

Cape Henlopen State Park – Godwin Tract

2024–25 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: 2024-2025,” 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. The permit may be purchased via Digital DNREC or where Delaware hunting licenses are sold beginning in August 2024. Outside vendors charge an additional processing fee. You must have this permit prior to hunting. NOTE:** Once obtained, this registration will be valid for hunters participating in the Delaware State Park Hunting Program at any of the nine Delaware State Parks where hunting is permitted.

It is the hunter’s responsibility to become familiar with each park’s specific rules and regulations prior to hunting.

2. General 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 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. E-bikes may be used on state park trails that allow bicycles. Bicycles, including E-bikes may not be ridden on paths from state park trails to the deer stand, pin or archery zone. Manual deer carts are authorized for use.
 - k. Park only in 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. There is one Permanently Disabled Deer Stand and five designated pin sites. The Permanently Disabled Stand is for hunters possessing a state-issued disabled hunter card. Hunters using the five pin sites must hunt from a portable, non-damaging tree stand from within the marked 25-yard perimeter around each pin. Stands must be a minimum of 10 feet above ground level.
 - n. Tags for the stand and five pins will be available on a first-come, first-served basis on the tag board at the entrance to the designated parking area. Tags may be pulled no sooner than 4:30 am on the day of the hunt.
3. Archery and Crossbow hunting
 - a. Permitted in season, from September 1, 2024 through February 1, 2025.
 - b. Permitted during approved firearms seasons. Note that hunter orange is required during gun seasons.
4. Muzzleloader Season
 - a. Permitted in season October 11 – 19, 2024 and January 27 – February 1, 2025.
 - b. Muzzleloaders may also be used during Shotgun Seasons (see below).

c. Red fox and coyote may be harvested as incidental take with a muzzleloader while hunting for deer during muzzleloader seasons. Use of calls is prohibited.

5. General Firearm Season

a. Permitted during October 4, 5, 25 and 26, 2024 (Special Antlerless), November 2, 2024 (Youth Hunt), November 15 - 23, 2024; December 14 - December 21, 2024 (Special Antlerless) and January 18 - 25, 2025 seasons.

b. **Shotguns, Muzzleloaders and Straight-walled Pistol-caliber Rifles** are the only firearms permitted for use at the Godwin Tract during general firearm deer seasons.

c. Red fox and coyote may be harvested as incidental take with a shotgun or muzzleloader while hunting for deer during general firearm seasons. Use of calls is prohibited.

6. All deer harvested in the Godwin Tract 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:	15
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Cape Henlopen State Park

MESSAGE TO ALL HUNTERS:

- The Godwin Tract is bordered by residential neighborhoods. Please observe all private property while hunting on the Godwin Tract.
- Remember to make a safe and proper management decision before you shoot.
- Have a safe and successful hunt.
- Failure to abide by the rules herein may result in the loss of hunting privileges in Delaware State Parks.

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