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**STATE PARKS ANNOUNCES HUNTING SCHEDULES FOR 2015/2016**

(Babylon, NY, October 20, 2015) Hunting will be permitted in specified areas in five Long Island State Parks for the upcoming hunting season, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation announced today.

Hunting regulations in state parks are developed in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), which establishes hunting seasons throughout the state. In addition to statewide hunting rules, special restrictions are in effect in state parks to protect visitors and to address wildlife management goals for each park. Hunters are advised to check with the state park regional office and with the local DEC wildlife management office for specific information. See the website at [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov).

All hunters must have a valid New York State hunting license and, to hunt waterfowl, must also be registered in the Harvest Information Program ([www.ny-hip.com](http://www.ny-hip.com)) and have a federal migratory bird hunting stamp (“duck stamp”).

Reports of rabies in deer have been rare, but hunters and other park users should be alert to the possibility of encountering a rabid raccoon, fox or skunk. To reduce the risk of exposure, follow these guidelines:

- Do not approach wildlife that acts abnormally.
- Do not touch any animal found dead for unknown reasons. Hunters are advised to wear gloves and eye protection to avoid coming in contact with tissues or bodily fluids that may carry infectious disease.

To obtain a copy of the rules and regulations for hunting big and small game, contact any DEC office, including the Regional Wildlife office at SUNY Stony Brook, 50 Circle Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409, (631) 444-0310. Hunting Guides are available at all license issuing agents, and can also be found on the DEC website at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/28182.html>

All DEC hunting regulations apply in state parks. In addition, all New York State Parks regulations apply, including restrictions and limitations on areas open for hunting.

The parks listed below permit hunting. In most cases, however, there are special restrictions. Please note these carefully and follow up by contacting the park manager at (631) 668-3781 for further details.

<b>2015-2016 OPEN DATES FOR HUNTING THE EAST HAMPTON COOPERATIVE AREAS</b>				
<b>East Hampton Cooperative Areas</b>	<b>Small Game Hunting &amp; Migratory Bird Hunting</b>	<b>Archery Deer Hunting</b>	<b>Firearms Deer Season</b>	<b>Trapping/Turkey Hunting</b>
<b>Montauk Point State Park</b>	Open for small game & waterfowl hunting from 12/1 - 2/29 No hunting on weekends or holidays No small game or waterfowl hunting during January Deer Season No small game hunting at spots 15 & 16	Open for archery deer hunting from 11/1 - 12/31 No weekend hunting, except at spots 15 & 16	January 4 - January 29, weekdays only (Closed 1/18)	Not permitted
<b>Hither Hills State Park</b>	Open for small game & waterfowl hunting from 12/1 - 2/29 No small game or waterfowl hunting during January Deer Season	Open for archery deer hunting from 11/1 - 12/31	January 4 - January 29, weekdays only	Not permitted
<b>Hither Woods</b>	Open for small game & waterfowl hunting from 12/1 - 2/28 No small game or waterfowl hunting during January Deer Season	Open for archery deer hunting from 11/1 - 12/31	January 4 - January 29, weekdays only	Not permitted
<b>Napeague State Park</b>	Open for small game & waterfowl hunting from 9/1 - 3/31	Open for archery deer hunting from 11/1 - 12/31	This area is not open to Firearm deer hunting	Not permitted
<b>Amsterdam Beach</b>	No small game or waterfowl hunting	Open for archery deer hunting from 11/1 - 12/31	This area is not open to Firearm deer hunting	Not permitted

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees 180 state parks and 35 historic sites, which are visited by 62 million people annually. A recent study found that New York State Parks generates \$1.9 billion in economic activity annually and supports 20,000 jobs. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518-474-0456 or visit [www.nysparks.com](http://www.nysparks.com), connect on [Facebook](#), or follow on [Twitter](#).

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