

Bombay Hook NWR: Observing Wildlife

March, April and May are busy times in the refuge for our resident and migrating wildlife. The avian species are busy establishing breeding territories or loading up on food for the long migration ahead. Most of the mammal species are involved in breeding and/or rearing young. So giving the refuge wildlife the space they need and not disturbing them is critical to their success. Please always use common sense and good judgment when observing and/or photographing these animals. We only need to look around the state and see wild areas that have been closed to the public due to poor public behavior.

A long time Bombay Hook refuge wildlife photographer offered some very insightful advice. He said your best blind for observing the refuge wildlife is your vehicle. He went on to say, the refuge wildlife has grown accustomed to thousands of cars and trucks passing around the refuge impoundments. With a little patience you'll find yourself set up for great views or that long-awaited shot.

We should all want the refuge wildlife to remain wild. Never attempt to touch or feed the wildlife. If you see any crowding or disturbance of wildlife by birders, photographers or any refuge visitors, please report these activities to the refuge staff.

Have a great spring and enjoy this jewel called Bombay Hook NWR.