



Mattamuskeet Lodge

Located on the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, the Lodge originally housed huge water pumps that drained the lake to create farmland in the early 1900s. The pump station and land were sold to the federal government in 1934 and the property was designated as the Lake Mattamuskeet Migratory Bird Refuge. The Civilian Conservation Corps refurbished the pump station into a hunting lodge, which remained in use until the early 1970s, when hunting had to be discontinued due to declining bird populations.

Partnership for the Sounds, along with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, East Carolina University, Friends of Mattamuskeet Lodge, and the Mattamuskeet Foundation, worked to reopen the Lodge from 1995-2000 as an environmental education center and site for meetings and gatherings. Unfortunately, the Lodge had to be closed in 2000 due to structural concerns. In mid-2007, ownership was transferred to the State of North Carolina ; it is hoped that renovations and repairs will occur in a timely manner so that the Lodge can once again become a centerpiece of Hyde County life.

Features and Activities

- ▶ world class bird watching, including: tundra swans and other migratory waterfowl, songbirds, colonial wading birds, neotropical song birds, and bald eagles
- ▶ other wildlife to observe include black bears, alligators, deer, nutria, and ducks
- ▶ fishing include largemouth bass, bream, white perch, crappie, herring and blue crabs
- ▶ 112-foot high observation tower offers spectacular views of the lake and peninsula





Fun Facts

- ▶ Lake Mattamuskeet is the largest natural lake in North Carolina; approximately 18 miles long and 6 miles wide, it covers roughly 40,000 acres.
- ▶ One theory of its geological origin is that a lengthy fire in the peat soils of the area burned a vast depression in the land that filled with rain and runoff over time.

Public Contact Information

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