



Pepper Ranch Preserve

Quality Wildlife Management Hunt Program



Regulations Summary and Access Map
July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023

Residency Requirements: Quota Holders and Applicants Required to Be Residents of Collier County

Address: 6315 Pepper Road, Immokalee, FL 34142

Email: PepperRanchHunts@CollierCountyFL.gov **Phone:** 239-252-2960

Website: www.ConservationCollier.com

This document is created to provide members of the public with information and a summary of regulations pertaining to hunting activities on the Conservation Collier Pepper Ranch Preserve. **Regulations that are new or differ from the previous year are shown in bold print throughout this document.** For more information, please visit the Pepper Ranch Hunt Program Webpage located at www.ConservationCollier.com Each Hunter is personally responsible for knowing and adhering to all laws and rules pertaining to this hunt program and the Pepper Ranch Preserve.

Hunt Program Goals: The Pepper Ranch Preserve Quality Wildlife Management Hunt Program provides recreational hunting opportunities to the community consistent with the wildlife management goals of the property through the implementation of limited quota hunts throughout the year.

How to Apply: All hunters interested in entering the quota draw lottery for the 2022-2023 season must submit an application between July 1, 2022 at 12:00am and July 31, 2022 at 11:59am. Applications can be submitted electronically at www.ConservationCollier.com or a paper copy can be downloaded from the website and submitted via mail to: Conservation Collier, 3300 Santa Barbara Blvd, Naples, FL 34116. The application is free to apply. Hunters may only submit one application per individual- submission of multiple applications per individual will disqualify that individual from the lottery. **Hunters that have been awarded a quota will be notified via email by Monday, August 8, 2022 through the PepperRanchHunts@CollierCountyFL.gov address. An email will be sent to all applicants by Friday, August 12th to confirm that hunters who have been selected for a quota have been notified.** All hunters who apply are required to be Collier County residents. Guest hunters are not required to be Collier County residents.

Preference Points: Hunters accrue one preference point for each annual application submitted per species indicated in their application (deer, turkey, hog). Hunters that draw a quota and take part in a hunt for a species return to zero accrued preference points for that species following the hunt. Hunters who do not draw a quota for a species, retain their accrued preference points. Hunters who draw a quota for a species and return their permit prior to the quota return deadline noted in Table 1 retain their accrued preference points. ***Hunters who draw a quota for a species and do not return their unpurchased permit or send email notification to PepperRanchHunts@CollierCountyFL.gov that they do not intend to purchase the awarded quota prior to the quota return deadline listed in Table 1 will lose all accrued preference points for that species and return to zero*.** Quota hunt permits for each hunt type shall be awarded by random drawing from the applications submitted during each annual application period based on the highest number of accumulated preference points. Applicants who fail to apply during the annual application period for two consecutive years will forfeit all preference points for that quota hunt species. Applicants that skip a year applying will neither gain nor lose preference points.

Table 1: Quota Return Notification Deadlines

Hunters selected for a quota hunt are required to email PepperRanchHunts@CollierCountyFL.gov if they do not intend to take part in the selected hunt no less than 2 weeks prior to the scheduled hunt date. Hunters that do not provide notification and do not return their unpurchased, awarded quota before this date will lose all accrued preference points for that species. Special exemptions will be considered on a case-by case basis by hunt program staff.		
Public Hunt	Scheduled Hunt Date	Quota Return Notification Deadline
HOG 1	October 22-23, 2022	October 8, 2022
DEER	September 17-18, 2022	September 2, 2022
HOG 2	December 3-4, 2022	November 18, 2022
TURKEY	March 4-5, 2023	February 17, 2023
HOG 3	April 15-16, 2023	March 31, 2023

Table 2: 2022-2023 Public Hunt Season Schedule

Public Hunt	Scheduled Hunt Date	Available Quota Permits	Collier County Quota Purchase Deadline
HOG 1	October 22-23, 2022	4	September 22 nd , 2022
DEER	September 17-18, 2022	4	September 1 st , 2022
HOG 2	December 3-4, 2022	4	November 4 th , 2022
TURKEY	March 4-5, 2023	4	February 3 rd , 2023
HOG 3	April 15-16, 2023	4	March 11 th , 2023

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/government/public-services/divisions/conservation-collier/pepper-ranch-hunt-program>

DEER HUNT- September 17-18, 2022- 4 quotas available

Game may be taken using a shotgun, muzzleloader, crossbow or bow with a DEER permit. Rimfire rifles and handguns may be used for small game only. Firearms using centerfire rifle and pistol cartridges are prohibited, except during FWC sponsored Youth Hunts.

Permits Required: All hunters taking part in a Deer Hunt are required to have purchased a State of Florida hunting license, State of Florida deer permit, and a Collier County Deer Permit must be purchased by the quota awardee. A State of Florida Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Stamp is not required at Pepper Ranch Preserve. State licenses and permits can be purchased at www.gooutdoorsflorida.com or in person at any Collier County Tax Collector’s Office. Quota holders are required to purchase a non-refundable Collier County Deer Permit to participate in this hunt prior to the purchase deadline listed in Table 2 through www.collierparks.com or in person at the Exhibit Hall at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Rd, Naples, FL 34109. Instructions for permit purchase will be emailed to applicants in their quota permit award notification email. The deer harvest quota is one buck per quota hunt permit per hunt weekend. If a hunter fulfills his/her quota, he/she may only take wild hog or legal small game for the remainder of the weekend. Quota permits are non-transferable.

Collier County Deer Permit Fee: \$80.00

All fees are non-refundable

Legal to hunt: Antlered deer having at least one antler with three or more points (each point being 1 inch or more in length) OR a mainbeam of 10 inches or more in length, wild hog, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, skunk, coyote.

Clothing: 500 square inches of hunter orange material above the waistline as an outer garment.

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

HOG HUNTS- 4 quotas available per hunt

HOG 1- October 22-23, 2022, HOG 2- December 3-4, 2022, HOG 3- April 15-16, 2023

Game may be taken using a shotgun, muzzleloader, crossbow or bow with a HOG permit. Rimfire rifles and handguns may be used for small game only. Firearms using centerfire rifle and pistol cartridges are prohibited, except during FWC sponsored Youth Hunts.

Permits Required: Hunters taking part in a Hog Hunt at Pepper Ranch are not required to have purchased a State of Florida hunting license. A State of Florida Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Stamp is not required at Pepper Ranch Preserve. The hunter awarded the quota permit is required to purchase a non-refundable Collier County Hog Permit to participate in this hunt prior to the purchase deadline listed in Table 2 through www.collierparks.com or in person at the Exhibit Hall at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Rd, Naples, FL 34109. Instructions for permit purchase will be emailed to applicants in their quota permit award notification email. There is no harvest limit or size restrictions on wild hog. Quota permits are non-transferable.

Collier County Hog Permit Fee: \$55.00

All fees are non-refundable

Legal to hunt: wild hog, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, skunk, and coyote. *Gray squirrel may be taken during Hog 1 and Hog 2 only.

Clothing: 500 square inches of hunter orange material above the waistline as an outer garment.

TURKEY HUNT- March 4-5, 2023- 4 available quotas

Game may be taken using a shotgun, bow, or crossbow. Rimfire rifles and handguns may be used for small game only. Firearms using centerfire rifle and pistol cartridges are prohibited, except during FWC sponsored Youth Hunts.

Permits Required: All hunters taking part in a Turkey Hunt at Pepper Ranch are required to have purchased a State of Florida hunting license, State of Florida turkey permit, and the quota awardee is required to have purchased a Collier County turkey permit. A State of Florida Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Stamp is not required at Pepper Ranch Preserve. State licenses and permits can be purchased at www.gooutdoorsflorida.com or in person at any Collier County Tax Collector's Office. Quota holders are required to purchase a non-refundable Collier County Turkey Permit to participate in this hunt prior to the purchase deadline listed in Table 2 through www.collierparks.com or in person at the Exhibit Hall at North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Rd, Naples, FL 34109. Instructions for permit purchase will be emailed to applicants in their quota permit award notification email. The turkey harvest quota is **1 gobbler or bearded turkey per quota permit** per weekend. If a hunter fulfills his/her quota, he/she may only take wild hog or legal small game for the remainder of the weekend. Quota permits are non-transferable.

Collier County Turkey Permit Fee: \$105.00

All fees are non-refundable

Legal to Hunt: Gobbler or Bearded turkey, wild hog, gray squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, opossum, skunk, and coyote.

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

Table 3: Game Bag and Possession Limits

Target Species	Bag Limit per Quota Permit
Deer	1 buck per quota hunt permit *antler restrictions apply
Hog	No Limit
Turkey	1 gobbler or bearded turkey per quota hunt permit
Coyote, Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk	No Limit
Gray Squirrel, Rabbit	Daily Bag Limit: 12 Possession Limit: 24

Guest Hunters: A hunter possessing a valid quota hunt permit may be accompanied by one hunting guest and one minor per check station check-in. Guest hunters are not required to be Collier County residents. A new guest sign in must be completed for each guest hunter that participates in a hunt. The quota permit holder and their guest must share the same vehicle and must enter and exit the area together. A guest hunter may only hunt when the quota permit holder is present on the preserve. The quota permit holder and 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)

Scouting: Pepper Ranch Preserve is open to the public November- June on non-hunt Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 7am-5pm. Hunters are welcome to visit the preserve during publicly open hours throughout the season to scout for an upcoming hunt. The official scout day for each hunt is the Friday prior to the awarded hunt from 7am-5pm. Those scouting or visiting the preserve when open are required to sign in at the visitor center to receive a gate code to access the property.

Check Station: Phone 239-657-1999. The check station for Pepper Ranch Preserve is located at 6315 Pepper Rd, Immokalee, FL. It is within the historic hunt lodge visitor center located at this address. Bathrooms and showers are available at the check station. Hunters are required to check in and out of the check station any time they are entering or leaving the preserve during the hunt. 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. Hunters are required to check all harvested animals with the check station attendant. Harvested animals may be

field dressed but are required to be kept whole with evidence of sex attached until after check-in at the check station. **Any remains discarded during field dressing should be placed out of sight from roads and trails and away from trailheads and parking areas.** All injuries sustained at Pepper Ranch Preserve must be reported to check station staff.

Check Station Hours: 1.5 hours before sunrise for all hog, turkey, and deer hunts. During hunts, the preserve closes 1 hour after sunset. All hunters must check out prior to 1 hour after sunset. If a late harvest prevents this, hunters are required to notify the check station by phone.

Shooting Hours: Shooting hours during Deer and Hog 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.

Hunt Zones: Hunters awarded a quota permit for a hunt are assigned a hunt zone 1-4 for all deer, hog and turkey hunts. Hunters are required to hunt within their designated zone for the duration of the hunt and may not enter another zone unless re-assigned by the check station attendant. If a hunter has not contacted the check station or checked in by 9:00am 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 the day and must take the remaining available zone assigned by the check station attendant. 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 for the day on a first-come, first served basis with approval of the check station attendant. Hunters interested in having their zone assignment re-assigned can call the check station at 239-657-1999 or ask the attendant in person.

Camping: Camping is available to hunters who wish to purchase a campsite for the Friday or Saturday night of their assigned hunt. Instructions will be provided in the quota permit award email for how to reserve a space. Campsites are \$18 per night; tent camping only and hold up to six guests. Showers and bathrooms are available at the campsite.

Firearms: All firearms must be unloaded and made safe prior to entering a vehicle. Ammunition must be physically separated from the firearms in order to be considered unloaded. No loaded firearms 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. Persons in possession of a valid Concealed Weapon or Firearm License may carry concealed handguns.

Vehicles: 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 are permitted through the designated entrance gates only. All cattle 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 and may only park alongside roads that are designated for vehicles. Vehicles shall not be parked in such a manner as to obstruct roads, gates, or fire lanes. Trails can be closed at any time. The use of all-terrain vehicles, swamp buggies, or tracked vehicles is prohibited. **Vehicle Trails marked on the map as seasonally flooded should be avoided in times of high water and mud. Check Station staff are unable to remove stuck vehicles.** Vehicles must be operated in a safe manner for the condition of the vehicle trails- maximum speed limit is 20mph. Exceptions may be made for FWC certified mobility-impaired hunters with Special Use Vehicle (SUV) Permits.

Equal Opportunity and Access: Equal Opportunity and Access requests must come through the Conservation Collier Office prior to a hunt: 239-252-2961.

YOUTH HUNT PROGRAM

Collier County will be offering three Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) sponsored youth hunts at Pepper Ranch Preserve during the 2022-2023 hunting season. Upcoming season dates are listed in Table 4. Squirrel/Rabbit/Hog and Deer youth hunts are open to children 12-17 years of age. Turkey youth hunts are open to children 12-15 years of age. A Pepper Ranch Hunt Program Application is not required for youth hunts.

To register for an upcoming youth hunt, visit https://outreach.myfwc.com/events/event_list.asp?show=&group=&start=12/21/2012&end=&view=&cid=4484 after September 15th, 2022 to apply. Prior to participating in a hunt, youth hunters must complete a hunter safety course and marksmanship test. Cost: \$75 includes all meals and campsite accommodations for 1 youth and 1 guardian during the hunt weekend.

Table 4: 2022-2023 Youth Hunt Season Schedule:

Youth Hunt	Scheduled Hunt Dates	Available Spaces
Youth Deer	November 18-20, 2022	5
Youth Squirrel/Rabbit/Hog	January 20-22, 2023	5
Youth Turkey	February 24-26, 2023	5

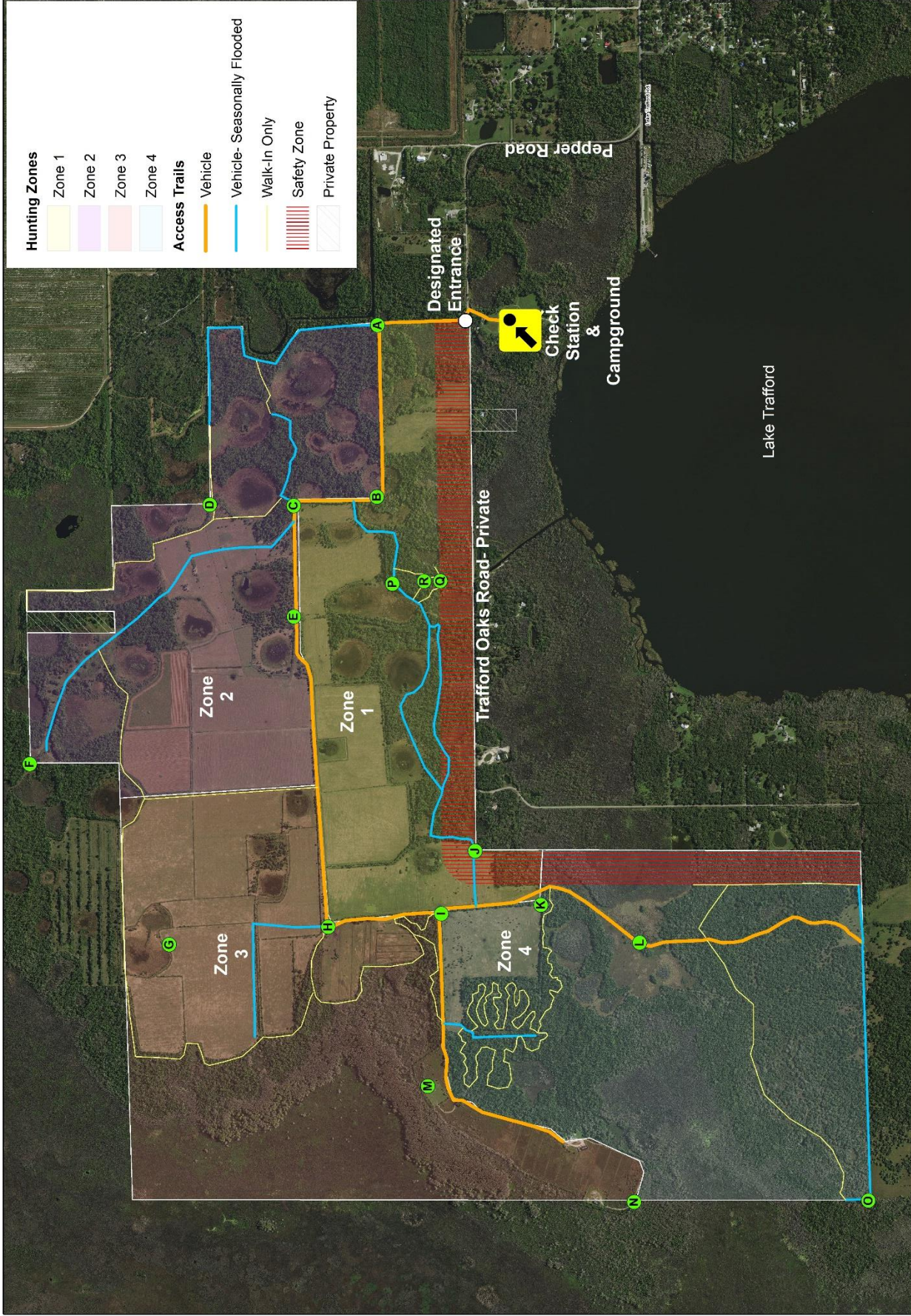
General Regulations:

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. Hunting or the taking of wildlife shall be allowed only during preserve scheduled hunt weekends and in accordance with hunt regulations.

1. During hunts, access to Pepper Ranch Preserve is restricted to hunters with a valid quota hunt permit and their guests.
2. Hunting is prohibited in areas posted "No Hunting".
3. State regulations regarding buffer zones apply.
4. Hunters are not permitted to shoot into the Safety Zone shown on the map.
5. No visitor shall cut, damage, or remove any natural, man-made, or cultural resource, except for palm fronds.
6. Tampering with or the destruction of equipment, improvements, signage, or public access features is prohibited and will result in the loss of hunting privileges at the Ranch.
7. Cutting or damaging fences is prohibited. Please report any incidents that occur.
8. Taking or attempting to take any game with the aid of bait, live decoys, recorded game calls or sounds, set guns, artificial light, net, trap, snare, drug or poison is prohibited.
9. The wanton or willful waste of wildlife is prohibited.
10. Dogs on leashes may be used for trailing wounded game only. Dogs are not permitted while scouting.
11. Taking or herding wildlife from any motorized vehicle which is under power is prohibited.
12. Wild hogs may not be transported alive.
13. It is unlawful to set fire to any forest, grass, or woodlands.
14. An FWC Law Enforcement Officer, government security officer, or local law enforcement officer may search any camp or vehicle, in accordance with the law.
15. No plants, or their parts, or any animals shall be introduced, liberated, planted, or placed in any part of Pepper Ranch Preserve by visitors.
16. It is unlawful to leave garbage or litter in Pepper Ranch Preserve.
17. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages anywhere in Pepper Ranch Preserve is prohibited.
18. No permanent tree stands or stands that will damage vegetation will be permitted. Driving a metal object into a 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, 2023 become the property of the Collier County Board of County Commissioners.
- 19. Conservation Collier staff carry out prescribed burns throughout the year. Collier County is not responsible for damage to tree stands or cameras left on the property.**
20. Emergency notices or regulations changes will be posted at the check station. It is the responsibility of each participant to be aware of and obey these changes.



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



Pepper Ranch Check Station
 Phone: 239-657-1999
 Address: 6315 Pepper Rd, Immokalee, FL
 Coordinates: N26.437215, W-81.489152

Pepper Ranch Preserve Hunt Zone Map
Deer, Hog, Turkey Hunts

