

## Hunting Regulations

Piedmont is one of over 540 National Wildlife Refuges. The primary objective of the national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunts maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with available habitat, provide wholesome recreation opportunities, and permit the use of valuable renewable resources.

## General Hunt Regulations

Public hunting is permitted on approximately 34,000 acres of Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge. Areas closed to hunting are marked with closed signs and orange paint. The refuge boundary is marked with National Wildlife Refuge signs and yellow paint. Prescribed fire and timber thinning are two tools the refuge use to manage wildlife habitat.



The Hitchiti Experimental Forest is open for hunting only during refuge hunting seasons with a Piedmont Refuge hunt special use permit and in accordance with refuge hunting regulations.



In addition to Federal regulations, State Game and Fish laws and regulations are adopted and are in effect unless they have been further restricted by Federal law or regulations.

### State bag limits apply to deer archery, small game, raccoon and turkey seasons.

All deer and turkey harvested must be checked in at the refuge check station the day killed. Deer check station location is marked on map. Turkey check station is at Refuge Visitor Center.

**On deer gun hunts, hunters should NOT record their kill on their state hunter harvest record. The deer should be taken to the refuge check station where a special deer tag will be provided. These deer will not count toward a hunter's season limit. Two deer may be killed on any one deer gun hunt.**

On the deer archery hunt, deer harvested **MUST BE RECORDED** on the state hunter harvest record at the site of the kill and count toward the season's limit.

<i>Type Hunt</i>	<b>Hunting Seasons 2004 - 2005</b>	<i>Season Dates</i>
Deer—Either sex Archery	No Quota	September 11-26, 2004
Deer—Either sex Disabled Hunt	Special Refuge Permit for Wheel Chair Bound Persons	October 15-16, 2004
Deer—Buck only with visible antlers Firearms	Quota 1,250	October 21-23, 2004
Deer—Either sex Primitive Weapons	Quota 1,250	November 4-6, 2004
Deer - Either sex Firearms	Quota 1,250	November 12-13, 2004 November 19-20, 2004
Quail, Squirrel, Rabbit	Small Game No Quota	State season except Refuge small game hunts will be closed during all refuge deer hunts.
Raccoon, Opossum	No Quota	January 7-8, 2005 January 14-15, 2005 January 21-22, 2005 January 28-29, 2005
Spring Turkey	Quota 200 Quota 200 Quota 200 Quota 200 Quota 200	March 31- April 2, 2005 April 7-9, 2005 April 14-16, 2005 April 21-23, 2005 April 28-30, 2005

On the turkey quota hunts, hunters may harvest up to **three** gobblers. These gobblers will count **toward your state season limit**.

No processed deer or turkey may be possessed unless they have been checked at the refuge check station and refuge personnel have been notified.

**Driving nails, spikes, or other metal** objects into trees; or hunting from trees in which metal objects have been driven is prohibited. Tree stands can be placed the day prior to each hunt and must be removed by 11:00 am the day after the hunt.

**No hunter flagging, blazing, painting, or other trail marking devices may be used to locate stands or for any other purposes.**

During the deer archery, small game, special night racoon hunts and turkey seasons, the Wildlife Drive in Compartment 21 and 22 will be

closed to hunting. However, during deer quota hunts this area will be open for hunting and closed to general public use.

No person shall unreasonably disturb or annoy other persons on the refuge. No audio equipment, such as radios or other noise making devices, such as generators may be used **after 10:00 pm or before 6:00 am** in the campground.

Hunting hours for special night hunts for raccoon and opossum are from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am on days listed. Weapons permitted during raccoon hunts are limited to .22 cal or smaller rimfire firearms.

Hunters **may not** leave vehicles or trailers on the refuge overnight.

Licenses, permits, all hunting equipment and effects, and vehicles or other conveyances are subject to inspection by Federal and State officers.

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by and be under direct adult supervision (within sight or hearing of a person 18 years old or older) to hunt any game on the refuge. Hunter education is not required. Hunters age 16-25 must possess the hunter education certificate while hunting.

Shooting of guns or bows in the campground is prohibited. Transporting loaded weapons in vehicles and hunting or shooting from a road open for vehicle travel are prohibited.

Hunters are cautioned to identify their targets before shooting.

Buckshot is not permitted on refuge hunts.

During the Disabled Hunt the refuge is closed to the public.

Hunting is not permitted within 50 yards of a road open to vehicle travel or 200 yards of a building.

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited except in the designated camping area.

Please drive with caution. Most hunter access roads are narrow, graveled and contain creek fords. Loose gravel and uneven road surfaces lessen vehicle control. Rain makes roads slippery and the crossing of creek fords hazardous.

Vehicle travel is limited to graveled roads. Vehicle travel around or through a closed gate is prohibited. Please do not block gates or roads. **No ATV's are allowed.**

Each year we search for several lost hunters. Hunters should have and know how to use a compass.

The refuge is open to the public year-round during daylight hours except during quota hunts and the disabled hunt. Pre-hunt scouting is allowed year-round except during quota hunts and disabled hunt. A valid hunt permit is then required to enter the hunt area. Some access roads may be closed for small game and turkey seasons or in bad weather. The hunt area is open from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.

## How to Get Refuge Permits

Camping is permitted only in Pippins Lake Campground in Compartment 19 during big game hunts. The campground will open at 8:00 am the day before each deer or turkey hunt and close at 11:00 am the day after the hunt. A refuge **hunt special use permit is required to enter the campground.**

Permits are required for all hunters regardless of age and **ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE.** When signed, this brochure serves as your permit for the small game, raccoon and deer archery hunts. Additional permits may be obtained at refuge headquarters or by mail.

Application forms for the deer gun hunts will be available in June and must be returned to the refuge office by **12:00 noon on August 26, 2004.** A public drawing will be held at **1:00 pm August 26, 2004.**

Applications for the Spring turkey hunts will be available in January and must be returned to the refuge office by **12:00 noon on February 24, 2005.** A public drawing will be held at **1:00 pm on February 24, 2005.**

Deer and turkey hunters who return their permits after the hunts or those that return their rejection notices will automatically be mailed an application form the following year.

Persons interested in the special disabled hunt (only for wheel-chair bound persons) should contact the Refuge Office for information concerning this hunt by October 1.

Littering is illegal, unsightly, and can leave a bad image of hunters. Pick up litter when you see it.

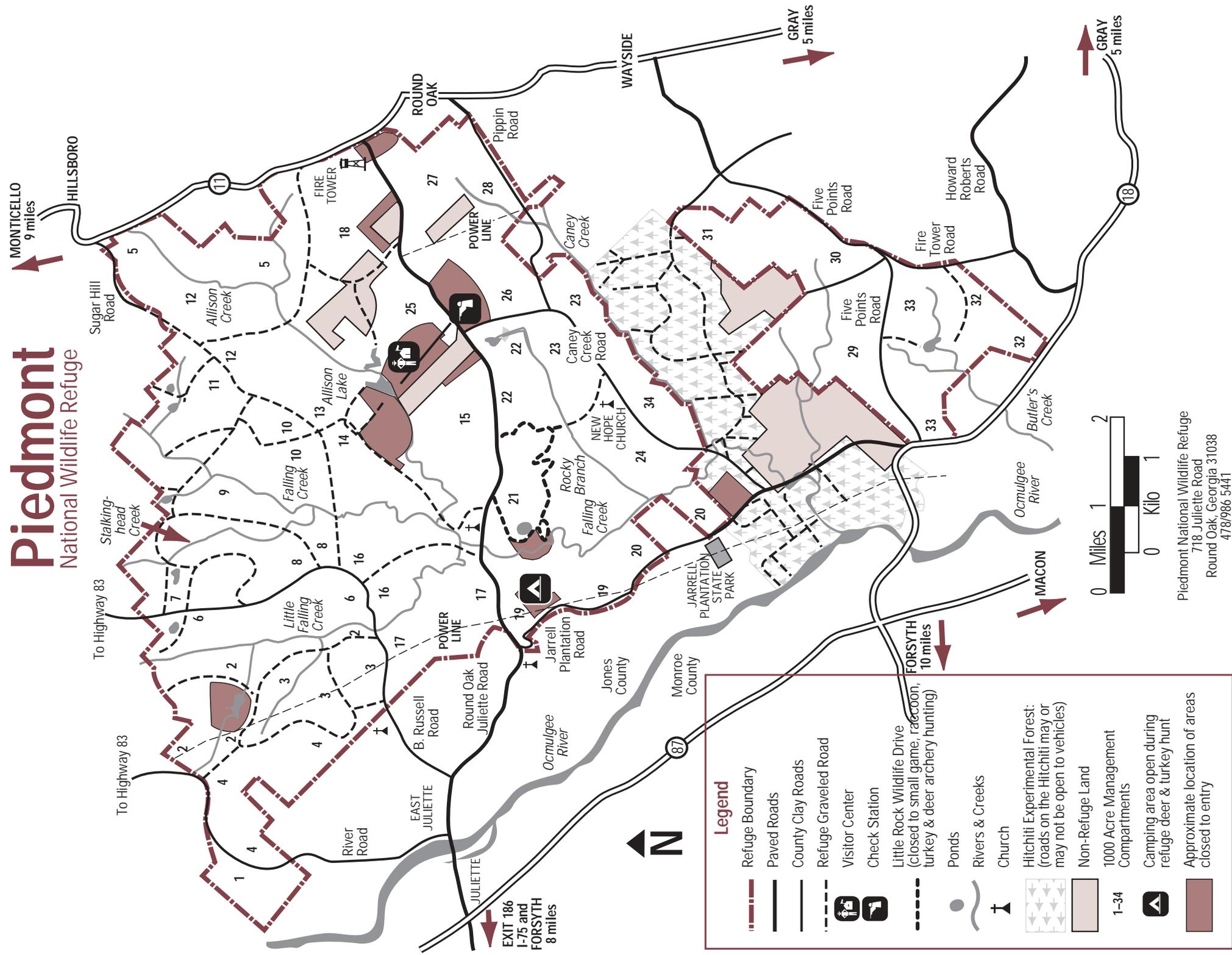
Immediately report any violations of refuge regulations or problems you have to the refuge office.

Contact the refuge office for more information at 478/986 5441.

## Public Access

# Piedmont

National Wildlife Refuge



**Legend**

- Refuge Boundary
- Paved Roads
- County Clay Roads
- Refuge Graveled Road
- Visitor Center
- Check Station
- Little Rock Wildlife Drive (closed to small game, raccoon, turkey & deer archery hunting)
- Ponds
- Rivers & Creeks
- Church
- Hitchiti Experimental Forest: (roads on the Hitchiti may or may not be open to vehicles)
- Non-Refuge Land
- 1000 Acre Management Compartments
- 1-34
- Camping area open during refuge deer & turkey hunt
- Approximate location of areas closed to entry

0 Miles 1 2  
0 Kilo 1

Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge  
718 Juliette Road  
Round Oak, Georgia 31038  
478/986 5441

Piedmont  
National Wildlife Refuge  
718 Round Oak-Juliette Road  
Round Oak, GA 31038  
478/986 5441  
<http://piedmont.fws.gov>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD  
<http://www.fws.gov>

March 2004



**Refuge Hunting Permit 2004-2005**  
When signed, this brochure is your permit for the small game, deer archery hunts, and raccoon hunts.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Piedmont

National Wildlife Refuge  
Hunting Regulations  
2004-2005