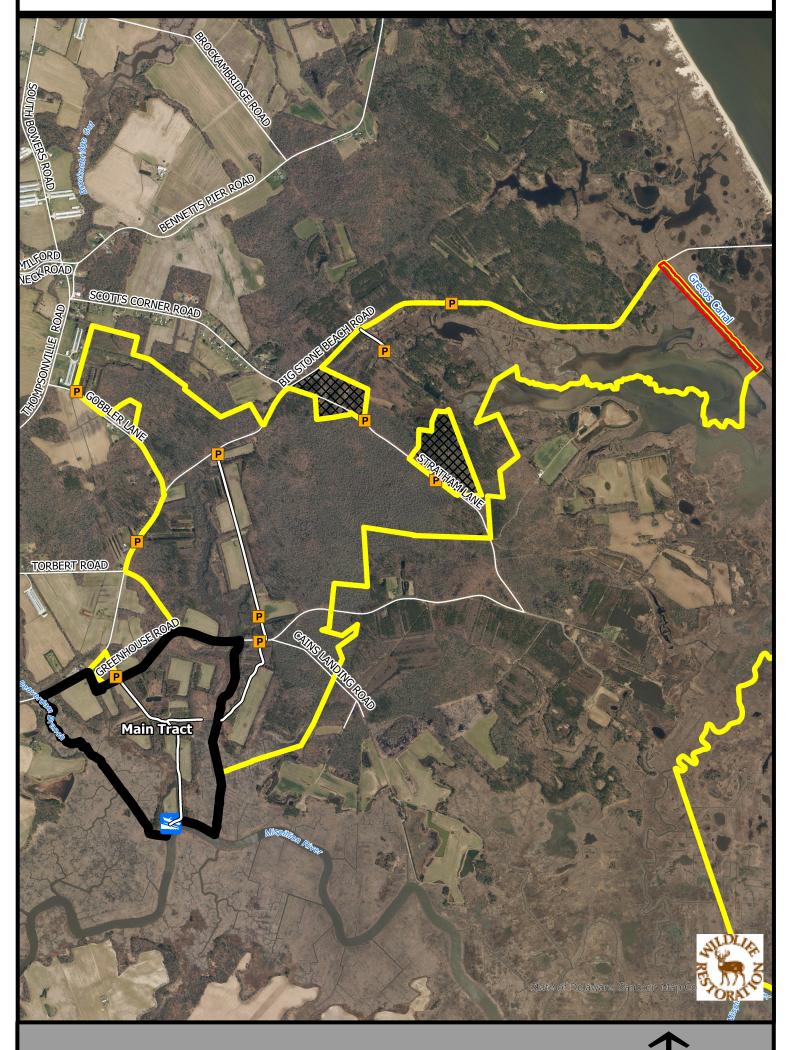
# **MILFORD NECK WILDLIFE AREA**

# **Main Tract Hunting**

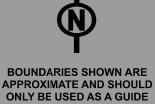












# HUNTING MILFORD NECK WILDLIFE AREA Effective July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

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. 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 www.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.
- **5.** 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.

# A. Archery

- **1.** Archery hunting permitted anywhere except within refuges and safety zones.
- 2. Archery hunters wishing to hunt the Gray Farm Tract must do so by boat, no access from Route 1 is permitted. Archery hunting on the Gray Farm Tract during November shotgun season only permitted through the Little Creek Check Station, see B.2 below.
- **4.** 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.
- **5.** 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.

# B. Firearm - Muzzleloader, Shotgun, Handgun

- **1.** Deer hunting permitted anywhere (excluding posted refuges and safety zones and under special regulations for the Gray Farm Tract, see below).
- 2. The Gray Farm Tract is only open for November shotgun deer season and stands are issued through a daily lottery held at the Little Creek Check Station. Drawings are held 2 hours before sunrise and at 12:00 PM. A Wildlife Area Deer Stand / Waterfowl Blind Lottery Permit is required to hunt the Gray Farm Tract. Hunters are permitted to use the private drive off Rt. 1 to access the Gray Farm Tract during November shotgun season only.
- **3.** All tracts are open for the special October antlerless firearms season except for the Gray Farm Tract and the Dog Training area, which are archery only during this season.
- **4.** On all areas other than the Gray Farm Tract 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.
- **5.** 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.
- **6.** 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.
- 7. Handguns are permitted during the November and January shotgun seasons and during the January handgun season.

## **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 the Gray Farm Tract and within the dog training area.
- **3.** Rabbit hunting closed the week before and the week of December antlerless deer season and during the January shotgun deer season.
- **4.** Hunting prohibited within posted refuges and safety zones and dogs are not permitted to enter refuges for any reason.
- **5.** Rabbit dogs may be trained only on the following Sundays: September 3, 10, 17, 24.
- 6. Dog training permitted within the designated training area all year, except closed during November shotgun season and until after 1:00 PM during the spring turkey season. Firearms not permitted for training outside of official hunting seasons.

#### B. Dove

- **1.** Only nontoxic shot may be possessed while hunting doves during the early season.
- **2.** Regulated dove fields (**D**) available by lottery only on the Penuel Tract on Opening day, Labor Day, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday of the early season. Lotteries held at 12:00 p.m. at the **Little Creek Check Station**. Hunting hours are 1:00-5:00 PM. Dove hunting is prohibited on the Penuel Tract outside of the regulated dove fields during the early season.
- **3.** Dove hunting permitted on all other tracts (except the Gray Farm Tract where dove hunting is prohibited) without permit during all seasons.

# C. 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 without special permit except for the Coverdale tract where waterfowl hunting is prohibited.
- **2.** Waterfowl hunting on creeks and marshes on Hall, Gray Farm, Hollager and Penuel Tracts must occur within a 35-yard radius of designated blind sites on first come first serve basis.
- 3. Waterfowl hunting is prohibited on or within 50 yards of Grecos Canal on the Main Tract. Waterfowl hunting permitted anywhere else on the Main, Rawley's Island and Cedar Creek Tracts with no site restrictions.
- **4.** Layout blinds are permitted to be used in upland fields provided no excavation of ground occurs. Vehicles may not be driven into upland fields or anywhere off established roadways.
- **5.** No waterfowl hunting from the hedgerow which serves as the eastern boundary of the Penuel Tract.
- 6. Airboats are prohibited.
- **7.** Hunters must vacate all hunting areas by one hour after sunset.
- **8.** 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.

Patrick J. Emory, Director

For further information contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at (302) 739-9912 or the Kent County HQ at (302) 284-4795.

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