

hunting. It's crucial to consult this guide and the TPWD website for updates on hunting seasons, regional regulations, and any habitat or weather-related alerts. Remember, the AHP is a complement to, not a replacement for, your standard hunting license. Ensure all other necessary permits or stamps, such as those for migratory birds or federal duck stamps, are also in place.

**Diving Into Texas Drawn Hunts**

TPWD also offers the "Drawn Hunts" program. This initiative presents a unique opportunity for hunters to access some of Texas's most coveted hunting spots that are typically not accessible to the general public. It levels the playing field, allowing all interested participants a fair chance to hunt various wildlife species across numerous state parks, wildlife management areas, and other public lands.

The "Drawn Hunts" program encompasses a wide range of hunting experiences, including hunts for white-tailed and mule deer, pronghorn, alligator, turkey, and exotic species. This variety ensures that all hunters, regardless of their interests, have the chance to participate in a hunt that excites and challenges them. Additionally, specific hunts are available for both firearm and archery enthusiasts.

You can apply online through the TPWD website. Each hunt

category or hunting area requires a separate application, and small fees apply for each entry. It's important to note that being drawn does not guarantee a successful hunt but rather the opportunity to hunt in a specific area. If selected, hunters will be notified and must pay any relevant permit fees.

**The Hunter's Contribution to Conservation**

Hunters play a crucial role in conservation, significantly contributing to wildlife management and habitat preservation. Through the purchase of hunting licenses, tags, and stamps, as well as taxes on firearms and ammunition, hunters are key financiers of conservation efforts. These funds directly support the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and other conservation agencies, enabling habitat restoration, scientific wildlife management, and the maintenance of ecological balance.

I encourage fellow hunters to adhere to a "leave no trace" principle, maintaining the integrity of the wild by ensuring that they do not harm the habitat or leave behind any waste. Sustainable hunting practices, such as targeting invasive species or participating in controlled hunts, aid in managing wildlife populations and maintaining biodiversity. Giving hunting a good name helps us all out.

By placing a real tangible monetary value on public land,

hunters help safeguard Texas's rich natural heritage for future generations. It also allows other outdoors enthusiasts to enjoy these public land spaces for hiking, fishing, horseback trail riding, mountain biking, camping, birdwatching and more. This alliance of recreation, respect, and responsibility makes hunting more than a pastime; it's a commitment to preserving the wild heart of Texas.

Hunting on Texas's public lands is more than a leisure activity; it is a journey into the state's soul, offering a deeper understanding of its natural world and our place within it. As we tread through the forests, plains, and marshes, rifle in hand, we become part of a larger story – one of tradition, survival, and coexistence with the untamed spirit of Texas.

**Texas Game Warden Field Notes  
You Never Even Called Me by My Name**

While patrolling Cedar Creek Lake, Anderson and Henderson County Game Wardens investigated a potential Boating While Intoxicated case. The violator gave consent for a blood sample resulting in an arrest. The wardens assisted with returning the boat to shore since the other occupant was not familiar with operating a boat. Once on shore, one warden walked into the boat ramp parking lot. A vehicle sped into the lot and parked in a

handicapped space. The driver then yelled an obscene greeting at the warden, who thought maybe the driver failed to recognize his uniform in the dark. The warden turned on his flashlight to ensure the driver saw his badge. Sitting in the passenger seat, the driver's son commented on his mother's regretful choice of greeting. The warden conducted sobriety tests

and determined the driver, now belligerent, was intoxicated. The local police department arrived and transported them to a hospital, where the driver consented to a blood specimen. The test determined that along with her intoxication, she was also suffering from low blood sugar. Her sugar level was treated, and she was placed in jail for a DWI.

**Welcome Hunters!**



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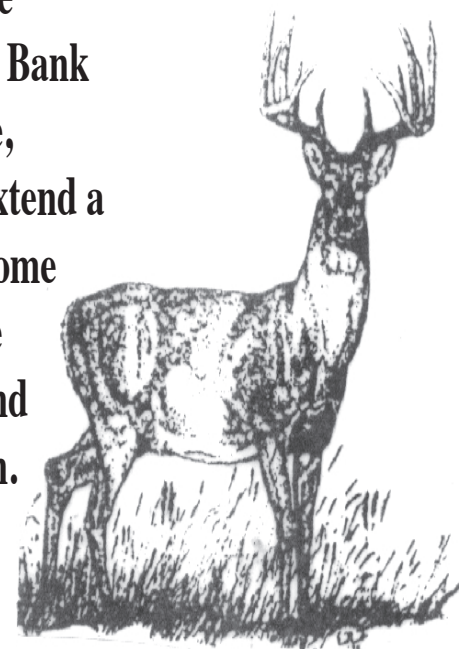
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hearty welcome  
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