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## 2023 IPLA Waterfowl Hunt Draw Information

This page includes information and instructions for those interested or selected to participate in a 2023 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 2023 IPLA Waterfowl Hunt Draw is Aug. 20 — Sept. 24, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted. Hunters over 16 years of age are required by law to purchase a federal waterfowl stamp and all hunters must register for a HIP number prior to hunting waterfowl. Each licensed hunter is eligible to select from one of the participating counties. If successful, you will be awarded a hunt on one private land parcel in that county. More information will be provided via email if successful. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt waterfowl.

A Harvest Information Program (HIP) number is required to pursue woodcock and other migratory birds. To register for a HIP number, call (1-866-671-4499) or [register online](#).

### Restrictions:

#### Allowed Equipment:

- Non-toxic 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.
- For the full list of legal equipment, please see the [Indiana Hunting & Trapping Guide](#).

#### Bag Limit: The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit.

- Coots: 15
- Mergansers: 5 (including no more than 2 hooded mergansers)
- Ducks: 6 (including no more than 4 mallards, 2 of which may be hens)
- Wood ducks: 3
- Canvasbacks: 2
- Pintails: 1
- Redheads: 2
- Black ducks: 2
- Mottled duck: 1
- Scaup: 1
- Geese: 3

## **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. There will be a second draw for the remaining portion of the waterfowl season (Dec. 1 – Jan. 13) 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.

### **Ducks, Coots, & Mergansers**

North Zone: Oct. 28 - Dec. 17

Dec. 26 - Jan. 3

Central Zone: Nov. 4-12

Nov. 24 - Jan. 13

South Zone: Nov. 11-12

Dec. 2 - Jan. 28

### **Geese**

North Zone: Oct. 28 - Nov. 5

Nov. 18 - Feb. 11

Central Zone: Nov. 4 -18

Nov. 24 - Feb. 11

South Zone: Nov. 11 - Feb. 11

- 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 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.
- 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 for 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. Note: The hunt survey does not replace the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) reporting requirement.
- 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, though 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 three counties. IPLA waterfowl applicants may select one location and one 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](mailto:IPLA@dnr.IN.gov).