

Delaware Seashore State Park – Thompson Island 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 the Thompson Island Nature Preserve 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.
2. **Deer Hunting – Archery/Crossbow Seasons**
 - a. Archery/crossbow hunting **ONLY** is permitted for deer, in season, Monday through Thursday, November 28, 2022 through January 26, 2023
 - b. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
 - c. Hunting only allowed from the wooden PD Stand or a portable non-damaging tree stand (provided by the hunter), not less than 10 feet above ground level, within the perimeter marked with paint on trees around a central numbered pin. The PD Stand is for use **ONLY** by hunters possessing a Permanently Disabled Hunter card issued by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife.
 - d. The PD stand and Pin sites will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis using the self-registration tag board system. The tag board is located in the parking lot at the end of Bay Road.
 - e. 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.
 - f. Deer drives are **NOT** permitted on park property.
 - g. The clearing/cutting of vegetation to form shooting lanes or for any other purpose is prohibited.
 - h. No parking is allowed in the active hunting area. Please park in the designated area.
 - i. Hunter orange shall be worn in accordance with Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife regulations during gun seasons.
3. 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:	15
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Delaware Seashore State Park
4. Hunting for waterfowl, rabbit, quail and dove is not permitted.

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 reach 20 deer per square mile. In the majority of our parks, the deer herds have much greater densities than this.
- Your harvest information is very important to us. Please submit your data accurately. Have a safe and successful hunt.

Thompson Island 2022-23, Updated 4/26/2022