

PUBLIC USE OF SOUTHERN WISCONSIN BIRD ALLIANCE LANDS

The mission of the Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance includes the restoration and preservation of wildlife habitat within protected sanctuaries, as well as environmental education. Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance sanctuaries are open to low-impact public uses that are consistent with this mission. With the exceptions detailed below, sanctuary lands are open to the public for quiet enjoyment of nature and for wildlife viewing. Volunteer participation in sanctuary management is encouraged. Hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are generally permitted. Activities with greater potential to disturb wildlife, habitat, or other users are generally prohibited, including hunting and trapping, use of bicycles or motorized vehicles, camping, target shooting, geocaching, drone flight, etc. Dogs, horses, and other domestic animals generally are not permitted in Madison Audubon sanctuaries. Research activities and group educational uses are encouraged, but require permission in advance to assure protection of the resource.

Exceptions

Public Access:

Public access to the wet, low-lying portions of the Hope Lake Bog property is by permission only, in order to protect the sensitive plant community of the bog.

Public access is prohibited to a portion of Goose Pond Sanctuary at all times to prevent disturbance to waterfowl. The closed area is bounded on the east by Goose Pond Road, on the north by Kampen Road, on the west by the railroad tracks and the west side of the Goose Pond residence and the hill/oak savanna, and on the south by Prairie Lane.

At Faville Grove Sanctuary, Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance holds conservation easements on private land north and south of Highway 89 and east of the driveway at N7710 Highway 89. Public access to easement areas is by permission only.

Public access is prohibited on lands in agricultural use.

Hunting:

Hunting (but not trapping) is permitted at Erstad Prairie due to its proximity to Schoeneberg Marsh Waterfowl Production Area, where public hunting is permitted.

At other locations, hunting will be authorized only as necessary to control wildlife populations and protect habitat. Currently, at Faville Grove Sanctuary permits may be granted for control of deer populations. At Goose Pond Sanctuary, public deer hunting is permitted east of Goose Pond Road (Hopkins Road, Sue Ames, and Ankenbrandt prairies) from November 1 through January 8 by permission from Goose Pond Managers, Mark Martin and Sue Foote-Martin at (608) 635-4160, W7503 Kampen Rd, Arlington, WI. See map ([Goose Pond](#)).

Pets:

Hunting dogs are permitted during the pheasant and waterfowl seasons at Erstad Prairie.

Dogs on a leash are permitted on the Goose Pond hiking trail south of the information board.

Boating:

Canoeing and kayaking are permitted at Otsego Marsh from May 1 through September 15.

Please direct all questions and requests for permission to the Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance at 608/255-2473 or send email to info@swibirds.org

Policy passed by the board of directors on November 10, 2008, and amended on October 12, 2009, February 7, 2011, October 12, 2011, and October 19, 2018.