

[REDACTED]

Subject: Drive on Beaches

Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 5:32:05 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Doreen S [REDACTED]

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

CC: Doreen Smith

To whom it may concern:

I have lived in Sussex County, Delaware for the last 10 years. We moved from Maryland to this area to enjoy the beaches. However, as we have aged, it has physically become more difficult for us to do that together. Neither of us enjoy fishing. But we do enjoy watching others fish and just sitting and watching the waves. Neither of us swim either for fear of being knocked down and hurt. We do miss the water very much. It was always something that we enjoyed together. We kayaked for a while and then years later we bought a power boat. But even those have become too difficult for us to do together anymore. Aging is hard!

Anyway, we have bought 3 vehicles since moving here that can handle driving on the beach. We also have bought and put out all the equipment that is required by the present rules to be on the drive-on beach.

Yes, we put out the fishing rod and we bring all the necessary things that a person would need to do surf fishing. But, we don't fish. Neither of us like to fish though we have tried.

But we do love sitting on the beach together. Driving on the beach and setting up what is required is something we both can still physically do. Thank goodness!

So, I am writing to ask you to consider allowing people just to be able to drive on the beach even if they are not fishing.

I KNOW there are other people like us who are longing to enjoy the beaches, too, but they cannot because of all the surf fishing rules. Maybe they cannot purchase all the equipment or maybe they are just worried about being cited. But it is truly unfair to only allow fisherman to use the drive on beaches.

I'd like to suggest that maybe there could be times designated just for fisherman if they want the beach all to themselves.

But there definitely should be times when anyone who has a vehicle that can handle the sand can go out on the drive-on beaches.

Thank you for reading my request. I know there are many people who feel the same way. There is no reason why the beach cannot be shared by the citizens of Sussex County.

Thank you,
Doreen S [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone