

Cape Henlopen State Park (East)

2022 – 2023 Hunting Seasons/Hunting Rules

Refer to map on other side for approximate locations of indicated areas.

1. In addition to the rules and regulations found in the “Delaware Hunting and Trapping Guide: 2022-2023,” specific rules that apply to Cape Henlopen State Park (East) are listed below. **Registration of all hunters participating in the Delaware State Park Hunting Program is required. There is an annual \$10 hunting program charge. This charge is waived for Delaware hunters 65 or over.** Hunters may register at the Cape Henlopen State Park Office or any other Delaware State Park where hunting is permitted.
2. Hunting for deer is permitted in all designated areas in season from September 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023. No firearm hunting for deer is permitted prior to the special **Youth/Non-Ambulatory Disabled Deer Hunt** on November 5, 2022.
3. Handguns, straight-walled pistol caliber rifles and sharps rifles are NOT PERMITTED for deer hunting in Delaware State Parks. There is no Upland Game Hunting in Cape Henlopen State Park. There is no hunting of any type from February 1 through August 31, 2023. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
3. Waterfowl Hunting
 - a. Waterfowl Hunting is permitted in season in area A. Hunters may NOT construct blinds in this area.
 - b. Waterfowl hunting in the park is restricted to between November 1, 2022 and January 31, 2023.
 - c. No waterfowl hunting is permitted in the Gordon’s Pond area.
4. Deer Hunting – Archery and Crossbow hunting
 - a. Permitted in area A in season, from September 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023. Stands 1 – 5, PD1 and PD2 are for the convenience of the hunter and are not mandatory. To hunt from the PD Stands, PD1 and PD2, the hunter must have in their possession a valid disabled hunter card issued by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife.
 - b. There is a minimum 50-yard safety zone along all trails, except the Gordon’s Pond Trail which has a 100-yard safety zone.
 - c. Two Archery-only Stands A & B are located in the Pinelands section of the Park are available to hunters during the regular Archery season. Hunters must hunt from the stands. Ground hunting is prohibited in this area of the park. Hunters wishing to hunt from Stand B must park at the designated parking area for Stand A and walk into the park if the main park gate is closed. When the main gate is open hunters using Stand B parking may park near the old tennis courts as indicated in the map.
 - d. Archery hunting is permitted during approved firearms seasons as limited by the rules below and other applicable regulations. Note that hunter orange is required during gun seasons.
5. Deer Hunting - Muzzleloader Season
 - a. Permitted in area A, but limited to January 23 – January 28, 2023 only. There is no October Muzzleloader Season in the Park.
 - b. Muzzleloaders may also be used during Shotgun Seasons (see below).
6. Deer Hunting – General Firearm Season

- a. Permitted in Area A during the Youth/Non-Ambulatory Disabled Deer Hunt on November 5, 2022, November 11 - November 19, 2022; December 10 - December 17, 2022 Special Antlerless and January 14 - January 21, 2023 seasons. No gun hunting is permitted until November Shotgun Season.
 - b. Shotguns and Muzzleloaders are the only firearms permitted for use during General Firearm Seasons in Delaware State Parks.
 - c. **Use of buckshot is prohibited in Delaware State Parks.**
 - d. Designated stands are for the convenience of the hunter and are not mandatory.
 - e. It is illegal to use a nailed or permanent deer stand or ladder. Portable stands must be of a type that will not damage trees. **Unattended stands will be confiscated.**
7. Deer drives are NOT permitted on park property.
 8. The clearing/cutting of vegetation to form shooting lanes or for any other purpose is prohibited.
 9. **Use designated parking areas only**
 10. All deer harvested in the East Unit of Cape Henlopen State Park must be reported via the on-line or toll-free telephone reporting system as required by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife. Deer should be reported as follows:

Land Type:	Public
County:	Sussex
Zone:	9
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Cape Henlopen 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.
- Please show consideration to fellow hunters.
- Have a safe and successful hunt.

CapeEast2022-23 Updated 4/26/2022