

RATHBUN LAKE AREA TURKEY HUNTING

Hunting in southern Iowa provides sportsman with some of the best hunting in the United States with plentiful game to pursue. Iowa is known for excellent turkey hunting opportunities



with some of the largest turkey harvested in North America (http://www.nwf.org/all_about_turkeys/turkey_records.php). The Rathbun Lake area in southern Iowa is ideal turkey habitat with a mix of agriculture and forested habitats, producing the highest densities of wild turkeys in the Nation. Since the turkey reintroduction program in 1965, wild turkeys numbers have grown to 200,000 throughout the state. Nearly 55,000 wild turkey hunters take to the woods each spring in Iowa, harvesting nearly 20,000 wild turkeys each spring. With a success rate of 67% in some southern Iowa counties, one can begin to understand why Iowa is a turkey hunter's paradise (the national average typically 30-40%, Iowa's 5-year average is over 50% as determined by mail surveys). Fall hunting opportunity for wild turkeys is also plentiful. Each fall, over 10,000 wild turkey hunters take to the woods, harvesting over 3,000 turkeys.

With nearly 16,000 acres of public hunting land surrounding

Rathbun Lake (<http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/ra/>), finding a hunting spot is not difficult in Appanoose county. In addition to hunting areas directly around the lake, there are several excellent IA DNR public hunting lands nearby (www.iowadnr.com/wildlife/wmamaps/pubh1ab.html). Sedan bottoms (4,418 acres, Tyrone woods (1,020 acres), and Stephens State forest (Unionville unit, 2,657 acres) all provide excellent wild turkey hunting in the fall and spring. In addition, several private landowners in southern Iowa allow folks to turkey hunt on their property.

Iowa's spring turkey hunting is divided into 5 seasons. In 2008, a youth only (up to 15 years old) season is April 11 - 13, season 1 is April 14-17, season 2 is April 18 - 22, season 3 is April 23 - 29, and season 4 is April 30 - May 18. In addition, an archery only season is April 14 - May 18. The fall turkey season runs nearly the entire month October and all of November (the longest fall turkey season in the Nation). Detailed information on hunting regulations can be found at: www.iowadnr.com/wildlife/files/iahuntfish_regs.html or by calling the DNR at 515-281-5918.


Take advantage of this opportunity this spring, get out in the woods, and enjoy the wildlife sights and sounds that will surround you in the early morning light. For tips on turkey hunting techniques, check out the National Wild Turkey Federation website at: www.nwf.org.

Todd Gosselink is a forest wildlife biologist for the IA DNR and the turkey program leader for Iowa located in Chariton, IA.

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Wayne County

Historic treasures, picturesque landscapes and Southern Iowa hospitality

Prairie Trails Museum of Wayne County  Corydon	1872 Union Depot & Water Tower  Humeston	Historic Round Barn Site  Allerton
Hwy 2 East, Corydon • 641-872-2211 • ptmuseum@grm.net Outstanding display of over 50,000 items. Learn how prairie trails influenced settlement. Impressive Mormon Trail exhibit, early 1900s "Main Street" shops, bank safe robbed by Jesse James, farm exhibits in barn. Open daily Apr 15 - Oct 15; Apr 15 - May 31 & Sep 1 - Oct 15, 1-5 daily; June, July, Aug. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. \$5/\$3/\$2/\$1.	Highway 65 • Humeston Located one block east of Hwy 65. Restored depot is home of city offices. Stop in weekdays or call 641-877-6841. Depot RV Park next to site.	1 mile east of Allerton • 641-873-4259 • wampler@grm.net Home of a 50' diameter, fully restored 1912 Round Barn, relocated 1887 New York Christian Church and 1868 Williams Country School showing rural Iowa at its finest. Restoration of 1897 Queen Anne style house is underway. Open June, July, August, Fri., Sat., Sun. 1-4. Groups all year by appointment. Admission \$3/\$1/\$0¢

2007 Events

May 31	Spring Demo Derby • Wayne County Fairgrounds
June 5, 12, 19, 26	Summer on the Square • Corydon FREE concerts, 7:30 pm, refreshments prior to music
June 14	Lineville Bordertown Day
July 4	Freedom Ring • Prairie Trails Museum, 3 pm Corydon July 4th Celebration
July 10, 17	Welcome We Help: 2nd Annual Dam Duck Race Summer on the Square • Corydon FREE concerts, 7:30 pm, refreshments prior to music
July 11-12	Seymour Old Settlers' Celebration
July 18-19	Humeston Watermelon Days
July 23-28	Wayne County Fair • Fairgrounds Corydon Entertainment, demo derby, livestock shows, displays
August 2	Olio Festival
August 7-9	Corydon Old Settlers' Celebration Free concerts, parade, quilt show, arts and crafts display, 5k & 10k fun run/walk, 3-on-3 basketball, carnival
September	Cambria Celebration
September 12-13	Allerton World Fair
September 20	Demolition Derby Wayne County Fairgrounds
October 6	Pioneer Festival • Prairie Trails Museum
November 20	Hospital Auxiliary Bazaar • Corydon Chamber of Commerce Customer Appreciation Night
November 21-22	Christmas Open House • Corydon & Allerton businesses
December 6-7	Christmas Tour of Homes Wayco Arts Council Holiday Concert at theatre 2 pm

Attractions • Recreation • Shopping

- ▶ **Prairie Trails Museum of Wayne County** • Corydon
- ▶ **Historic Round Barn Site** • Allerton
- ▶ **Mormon Trail "Come, Come Ye Saints" Site** • west of Seymour
- ▶ **1872 Union Depot & Water Tower, RV Park** • Humeston
- ▶ **Medicine Creek Wildlife Area** • east of Lineville
- ▶ **Cinder Path Bike Trail** • Humeston to Chariton
- ▶ **Dining • Lodging • Bed & Breakfasts • Gifts • Groceries**
- ▶ **Camping • Hunting • Fishing • Golf**

Corydon Old Settlers' • August 7-9

FREE concerts, parades, carnival, arts & crafts display, quilt show, 5K & 10K fun run/walk, 3-on-3 basketball, reunions and more!
Annual Celebration since 1883!



Wayne County Fair • July 22-28

Wayne County Development Corp.
PO Box 435, Corydon, IA 50060 • 641-872-1536

Chamber of Commerce Corydon & Allerton
PO Box 253, Corydon, IA 50060 • 641-872-1338



www.waynecountyiowa.com