

Waterfowl Blind and Public Hunting Area Rules and Regulations on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Managed Lands at Somerville Lake

**Important Note – These rules only apply to blind permit holders and Corps public hunting areas, not State hunting areas. For more information on State hunting areas including Flag Pond, contact Lake Somerville State Park- Nails Creek State Unit (979-289-2392) or Birch Creek Unit (979-535-7763).*

Blind Permit Holder Rules and Regulations

1. Blind posts are fluorescent orange markers with silver numbers on them.
2. Only blind permit holders and those individuals listed on the Lakeshore Use Permit are permitted to hunt in the waterfowl blind area and may do so only in their designated blind location.
3. When placing your blind, it must be placed in front of the marker a reasonable distance into the water and not to the left or the right of the marker. A reasonable distance is not to exceed 25 yards. Blinds that are not placed correctly will be removed and the entire deposit forfeited.
3. A blind placed on land rather than water, must be within 10 yards of the marker
4. Hunters can construct their blinds immediately after completion of the drawing and identification of blind locations. The use of metal (t-posts, re-bar, or pipe), PVC, plastic posts, and other non biodegradable material is prohibited in the construction of blinds. Use only wooden posts and materials that are environmentally friendly in the construction of your blind.
5. Construction of a blind is not required and hunting utilizing existing natural vegetation found at the marker is allowed. However, trees, cane, or any other materials may not be cut or removed.
6. All materials for the blind must be brought in from areas off of Government Property; i.e. no cutting of trees, or vegetation on Government Property.
7. Waterfowl blinds must be removed by 28 February 2019. Blinds that are not removed will result in a citation to the permit holder under Section 327.20 (Unauthorized Structures).
8. Anytime the blind is used, one of the individuals listed on the permit must be present.
9. Blind hunters may utilize a boat for hunting, but may only do so within 25 yards of blind post.
10. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE ISSUED.
11. On permits, hunters must indicate on the Lakeshore Use Permit, the names of (5) individuals who will be authorized to hunt from or use the blind. Additions or deletions can be made during the hunting season by calling the Somerville Project office weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 979-596-1622 or 1624.
12. Hunters must possess a valid hunting license with state and federal waterfowl stamps.
13. Hunters must also possess a valid hunter education card if born on or after September 2, 1971.
14. Hunters must obey all state and federal hunting regulations.

15. Steel shot must be used.
16. Blinds 1 – 17 (one thru seventeen) will be closed for the weekend of the Challenged Hunter Program Deer Hunt (November 30th through December 3rd, 2017). *That is if there is a conflict with the Challenged Hunter Deer Hunt and waterfowl season.*
17. All blinds will also be closed and permits will become invalid if the lake elevation goes above **246.00ft.msl** (or 8 foot above conservation pool) or below **232.00ft.msl** (6 foot below conservation pool). Blind permit holders will be notified if this occurs.

Public Day Hunting Area

1. The public day hunting area is located on the western side of Pecan Lake Park, 340 yards west of the boundary fence where the marker is placed, around to where the other marker is placed 430ft northwest of the parking lot at McCain Creek.
2. Day hunting is allowed only in this area.
3. There are to be no permanent or semi-permanent blinds constructed in the day hunting area.
4. Blinds must be portable and removed daily if they are to be used.
5. Any abandoned permanent or semi-permanent blinds found in this area will be removed and person(s) responsible for the placement of these structures will be subject to prosecution under Title 36.
6. Hunting is restricted to the shoreline, with no exceptions.
7. Hunting along creeks is not permitted.
8. The public hunting area will close as well if the lake elevation goes above 246.00ft.msl (or 8 foot above conservation pool) or below 232.00ft.msl (6 foot below conservation pool).

STATE PARK PUBLIC HUNTING AREA

1. Hunters must access the area by boat (no walk in), hunters do not have to hunt from their boat.
2. Hunters must stay 200 yards from the shoreline of the developed areas of the park, the rest of the area hunters can be near the shoreline as long as they stay in the water and do not shoot into park property.
3. Hunting is prohibited in the creeks, hunters are allowed to travel up Nails Creek to access Flag Pond.
4. Hunting in Flag Pond requires an APH and is allowed until noon only (when it has water).
5. There is no hunting permit required for the lake.
6. The small island is considered in the hunting area and can be hunted around.