

**Manatee
County
Commission**

District 1
Larry
Bustle

District 2
Charles B.
Smith

District 3
John
Chappie

District 4
Robin
DiSabatino

District 5
Vanessa
Baugh

At-Large
Carol
Whitmore

At-Large
Betsy
Benac

DUETTE PRESERVE

2649 Rawls Road
Duette, Florida 34219
(941) 737-2661

www.MyManatee.org/parks



Manatee County
Board of County Commissioners

**PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT**

Charlie Hunsicker, Director

This brochure is designed to provide the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting in Duette Preserve. For the exact wording of the wildlife laws and regulations of Florida, see the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Florida Wildlife Code on file with the Secretary of State and state libraries. This brochure and the quota hunt application form will provide the information necessary for you to plan your hunting activities.

Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources



**DUETTE
PRESERVE**

**2015-2016
QUALITY WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

GENERAL REGULATIONS:

In addition to the regulations which follow, all laws and regulations of the State of Florida relating to wildlife shall apply. Duette Preserve is not a state wildlife management area. It is managed by Manatee County Government. Duette Preserve regulations are more restrictive than the state regulations. Hunting or the taking of wildlife shall be allowed only during the state open seasons and Preserve scheduled hunt weekends, and only in the manner set forth herein.

EACH HUNTER IS PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KNOWLEDGE OF AND ADHERING TO ALL LAWS AND RULES PERTAINING TO THIS HUNT PROGRAM AND DUETTE PRESERVE.

1. Each new participant must provide a copy of his/her Hunter Safety Certificate at the time of registration. No exceptions.
2. Any person entering Duette Preserve during the prescribed hunts, other than archery hunts, shall wear at least 500 square inches of Dayglo fluorescent orange material above the waistline as an outer garment. A head covering of the same color is also required. *The Dayglo fluorescent orange material must be visible at all times, including ground blinds.*
3. During hunt weekends, access to Duette Preserve is restricted to hunters with a valid hunt permit for the designated hunt and two immediate family member (see Children and Family). Entry and exit is permitted through the Check Station only.
4. The use of feeders, baiting, or the possession of baiting materials of any kind is prohibited. Trapping of any kind is prohibited.
5. There are quiet times during the Big Game season. Walking around or driving during this time is prohibited. A Quiet Time Schedule is distributed at Orientation and is posted at the Check Station on the board with the buck quota.
6. **Male deer (buck) must have a minimum of three (3) points on one side.** *(A point is defined as antler growth off the main beam that is 1" in length.)*
7. A buck harvest quota is established for each Big Game weekend. Unfilled buck quotas are not carried over to future hunts. If the buck quota is filled on the first day of the hunt weekend, only feral hogs may be taken the second day. The buck quota is posted at the Check Station. Only one deer may be harvested per permitted hunter per Big Game Weekend, regardless of quota or antlerless tag availability.
8. Doe harvest will be explained at the Orientation.
9. All deer must be dressed at the Check Station so the health of the harvested deer can be evaluated. All deer harvested are required to have one jawbone extracted for aging. All hogs shall be dressed at the check station, unless justification is accepted and prior verbal authorization is given by a ranger on duty.
10. Transport of deer or parts of the deer off of the property requires a copy of the harvest sheet signed by staff. It is the hunter's responsibility to acquire a copy of the harvest sheet from staff. See Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission Hunting Handbook for state rules on dismemberment.
11. Hunting is prohibited in areas posted "No Hunting."
12. STATE REGULATIONS REGARDING BUFFER ZONE DISTANCES APPLY.
13. The waste of wildlife is prohibited.
14. No plants, or their parts, or any animals shall be introduced, liberated, planted, or placed in any part of Duette Preserve by visitors.
15. It is unlawful to leave garbage or litter in Duette Preserve.
16. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages anywhere in Duette Preserve is prohibited.



TURKEY HUNT

Spring Gobbler Only

Drawing for hunts will be held on Monday, February 29th, 2016

- Shotgun or bow only
- One turkey per permit
- **Hunter may be accompanied by two (2) assistants during Turkey Hunt.**
- 6 hunters will be drawn
- 6 days of hunting:
 - March 19th and 20th, 2016
 - April 2nd and 3rd, 2016
 - April 9th and 10th, 2016
 - March 12th and 13th, 2016 – Spring Youth Turkey Hunt

Four (4) randomly drawn participants

- Hunting begins at 5:00 a.m. and ends at 12:00 p.m.
- One entry per person!
- Draw Entry Fee \$15.00 + tax
- Turkey Permit - Resident \$150.00 + tax
- Turkey Permit - Non-Resident \$250.00 + tax

NEW CHANGES FOR 2015-2016

1. **New Check Station phone number is 941-737-2661 and the backup phone number will be 941-776-2295.**

**NEW APPLICANTS: PLEASE SEND HUNTERS
EDUCATION CERTIFICATES WITH REGISTRATION
PLEASE RESPECT OTHERS' RIGHTS AND PROPERTY.
IF THERE IS A PROBLEM, PLEASE CALL THE
CHECK STATION AT 941-737-2661 or 941-776-2295**

2015-2016 SEASON

- **Application and Permit payments must be either exact cash or checks made out to Manatee County.**
- Applications and payments for the Random Draw will not be accepted after July 13th 2015. Any application received after July 13th 2015, will be processed after the Random Draw.
- Stands may be placed on the property beginning on Saturday, August 15th 2015, at 5:00 a.m. Tree stands must be removed by July 24th 2016.

ORIENTATION (Mandatory) Saturday, August 8th 2015 – August 29th 2015
January 16th 2016 – April 30th 2016
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Missing mandatory orientation will result in NOT being able to hunt during the 2015-2016 Duette Preserve Hunt Season.

BIG GAME SEASON

Archery and Crossbow

A B and C hunts only: Legal to take only one male deer or one antlerless deer, except spotted fawn, until the quota is reached, and unlimited hogs.

- A. September 19th and 20th 2015
- B. October 3rd and 4th 2015
- C. October 10th and 11th 2015

Muzzleloading Gun

Legal to take only one male deer until the quota is reached, and unlimited hogs.

- D. October 24th and 25th 2015
- E. November 7th and 8th 2015

General Gun

Legal to take only one male deer until the quota is reached, and unlimited hogs.

- F. December 12th and 13th 2015
- G. January 9th and 10th 2016

YOUTH HUNT

Fees, availability, and application procedure may be obtained from staff.

- Y. November 21st and 22nd 2015 ... Maximum fifty (50) participants

SMALL GAME AND HOG 5 AM – 9 PM

Legal to take hog, gray squirrel, quail, rabbit, snipe, and coyote.

- H. January 30th and 31st 2016
- J. February 20th and 21st 2016
- I. February 13th and 14th 2016
- K. February 27th and 28th 2016

UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER HOG HUNTS Saturday Only: 5 AM – 9 PM

- L. May 14th 2016
- N. June 25th 2016
- M. June 4th 2016
- O. July 16th 2016

CHILDREN AND FAMILY

- **Only two (2) immediate family members (defined as a spouse or child) of any age may accompany a permitted hunter. Family members must show proof of having completed a Hunters Education Course.**
- Children under the age of 18 cannot possess a permit and are required to accompany a permitted adult. (Only two children per permitted adult.)
- Children participating in the Youth Hunt **must have** completed a Hunters Education Course and be in the presence and under the supervision of an adult. F.S. 790.22 and 784.05.

HUNTING SAFETY

- During Muzzle-loader season firearms may be discharged at the Check Station area. **Please notify staff first.**
- Please follow ethics and safety practices learned as provided by State Hunters Safety Education Course.

DOGS

- Only leashed dogs suitable for trailing wounded game will be permitted during the Big Game season. Dogs must be placed in owners' portable kennels and left at the Check Station with food and water until needed.
- During Small Game hunts, only bird dogs (pointers and retrievers) will be allowed.
- All dogs must wear collars bearing the name and address of the owners and have proof of current rabies vaccination.
- In all cases owners are responsible for their dogs and their dogs' actions.

STANDS

- All stands must have the name and phone number of the hunter clearly marked within 5 feet of the ground. If this information is not on the stand, Department staff will remove the stand from Duette Preserve.
- Only two stands per hunter allowed. Stands include climbers, ground blinds, chairs, etc.
- Climbing stands and ground blinds may be placed or moved before or after the Quiet Time during Big Game hunts. No other hunting stands may be moved during Big Game hunts.
- No permanent stands or stands that will damage vegetation will be permitted.
- Driving a metal object into any tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven is prohibited.
- Prescribed fire is applied year-round. Staff is not responsible for personal property left on site.
- No hunting is allowed within 100 feet of mapped trails, which includes sitting in vehicles or blinds. Trails are not to be used as shooting lanes.

VEHICLES

- Any vehicle entering Duette Preserve must have a current registration, meet federal and state safety requirements, and be operated by a licensed driver with appropriate insurance.
- Vehicles shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct roads, gates, or fire lanes.
- **Vehicles may be operated only on vehicle trails.** Trails can be closed at any time.
- With prior authorization of staff, hunters may drive on fire breaks for game removal only.
- The presence of a 'CLOSED' sign restricts access to foot traffic only.
- Vehicles must be operated in a safe manner for the condition of the vehicle trails.
- Maximum speed limit is 20 mph.

CAMPING

- During hunt weekends, permitted hunters wishing to camp must register at the Check Station.
- Trailers, tents, and equipment must be removed by Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on each hunt weekend.
- Campground quiet time is 10:00 p.m. and will be strictly enforced.
- Generators may be used if properly muffled, but must be turned off at 10:00 p.m.
- Fires are permitted in grills and fire rings only.

CHECK STATION

- Hunters must check in and out at the Check Station. Repeat violators may lose hunt privileges.
- Hunters may enter at 5:00 a.m. for Big Game hunts, 5:00 a.m. for Small Game hunts.
- All game must be checked in by staff at the Check Station. If a deer is shot on Saturday and not recovered, the hunter must report the event to staff on Saturday before leaving the property. If not, the penalty for violation of closed buck quota will be assessed.
- During hunts, the preserve closes at 9:00 p.m. Anyone exiting after 9:00 p.m. may lose hunt privileges.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY & ACCESS

- Equal Opportunity and Access requests must come through the Parks and Natural Resources Department Duette Preserve Office, 941-737-2661. Requests must be made no later than 30 days prior to hunt for which access is being requested.

SALES

- Sales will be determined using a Random Draw system.
 - Payment in full is required with each application.
- Permits are non-transferable from person to person or to a different date.
- Fees are non-refundable and do not include the mandatory 6.5% sales tax. Please calculate the 6.5% tax and include it with your payment.

PERMITTING & LICENSE INFORMATION

APPROPRIATE LICENSES AND PERMITS REQUIRED.

- All hunters are required to attend a scheduled orientation before receiving hunt permits.
- All hunters are required to provide proof of completed Hunters Education Course before receiving permits. Hunters Safety Course Certificates from other states will be honored.
- If you do not fulfill these requirements, you will not be permitted to hunt and any fees processed may not be refunded.

HUNTING LICENSE

A State of Florida hunting license may be purchased from the County Tax Collector's Office or from their sub-agents. Information on the categories and costs of hunting licenses is available in the Florida Hunting Handbook.

A STATE OF FLORIDA WMA (WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA) STAMP IS NOT REQUIRED AT DUETTE PRESERVE.

QUOTA HUNT PERMIT

- There will be **100** quota hunt permits issued for each of the scheduled hunts.
- Applications will be available on-line and at the Duette Preserve Office beginning on June 12th 2015. Phone number and website on back page.

APPLICATION FEE/ANNUAL PASS

Fee is paid once annually and is valid until the following year's hunt registration.

Residents of Manatee County	\$25.00 + tax
Non-residents of Manatee County	\$35.00 + tax

PERMIT FEES

Permit fees are paid per hunt.

A-G Hunts

Residents of Manatee County	\$50.00 + tax
Non-residents of Manatee County	\$85.00 + tax

H-K Hunts - Small Game

Residents of Manatee County	\$20.00 + tax
Non-residents of Manatee County	\$40.00 + tax

L-O Hunts – United Way Fundraiser Hog Hunts

Residents and Non-Residents	\$10.00
Exact Cash or Check	To be paid the morning of the hunt

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Deer	One per quota hunt permit
Feral Hog	No Limit
Gray Squirrel, Quail, Rabbit	See State Hunting Handbook 2015-2016
Snipe	See State Hunting Handbook 2015-2016
Coyote	See State Hunting Handbook 2015-2016