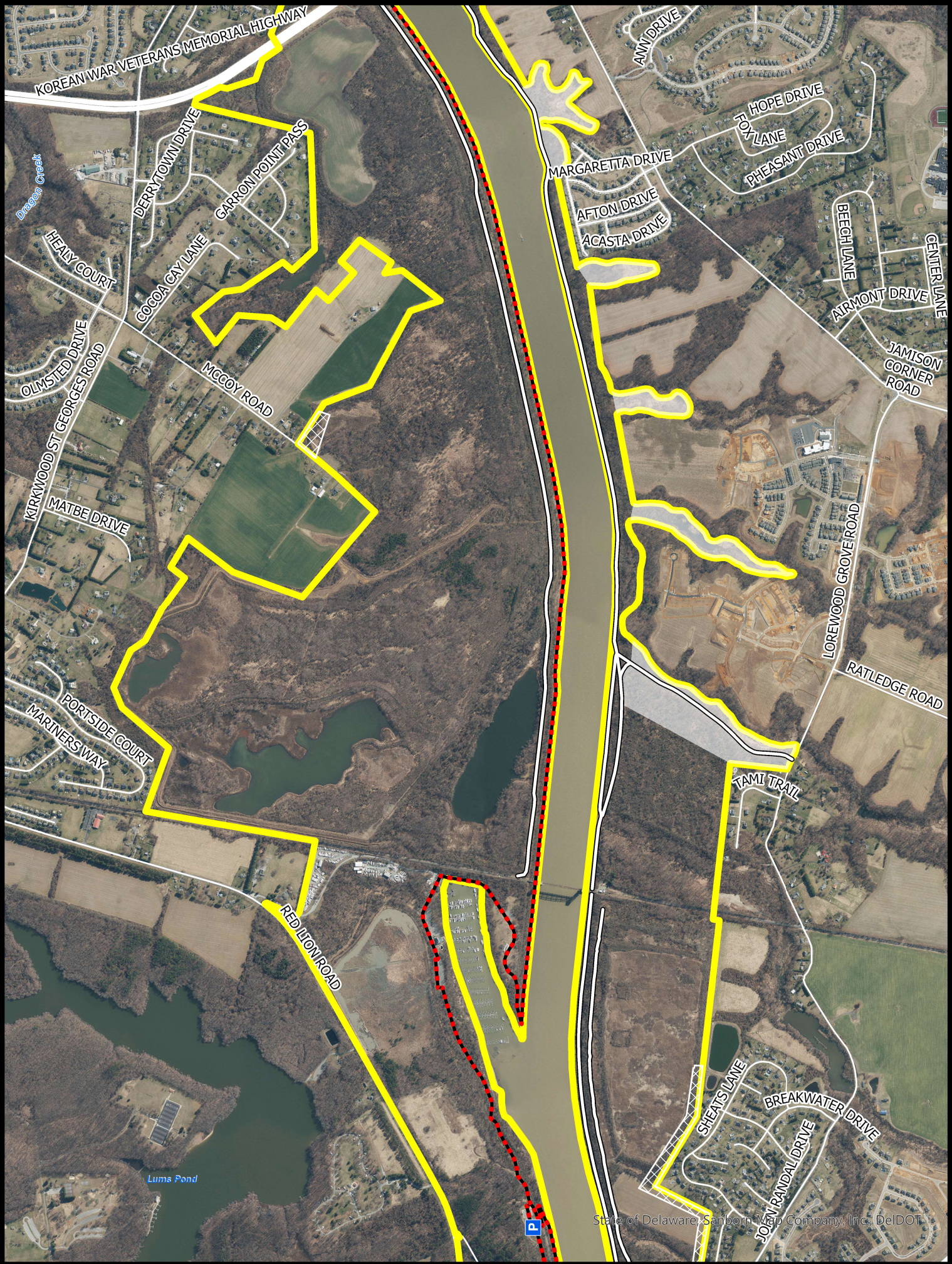




C&D CANAL CONSERVATION AREA


Mid Section
Waterfowl & Gamebird Hunting



State of Delaware, Sanborn Map Company, Inc., DelDOT

 Wildlife Area
 Refuge

 Safety Zone
 CAP Exempt

 Maintained Roadway
 Michael Castle Trail



BOUNDARIES SHOWN ARE
APPROXIMATE AND SHOULD
ONLY BE USED AS A GUIDE

WATERFOWL & GAMEBIRD HUNTING
C&D CANAL CONSERVATION AREA
Effective July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Persons may use state wildlife areas only as directed by the following rules, which have been established by Wildlife Regulations 3900 of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, pursuant to Section 103, 7 Delaware Code. A Conservation Access Pass (CAP) is required for any registered motor vehicle used to access designated public lands owned or managed by the Division of Fish & Wildlife. For more information go to <https://de.gov/fw> or call (302) 739-9912. Please refer to the **General Overview** map for additional access and allowable use information.

GENERAL

- 1. Violators of wildlife area regulations may be subject to fines and/or revocation of hunting privileges on state wildlife areas for up to one year.
- 2. Persons who possess, consume, or are under the influence of drugs or alcoholic beverages are prohibited from hunting or possessing firearms on Division Lands.
- 3. Failure to accurately complete and return harvest data cards may result in loss of hunting privileges.
- 4. Firearms may not be discharged outside of established hunting seasons. Target shooting is prohibited at any time.

WATERFOWL HUNTING

- 1. Waterfowl hunting permitted anywhere except within refuges, safety zones, Scotts Run and the Summit Retriever Training Area.
- 2. Layout blinds are permitted to be used in upland fields provided no excavation of ground occurs.
- 3. Vehicles prohibited in upland fields or anywhere off established roadways.
- 4. This area will be open during the Snow Goose Conservation Order. See official seasons and regulations. No permit or sign-in required during the conservation order.

DOVE HUNTING

- 1. Only nontoxic shot may be possessed while hunting doves during the early season.
- 2. Dove hunting permitted anywhere except within refuges, safety zones, Scotts Run and the Summit Retriever Training Area.
- 3. No permit is required.

TURKEY HUNTING

- 1. Turkey hunting by permit only. Permits awarded through preseason lottery. See Delaware Hunting and Trapping Guide for application.
- 2. Turkey hunting prohibited within the Summit Retriever Training Area.

DOG TRAINING

SUMMIT RETRIEVER TRAINING AREA

- 1. This is a dedicated retriever training area between Route 896 and Guthrie Run restricted to the training of sporting dogs in the act of retrieving.
- 2. In a cooperative stewardship agreement, the Delaware Bay Retriever Club assists in the management of this area. Except during permitted field trial and organized training events, the club does not maintain exclusive use of the area and the area is open to the public engaged in the act of retriever training.
- 3. **The Summit Retriever Training Area is closed to hunting except during archery and most firearm deer seasons. This area IS NOT open for the special October Antlerless firearm season. Waterfowl hunting is not permitted.**
- 4. No dog training permitted during any firearm deer seasons, except on Sundays.
- 5. It is unlawful to enter the Summit Retriever Training Area for any purpose other than to train dogs in the act of retrieving or to hunt deer during the firearm or archery deer seasons.

THE BOWL SPORTING DOG AREA

- 1. The Bowl Sporting Dog Area is located immediately west of the Summit Retriever Training Area, along the north side of the canal between Guthrie Run and the Maryland State Line. The training of all sporting dogs is permitted within this area.
- 2. Legal hunting and falconry are permitted within this area.

MIKE CASTLE RECREATION TRAIL

- 1. Hunters using the Mike Castle trail and parking areas to access the conservation area must have firearms unloaded (including bolt removed from crossbow and cap/primer removed from muzzleloader) while on the trail or within any of the trail parking areas.
- 2. No person shall hunt or discharge any firearm while on or within 100 yards of the recreation trail or within any posted safety zone.
- 3. All dogs must be leashed, and owners shall be responsible for cleanup of all dog feces while on the recreation trail or within any of the trail parking areas.
- 4. For more information, please consult the **Mike Castle Trail** map.

Patrick J. Emory, Director

For further information contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (302) 739-9912 or the New Castle County HQ at (302) 834-8433.

Harvesting or attempting to harvest Northern Bobwhite Quail is prohibited.

For emergencies or to report violations please call the Enforcement Section at 1-800-523-3336.