

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION
POLICY DIRECTIVE

D -72

FAMILY CAMPGROUND POLICY

The following policies are established pursuant to Sections 2.5.1 and 4.1 of the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations, and apply to all family camping areas located in Delaware State Parks.

Campground Policy Effective January 1, 2010

- A per-night camping fee will be charged to camp in a state park campground.
- Campers must be at least 18 years old to register.
- Sites must be used for camping and a camping unit or equipment must be in place within 24 hours of scheduled arrival time.
- A Camping Unit is defined as a tent, vehicle or equipment that is specifically designed for camping and offers privacy to the occupants. By definition, a boat is not a camping unit. Likewise, work trucks and vehicles designed for functions other than recreation are not camping units. Park management reserves the right to use discretion regarding this policy.
- Check-in time is 1 p.m. Campers registering before 6 a.m. will be charged for the previous night.
- Check-out time is 12 noon.
- Delayed Arrivals: In the case of a delayed arrival the Park Office must be notified in advance to avoid cancellation.
- The park reserves the right to hold reserved sites until check-out time the day following the scheduled arrival date before cancelling the reservation.
- Minimum stay: One day unless otherwise specified.
- Maximum stay: Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, camping is permitted for a maximum of 14 days each 21-day period per park. Other limits are at the discretion of park management.

- By definition, Delaware State Park campgrounds are family campgrounds. Group camping (where the number of campers exceeds the maximum capacity of two family campsites) is prohibited in family campgrounds during prime season. Individuals are limited to two sites at any time unless group camping is approved by park management.
- Handicapped Sites may only be occupied by the handicapped camper and his/her guests. If no other campsites are available, vacant handicapped sites may be occupied by non-handicapped campers.

Site Occupancy

- There must be one camper who is at least 18 years old at each campsite.
- The campsite fee covers four campers. If there are more than four campers at the site, an additional fee of \$2 per person per night will be charged for each of the additional campers. The maximum number of campers per site is eight.
- There is a maximum of two camping units per site. This may consist of a mobile camping unit and one tent; one pop-up and one tent; or two tents (with a maximum of 300 sq. ft. floor space) per site.
- One vehicle may be parked at each campsite. Additional vehicles may be parked in the visitor parking lot.
- If a “walk-up camper” (camper who has not made a reservation) occupies a previously reserved site, the party with the reservation will have preference, regardless of who arrives first. The walk-up camper will be moved to a vacant site, if one is available.
- Visitors are welcome in the campgrounds between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. Visitors must pay the daily park entrance fee when applicable.
- The park, Division of Parks and Recreation, or parks staff are not responsible for lost or stolen items, or for damage to vehicles or equipment.
- Use of generators is discouraged. If there are noise complaints, generators will be used at the discretion of park management.
- Quiet Time is from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. QUIET TIME IS STRICTLY ENFORCED. Use of generators is prohibited during Quiet Time.
- Pets are permitted in Delaware State Park campgrounds, but must be leashed and be attended to at all times. Pets are not allowed in cottages, cabins, camping cabins or yurts. Each park may have specific policies about pets.

Alcohol:

Keg beer, party balls or beer balls are prohibited in all parks.
Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the Lums Pond State Park campground.

Fires:

Fires are permitted in fire rings only. Charcoal fires are permitted in charcoal grills. All fires may be prohibited due to weather conditions at the discretion of park management. Open fires are prohibited at all times at Delaware Seashore State Park.

Trees:

Chopping, cutting or damaging trees is prohibited. Downed limbs or wood may not be gathered and burned.

Firewood:

The transport of firewood by campers from state to state has contributed to the spread of Emerald Ash Borer and other invasive forest insect pests. These insects are transported on or inside dead wood as adults, larvae or eggs. These insects are capable of destroying forest trees and damaging our park landscapes.

All firewood must be acquired locally. Leave firewood at home when you travel. **Buy wood where you burn it OR buy kiln dried firewood.** Kiln-dried firewood is acceptable as this process kills insects.

All firewood that is brought to the campground must be burned. Do not leave firewood for the next camper. This insures that any infested wood brought to the park is destroyed as quickly as possible.

Collection of firewood from park forests is prohibited. Down and decaying wood is important for the health of our forests.

Trash:

A dumpster is provided for trash disposal. The burning of trash and excess litter is prohibited.

Dump Station: A \$7 fee will be charged to non-registered campers.

Wastewater: Dumping or disposal of dish or bath water, septic, or other waste matter on the grounds is prohibited.

Camping Season

Cape Henlopen and Trap Pond State Park - March 1 to November 30*

Killens Pond and Lums Pond State Park: Year-round.*

Delaware Seashore State Park: Year-round for self-contained units, others March 1 to November 30*

** Restrooms and other services may not be available due to weather conditions.*

Property and Environmental Damage

Any intentional actions resulting in damage to property or the environment will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Established June 14, 2001
Revised: June 26, 2003
Revised: March 22, 2004
Revised June 30, 2004
Revised June 30, 2009
Revised December 31, 2009
Revised July 7, 2010

Any changes to this policy require written approval by the Division Director.



Director, Division of Parks and Recreation



Date