 years of age.
- Hunting stands and/or blinds are not provided. Blinds may be constructed with onsite natural materials or carried in (no permanent blinds).
- Hunters must remove their blinds by the end of their assigned hunt window.
- Hunters must park in designated parking areas. Foot traffic only beyond designated parking areas. Vehicles are not allowed in other areas of the property. This includes stand/blind installation and harvest recovery. The only exception will be for special arrangements to allow access to hunters with disabilities.
- A post-hunt survey must be completed by the drawn hunter. Failure to complete the hunt survey jeopardizes future eligibility in IPLA.
- Each successfully drawn hunter and any additional partners are required to sign a liability waiver before participating in an IPLA hunt.

Area Information: IPLA properties vary in size and habitat. All waterfowl properties have some open water or river access. Some waterfowl properties are better for ducks, while others are better for geese. All waterfowl properties will allow only one waterfowl hunting party per window; however, there may be other (small game, deer, gamebird) hunters using the property at the same time. IPLA waterfowl hunting areas can be found in each Indiana waterfowl hunting zone, season dates vary with each zone. Hunters must identify the zone they are hunting in and abide by the hunting season dates.

IPLA waterfowl hunts are available in 3 counties. IPLA waterfowl applicants may select 1 location and 1 window when applying. Some counties include more than one hunt location. The number of opportunities in each county is indicated below.

- Dekalb: 1
- Sullivan: 2
- Bartholomew: 1

Contact:

If you have further questions, please contact Jason Wade at IPLA@dnr.IN.gov.