

# Lums Pond State Park – Sunset Lake

## 2023-24 Hunting Rules

### Archery Only

*Refer to attached map for approximate locations of indicated areas.*

1. In addition to the rules and regulations found in the “Delaware Hunting and Trapping Guide: 2023-2024”, specific rules that apply to Lums Pond State Park are listed below. **All hunters must register at Lums Pond State Park hunting prior to hunting in the park.** There is an annual \$10 hunting registration fee charge. This fee is waived for Delaware hunters 65 or over. If you intend to hunt at Lums Pond, hunters must register, in person, at the park office. A valid 2023/2024 Delaware hunting license is required to register. **NOTE:** Once obtained, this registration will be valid for hunters participating in the Delaware State Park Hunting Program at any Delaware State Park that has hunting. **However, it is the hunter’s responsibility to become familiar with each park’s specific rules and regulations.**
2. Hunting is prohibited until September 1, 2023.
3. There is no small game, dove or waterfowl hunting at Sunset Lake.
4. General State Park Hunting Rules
  - a. There is **No Sunday Hunting** in Delaware State Parks
  - b. Failure to comply with any state laws, rules, regulations, and/or policies may result in arrest and/or suspension of all hunting privileges in Delaware State Parks.
  - c. Use of any firearms other than compound and recurve bows and crossbows is prohibited.
  - d. It is illegal to use or build a nailed or permanent tree stand or ladder.
  - e. Use of trail cameras in Delaware State Parks is prohibited.
  - f. Driving deer into and/or through hunting areas is prohibited.
  - g. The clearing/cutting of vegetation to form shooting lanes or for any other purpose is prohibited.
  - h. Use of BAIT is prohibited in Delaware State Parks.
  - i. Driving motorized vehicles off-road into fields, woods, or along trails is prohibited. No motorized hand carts or ATVs are allowed to recover harvested deer. Manual hand carts are permitted.
  - j. Park only in designated parking areas (refer to map for approximate locations).
  - k. State Parks are carry-in, carry-out areas. Please take any trash you accumulate with you.
5. Deer Hunting – Archery/Crossbow Seasons
  - a. Archery/crossbow hunting **ONLY** is permitted for deer, in season, Friday, September 1, 2023 through Wednesday, January 31, 2024.
  - b. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
  - c. If you plan to hunt at Sunset Lake, regardless of where you purchase your State Park Hunting Permit, you must appear in person at the Lums Pond State Park

office during business hours prior to hunting to sign the archery hunting registration form. The park office is open daily April 1 – October 31, 8 am to 4 pm, and Weekdays November 1 to March 31, 8 am to 4 pm.

- d. Hunter orange must be worn by archery hunters at all times when dates overlap with any Statewide Gun Seasons.
  - e. There are ten archery pin sites. Hunting at the ten pin sites is allowed from a portable non-damaging tree stand (provided by the hunter), not less than 10 feet above ground level, or from the ground within the perimeter marked with paint on trees around a central numbered pin during archery hunting seasons. During the regular state gun-hunting seasons hunters shall only hunt from an elevated tree stand. Ground hunting is not permitted during gun seasons. Unattended portable stands shall be confiscated.
  - f. **NOTE:** Pin #8 will be closed due to nearby construction for the duration of the 2023-24 hunting season.
  - g. Pin sites will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis using the self-registration tag board system. The tag board is located at the parking lot located off of RT 72 just south of Reybold Road .
  - h. To access Pins 1- 4 and 10 hunters must park in the parking lot where the tag board is located.
6. All deer harvested at Sunset Lake must be reported on the sign-in/sign-out sheet at the tag board at Sunset Lake. When registering your deer via the on-line or toll-free reporting system, as required by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, deer should be registered as follows:

Land Type:	Public
County:	New Castle
Zone:	1B
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Lums Pond State Park

7. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or drugs are strictly prohibited.

**MESSAGE TO ALL HUNTERS:**

- Please be careful, discrete and considerate around other park visitors. Understand that many park patrons are NOT hunters and some may feel threatened by your presence.
- Deer remain in moderate numbers in the park. By hunting in Lums Pond, you are a vital part of our “deer management team”.
- Proper management of Lums’ deer herd is simple: we must harvest does and let more yearling and button bucks walk away to balance the herd’s sex ratio to increase the number of mature males. Make a proper management decision before you shoot.
- Have a safe and successful hunt.