

St. Albans Messenger 9-10-05

## Waterfowl hunter orientation set for Sept. 24

**M**issisquoi National Wildlife Refuge is offering an orientation to the refuge waterfowl hunting program followed by a boat tour of hunting sites on Saturday, Sept. 24, starting at 9 a.m. Refuge staff will present information about the waterfowl hunting program, answer questions from participants, and lead a tour of the refuge waterfowl hunting areas.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own boats and appropriate clothing and footwear to tour the sites. Limited seating is available in refuge boats.

The orientation will begin at Mac's Bend Boat Launch, which is located at the end of the gravel road approximately one mile north of the Louie's Landing boat-launch area on State Route 78, three miles west of Swanton Village. The orientation will end by 1pm but participants are welcome to explore on their own at any time.

The orientation will be useful

at 868-4781 before close of business at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 23.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 93 million acre National Wildlife Refuge System comprised of more than 500 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands, and other special management areas. It also operates 66 national fish hatcheries, 64 fish and wildlife management offices, and 78 ecological services field stations.

The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts.

ing equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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