

Killens Pond State Park

2023–24 Hunting Seasons/Hunting Rules

Refer to 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 Killens Pond State Park are listed below. Registration of all hunters participating in the Delaware State Park Hunting Program is required. There is an annual \$10 Hunting Permit that must be purchased for hunters 16-64 years of age. This charge is waived for Delaware hunters age 65 or over and Youth Hunters ages 13-15 years of age. Hunters may purchase this permit at the Killens Pond State Park Office or at any Delaware State Park where hunting is permitted. You must have this permit prior to hunting.
2. If you plan to hunt at Killens Pond State Park, regardless of where you purchase your State Park Hunting Permit, you must appear in person at the Killens Pond State Park office during business hours prior to hunting to sign the 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.
3. 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. **Handguns, rifles with straight-walled pistol-caliber ammunition and Sharps rifles are not permitted for deer hunting in Delaware State Parks.**
 - d. It is illegal to use or build a nailed or permanent tree stand or ladder. Portable stands must be of a type that will not damage trees. **Unattended stands will be confiscated.**
 - 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. Use of buckshot is prohibited in Delaware State Parks.
 - j. 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 deer carts are authorized for use.
 - k. Park only in the designated parking areas (refer to map for approximate locations).
 - l. State Parks are carry-in, carry-out areas. Please take any trash you accumulate with you.
 - m. Hunting is only allowed at 14 designated pin sites and one permanently disabled hunting stand (refer to map for approximate locations). Each pin site includes a metal ladder stand within a perimeter marked with paint on trees around the stand. Hunters may, at their own risk, hunt from the existing ladder stand or a portable non-damaging tree stand provided by the hunter, not less than 10 feet above ground level placed within the marked perimeter.
 - n. Pin sites and the permanently disabled stand will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis using the self-registration tag board system. Hunters using the permanently disabled stand must have in their possession a valid disabled hunter card issued by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife. The tag board is located in the parking lot at the Dog Training Area on Paradise Alley Road. No tag may be removed prior to 5am. Tags must be returned to board anytime a hunter leaves the stand.
 - o. Hunters are allowed to harvest **antlerless deer and quality bucks only** in Killens Pond State Park. Quality Buck tags may only be used on an antlered deer with an outside antler spread of at least 15 inches. The distance between the tips of a deer’s ears when both ears are held straight out from the head in the “alert” position is approximately 15 inches so a deer in which this tag would be

applicable would generally need to have antlers that are at least as wide as the space between his ear tips.

4. Archery/Crossbow Hunting
 - a. Permitted in season and in accordance with Delaware state laws, regulations, and rules, September 1, 2023 - January 31, 2024.
 - b. Hunter orange must be worn by archery hunters at all times when dates overlap with any Statewide Gun Seasons.
 - c. No arrows or bolts may be nocked prior to hunting in tree stand. No cocked crossbows are allowed prior to hunting in tree stand. Spot and stalk hunting is prohibited.
 - d. Hunters may hunt from a portable ground blind within the marked perimeter with a long, recurved or compound bow. Crossbows shall only be used from an elevated stand.
5. General Firearm Hunting
 - a. Permitted in season and in accordance with Delaware state laws, regulations, and rules, November 10 – November 18, 2023; December 9 – December 16, 2023 Special Antlerless and January 13, 15 – January 21, 2024.
 - b. Muzzleloaders may be used during shotgun seasons.
 - c. Handguns, rifles with straight-walled handgun ammunition and Sharps rifles are not permitted for deer hunting in Delaware State Parks. The use of buckshot is prohibited in Delaware State Parks.
 - d. There is no shotgun hunting during the October season.
 - e. Guns shall not be loaded until hunter is in the stand. Spot and stalk hunting is prohibited.
6. Muzzleloader Hunting
 - a. Permitted in season January 22, 2024 – January 27, 2024.
 - b. There is no muzzleloader hunting during the statewide October season.
 - c. Guns shall not be loaded until hunter is in the stand. Spot and stalk hunting is prohibited.
7. All deer harvested at Killens Pond State Park must be reported on the sign-in/sign-out sheet at the tag board and registered, via the on-line or toll-free reporting system, as required by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Deer should be reported as follows:

Land Type:	Public
County:	Kent
Zone:	8
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Killens Pond State Park

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.
- By hunting in this park, you are a vital part of our “deer management team”. White-tail deer have been shown to ecologically damage their habitat when they exceed 20 deer per square mile. In the majority of our parks, the deer herds reach much greater densities.
- Your harvest information is very important to us. Please submit your data accurately.
- No Trespassing on neighboring private property.
- Have a safe and successful hunt.

