

Deauville Beach Transition FAQ's

1. Why is the state assuming management of Deauville Beach from the City of Rehoboth?

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control initially leased 21.56 acres known as Deauville Beach to the City of Rehoboth Beach in 1975. Deauville Beach includes approximately a 600-yard section of state-owned beach between the northern end of Rehoboth Beach and the Henlopen Acres. The original lease was extended multiple times, with the most recent 10-year lease including a one-time fee of \$2,500, which expired June 30, 2023.

The DNREC Division of Parks and Recreation (Division) had worked with the city on a new lease with a provision that included a percentage of gross revenues generated from daily entrance be returned to the state. An agreement was not reached, and DNREC and the City of Rehoboth Beach mutually agreed that the Division would assume management responsibility of the state-owned property in 2024 to include providing lifeguards, parking, beach concession, tennis courts, public restrooms and beach maintenance. Deauville Beach will become part of the Cape Henlopen State Park management unit.

2. What will be the cost to park at the Deauville Beach parking lot?

Daily and weekend entrance fees remain unchanged from what the City of Rehoboth charged in 2023 at \$15 for weekdays and \$20 for weekends.

DNREC will also have a Deauville Beach annual pass for \$115; those who have a Delaware State Parks annual pass, lifetime pass or surf fishing permit will receive a \$25 discount making it \$90 for the entire fee season.

Walk-ons and bicyclists will continue to use the beach without paying a daily entrance fee.

3. Where can I purchase the Deauville Beach annual pass?

Annual passes will be sold in person at Deauville Beach on the weekends of May 25, June 1 and June 8. In addition, they will be available at the Cape Henlopen State Park and Indian River Lifesaving Station offices as well as online at <https://destateparks.com/PassesTagsFees> throughout the entire fee season.

If a Deauville annual pass is purchased online a digital permit will be sent to your email that can be printed and displayed on your vehicle's dash for up to 30 days from order date until the pass is delivered via the United States Postal Service.

4. Will the City of Rehoboth parking permits be honored at Deauville Beach?

No, City of Rehoboth parking permits will no longer be honored at Deauville Beach as Delaware State Parks does not accept municipal passes or permits at any state park locations.

5. Will the Deauville Beach annual pass be honored at other state park locations?

The Deauville Beach annual pass will only be honored at Deauville Beach parking lot.

6. What will be the hours for the parking lot?

The lot will be accessible from 8 a.m. to sunset daily. A daily entrance fee is charged in all Delaware State Parks from March 1 to Nov. 30, from 8 a.m. to sunset.

7. Will visitors using the tennis courts be required to pay a daily entrance fee?

Yes, all visitors including tennis and pickleball players will be expected to pay the daily entrance fee or purchase an annual permit.

8. Will lifeguard service be provided at Deauville Beach?

The award-winning Delaware State Beach Patrol will provide lifeguard service in 2024 from Saturday, May 25 through Monday, Sept. 2. Anyone interested in becoming part of the Delaware State Parks Beach Patrol can find details at www.destateparks.com/beachpatrol

The Delaware State Beach Patrol will work in collaboration with the Rehoboth Beach Patrol for emergency assistance and response as requested by either patrol. This is routinely done with other ocean-guarded locations and their beach patrols.

9. Who will be responsible for enforcement issues on Deauville Beach?

DNREC Natural Resource Police will be responsible for the enforcement of state park rules and regulations and all state laws and jurisdictions. DNREC Enforcement is coordinating closely with Rehoboth Police. For any questions regarding the regulations, please visit [9201 Regulations Governing State Parks \(delaware.gov\)](#).

10. What concession services will be available?

The Division will continue to provide beach concession operations and food service, tennis operations, etc.

11. Operation of tennis courts, who will operate?

The Division is operating the tennis courts by a concessionaire as was previously done by the city. Contact information to schedule reservations will be available and updated soon.

12. What will be the hours for the tennis concession?

Daily operation hours shall be seven (7) days per week as follows:

- 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Concession scheduled activities)
- 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Open public play)
- 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Concession scheduled activities and/or monitored play when needed for reserved play)
- Other hours may apply for camps and events.

13. How will trash and beach cleaning be handled?

The Division will implement the Delaware State Parks carry-in, carry-out program that has been in place statewide at all 17 Delaware State Parks since 1994. This program has proven to keep ocean beaches cleaner and safer by reducing the number of bees, wasps and other pests.

14. Will Deauville Beach sweeping/cleaning continue?

The Division will sweep the beach just as it does at all other Delaware State Parks Ocean beach locations.

15. Will the state be providing beach access mats?

The Division will be providing beach access mats at select crossings.

16. Will dogs be permitted on the beach?

Under Delaware 9201 Regulations Governing State Parks, regulation 14.4.1, states “Except service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, dogs and other domesticated animals shall not be permitted upon or within any Division-administered swimming area, or swimming area beach or surfboard/sailboard areas at anytime, day or night, from May 1 through September 30 each year.”

17. Will all existing walkways from Surf Avenue over the dunes remain?

There are no plans to change any of the existing walkways.

18. Will access to Deauville Beach be limited to the parking lot entrance, now or in the future?

There are no changes to accessing Deauville Beach from the existing communities and streets including but not limited to Pennsylvania, Oak, Park, Columbia and Henlopen avenues near Deauville Beach. Walk-in and bicycle visitors will not be charged.

19. Will the existing bike racks remain?

Bike racks will be provided.

20. Will fishing be allowed as it is in state parks?

Under Delaware 9201 Regulations Governing State Parks, regulation 21.6.1 states that “Fishing is not permitted in designated swimming areas.”

21. Will large tents and canopies be allowed on the beach?

Sun canopies will be permitted on the beach.

22. Will bonfires be permitted?

Bonfires will not be permitted on the swimming beach.

23. Will umbrellas and chairs be available on the beach?

Yes, the Division will provide beach concession services.

24. What is the plan for restroom facilities at Deauville Beach?

No changes are anticipated. The Division will continue to provide portable toilets including ADA-accessible units.

25. Will surfboards and skimboards be permitted at Deauville Beach?

9201 Regulations Governing State Parks state “No surfboards, sailboards, kayaks or similar watercraft shall be allowed in designated guarded swimming area unless approved by the Director or their designee.” Skimboards, rafts and boogie boards are permitted in designated guarded swimming beaches including Deauville Beach.

26. Will motorized scooters need a pass to park at Deauville Beach? If so, will the pass for scooters be somewhat less than for cars/trucks?

Mopeds are classified as motorized vehicles in Delaware State Parks regulations and are treated the same as motorcycles and vehicles with four wheels which require a daily entrance payment or annual permit for entrance into the Deauville Beach parking lot.

27. Will the Division honor a Delaware Firefighter/EMT annual pass or surf fishing permit issued by the president of the local fire company or the Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Association for the \$25.00 discount on the Deauville annual pass?

Yes, the Division will honor the Delaware Firefighter/EMT annual pass or surf fishing permit toward the \$25.00 discount for the Deauville Beach annual pass.

28. Will the Division allow surfing in the designated surfing area at Deauville Beach?

The current designated surfing beach is at the North end of Rehoboth Beach and would be outside of the existing Deauville Beach management area for the Division. This area would be managed by the City of Rehoboth.

29. Who will monitor and enforce parking issues on the city streets adjacent to Deauville Beach?

Delaware Natural Resource Police will manage parking and enforcement of all state park rules and regulations within the boundaries of Deauville Beach and the designated parking lot. Parking enforcement on city streets will continue to be managed by the City of Rehoboth Beach.