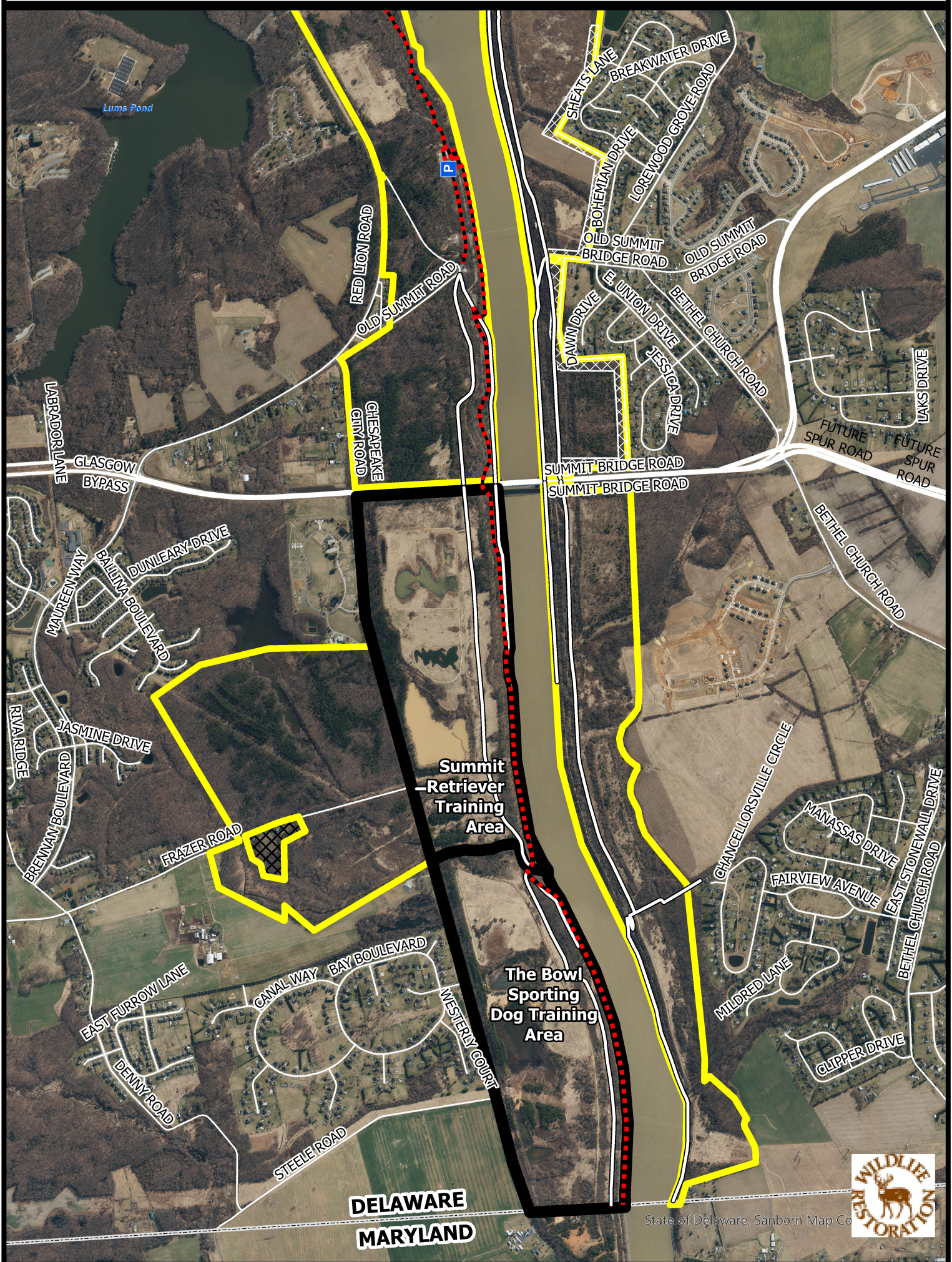




C&D CANAL CONSERVATION AREA

Dog Training Areas & West Section Hunting



Wildlife Area



Dog Training Area



Safety Zone



Private Property



CAP Exempt



Maintained Roadway



Michael Castle Trail



State/County Boundaries



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

HUNTING

C&D CANAL CONSERVATION AREA

Effective July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

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. Please refer to the [General Overview](#) map for additional access and allowable use information.

A Conservation Access Pass (CAP) is not required for the C&D Canal Conservation Area.

GENERAL RULES

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. Firearms may not be discharged outside of established hunting seasons. Target shooting is prohibited at any time.
4. The placement or use of trail cameras is prohibited on all state wildlife and fishing access areas.

DEER HUNTING

Sunday deer hunting permitted. See Sunday Deer Hunting maps for open areas and hunting implement restrictions.

See Overview Map for rules pertaining to registration of temporary deer stands and blinds.

1. Deer hunting permitted anywhere except within refuges, safety zones, and Scotts Run. See Dog Training section for special rules for these areas.
2. This area **IS OPEN** for the special October antlerless firearms season except within the Summit Retriever Training Area.
3. Deer hunters may use temporary portable stands. No permanent deer stands, platforms, ladders, or blinds may be constructed. No screw-in steps, tree spikes, screws, or nails are allowed. Temporary stands may be placed from August 1 - February 15. Any stands found outside of these dates will be removed by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.
4. The Division is not responsible for theft or damage to any temporary stand and placement of a temporary stand does not give the stand owner any exclusive hunting rights to that area.
5. Deer drives are permitted between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. No more than 6 resident hunters may participate in deer drives. Non-resident hunters are prohibited from participating in deer drives.
6. Handguns/pistol caliber rifles are not permitted to be used during any season and this area is NOT open during the January handgun season. Only shotguns and muzzleloaders with rifled barrels may be used for deer hunting.

UPLAND HUNTING

A. Small Game

1. Small game hunters must display at least 400 square inches of blaze orange while hunting on State Wildlife Areas.
2. Small game hunting permitted anywhere except within refuges, safety zones, Scotts Run and the Summit Retriever Training Areas.
3. Rabbit hunting closed the week before and the week of December antlerless deer season and during the January shotgun deer season.
4. Rabbit dogs may be trained only on the following Sundays: September 3, 10, 17, 24.

B. Dove

1. Only nontoxic shot may be possessed while hunting doves during the early season.
2. Dove hunting permitted anywhere except within refuges and safety zones, Scotts Run and the Summit Retriever Training Area.

C. Turkey

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.

D. Furbearers

1. No trapping except by valid contract holders. Trapping rights awarded through competitive bids. Call (302) 739-9912 for bidding information.
2. Raccoon hunting permitted from Sept 1 – March 31 during legal raccoon hunting seasons.
3. Red fox and coyote may be harvested in season while hunting other game species per these map regulations and may be hunted during the month of February according to applicable state laws. No fox chasing permitted during any deer firearm season or prior to 1:00 PM during turkey season.

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. Vehicles prohibited in upland fields or anywhere off established roadways.
3. 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.

DOG TRAINING

SUMMIT RETRIEVER TRAINING AREA

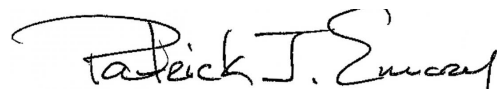
1. The area located between Route 896 and Guthrie Run is restricted to **the training of sporting dogs in the act of retrieving**. Entry for any other purpose, except legal deer hunting as defined below, is prohibited.
2. In a cooperative stewardship agreement, the Delaware Bay Retriever Club assists 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 the archery and firearm deer seasons, however this area **IS NOT** open for the special October Antlerless firearm season.**
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 Guthries 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 may use the Mike Castle trail and parking areas to access the conservation area, however all firearms must be 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 associated with the trail.
3. All dogs must be leashed while on the recreation trail or within any of the trail parking areas. Dog owners shall be responsible for cleanup of all feces deposited by the animal.
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.

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