

November 15, 2024 Kentucky Waterfowl Ground Counts

This is the ground count survey for November 11 - November 15, 2024. The region experienced varied, mild weather throughout the week, with rainfall of up to 2 inches in some areas due to showers and thunderstorms early in the week. Western Kentucky remains in a state of moderate drought. Although recent rainfall helped improve conditions slightly, long-term deficits persist from dry summer months. The Ohio and Mississippi Rivers' levels have generally remained stable but are slightly below normal.

The first day of Special Youth Waterfowl Season is Saturday November 23, 2024. The first day of Special Veteran's Waterfowl Season is Sunday, November 24, 2024. The first segment of duck season will open on November 28, 2024 and run until December 1, 2024. Goose season will open on November 28, 2024 and run until February 15, 2024. All bag limits will remain the same as the previous season. Check out the [2024-2025 Waterfowl hunting guide](#) or visit the waterfowl hunting web page for more details. Good luck hunting this year. Be safe and enjoy your time afield.

Avian Influenza is present in Kentucky, so hunters should use common sense when handling/cleaning harvested waterfowl. See page two of the [Waterfowl Guide](#) for recommendations for the safe handling and disposal of your birds. After cleaning waterfowl, hunters are encouraged to place the remains in trash bags and dispose of them through trash collection or a permitted landfill. Bald eagles and other raptors are particularly susceptible to avian influenza. This simple action could help prevent bald eagle and other raptor mortalities.

Location	Number	Species Composition	Comments
Ballard <i>11/14/2024</i>	9710 total ducks 250 divers 9460 dabblers 4 Canada geese	89% mallard, 7% gadwall, 2.5% ring-necked, 1% green-winged teal, <1% wigeon and pintail,	Rain yesterday and front pushing through today, turning cooler. Waterfowl numbers have been increasing with this weather front coming through. Just got a river to be able to pump this past week, so just starting to flood hunt units. Moist soil units look good and had an excellent corn crop this year as we flood our units.
Boatwright <i>11/14/2024</i>	263 ducks 5 Canada geese 3 eagles	67% mallard, 33% unknown ducks	Cold front overnight, 1.5in rain day before. Picking up birds daily.
Duck Island			

<i>Not surveyed</i>			
Doug Travis WMA <i>Not surveyed</i>			
Sloughs WMA <i>Not surveyed</i>			
Peabody WMA <i>Not surveyed</i>			
Yellowbank WMA <i>11/14/2024</i>	65 ducks	90% mallard, 10% wood duck	Most units are at 50% water capacity. Excellent moist-soil plants and row crops in hunting units.
Barren River WMA <i>Not surveyed</i>			
Blue Grass Army Depot (all lakes and ponds) <i>Not surveyed</i>			
Cave Run Lake <i>Not surveyed</i>			