

# *Hamilton County Conservation Board*

## *Rules & Regulations*

Adopted - December 20, 2007

Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Director, Hamilton County Conservation Board, 2490 Briggs Woods Trail, Webster City, Iowa 50595-7479, or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

### **CHAPTER I: GENERAL**

**SCOPE.** By the authority granted to the Hamilton County Conservation Board by the laws of the State of Iowa Chapter 350.5 of the Code of Iowa 2007 the following rules and regulations are deemed by said Board to be necessary for the protection, regulation and control of all areas under the jurisdiction and management of said Board.

The rules and regulations governing the use of park and recreation areas are intended to protect the visitor and the area itself from abuse and misuse. In addition to the rules and regulations adopted by the Hamilton County Conservation Board, all state laws apply to conduct in county areas. Chapters 461A.35 through 461.57 of the Code of Iowa 2007 Public Lands and Waters, apply to county park and recreation areas unless modified by the Conservation Board. The traffic laws of the State of Iowa apply to county park and recreation area roads in the same manner as they apply to state roadways. Other chapters of the Code of Iowa concerning alcoholic beverages and destruction of public buildings apply in all county park and recreation areas.

### **CHAPTER II: DEFINITIONS**

Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 350.5 of the Code of Iowa (2007), the Hamilton County Conservation Board hereby promulgates and places into effect the following regulations. The following terms, as used in these regulations, shall, for the purpose of these regulations, have the meanings assigned hereto, unless a different meaning is clearly indicated.

1. "BOARD" shall mean the Hamilton County, Iowa, Conservation Board.
2. "AREA" shall mean all or any part of the land and/or water owned, leased, managed or other means under the control or governed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board.
3. "DIRECTOR" shall mean the Executive Director of the Hamilton County Conservation Board or the Board's designated representative.
4. "OFFICER" shall mean the Director in addition to any employee he may designate as law enforcement officers who shall have all powers conferred by law on peace officers in the enforcement of the laws of the State of Iowa and the apprehension of violators thereof.
5. "SPECIAL USE PERMIT" shall mean any use permit, issued by the director, pursuant to authority delegated by the Board, and signed by the Director or the Director's authorized representative.

6. "OFFICIAL SIGNS" shall mean signs provided for in the Iowa State Department of Transportation Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Iowa Streets and Highways and other signs designated from time to time by the Board.
7. "NOISE" shall mean any loud, confused or senseless shouting or outcry; a sound lacking in agreeable musical quality or which is noticeably unpleasant or loud, and raucous noise causes distress to others.
8. "SNOWMOBILE" shall mean a motorized vehicle weighing less than one thousand pounds which uses sled-type runners or skis, endless belt-type tread, or any combination of runners, skis, or tread, and is designed for travel on snow or ice.
9. "ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES" means a motorized floatation-tire vehicle with not less than low pressure tires, but not more than six low pressure tires, that is limited in engine displacement to less than eight hundred cubic centimeters and in total dry weight to less than seven hundred fifty pounds and that has a seat or saddle designed to be straddled by the operator and handlebars for steering control.
10. "HUNTING" shall be defined as the act of pursuing or attempting to take a legal game animal or bird.
11. "CAMP" or "CAMPING" shall mean the use of a shelter such as tent, trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, or sleeping bag for temporary residence at a campground.
12. "CAMPGROUND" shall mean any area designated by the Board for camping.
13. "CAMPSITE" shall mean a segment of a campground designated by the Board for camping by a camping unit or camping party.
14. "CAMPING UNIT" shall mean either a single tent not larger than 140 square feet in size at its base, pickup camper, motor home or converted bus, recreation trailer, or a motor vehicle used for a camp by a camping party, except those shelters used exclusively for dining purposes, plus, at the option of said camping party, a second or additional tent of equal or smaller size, if same is used and occupied by minor members of that camping party.

### **CHAPTER III: STATE STATUES**

SCOPE. The following portions of the State Code of Public Lands and Waters apply to County Parks and Recreation Areas.

#### **461A.35 PROHIBITED DESTRUCTIVE ACTS**

It shall be unlawful for any person to use, enjoy the privileges of, destroy, injure or deface plant life, trees, buildings, or other natural or material property, or to construct or operate for private or commercial purpose any structure, or to remove any plant life, trees, building, sand, gravel, ice, earth, stone, wood or other natural material, or to operate vehicles, within the boundaries of any state park, preserve, or stream or any other lands or waters under the jurisdiction of the Board for any purpose whatsoever, except upon the terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions as set forth by the commission.

#### **461A.36 SPEED LIMIT**

The maximum speed limit of all vehicles on state park and preserve drives, roads and highways shall be thirty-five miles per hour. All driving shall be confined to designated roadways. Whenever the commission shall determine that the speed limit hereinbefore set forth is greater than is reasonable or safe under the conditions found to exist at any place of congestion or upon any part of the park roads, drives or highways, said Board shall determine and declare a reasonable and safe speed limit thereat which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such places of congestion or other parts of the park roads, drives or highways.

#### 461A.37 EXCESSIVE LOADS

Excessively loaded vehicles shall not operate over state park or preserve drives, roads or highways. The determination as to whether the load is excessive will be made by the director or the director's representative and will depend upon the load and the road conditions.

#### 461A.38 PARKING

All vehicles shall be parked in designated parking areas, and no vehicle shall be left unattended on any state park or preserve drive, road or highway, except in the case of an emergency.

#### 461A.39 HITCHING TO TREES

No horse or other animal shall be hitched or tied to any tree or shrub, in such a manner as to result in injury to State property.

#### 461A.40 FIRES

No fires shall be built, except in a place provided therefore, and such fire shall be extinguished when site is vacated unless it is immediately used by some other party.

#### 461A.41 REMOVING PLANTS, FLOWERS OR FRUIT

No person shall, in any manner, remove, destroy, injure or deface any tree, shrub, plant, or flower, or the fruit thereof, or disturb or injure any structure or natural attraction, except that upon written permission of the commission certain specimens may be removed for scientific purposes. This section shall not apply to activities of the commission or its officers, or employees when caring for and managing State owned land and waters under the jurisdiction of the commission. This section shall not apply to the gathering or removal of any tree, shrub, plant, flower, fruits, structures or natural attractions under terms, conditions, limitations and restrictions adopted by the commission as rules under chapter 17A. (For exceptions, see CHAPTER 4.3 COLLECTION OF FRUITS OR NUTS.)

#### 461A.42 USE OF FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES, WEAPONS, AND FIREWORKS PROHIBITED - EXCEPTIONS

The use by the public of firearms, fireworks, explosives, and weapons of all kinds is prohibited in all State parks and preserves, except preserves or portions of preserves designated as hunting areas by the State advisory board on preserves upon the request of the commission. However, any person may use a bow and arrow with attached bow fishing reel and ninety-pound minimum line attached to the arrow to take rough fish under rules and regulations prescribed by the commission. (For exceptions, see CHAPTER 4.4 USE OF FIREARMS.)

#### 461A.43 LITTERING GROUNDS

No person shall place any waste, refuse, litter or foreign substance in any area or receptacle except those provided for that purpose.

#### 461A.44 PROHIBITED AREAS

No person shall enter upon portions of an State park or preserve in disregard of official signs forbidding same, except by permission of the director or the director's representative.

#### 461A.45 ANIMALS ON LEASH

No privately owned animal shall be allowed to run at large in any state park or preserve or upon lands or in waters owned by or under the jurisdiction of the commission except by permission of the commission. Every such animal shall be deemed as running at large unless the owner carries such animal or leads it by a leash or chain not exceeding six feet in length, or keeps it confined in or attached to a vehicle. (For exceptions, see CHAPTER 4.6 TRAINING AND EXERCISING DOGS.)

#### 461A.46 CLOSING TIME

Except by arrangement or permission granted by the director or the director's authorized representative, all persons shall vacate state parks and preserves before ten-thirty o'clock p.m. Areas may be closed at an earlier or later hour, of which notice shall be given by proper signs or instructions. The provisions of this section shall not apply to authorized camping in areas provided for that purpose.

#### 461A.47 CAMPING

The commission is hereby authorized to fix fees for camping and other special privileges which shall be in such amounts as may be determined by the commission upon a basis of the cost of providing and reasonable value of such privileges.

#### 461A.48 CAMPING AREAS

No person shall camp in any portion of a state park or preserve except in portions prescribed or designated by the commission.

#### 461A.49 TIME LIMIT

No camping unit shall be permitted to camp for a period longer than that designated by the commission for the specific state park or preserve, and in no event longer than for a period of two weeks.

#### 461A.50 REGISTERING - VACATING

Any person who camps in any state park or preserve shall register the person's name and address with the park custodian and advise the custodian when the camp is vacated.

#### 461.51 CAMPING REFUSED

Custodians are given authority to refuse camping privileges and to rescind any and all camping permits for cause.

#### 461A.57 PENALTIES

Any person violating any of the provisions of Chapter 461A.35 to 461.56 and Chapter 461A.85 is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

#### 123.46 CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC PLACES

A person shall not use or consume alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer upon the public streets or highways. A person shall not use or consume alcoholic liquor in any public place except premises covered by a liquor control license.

#### 350.5 REGULATIONS - PENALTY - OFFICERS

The county conservation board may make, alter, amend or repeal regulations for the protection, regulation and control of all museums, parks, preserves, parkways, playgrounds, recreation centers, and other property under its control. The regulations shall not be contrary to, or inconsistent with, the laws of this state. The regulations shall not take effect until ten days after their adoption by the board and after their publication as provided in Chapter 331.305 and after a copy of the regulations has been posted near each gate or principal entrance to the public ground to which they apply. After the publication and posting, a person violating a provision of the regulations which are then in effect is guilty of a simple misdemeanor. The board may designate the director and those employees as the director may designate as police officers who shall have all the powers conferred by law on police officers, peace officers, or sheriffs in the enforcement of the laws of this state and apprehension of violators.

### 350.10 STATUTES APPLICABLE

Chapters 461A.35 through 461A.57 of the Code of Iowa (2007), apply to all lands and waters under the control of a county conservation board , in the same manner as if the lands and waters were state parks, lands, or waters. As used in Chapters 461A.35 through 461A.57 of the Code of Iowa (2007), "natural resource commission" includes a county conservation board, and "director" includes a county conservation board or its director, with respect to lands or waters under the control of a county conservation board. However, Chapters 461A.35 through 461A.57 of the Code of Iowa (2007), may be modified or superseded by rules adopted as provided in Chapter 350.5 of the Code of Iowa (2007).

## **CHAPTER IV: HAMILTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### 4.1 SCOPE.

The provisions of these regulations apply to all county conservation areas.

### 4.2 FEES AND CHARGES

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to enter or use any facilities for which entrance fees or user fees are prescribed without payment of same, except those persons on official business or authorized by special user permits.

### 4.3 COLLECTION OF FRUITS AND NUTS

Chapter 461A.41 of the Code of Iowa (2007), entitled "Removing plants, flowers or fruit" is hereby modified under the authority of Chapter 350.10 of the Code of Iowa (2007), as follows: During the hours the areas are open to the public, it shall be lawful to collect the fruit of all nut and berry producing plants for home use provided the collector is not otherwise damaging the parent plant. This shall apply also to mushrooms and wild asparagus. Collection of any of these items for any commercial purposes is expressly prohibited.

### 4.4 USE OF FIREARMS

Chapter 461A.42 of the Code of Iowa (2007), entitled "Use of firearms prohibited - exceptions" is hereby modified under the authority of Chapter 350.10 of the Code of Iowa (2007), as follows: It shall be lawful to hunt or pursue game as otherwise provided for in the Code of Iowa in or on all areas designated from time to time as public hunting areas by the Board. The conservation department shall post all such areas with official signs to constructively notify the public that this activity is lawful. The last sentence should read – It shall be unlawful to target shoot (including clay targets) at any time in or on any of the land owned or managed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board. Hunters are required to use, and can possess, only non-toxic shot while hunting migratory game birds, resident game birds, game animals or furbearers (excluding deer and wild turkey) on all land owned or managed by the Hamilton County Conservation Board.

### 4.5 BLINDS AND TREE STANDS RESTRICTED

The use or construction of blinds or tree stands is prohibited except as provided herein. No person shall cut or in any way sever or alter in any manner as to damage plant material or any natural feature for the purpose of constructing a blind or tree stand. No person shall drive or otherwise place any nails, spikes, pin or any other metal object into any tree for the purpose of constructing a blind or tree stand nor to facilitate access to a blind or tree stand. Portable blinds or tree stands capable of being moved by one person from one location to another and which are capable of being removed daily may be used provided that such devices do not in any way damage any natural feature of the area.

#### 4.6 TRAINING AND EXERCISING DOGS

Chapter 461A.45 of the Code of Iowa (2007), entitled "Animals on Leash" is hereby modified under the authority of Chapter 350.10 of the Code of Iowa (2007), as follows: The training or exercising of dogs not on a leash shall be permitted on any area designated by official signing. It shall be unlawful to permit dogs to run at large for the purpose of training or exercising them, from March 15 through July 15, in or on all areas designated as public hunting areas by the Board or zones within areas not open to hunting. The Board may for cause close any area or portion of any area to all dogs and the training or exercising of dogs. The training or exercising of dogs not on a leash shall also be permitted in the Gordons' Marsh Young Hunter Education Area during February 1-March 14 and July 16-August 31. It shall be unlawful to permit dogs to run at large for the purpose of training or exercising them, from March 15-July 15 and September 1-January 31, in or on the area defined as the Gordons' Marsh Young Hunter Education Area.

#### 4.7 HUNTING RESTRICTED

Except as otherwise provided by law, in or on any area not designated as a public hunting area by the Board, it shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game or in anyway molest game or any wild animal or to use or carry firearms, including, but not limited to air rifles, bow and arrows, and sling shots or to carry or possess inflammable or explosive material or other dangerous articles or substances. This provision shall exclude propane or white gas lanterns or cooking apparatuses.

The area defined as Gordons' Marsh Young Hunter Education Area is designated by official signing as a Restricted Hunting Area. It shall be lawful to hunt or pursue game in this area only for those individuals who have been issued a Special User Permit from the conservation department prior to engaging in this activity. All specific rules and regulations pursuant to the area and the issuance of this permit must be obeyed.

#### 4.8 NOISE PRODUCING DEVICES

It shall be unlawful to operate or use any radio, television, stereo, musical instrument, electric generating plants, power saws or similar equipment in or on any area in such a manner as to create excessive noise and/or disturb other persons. Said equipment shall under no circumstances be used between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

#### 4.9 RECREATION USES

It shall be unlawful to occupy any portion of any area under the control of the Board for the purpose of washing or repairing vehicles, advertising, political campaigning, peddling, hawking, soliciting, begging, or any other commercial activity or any other purpose not primarily recreational, except for concessionaires acting under a contract or prior authorization issued by the Board or the Director.

#### 4.10 USE OF HORSES RESTRICTED

It shall be unlawful to ride, lead or otherwise allow the entry of horses or horse drawn vehicle except on public roadways and parking lots. No horse in any manner shall be allowed on trails unless so designated by official signing.

#### 4.11 ATVs AND SNOWMOBILES RESTRICTED

It shall be unlawful to operate any snowmobile, tote bike, air sled, swamp buggy, all-terrain vehicle or any other land conveyance not licensed, or registered as provided for in Section 321 and Section 321G of the Code of Iowa on any lands under the control of the board except for designated trails specifically set aside for this purpose or unless operating under the authority so given by the Director or the Director's authorized representative.

#### 4.12 TRAPPING

It shall be unlawful to trap on any land or water under the control of the Board without a Special User Permit issued by the Director or an authorized representative of the Director.



#### 4.13 SWIMMING RESTRICTED

It shall be unlawful to swim, wade or engage in related water sports on any bodies of water under the control of the Board except waters specifically designated by the Board for that purpose. Wading for the purpose of hunting or fishing is allowed. Swimming is restricted to designated swimming areas. No swimming is allowed between sunset and 7:00 a.m. No pets or glass will be allowed on the designated beach areas.

#### 4.14 DOMESTIC REFUSE NOT PERMITTED

It shall be unlawful to transport garbage, refuse or litter into any area under the control of the Conservation Board for the purpose of disposing of this material in any refuse or litter container placed in the area or on the ground of any area.

#### 4.15 BOATS UNATTENDED NOT PERMITTED

It shall be unlawful to leave unattended any boat or other form of water conveyance on or attached in any way to the land under the control of the Board for more than 12 consecutive hours, except in certain specified areas which may be designated from time to time. Any water conveyance in violation hereof shall be removed and stored at the expense of its owner. If said item is not reclaimed within six months of its removal hereunder, such water conveyance shall be considered abandoned at which time it and its contents will be disposed of as prescribed by law. All persons mooring or storing boats in designated areas shall register the boat number and owner's name with the Officer prior to mooring or storing. All moored or stored boats must be removed from the area prior to the seasonal closing of the park.

#### 4.16 MOTOR VEHICLES UNATTENDED NOT PERMITTED

It shall be unlawful to leave any motor vehicle unattended on any area under the control of the Board after park hours without the permission of the Officer or an authorized representative.

#### 4.17 OFFICIAL SIGNS

No person shall enter upon portions of any area under the control of the Conservation Board in disregard of official signs prohibiting the same, except by permission of the Conservation Board, its Director or the Director's authorized representative.

#### 4.18 POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful for any person or group on or in any area under the control of the Board to sell, possess, use, consume or otherwise in any manner to have any beer or alcoholic beverages in a keg or any other container larger than one gallon without first obtaining a special use permit from the Director or authorized representative.

#### 4.19 PARK HOURS

Between the official spring opening approximately April 1 and the official closing approximately October 31 and except by arrangement or permission granted by the Board, all persons shall vacate all county areas between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. of the following day with the exception of registered campers. Between October 31 and April 1, winter hours for walk in traffic only at Briggs Wood Park and Briggs Woods Golf Course are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Areas may be closed at an earlier or later hour and may be opened at an earlier hour or later hour of which notice shall be given by official signing.

#### 4.20 WAR-LIKE GAMES

War-like games that utilize any weapon type projectile (paintballs) are prohibited on any areas or waters under the control of the Board.

#### 4.21 ELECTRIC MOTORS ONLY ON BRIGGS WOODS LAKE

It shall be lawful to use electric motors for boating purposes on Briggs Woods Lake. All non-electric outboard or inboard boat motors are prohibited unless granted permission by the Conservation Board, the Director or an authorized representative.

#### 4.22 CAMPING

It shall be unlawful to camp or occupy a campsite on any campground under the control of the Board without observing the following rules:

- A. Only one vehicle (other than the vehicle used to tow a camper or driving a motorhome) will be allowed for each registered camper.
- B. Campers must restore their campsite to the same approximate condition as existed when they found it.
- C. Campers must erect their camping equipment and camp at designated campsites only. In campgrounds where sites are not designated, the camper may camp any place within the campground, except in those portions where camping is expressly prohibited with official signs giving notice of this restriction.
- D. A campsite will not be considered occupied unless a physical object such as vehicle, trailer, or tent is put on the campsite and the campsite is paid for. Camping rates apply to designated sites as posted.
- F. Each camping unit must register within 30 minutes of arrival to the campground. The individual registering for that camping unit will be responsible for the actions of all individuals in their camping party, including all visitors to their campsite.
- G. No camping equipment of any kind may remain in a campground more than 14 days out of any 21 day period. On all parks or units with more than one campground, this restriction shall apply to the entire unit and all campgrounds on that unit.
- H. Following the first night after camping equipment has been placed on a camp site, the camping equipment shall not be left unattended for more than 24 hours without the permission of the Officer. Unattended camping equipment which is not removed in the prescribed time limit will be subject to impoundment. Camping equipment impounded as a result of having violated the 24 hour limit set forth herein, shall be removed and stored at the expense of the owner. If the impounded items are not reclaimed within six months of its removal hereunder, said items will be considered abandoned and shall therefore be disposed of as prescribed by law.
- I. All registered campers must maintain quiet in the campground during the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. All visitors to the campgrounds must leave by 10:30 p.m.
- J. Only one camping unit is allowed per camp site.
- K. Dogs, cats or other pets shall not be left unattended without food or water for a 24 hour period.

#### 4.23 FISH LENGTH LIMITS

Hamilton County Conservation Board imposes a 15 inch length limit on walleyes in Briggs Woods Lake. All other related fish length limits and possession limits apply and are subject to State of Iowa code 481A.67.

### **CHAPTER V: HAMILTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD - SPECIFIC AREA RULES AND REGULATIONS**

5.1 SCOPE These rules and regulations apply to specific parks and recreation areas.



## **5.2 BRIGGS WOODS GOLF COURSE**

- A. All persons must register at the clubhouse prior to teeing off.
- B. U.S.G.A. rules govern all play.
- C. Season pass holders as well as daily greens fee players, must obtain a cash register receipt from the clubhouse attendant. You may be checked by the course ranger for this receipt. If you can not produce this receipt, you may be required to return immediately to the clubhouse to obtain one.
- D. Each player must have their own set of clubs.
- E. Practice chipping and putting shall be restricted to the practice putting green only.
- F. Only authorized vehicles will be allowed onto the golf course for either play, maintenance or emergency situations.
- G. No electric or gas driven carts or cars shall be permitted on greens, tees, collars or aprons.
- H. No golfer shall drive, chip or putt onto greens when the flag is removed by golfers or maintenance personnel.
- I. The golf season shall commence approximately on April 1 and end approximately on October 31 of each year dependent on weather conditions. The golf course may be all or partially closed during the golf season for extended periods of time due to weather and maintenance conditions. If closed, official signing will designate such and there shall be no play on closed areas of the golf course.
- J. Cross country skiing and sledding will be permitted in designated areas during designated times. All such activities must stay off golf course greens.
- K. All golf carts or cars brought to the course shall pay a user fee.
- L. Persons renting a golf cart must be at least 18 years of age.
- M. No person under the age of 14 years shall be allowed to operate motorized golf carts on the course. Persons between the age of 14 and 16 years must be accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older. Any exception to this rule must have the written permission of the Golf Course Superintendent or an authorized representative.
- N. At no time will more than four golfers be allowed in a group, including best shot competition. Exception to this rule can be made by the golf course superintendent, or director of golf, for a specific golf course sponsored event.
- O. On weekends and holidays, no one under the age of 14 years shall play unless accompanied by an adult.
- P. Following the completion of a round, golfers must re-register in the clubhouse before starting another round. Exception to this regulation is when a golfer is going from hole #9 to tee #10.
- Q. Permission from the clubhouse attendant must be received to start on tee #10. Players coming up on #9 have the right-of-way to #10. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- R. Excessive operation of golf cars or carts, other than that necessary to play the game of golf, will not be permitted.

S. Only two golf cars or carts are allowed per foursome and one golf car or cart per twosome.

T. Holes are to be played in succession. No skipping around.

U. Pop and beer cans in golf course trash receptacles and on the course grounds are the property of the Hamilton County Conservation Department. Removal of cans by unauthorized persons may result in eviction or expulsion from the course.

V. No personal beverages either non alcohol or alcohol shall be brought onto the golf course. All such beverages shall only be purchased through the clubhouse are allowed on the golf course.

W. Coolers and beverages are provided through clubhouse.

X. Personal property left in golf carts or in cart storage sheds is the responsibility of the owner. Hamilton County Conservation may not be held responsible for loss or damage to personal times left unattended.

Y. Any infraction of these rules and regulations is cause for eviction or expulsion from the area.

### **5.3 GORDONS' MARSH YOUNG HUNTER EDUCATION AREA**

A. The general public (those without a special use permit) cannot use the Young Hunter Education Area during September 1 - January 31.

B. The general public can access (foot traffic only) the State Refuge area except during September 10–December 25.

C. Anyone hunting in the young hunter education areas must have obtained a special use permit from the county conservation office prior to engaging in that activity.

D. The special use permit is non-transferable.

E. The permit must be displayed in the permit holder's vehicle and be visible from the outside of the vehicle during the time they are using the area.

F. A maximum of four persons are allowed per permit. A minimum of two persons (one adult and one youth). Youth must be 15 years and under. Adult must be 21 years or older.

G. All adults attending youth on the Young Hunter Education Area must be licensed to hunt.

H. Both the adult and the youth can carry guns.

I. The youth does not have to have a hunting license.

J. The youth does not have to have taken Hunter Safety.

K. One limit of game can be taken if the youth is not licensed to hunt.

L. Two limits of game can be taken if the youth is licensed to hunt. However, we encourage only one limit to be taken to help provide the greatest abundance of game for the youth that hunt after you.

M. The two permit times available are from 1 hour before opening time through 12:00 noon and from noon to 1 hour after closing time.

- N. Vehicles shall be parked in designated areas only.
- O. The area's main parking lot cannot be used for parking during September 1 – January 31. Hunters can drive back to the main parking lot to drop off or pick up decoys or a boat, but then must immediately return their vehicle to the appropriate Young Hunter Education parking lot. The chain gate must be closed when you return to the parking lot.
- P. Obey all boundary and refuge restrictions.
- Q. Boats or canoes without motors are allowed.
- R. Remains of field cleaned game shall be disposed of at least 50 yards away from the parking areas and roads.
- S. Permit and survey cards must be returned to the Conservation Department office before another permit will be issued.
- T. The Hamilton County Conservation Department reserves the right to issue or deny approval of permits.
- U. Large hunting parties can only use the Young Hunter Education Area by a special permit that is approved by the Hamilton County Conservation Board.
- V. All huntable game species listed by the State of Iowa can be pursued at Gordon's Marsh.
- W. All State of Iowa Game Laws apply.
- X. Only non-toxic shot that has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shall be used.
- Y. Target shooting is not allowed at Gordon's Marsh.
- Z. Dog training is allowed on the Young Hunter Education Area during the following dates only: February 1 – March 14 and July 16 - August 31. Dog training is not allowed on the State Refuge Area.