

Changes to 2020 waterfowl drawing procedures at Wetland Wonders

October 1, 2020

Waterfowl hunters at Michigan's [Wetland Wonders](#) should expect significant changes to the daily drawing process at waterfowl check stations for the 2020 hunting season. The changes have been implemented to maintain the health and safety of employees and waterfowl hunters in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The plan for managed waterfowl hunts this fall is linked to the [MI Safe Start Plan](#). If southern Michigan remains in the current phase, hunters can expect managed hunts to occur as outlined below. Operations may be adjusted during the hunting season if southern Michigan is moved into a different phase of the MI Safe Start Plan.

Individual Managed Unit Procedures:

- [Pointe Mouillee 2020 Draw Procedures](#)
- [Harsens Island 2020 Draw Procedures](#)
- [Fennville Farm Unit 2020 Draw Procedures](#)
- [Muskegon Wastewater 2020 Draw Procedures](#)
- [Shiawassee River SGA 2020 Draw Procedures](#)
- [Nayanquing Point SWA 2020 Draw Procedures](#)
- [Fish Point 2020 SWA 2020 Draw Procedures](#)

At Fish Point, Nayanquing Point, Shiawassee River, and Harsens Island, waterfowl drawings will occur in the morning only, six days a week instead of seven. Fish Point will be closed Mondays, Nayanquing Point on Tuesday, Harsens Island on Wednesday, and Shiawassee River on Thursday. Morning drawings will occur at 5:30 a.m. at Fish Point, Nayanquing Point and Harsens Island, and at 5:00 a.m. at Shiawassee River. Hunting permits for successful parties will be valid all day until the close of shooting hours.

Except for opening weekend, self-registration will be available independent of the drawings at Fish Point, Nayanquing Point, and Shiawassee River for several zones that are not available during the drawing such as marsh scramble areas. On closed days, there will be no hunting allowed in zones that require a permit to hunt, either through a drawing or through self-registration. Other zones that do not require a permit to hunt will still be open for hunting.

The opening weekend (October 10 and 11) reserved hunts at Shiawassee River, Fish Point, Harsens Island, and Nayanquing Point will have both a morning and afternoon draw to fulfill the successful reserved waterfowl hunt applications.

At Fennville Farm, Muskegon Wastewater and Pointe Mouillee, waterfowl drawings will be similar to previous years. Fennville Farm will hold drawings Saturday mornings at 5:30 a.m. for permits that are valid all day and Sundays at 11:00 a.m. for permits valid until the close of shooting hours. Self-registration will be available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Muskegon Wastewater will hold drawings Tuesday and Saturday mornings at 5:30 a.m. for permits that are valid all day and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. for permits valid until the close of shooting hours.

Pointe Mouillee will hold drawings Tuesday and Sunday mornings, as well as the morning of October 10 (opening day) at 5:30 a.m. for permits that are valid all day, and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. for permits valid until the close of shooting hours. The Brancheau Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge will not be included in the daily drawings this year. Pointe Mouillee will hold its drawings at 10998 US Turnpike, South Rockwood at their shop yard and NOT at the Headquarters to help meet safety protocols.

Safety protocols will be put in place for all drawings to reduce contact.

- Drawings will be held outdoors.
- Only the party leader for each hunting party will interact with check station staff to register and select hunting zones.
- Hunters and staff are required to wear masks and follow six-foot social distancing guidelines when participating in the drawing at the check station.
- Hunting party members other than the party leader will be asked to remain in their vehicles.
- Hunters are asked to follow physical distancing guidelines at boat launches and parking areas.
- DNR staff will clean and sanitize surfaces at the registration and hunting zone selection area daily.
- Some areas may not have restrooms or vault toilets open to the public.

Additionally, there are several important changes to drawing rules and managed hunt procedures to minimize contact.

- Party leaders may register absentee hunters but adding hunters after the draw will not be allowed.
- There will be no standby drawings, no issuing permits after the drawing, and no switching zones after the drawing.
- Hunting licenses will not be available for sale at the check stations and we advise hunters to have all necessary licenses before participating in the drawings.
- Areas where drawings take place will close after the drawing and DNR staff will not be available, however a phone contact will be given for questions during regular business hours.
- Managed area staff will post information clearly outdoors to assist hunters with their hunt (e.g., field conditions, rules, zones as drawn).

Information about youth preference drawings and any date changes will be coming soon. The Harsens Island's veteran's preference drawing will take place November 10 instead of November 11. Hunting parties must have a youth or veteran in their party to participate in these drawings. No standby drawings will be held after these preference drawings.

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Fish Point (will have both AM and PM hunts for opening day and the second day to fulfill the successful applications for those hunts)	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit
Nayanquing Point (will have both AM and PM hunts for opening day and the second day to fulfill the successful applications for those hunts)	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit
Shiawassee River (will have both AM and PM hunts for opening day and the second day to fulfill the successful applications for those hunts)	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit
Harsens Island (will have both AM and PM hunts for opening day and the second day to fulfill the successful applications for those hunts)	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit
Pointe Mouillee (will also have an AM draw on opening day, Saturday, October 10, for an all-day hunting permit)	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	hunting allowed through a PM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit
Fennville Farm	N/A	hunting allowed via self-registration and no draws conducted	hunting allowed via self-registration and no draws conducted	hunting allowed via self-registration and no draws conducted	hunting allowed via self-registration and no draws conducted	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	hunting allowed through a PM draw for an all-day hunting permit
Muskegon County Wastewater	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	hunting allowed through a PM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A	hunting allowed through an AM draw for an all-day hunting permit	N/A