

Brandywine Creek State Park

2023-24 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: 2023-2024”, specific rules that apply to Brandywine Creek State Park 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 Resident hunters 65 or over or under 16.** Hunters may register at the Brandywine Creek State Park Office or any other Delaware State Park where hunting is permitted.

2. General 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. Use of any firearms other than compound bows, recurve bows and crossbows is prohibited.
- d. It is illegal to use or build a nailed or permanent tree stand or ladder.
- 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. Baiting is prohibited in Delaware State Parks.
- i. Please park in the designated parking areas (refer to map for approximate locations).
- j. Hunters are allowed to harvest deer of either sex at Brandywine Creek State Park.
- k. State Parks are carry-in, carry-out areas. Please take any trash you accumulate with you.

3. Deer Hunting – Archery/Crossbow Seasons

- a. Archery/crossbow hunting **ONLY** is permitted for deer, in season, Friday, September 1, 2023 through Wednesday, January 31, 2024.
- b. There is **NO SUNDAY HUNTING** in Delaware State Parks.
- c. If you plan to hunt at Brandywine Creek State Park, regardless of where you purchase your State Park Hunting Permit, you must appear in person at the Brandywine Creek State Park office

41 Adams Dam Road, Wilmington - (302) 577-3534

- during business hours prior to hunting to sign the archery hunting registration form. The park office is open daily April 1 – October 31, 8 am to 4 pm, and Weekdays November 1 to March 31, 8 am to 4 pm.
- d. Hunter orange must be worn by archery hunters at all times when dates overlap with any Statewide Gun Seasons.
 - e. There are thirteen archery pin sites, three archery only metal tree stands, one archery only tripod stand (17) and one stand for Permanently Disabled hunters. Permanently disabled hunters must possess a State of Delaware Certified Hunter with Disabilities Card. For information on obtaining this card call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (302) 739-9912.
 - f. Hunting at the thirteen pin sites is only allowed from 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. Some archery pin perimeters may contain a state-owned metal ladder stand installed for the special shotgun hunts. Hunters are welcome to use the state-owned stands, at their own risk. State-owned stands may not be moved or modified in any way. Archery pins where state-owned stands are located will be indicated at the park’s hunter information and tag board.

- g. Pin and stand sites will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis using the self-registration tag board system. The tag board will be located in the Thompson Bridge Parking Lot for the 2023-24 hunting season. Stands 6 – 13, 17 and PD1 may be unavailable on some days during the hunting season with little advance notice. On those days the tags will be removed from the tag board by park staff.
- h. Hunters are allowed to harvest a deer of either sex in Brandywine Creek State Park. The primary goal of the hunting program in Delaware State Parks is to reduce the overall deer herd and equalize the doe to buck ratio closer to 1 to 1 to reduce the negative impact of the herd on the natural plant and animal communities in the park. We encourage all hunters to harvest at least one doe during the season at Brandywine Creek State Park.

4. Reporting Harvested Deer at Brandywine Creek State Park

- a. All deer harvested at Brandywine Creek State Park must be reported on the sign-in/sign-out sheet located at the tag board. Please complete all columns on the sign-in/sign-out sheets. This data
- b. All deer must also be registered via the on-line or toll-free telephone reporting system as required by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife. Deer should be registered as follows:

Land Type:	Public
County:	New Castle
Zone:	1A
Location Type:	State or County Park
Location Description:	Brandywine Creek 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 immediately report any medical emergencies by calling 911. Report non-emergency accidents or violations of any hunting laws, rules or regulations to a park ranger or the park office.
- 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.

Brandywine Creek2023-24, Updated 6/9/2023