

# Cape Henlopen State Park (West)

## 2022–23 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: 2022-2023” specific rules that apply to Cape Henlopen State Park (West) 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 or any Delaware State Park where hunting is permitted.
2. PLEASE NOTE: Due to a new lease agreement between DNREC and Sussex County the hunting area around the Wolf Neck Wastewater Treatment spray irrigation fields has changed. Parking for hunters accessing State Park lands has moved from inside the fenced area at the Wolf Neck facility to the State Park parking lot on Wolf Neck Road. See the Cape Henlopen State Park (West) Hunting Maps to see all changes.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
6. All hunters must honor the 200-yard safety zone (100 yards on each side) along the Junction-Breakwater Trail. This area is heavily used throughout the year by the non-hunting public.
7. Waterfowl Hunting
  - a. Waterfowl Hunting is permitted in season in areas E and F. Hunters may NOT construct blinds in these areas.
  - b. Waterfowl Hunting in the park is restricted to between November 1, 2022 and January 31, 2023.
  - c. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
8. Parking is in designated parking areas **ONLY**. Off-road driving is not permitted. Hunters are reminded to respect private property boundaries.
9. Spray Irrigation Area: Sussex County will be permitting deer hunting on lands around the Wolf Neck Wastewater Treatment Plant during the 2022-23 hunting season. For more information contact Sussex County at (302) 855-7700.
10. Deer Hunting – Archery and Crossbow hunting
  - a. Permitted in areas G, E and F in season from September 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023.
  - b. All areas labeled E and G are Archery/Crossbow **ONLY** areas. Archers must hunt at least 50 yards from the nearest trail or road. This safety distance increases to 100 yards on each side of the Junction-Breakwater Trail.
  - c. Permitted during firearms seasons. Note that hunter orange is required during gun seasons, **including in the archery and crossbow only areas.**

11. Deer Hunting - Muzzleloader Season

- a. Permitted in area F for the January 23– January 28, 2023 season only.
- b. There is not an October Muzzleloader Season in the Park.

12. Deer Hunting – General Firearm Seasons

- a. Permitted in area F ONLY including the, **Youth/Non-Ambulatory Disabled Deer Hunt** November 5, 2022, November 11 - November 19, 2022, December 10 - December 17, 2022 Special Antlerless and January 14 - January 21, 2023 seasons.
- b. Shotguns and muzzleloaders are the only firearms permitted for use during the general firearm deer season in Delaware State Parks.
- c. Use of buckshot in Delaware State Parks is prohibited.

13. Deer Hunting – General

- a. The clearing/cutting of vegetation to form shooting lanes or for any other purpose is prohibited.
- b. Deer drives are NOT permitted on park property. Park in designated parking areas only.

14. All deer harvested in the West 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.

*CapeWest2022–23 Updated 4/26/2022*