



## *How to Visit Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge*

Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge receives many inquiries from people who want to visit. We are so excited that everyone is ready to get out and explore this new National Wildlife Refuge!

USFWS Online: [fws.gov/refuge/hackmatack](https://fws.gov/refuge/hackmatack)

Friends of Hackmatack updates & more: [hackmatacknwr.org](https://hackmatacknwr.org)

### **A Different Kind of Refuge . . . A “Cores & Corridors” Concept**

Building a new refuge takes time. It will take many patient years to grow, and will consist of three different types of protected land that form a ring shape in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Together, Refuge Core Areas + Local Conservation Lands + Privately Owned Protected Lands will create the unique Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge, which will provide protected space for migratory & grassland birds, native plants, and native animal species. Surrounding the refuge boundary lies the Greater Hackmatack Ecosystem, a network of areas on which conservation work is occurring, just outside the actual boundaries of the Refuge.

#### **Proposed Refuge Core Areas**

Conservation groups such as Ducks Unlimited, Openlands and The Conservation Fund are helping us to achieve the goals of protecting the core properties. These groups have resources to purchase and restore land. Eventually, the land is acquired by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services to be protected as part of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge.

#### **Refuge Conservation Corridors**

Refuge Conservation Corridors connect the Core Areas. The goal is to protect corridors at least 600 feet wide to allow for plant and animal migration. The major corridor feature of our Refuge is Nippersink Creek and its tributary branches. Working with willing property owners to improve habitat on their own lands is a priority in the corridors.

#### **Local Conservation Lands**

These parcels of land are protected by various Conservation Groups, who have joined to be Partners with Hackmatack NWR. Since the Refuge was established in 2012, over 3,000 additional acres of land have been protected by twelve conservation organizations, members of the Hackmatack Conservation Partnership, within the Greater Hackmatack Ecosystem.

### **Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge Sites Open to the Public**

*See the map on the back of this page. Areas in dark blue are open to the public. Note that the public is not required to stay on trails when exploring National Wildlife Refuge lands. See our website for the most recently updated map, as land is always being added to the Refuge.*

**Blackmon:** West of the intersection of Hunter Dr. & Rte. 12, Richmond, IL. GPS: 42°27'58.7"N 88°18'29.6"W  
Park in Public Lot off Broadway Rd. in Richmond, and walk or bike 0.7 mi. south on the Prairie Trail. Watch for the refuge sign. Eleven acres including a small woodland, opening up to a peaceful view of fields, wetland, and oak savannas in the distance. Bike racks & picnic tables. Short, accessible, packed gravel trail.

**Kundert:** West of the intersection of Button & Armory Roads, South of Button Rd., Hebron Township, IL.  
GPS: 42°29'28.6"N 88°24'52.0"W. 181 acres, including wetland and prairie restoration. Hebron Creek and the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad track both bisect the site. Currently there is no parking advised for this site. No mowed trails.

**Perricone Schaid:** Rte. 47 between Hebron & Woodstock., IL. GPS: 42°24'30.4"N 88°26'19.3" W  
Parking lot with refuge sign off Rte. 47 south of Thayer Rd. Oak savanna is accessed by dirt lane south of the adjacent homestead. 61 acres of land bisected by the Nippersink Creek, previously cultivated land which has been restored to prairie, and 5-acre oak savanna being restored. No mowed trails.

**Powell 3:** South side of Rte. 173, east of the intersection of Keystone Rd. & Rte. 173, Richmond Township, IL.  
GPS: 42°28'35.3"N 88°19'42.8"W Parking lot with refuge sign. 132 acres being restored to prairie, wetland, and woodland areas. No mowed trails.

**Sphar:** 15805 Hebron Rd., Harvard, IL. GPS: 42°28'45.2"N 88°30'24.9"W  
Park in old farm yard across from apple orchard. 146 acres being restored to prairie.  
No mowed trails.

**Tryon Grove:** 7008 E. Tryon Grove Rd., Richmond, IL. GPS: 42°26'43.8"N 88°19'57.0"W  
Pull in on the dirt lane and park in grass/gravel area. 46 acres restored to prairie.  
No mowed trails.

**Turner:** N541 Co. Trunk H, Genoa City, WI. GPS: 42°30'41.3"N 88°20'22.3"W  
Parking lot with refuge sign. 87 acres of high-quality woodland, re-created wetlands, and fields of prairie on previously cultivated land. There are mowed trails through the woodland and between the woodland and prairie. There is a packed earth trail running through a narrow patch of woodland scrub.



Susan Young, Flickr

The Kingfisher is the animal ambassador for Hackmatack NWR



\*Public may be allowed for specific purposes, such as hunting. Alden-Sedge Meadow: Contact McHenry Co. Conservation, Bystricky Prairie: Contact Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

Map produced by Friends of Hackmatack NWR.  
See our website for more information.

[hackmatacknwr.org](http://hackmatacknwr.org)

