

PUBLIC HUNTING INFORMATION

For the Kickapoo Valley Reserve – 2012

The Kickapoo Valley Reserve (KVR) is open to all hunting and trapping allowed by State law as “State Owned Land”. Follow State of Wisconsin hunting, fishing, and trapping regulations.

- ▶ A Visitor’s Guide is available which includes a map, rules and fee information. Also check the website <http://kvr.state.wi.us>
- ▶ NO motorized vehicles allowed on Reserve land.
 - ▶ *EXCEPTION:* Disabled permit available on a case-by-case basis allowing use of ATV or 4-wheel drive vehicle on existing trails. Must have proof of DNR issued disabled permit. *CONTACT* the Reserve Visitor Center several weeks prior to your desired hunting season.
- ▶ Hunters, fishermen, and trappers *do not* need to purchase a daily or annual visitor pass specific to the KVR. See Visitor’s Guide for further details.
- ▶ Primitive camping is available on a first-come, first-served basis. A fee for camping is required: \$15/night/campsite/for vehicle accessible sites; up to ten individuals. \$10/night/campsite for hike/paddle-in sites. Campers may self-register at one of the “iron rangers” identified on the Reserve map as a green dot or at the Visitor Center.
- ▶ The Reserve is a large area—8,569 acres—with difficult terrain. We recommend scouting well ahead of your hunting season and adopt common sense safety precautions such as carry drinking water, hunt with a buddy, or at least tell someone where you will be.
- ▶ The Reserve’s irregular border requires respect for private property. The Reserve boundary is signed intermittently with brown, four-foot high flat markers with white stickers; however, it is the hunter’s responsibility to scout the area and know the boundary prior to hunting.

Hunters need to be aware that hikers, campers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, and other outdoor recreation enthusiasts are also using the Reserve. Practice Safety First!

Common hunting questions & answers related specifically to the KVR:

Q Is the KVR open to public hunting?

A Yes. The entire 8, 569 acres are open to hunting. Follow State of Wisconsin hunting regulations for license required, season, unit, bag limit, etc.

Q Can I sight in my gun and/or target practice on the Reserve?

A NO! Given the number and variety of visitors to the Reserve this would be very dangerous and is in violation of administrative rule and punishable by a fine of \$175.00.

Q Is this a CWD Zone?

A No. The Reserve is located within Deer Management Unit 72 which is a Herd Control Unit for the 2012 season. (Zone 71 south of Highway 82 is a CWD zone)

Q Allowing participation in the DNR Youth Hunt?

A Yes, 10-15 year-olds, with or without hunter education certification, are eligible to participate in the youth gun deer hunt with a mentor on October 6-7, 2012. See DNR regulations for further details.

Q Are tree stands and ground blinds allowed?

A Yes, but must be **portable** (removed each day at the close of hunting hours) and cannot damage the tree or surrounding vegetation. Please do not use screw-in tree steps.

Q Do you have pheasant hunting here?

A Yes. The Reserve is a pheasant stocking area (hens and roosters are released on the Reserve prior to and periodically during pheasant season); Pheasant stamp required. In addition, hunters must obtain up to 10 free tags for the pheasant release sites. Pheasant tags are free of charge and may be obtained from: Viroqua DNR Wildlife field office—call ahead (608)637-3938; La Crosse DNR Service Center (608)785-9000; and at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve Visitor Center, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (open 7 days/week September and October; closed Sundays in November and December). Note: the KVR *does not* sell pheasant stamps.

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- Q** **When are the Antlerless Only deer hunts?**
A Zone 72 has Antlerless Only archery/rifle season December 6-9. All hunters, except waterfowl hunters, must follow the **blaze orange** requirements during this season, and during the youth hunt on October 6-7, 2012.
- Q** **When and where are pheasants released?**
A Specific time and location of releases vary, but pheasants are released periodically October through December *throughout* the Reserve's 8,569 acres.
- Q** **Do you have turkey hunting here?**
A Yes, both spring and fall seasons. The KVR is located in Zone 1.
- Q** **Do you sell licenses?**
A No. The closest license outlets are in La Farge, Hillsboro, Viroqua, Viola, and Readstown or on-line.
- Q** **Is hunting, fishing, and trapping allowed on the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust Lands within the Reserve?**
A Yes. Per the October 1997 Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Wisconsin and the Ho-Chunk Nation, the Reserve is managed as one public property.
- Q** **Are there ponds on the Reserve for waterfowl hunting?**
A Yes. The Reserve has several areas with ponds and sloughs that attract waterfowl.
- Q** **Is it okay to hunt the agricultural fields within the Reserve?**
A Yes, it is permissible to hunt the agricultural fields within the Reserve; it is in the farmers' lease agreement that hunting will be allowed. Please use common sense: do not drive on or block the farmers' access to the fields.
- Q** **Does the Reserve have very heavy hunting pressure?**
A Yes. Gun deer season, pheasant season, and opening weekends for every season all see heavy hunting pressure.

Be Sure of Your Target and Beyond!

Please, think about it...having an 8,569 acre tract of land open to public hunting is a wonderful opportunity for every hunter. Unfortunately, each year the staff of the Reserve hears about and witnesses damage caused by hunters. Shooting of signs and markers, leaving shell casings and other litter, and trespassing are also observed by the non-hunting public. Sign replacement alone costs thousands of dollars each year. Hunters on public land need to follow the highest code of ethics, treat others and the property with the utmost respect so future hunting generations have the same opportunity you have. Thank you!

**Kickapoo Valley Reserve, S3661 Highway 131, La Farge, Wisconsin 54639
608/625-2960; <http://kvr.state.wi.us>**