



PEPPER RANCH PRESERVE QUALITY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT HUNT PROGRAM

FOR COLLIER COUNTY
RESIDENTS ONLY

2021 - 2022 Brochure

**CONSERVATION
COLLIER**



*For
Present and
Future Generations*

www.colliergov.net/conservationcollier

Conservation Collier Program
Collier County Parks and Recreation Department
E-mail: PepperRanchHunts@CollierCountyFL.gov
Website: www.conservationcollier.com
Phone: 239-252-2960
3300 Santa Barbara Blvd.
Naples, FL 34116



PEPPER RANCH PRESERVE 2021-2022 QUALITY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT HUNT PROGRAM

PEPPER RANCH PRESERVE QUOTA HUNT
PERMITS ARE OPEN TO COLLIER COUNTY
RESIDENTS ONLY.

Pepper Ranch Preserve was acquired by Collier County under the Conservation Collier Program. The purpose of Conservation Collier is to acquire, protect, restore and manage environmentally sensitive lands within Collier County for the benefit of present and future generations. Additionally, Conservation Collier's goal is to allow multiple, controlled recreational and educational uses consistent with this purpose.

The Pepper Ranch Preserve Quality Wildlife Management Hunt Program allows Collier County to use a public recreational hunt opportunity as a way to gain biological data in order to make sound wildlife management decisions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Quota hunt permit sales will be determined using a preference point random draw system.
- Quota hunt permit applications will be available on-line July 1st-31st: www.conservationcollier.com
- Applications can also be dropped off, e-mailed, or mailed to:

**Pepper Ranch Preserve Hunt Program
Conservation Collier
3300 Santa Barbara Blvd.
Naples, FL 34116
E-mail: PepperRanchHunts@CollierCountyFL.gov
Fax: 239-252-2960**

- Applications will be accepted starting Thursday, July 1, 2021
- No applications will be accepted after July 31, 2021 11:59pm.
- Random draw selection for the 2021-2022 Hunt Season will take place on Monday, August 2, 2021.
- Notification Emails will be sent to drawn hunters by Monday, August 9, 2021. Notification emails will include instructions and details concerning payment, date of selection, zone etc.
- No group applications will be accepted. Permit applications may only be submitted individually.
- Submission of more than one permit application per individual will disqualify that individual from all random draws.

- Hunters are required to complete their payment online or via the exhibit hall cashier using an activity code at North Collier Regional Park at 15000 Livingston Road, Naples FL by the hunt payment deadline or the permit will be forfeited and offered to the next hunter on the list.

2021-2022 HUNT PAYMENT DEADLINES

Deer (9/18-19): Payment Due by 8/27

Hog 1 (10/30-31): Payment Due by 9/30

Hog 2 (12/4-12/5): Payment Due by 11/4

Turkey (5/12-5/13): Payment Due by 4/12

Hog 3 (5/21-5/22): Payment Due by 4/21

EARLY SUBMISSIONS HAVE NO PREFERENCE OVER
LATER SUBMISSIONS DUE TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PREFERENCE POINT RAN-
DOM DRAW SYSTEM.

QUOTA HUNT PREFERENCE POINTS

To allow an increased opportunity for applicants to receive quota hunt permits for Pepper Ranch hunts, Collier County will now be issuing all quota hunt permits based on a preference point system. Applicants included in the random drawing will be able to increase their odds of selection each year they fail to be drawn for a quota hunt permit.

Quota hunt permits for each hunt type shall be selected by random drawing from the applications submitted during each annual application period based on the highest number of accumulated preference points. All applicants not issued a quota hunt permit, shall receive one preference point annually for that specific quota hunt type. Preference points shall accumulate by quota hunt type. Applicants who are issued a quota hunt permit in the random drawing and participate in a hunt will lose all preference points for that hunt type and will have zero preference points next year for that hunt type. Accumulated preference points for other hunt types will be retained.

Applicants who fail to apply during the annual application period for two consecutive years will forfeit all preference points for that quota hunt type. Applicants that skip a year will neither gain nor lose their preference points.

PERMITTING & LICENSE INFORMATION

- Hunters with a deer hunt quota permit are required to have a State of Florida hunting license and a State of Florida deer permit.
- Hunters with a turkey hunt quota permit are required to have a State of Florida hunting license and a State of Florida turkey permit.
- Hunters with a hog hunt quota permit are **NOT REQUIRED** to have a State of Florida hunting license.

Hunters that have never participated in a Pepper Ranch Preserve hunt are required to view the pre-hunt orientation online at:

<https://www.colliercountyfl.gov/your-government/divisions-a-e/conservation-collier/pepper-ranch-hunt-program>

- All drawn hunters are required to provide proof of Collier County residency. Guest hunters are not required to be Collier County residents.
- Anyone not meeting these requirements will not be permitted to hunt, and any fees processed will not be refunded.

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

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

QUOTA HUNT PERMIT

- Deer quota hunt permits and turkey quota hunt permits are non-transferable.
- Hunters within the northern portion of the ranch are required to hunt within designated zones assigned by random draw process for each hunt weekend.
- There will be **9** hog quota hunt permits issued for each scheduled hog hunt weekend – 8 permits for the northern portion of the ranch and 1 permit for the archery **ONLY** portion of the ranch.
- There will be **4** deer quota hunt permits issued for the scheduled “DEER” hunt. Permits will be for the northern portion of the ranch.
- There will be **4** turkey quota hunt permits issued for the scheduled “TURKEY” hunt. Permits will be for the northern portion of the ranch.
- If a hunter has not called or checked in at the Check Station by 9:00 A.M. the morning of a hunt, that hunter is a “no-show hunter”. They may still hunt at any time during the hunt weekend, but they forfeit their hunt zone for that day.
- Hunters with a valid quota hunt permit for the designated hunt may switch their hunt zone for an open hunt zone that has been vacated by either a “no-show hunter” or a hunter with a valid quota hunt permit that has left for the day, on a first-come, first served basis with the approval of Check Station staff. To change your hunt zone assignment after 9AM, please call the check station at 239-657-1999.

- As a courtesy, if a hunter is unable to attend one or more hunt days during a hunt weekend, the hunter should inform the Check Station attendant as soon as possible.

GUESTS

A hunter possessing a valid quota hunt permit may be accompanied by one hunting guest.

- Guests must have all required Florida licenses and permits.
- A guest permit, available at the check station, must be completed, signed by the guest, and carried by the guest in the field.
- A new guest permit must be completed for each guest hunter that participates in each hunt.
- The quota permit holder and their guest must share the same vehicle and must enter and exit the area together.
- The guest permit holder may hunt only when the quota permit holder is present on the preserve.
- The quota permit holder and the guest must hunt in the same zone; however, they are not required to hunt together once inside the zone unless one of them is a minor.
- The quota permit holder and the guest must share a single bag limit, and the quota permit holder is responsible for making sure that the shared bag limit is not exceeded.

MINORS

- Minors under the age of 16 possessing a valid quota hunt permit must be accompanied by a parent/guardian over the age of 21.
- Minors under the age of 16 may not be in possession of firearms unless they have completed an FWC Hunter's Education Course and are in the presence and under the supervision of an adult. (F.S. 790.22 and 784.05).

DOGS

Dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game only. Dogs are not permitted while scouting prior to a hunt weekend.

SHOOTING HOURS

- Shooting hours during "HOG" and "DEER" hunts are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.
- Shooting hours during "TURKEY" hunts are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

MANDATORY HUNTER ORIENTATION

Hunters that have never attended a Pepper Ranch Hunter Orientation are required view the online hunter orientation posted on the Pepper Ranch Preserve Hunt Website at:

<https://www.colliercountyfl.gov/your-government/divisions-a-e/conservation-collier/pepper-ranch-hunt-program>

PERMIT FEE

All fees are non-refundable.

PERMIT FEE – non-refundable

Permit fee is paid per hunt.

“HOG”	\$55.00
“DEER”	\$80.00
“TURKEY”	\$105.00
FWC Youth Hunt*	\$75.00

* Youth Hunt Fee includes all meals and campsite accommodations for 1 child and 1 guardian during youth hunt weekend.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Deer 1 buck per quota hunt permit

Turkey..... 1 gobbler per quota hunt permit

Wild Hog..... No Limit

Coyote, Raccoon, Opossum,
Skunk, Nutria, Beaver..... No Limit

Gray Squirrel,
Rabbit Daily Bag Limit – 12
Possession Limit – 24

HUNT SCHEDULE

HOG HUNTS

October 30-31, 2021..... HOG 1*

December 4-5, 2021..... HOG 2*

May 21-22, 2022HOG 3

- Game may be taken using a Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Bow, or Crossbow with a “HOG” permit within firearm zones of the ranch.
 - Game may be taken using a bow or crossbow with a “HOG” permit within the Archery Only zone of the ranch
 - Legal game: wild hog, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, skunk, nutria, beaver and coyote.
- * Gray squirrel may be taken by Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Bow or Crossbow during HOG 1 and HOG 2

DEER HUNT

September 18-19, 2021.....DEER

- Game may be taken using a shotgun, muzzleloader, bow or crossbow with a “DEER” permit
- Legal game: deer, wild hog, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, skunk, nutria, beaver and coyote.

TURKEY HUNT

March 12-13, 2022TURKEY

- Game may be taken using shotgun, bow, or crossbow
- Legal game: turkey, wild hog, gray squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, skunk, nutria, beaver and coyote.

FWC YOUTH HUNTS*

January 21, 22, 23, 2022.....Youth Squirrel/Rabbit Hunt

February 25, 26 and 27, 2022.....Youth Turkey Hunt

* A Pepper Ranch Hunt Program Application is not required for Youth Hunts. Youth Hunts are administered through FWC. Please call (239) 252-2960 for Youth Hunt application information, or visit <https://myfwc.com/education/programs/youth-hunting-program/>

SCOUTING

Pepper Ranch Preserve will be open for scouting on every non-hunt and non-holiday Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 5, 2021 - June 26, 2021, from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. The official pre-hunt scouting day is the Friday prior to your scheduled hunt.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

In addition to the regulations that follow, all laws and regulations of the State of Florida relating to wildlife shall apply. Pepper Ranch Preserve regulations are more restrictive than the state regulations. Hunters who violate these regulations will be subject to penalties as determined by the Facilities Management Department Director and/or the State of Florida. Hunting or the taking of wildlife shall be allowed only during preserve scheduled hunt weekends and only in the manner set forth herein.

EACH HUNTER IS PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING AND ADHERING TO ALL LAWS AND RULES PERTAINING TO THIS HUNT PROGRAM AND PEPPER RANCH PRESERVE.

1. Any person entering Pepper Ranch Preserve during the prescribed hunts, except during archery and turkey hunts, shall wear at least 500 square inches of hunter orange material above the waistline as an outer garment.
2. During hunt weekends, access to Pepper Ranch Preserve is restricted to hunters with a valid quota hunt permit and their guests.
3. The use of feeders, baiting, or the possession of baiting materials of any kind is prohibited, except during Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) sponsored Youth Hog Hunts.
4. One hunter, one guest, and one minor allowed per valid quota hunt permit.
5. The turkey harvest quota is one gobbler per quota hunt permit per weekend. If a hunter fills his/her turkey quota, he/she may only take wild hogs or other legal small game during the remainder of the weekend.

6. Harvested animals may be field dressed but are required to be kept whole with evidence of sex until after check-in at the Check Station.

7. Male deer (buck) must have a minimum of 3 points on one antler to be harvested. (A point is defined as antler growth off the main beam that is at least 1" in length.)

8. The deer harvest quota is one buck per quota hunt permit per hunt weekend. If a hunter fills his/her deer quota, he/she may only take wild hogs or other legal small game during the remainder of the weekend.

9. All deer harvested are required to have one jawbone extracted for aging.

10. Hunters are required to log and report any deer harvested on Pepper Ranch Preserve through the FWC Deer Harvest Reporting System: <https://myfwc.com/hunting/deer/harvest-report/>

11. Hunting is prohibited in areas posted "No Hunting."

12. STATE REGULATIONS REGARDING BUFFER ZONE DISTANCES APPLY.

13. No visitor shall cut, damage, or remove any natural, man-made, or cultural resource, except for palm fronds.

14. Tampering with or destruction of equipment, improvements, and water control structures is prohibited.

15. Cutting or damaging fences is prohibited.

16. Taking or attempting to take any game with the aid of live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, net, trap, snare, drug or poison is prohibited.

17. Tampering with or destruction of equipment, improvements, and water control structures is prohibited.
18. Cutting or damaging fences is prohibited.
19. Hunters who vandalize trail signs or markers within their assigned zone will lose hunting privileges at the Pepper Ranch Preserve.
20. Taking or attempting to take any game with the aid of live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, net, trap, snare, drug or poison is prohibited.
21. The wanton or willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
22. Taking or herding wildlife from any motorized vehicle which is under power is prohibited
23. Wild hogs may not be transported alive.
24. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass or woodlands.
25. An FWC Law Enforcement Officer, Government security officer, or local law enforcement officer may search any camp or vehicle, in accordance with the law.
26. No plants, or their parts, or any animals shall be introduced, liberated, planted, or placed in any part of Pepper Ranch Preserve by visitors.
27. It is unlawful to leave garbage or litter in Pepper Ranch Preserve.
28. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages anywhere in Pepper Ranch Preserve is prohibited.
29. All injuries sustained at Pepper Ranch Preserve must be reported to Check Station staff.

TREE STANDS and GAME CAMERAS

- 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.
- Hunters shall inform Conservation Collier staff of game camera locations and durations.
- Temporary tree stands and game cameras must be removed at the end of the hunt season. Any tree stands or cameras not removed by June 1, 2022 become the property of the Collier County Board of County Commissioners.
- Trails are not to be used as shooting lanes.
- A prescribed fire program may begin within the preserve this hunt season. If you would like advanced notice of prescribed fire locations, please contact Conservation Collier staff.

FIREARMS

- Discharging firearms within the Archery Only portion of Pepper Ranch Preserve is prohibited.
- Rifles and handguns using centerfire cartridges may not be discharged at Pepper Ranch Preserve, except during FWC sponsored Youth Hunts.
- The hunt permit holder will be responsible for knowing state and federal laws regarding the permitted firearm for each season. Only designated firearms may be used for designated hunts.
- All firearms must be unloaded and made safe prior to entering a vehicle.
- Ammunition must be physically separated from the guns in order for the gun to be considered unloaded. No loaded guns will be permitted at the Check Station or in any vehicle while in Pepper Ranch Preserve. Muzzleloaders are considered unloaded when the cap (or primer) is absent and the hammer is in the closed position.
- Discharging firearms at anything other than legal game while in Pepper Ranch Preserve is prohibited. Target practice and random discharging of firearms is a threat to the safety and quality of the Pepper Ranch Preserve hunt program.
- Persons in possession of a valid Concealed Weapon or Firearm License may carry concealed handguns.

PUBLIC ACCESS and VEHICLES

- Vehicle access is prohibited on any portion of the Preserve posted as “No Unauthorized Vehicles”. Exceptions may be made for FWC certified mobility-impaired hunters with SUV Permits.
- Any vehicle entering Pepper Ranch Preserve must have a current license tag, meet federal and state safety requirements, and be operated by a licensed driver with appropriate insurance.
- Entry and exit is permitted through the designated entrances only.
- All gates must be returned to the state in which they were found once a vehicle or pedestrian has passed.
- Vehicles may be operated only on roads designated for vehicles. Trails can be closed at any time. Exceptions may be made for FWC certified mobility-impaired hunters with Special Use Vehicle (SUV) Permits.
- Vehicles may only park along-side roads that are designated for vehicles. Exceptions may be made for FWC certified mobility-impaired hunters with SUV Permits.
- Vehicles shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct roads, gates, or fire lanes.
- The use of all-terrain vehicles, swamp buggies, or tracked vehicles is prohibited. Exceptions will be made for FWC certified mobility-impaired hunters with SUV Permits.

- Vehicles must be operated in a safe manner for the condition of the vehicle trails.
- Maximum speed limit is 20 mph.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY & ACCESS

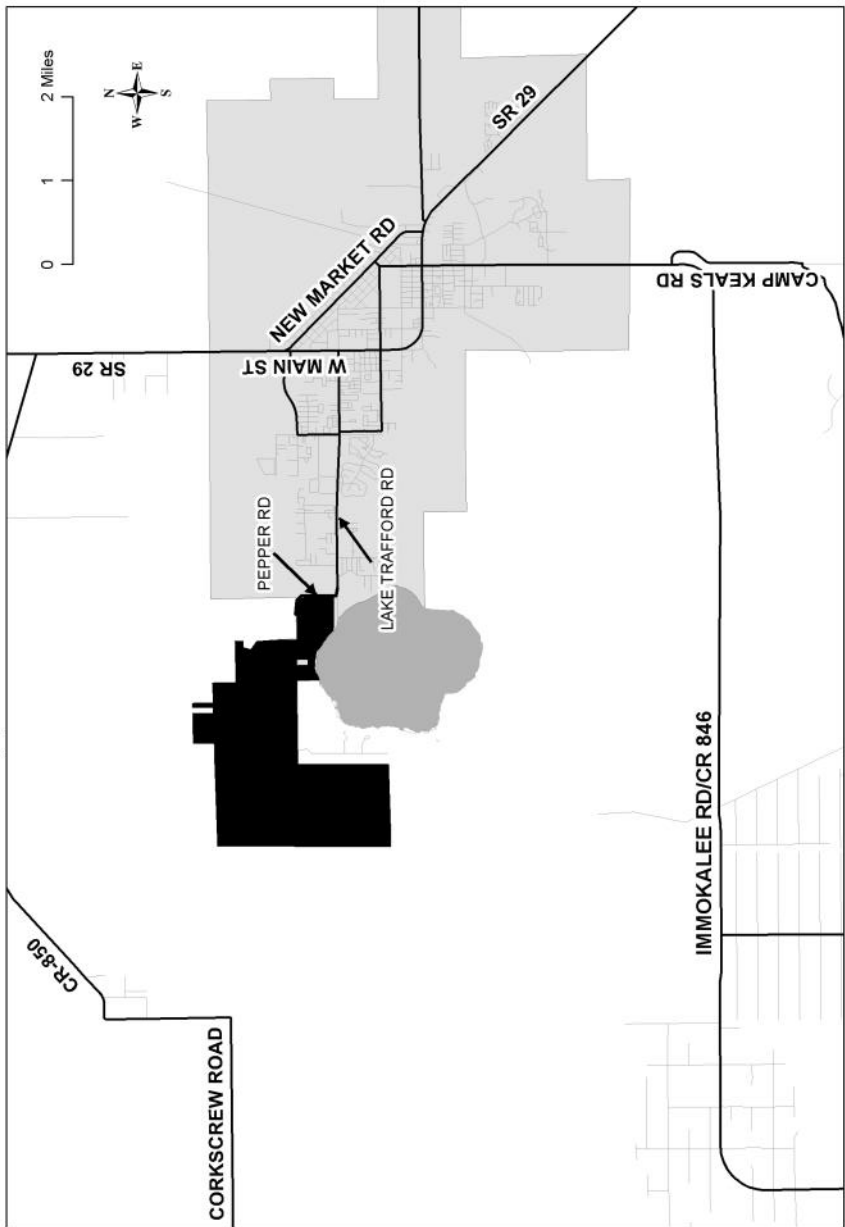
Equal Opportunity and Access requests must come through the Conservation Collier Office:
239-252-2960.

CHECK STATION

- Hunters must enter and exit (check in and out) at the Check Station only.
- Hunters may enter 1.5 hours before sunrise for all hog, turkey, and deer hunts.
- During hunts, the preserve closes one hour after sunset. Anyone exiting later than one hour after sunset may lose hunt privileges.
- All game must be checked in by staff at the Check Station.
- As a courtesy to the Check Station staff and other hunters, please notify the check station operator if you do not plan to utilize your permit on one of the days within your scheduled hunt weekend.
- Check Station phone number: 239-657-1999

EMERGENCY NOTICES OR REGULATION CHANGES WILL BE POSTED AT THE CHECK STATION. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH PARTICIPANT TO BE AWARE OF AND OBEY THESE CHANGES.

Pepper Ranch Road Map



Pepper Ranch Location

- Pepper Ranch Preserve
- Immokalee
- Lake Trafford
- Main Roads

Data Source: Parcels - Collier County Property Appraiser
 Created By: GIS\JMH\Conservation_Collier
 G:\Conservation_Collier\maps\acquired_properties\Pepper_Ranch\Pepper_Ranch_road_map.mxd and .jpg
 Date: 7.20.11



Pepper Ranch Preserve Check Station

6315 Pepper Road
Immokalee, FL 34142
Phone: 239-657-1999

Conservation Collier Program Office

Collier County Parks and Recreation Department
3300 Santa Barbara Blvd.
Naples, FL 34116

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