



# Delaware Ocean and Bay Plan

## January 2025 Updates

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is continuing its work to develop an Ocean and Bay Plan to protect Delaware’s marine resources, ecological functions and ocean and bay uses.



### Public Listening Sessions

Public interests and priorities were compiled in 2023 through listening sessions and online comments. To view the marine resources and activities important to



Delawareans, based on comments received, visit [Public Interests and Priorities](#).



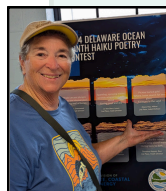
### Resource and Use Guide

A Resource and Use Guide is currently in development and will serve as the foundation for the Ocean and Bay Plan. The guide will include a review of other state ocean resource plans and DNREC’s authority as it relates to ocean resource management, baseline information of marine activities in the [planning area](#), and a summary of information received during stakeholder and public engagement.



### DNREC Celebrates National Ocean Month

The month of June has been dedicated as National Ocean Month and is recognized annually in the State of Delaware. In 2023 and 2024 DNREC hosted contests to engage Delawareans in celebrating the ocean through art. Contest submissions were showcased in libraries throughout the state and have been compiled for use in the development of Delaware’s Ocean and Bay Plan and the Resource and Use Guide. Stay tuned for Ocean Month 2025!



#### 2024 Poetry Contest

Create a haiku highlighting “What I Love About the Ocean”. [View Results](#)

#### 2023 Photo Contest

Submit a photo that shows a personal connection to the ocean. [View Winning Photo](#)



### Moving Forward



The next steps for Delaware’s Ocean and Bay Plan involve finalizing the Resource and Use Guide, identifying and completing research to fill in information gaps and finalizing the draft of the plan itself. Planned listserv updates will be sent out bi-annually and as new information becomes available. To view Ocean and Bay Plan progress and information, visit [Delaware Ocean and Bay Plan](#).