

WATERFOWL HUNTING ON THE WIGGINS MILLS RESERVOIR AND BUCKHORN RESERVOIR

General Information

In order to create a municipal water supply, the City of Wilson purchased and flooded land to develop the City of Wilson Reservoirs. The City maintains jurisdiction of all water and adjacent land to the 159' elevation line at Buckhorn Reservoir and to all water and to existing property lines at Wiggins Mill Reservoir.

It is the intention of the City to regulate waterfowl hunting in a manner that will secure public access for the future. It is also the intent to improve the safety and manage the wildlife within the city reservoirs.

Rules, Regulations and Map

Since opening, the City has allowed regulated hunting on the reservoir.

1. City Ordinance
2. All State and Federal Hunting Regulations apply to hunting any city reservoir..
3. Buckhorn Reservoir and Wiggins Mill Reservoir will be a Monday, Wednesday and Saturday ONLY hunt.
 1. City Recognized Holidays will be open to hunt
 1. Veterans Day
 2. Thanksgiving Day and the day following Thanksgiving
 3. Christmas Day and the day before and the day after Christmas Day
 4. New Year's Day
 5. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
4. Selection process for GPS Blind Location
 1. **Blind Application is limited to Wilson County Residents Only.**
 2. See updated timeline
5. Hunters must obtain a proper permit from the Parks and Recreation Administration Office located at the City of Wilson Charles W. Pittman, III Operations Center, 1800 Herring Avenue, Wilson, NC 27894, before the construction of a permitted Blind Location. Hours of operation are Monday- Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.
 1. Each person drawn will have rights to blind drawn as long as the yearly fees are paid.
 2. Person drawn will have the choice to construct a blind or the use of a boat blind at their permitted location.
6. Hunters must hunt within the permitted areas only.
 1. There will be an allowable variance of 20 yards from the provided GPS Permitted Coordinates.
7. No person is able to leave the boat ramp earlier than two hours before sunrise. Your boat may be in the water but must be tied to the dock until two hours before sunrise. Every boat must be back at the boat ramp within 1 hour

after sunset. Any person choosing to walk in to their permitted blinds must wait at the edge of city property until two hours before sunrise before entering city property and must be off city property no later than 1 hour after sunset.

1. It will be up to the hunter responsibility to acquire proper permission as it pertains to NC Wildlife Rules and Regulations before entering private property as a means to access City of Wilson property to hunt.
8. Private blinds may only be built after appropriate permit has been secured from the Parks and Recreation Administration Office.
1. Each blind will be required to have the assigned number on the inside of the constructed blind or boat blind as a means to identify each blind after completion.
 2. Each constructed blind will have a reflector installed to aid in safety during duck season.
9. No person will be allowed to be the primary blind holder on more than two blinds per reservoir.
1. Any person will be able to purchase left over blinds after deadline for payment has passed, however will not be allowed to be the primary blind holder on more than two blinds per reservoir.
10. Buckhorn and Wiggins Mill Reservoir Hunting Zone Map (Insert Map Here)

Reservoir Hunting Permits and Fees

Hunting on both reservoirs is by permit only. Fees are as follows:

Private Blinds:

- 1) Annual Fee for Primary Blind Holder includes the Primary Blind Holder's blind Permit and Hunting Permit for the Current Hunting Season.**
 - a. **\$50.00 for City Residents**
 - b. **\$100.00 for Non- City Residents**
 - i. **The Annual Primary Blind Holder Permit will expire at the end of the Hunting Season. You can access the reservoir for the purpose of maintenance or construction of permitted blind ONLY past the end of hunting season.**
- 2) Annual Assigned Hunter Permit is a per person fee**
 - i. **\$25.00 for City Residents**
 - ii. **\$50.00 for Non-City Residents**
 - b. **There will be a maximum of 4 additional Assigned Hunters assigned per blind.**
 - i. **No more than 4 people hunting are allowed in a blind at one time**
 - c. **The Primary Blind Holder determines who is able to purchase the 4 additional Annual Assigned Hunters Permit per blind.**
 - d. **No person under the age of 18 at the time of application will be permitted to apply for a blind.**

- e. **Persons 16 years old or younger are free to hunt without any permit as long as they hunt with a Permitted Hunter for that location.**

3) Daily Duck Permit per Visit

- i. **\$5.00 Daily Duck Permit for City Residents**
- ii. **\$10.00 Daily Duck Permit for County residents**
- b. **Daily Duck Permits are good only for the date signed on permit and permit must be carried by the signed person while hunting.**
 - i. **An undated Daily Duck Permit is an invalid permit and person is subject to Violation**
- c. **Daily Duck Permits maybe purchased ahead of time at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, Monday- Friday, 8 am - 5 pm or at both reservoir's marina. Drop boxes with daily permits will be made available at both marinas and can only be used when accompanied with a Primary Blind Holder or Assigned Hunter permitted to the blind intended to hunt.**

City Owned Blinds and Blind Locations

1) The city will have two permanent blind locations on each reservoir.

- a. **The city owned blinds will be available to Wilson County Residents wishing to apply for a weekly permit. These four locations will have a weekly draw starting the week before Duck Season and running thru youth day.**
 - i. **A schedule for Weekly Blind Draws dates and times will be made available online when NC Wildlife releases there Waterfowl Dates for the fall.**
 - ii. **The Parks and Recreation Administration Office located within the Charles W. Pittman, III Operation Center at 1800 Herring Avenue Wilson, NC 27894 will receive applications for weekly draws until 12:00 pm on each Wednesday with the draw follow later that day at 1:00 pm. All winners will be notified by Wednesday at 5:00 pm. All fees must be paid for by 5:00 pm Friday of the week of the draw. All weekly blind permits not paid by 5:00 pm on Friday will be made available on a first come basis the following Monday.**
 - a. **No cost to apply for Weekly Blinds draws.**
 - b. **Must be 18 to apply to for a Weekly City Blind Permit**
 - c. **Weekly Permit Cost**
 - i. **\$5.00 usage fee per person for City residents**
 - ii. **\$10.00 usage fee per person for County Residents**
 - d. **Permitted Person may take up to 3 additional hunters**

City of Wilson Parks and Recreation Waterfowl Rules and Regulations

- Hunting is by PERMIT ONLY.
- Permits are valid for the individuals listed on the Annual or Daily Duck Permit only. All other use, access or hunting, is strictly prohibited and considered trespassing.
- All boating regulations, bag limits, possession limits, and appropriate reporting requirements as outlined in the North Carolina Inland Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Regulations Digest apply.
- Each Permitted hunter must possess their hunting permit each time they hunt.
- Hunters MUST stay within the designated blind area during the hunt. Absolutely NO HUNTING is permitted outside the permitted blind area. The City of Wilson will allow blinds to be constructed within 20 yards of the permitted GPS coordinates. Hunters should take extreme care in chasing and dispatching cripples.
- The City of Wilson and its agents reserve the right to suspend any permits as necessary.

Other Notes

- Respect private property.
- Again, respect private property.
- All blinds are accessible by boat. Deep water exists in the immediate vicinity of all blinds. Please use extreme caution while wading. The use of floatation devices is strongly recommended while wading.
- No "sky busting".
- Retrievers are recommended.
- Blinds are positioned to minimize the influence on nearby residents. Hunters are expected to hunt accordingly regardless of birds or wind direction.

City of Wilson

Recreation Department

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We are located in the Parks and Recreation Administration Office at the City of Wilson Charles W. Pittman, III Operations Center.