

Delaware Seashore State Park - Fresh Pond Tract 2022 – 2023 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 the Fresh Pond Tract 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 Delaware Seashore State Park Office or at any Delaware State Park where hunting is permitted.
 - a. Hunting for **DEER ONLY** is permitted, in season, from September 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023 as indicated below. There is no hunting of any type from February 1 to August 31, 2023.
 - b. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
 - c. There is no January handgun season in Delaware Seashore State Parks, including Fresh Pond.
 - d. Deer drives are **NOT** permitted on park property.

2. **Deer Hunting – Archery/Crossbow hunting**
 - a. Permitted September 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023.
 - b. **Note the areas marked Zone A & C on the map are Archery/Crossbow Only areas.** Self-registration is by Zone and is on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - c. In Hunting Zone B, self-registration for stands #1 -10 is on a first-come, first-served basis. Stand #1 is for use **ONLY** by hunters possessing a Permanently Disabled Hunter card issued by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife.
 - d. Hunters must sign in and sign out on the registration board at the parking lot off Hickman Road.
 - e. These stands are for your convenience and are not mandatory. Archery hunters may hunt from a portable stand or from the ground throughout the zone so long as it is not within 50 yards of a trail or road.
 - f. Portable stands must be of a type that will not damage trees. Unattended stands will be confiscated.
 - g. **There is no archery/crossbow hunting in Zone B during gun seasons.**
 - h. **Note the 50 yard Safety Zones along the trails throughout the park as well as near occupied dwellings.**

3. **Deer Hunting – Muzzleloader and General Firearm Seasons**
 - a. **Due to increased park use by the public, the first gun season will begin with the November Shotgun Season. As a result, the October Antlerless Shotgun dates and the October Muzzleloader Seasons are closed.**
 - b. Open during permitted seasons from designated stands #1-10 only, November 11 – November 19, 2022, December 10 – December 17, 2022, January 14 – January 21, 2023 and January 23 - January 28, 2023 (Muzzleloader).
 - c. Self-registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Hunters must sign in and sign out on the registration board re-located to the Hickman Road entrance. Sign-in sheets and tags will be distributed at 5:00 am during shotgun season. Stand #1 is for use **ONLY** by hunters possessing a Permanently Disabled Hunter card issued by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife.
 - d. Handguns, rifles with straight-walled handgun ammunition and Sharps rifles are not permitted for deer hunting in Delaware State Parks.
 - e. Use of buckshot in Delaware State Parks is prohibited.
 - f. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.

- g. Hunting is prohibited within 50 yards of any park trail. The clearing/cutting of vegetation to form shooting lanes or for any other purpose is prohibited.
4. All deer harvested in the Fresh Pond Unit of Delaware Seashore 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:	17
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Delaware Seashore 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.

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