

# **WATERFOWL HUNTING IN THE OKAW WETLANDS**

## **2012-2013 PROCEDURES**

Ten waterfowl blinds will be available for hunting at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "Okaw Wetlands" during the 2012-2013 waterfowl hunting season. All ten blinds are in the process of being rehabbed and will be ready by waterfowl season.

Due to limited size of the area, all hunting in the wetland complex will be strictly controlled during the entire waterfowl hunting season. **No special teal or early goose hunting will be permitted in this area.** Hunters using the area during the regular waterfowl season are required to have a Special Use Permit in their possession while hunting. To obtain a Special Use Permit initially, all hunters must make a reservation by telephone. We will accept reservations **Tuesday, October 2, 2012**, between the hours of **8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Prior to October 2nd, **no** reservations will be taken by **mail or in person**. Hunters will only be allowed to reserve one block of dates on this day. The **telephone number to call** when making reservations is: **(217) 774-3951 Ext: 7012**.

Beginning October 3, hunters may secure up to one additional reservation per week for the remainder of the waterfowl season. Additional reservations may be made at one time by calling **(217) 774-3951 Ext: 7049** Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Telephone reservations must be made at least 5 days in advance of the intended hunt date.** If no one answers the phone, leave your name and number and a short message stating you want to make a reservation for Okaw. We will call back in the order in which we received the calls. In person reservations must be made at least one day in advance of the intended hunting date. In person reservations will be accepted Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

When making a reservation, hunters may choose which numbered blind they want to hunt, depending on current availability. Blind numbers 1, 2 & 3 are located in the Bruce Wetland, blind numbers 4, 5 & 6 are located in the Okaw Wetland and blind numbers 7, 8 & 9 & 10 are located in the Sullivan Wetland (See attached map). Blind number 3 is designed for hunters with disabilities. The wetlands will be hunted Tuesday – Wednesday and Saturday – Sunday during the waterfowl and goose season. Hunting will not be permitted the other three days to allow the area to rest.

A \$30, **non-refundable** permit issuance fee will be assessed and must be received within 5 days or the blind will be released. **Only checks will be accepted.** Checks should be made out to: FAO, USACE, St. Louis District. The Special Use Permit will allow up to two hunters to use a blind for a two-day period. **All permits are non-transferable**, which means the person obtaining and signing the Special Use Permit must be in the blind while the blind is in use. The permit holder may bring any hunting partner along on the hunt as he or she chooses.

