Wild Turkey Playa is located 7 1/2 miles west and 1 mile south of Dodge City, or 4 miles south of Howell. The land was obtained in 1992 as part of the Playa Lakes Joint Venture. Funding was obtained through the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Ducks Unlimited, Phillips Petroleum Company, and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council as part of the North American Waterfowl Plan. The area is managed as a migratory wetland and is closed to all activities during both the spring and fall migrations. The purpose of the area is to supply a resting and feeding area for migratory waterfowl.

Fifty acres of the 157-acre area are seasonal wetlands. The remainder is upland farm land. Most of the farm land is being replanted to native grass, and the remainder is planted to cereal grains to supply food for wildlife. Tree and shrub plantings supply woody cover.

The area is managed as a refuge during much of the year. Therefore, access to the property is generally restricted to wildlife observation from the gravel roads on the west and north sides of the property. However, after freeze-up and waterfowl use of the property has come to an end, the area is opened up to public hunting, generally around the first part of December. The area may also be opened at other times as posted. Written notice is required in order to open the area to hunting. Therefore, hunters should check the information sign located at the parking lot or contact the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Region 3 office at the number listed on the front panel of this brochure.

When open for hunting, species available include pheasant, quail, white-tailed deer, mule deer, cottontail rabbits, and various furbearers.

**Non-toxic shot only**

Hunters should be aware that, because Wild Turkey Playa is a waterfowl area, all shotgun hunting must be done using non-toxic shot only. This restriction is in place to protect the health of migrating water birds using the site. Lead deposited in wetlands has been shown to cause lead poisoning in waterfowl, which pick the shot up while feeding.