

Restricted Area
Extends
500' from
Housing

Seneca Lake

BOW ONLY
ZONE
Not open until
November 1st

Key

— Ravines

.... 96A

Restricted areas

Gun zones

Bow only

**Bow ONLY
Opens Nov. 1**

Restricted Area Extends 500'
from Housing

Restricted Area
25 yards beyond
fenced area

Restricted Area
Extends to the
tree line on
either side of
road

Restricted
During Gun
Deer Season

Sampson Veterans
Memorial Cemetery
No Trespassing or Hunting
Allowed

Seneca Lake

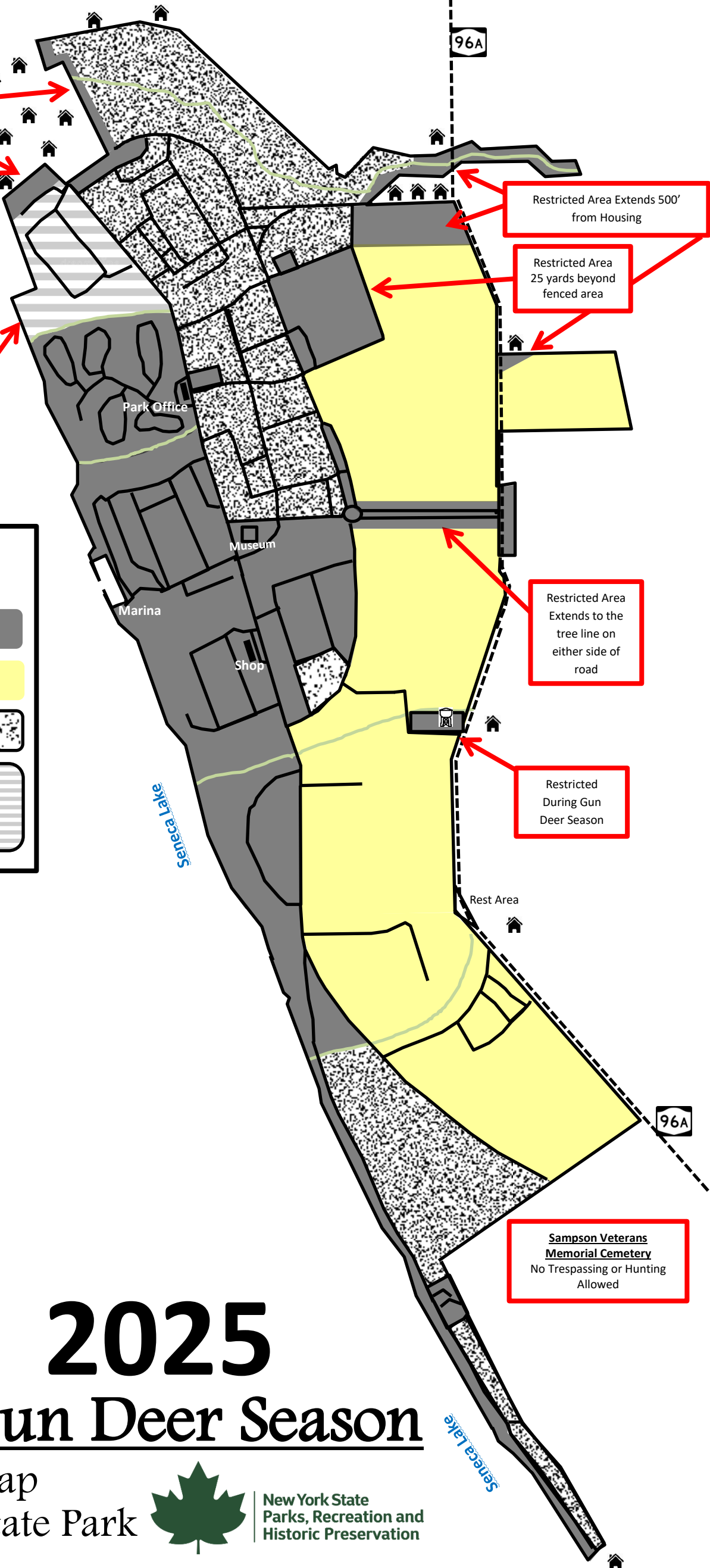
2025

Bow/Gun Deer Season

Hunting Map
Sampson State Park



New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation



White-tailed Deer

Hunting Rules and Regulations Sampson State Park



Registration

See Office for Details Concerning

- Seasonal hunting pass
- Tree Stands
- Shotgun Lottery
- Waterfowl Hunting
- Small Game Hunting

- All hunters **MUST** register at the Park Office and obtain a seasonal hunting permit to include an **accurate phone** number that you can be reached at while hunting.
 - You are to have your hunting permit and valid New York State Hunting License in your possession at all times.
 - You are required to accurately record all game taken on the hunting permit and to office personnel

Hunting Boundaries

- Hunting is permitted in designated areas **ONLY** (see hunting map)
- Park Boundaries, Restricted Areas, Bow Only, and adjoining lands are posted to insure the safety of other park patrons, park personnel, and our neighbors
 - Entering into restricted areas with a hunting permit or a weapon is strictly prohibited and is a park violation.
 - DO NOT shoot in the direction of these areas, as they may be occupied by patrons or park staff
 - Violators will be prosecuted and their hunting privileges will be subject to revocation
- If a wounded animal enters a restricted area the hunter must report it to the
 - Park Office 315-585-6392 OR
 - Park Police Non-Emergency 1-607-387-7081
 - Once reported you may be escorted into or allowed to enter the restricted area **WITHOUT** a weapon to track and retrieve the wounded animal
 - You must then immediately report out with your end results to the Park Office or Park Police (IF OFFICE IS CLOSED)

General Hunting Rules

- Driving/pushing deer is prohibited everywhere in the park, with or without a weapon.
- Moving, harassing, pushing deer from one zone/area to another is strictly prohibited and is a major park violation.
- Access to gun hunting areas through "Bow Only" areas is strictly prohibited.
- Handguns, rifles and crossbows are prohibited, and are not permitted on park property.
- All shotguns equipped with a magazine must have the waterfowl plug inserted. Limiting the weapon to a maximum of 3 rounds
- When parking your vehicle, DO NOT block any of the roads or gates
- Check the posted Sampson Hunting Calendar for opening and closing dates of the game you wish to hunt (this may vary from NYSDEC seasons)
- Hunting is permitted from sunrise to sunset **ONLY**
- The wearing of blaze orange is required for all gun hunters. Bow hunters are required to wear orange when moving during late archery/muzzleloading season in gun areas.
- Abide by ALL sections of the New York State Environmental Conservation Laws and New York State Rules and Regulations
- In case of an emergency or to report any incident of suspicious activities, contact the
 - Park Office 315-585-6392
 - Park Police Non-Emergency 1-607-387-7081
 - Park Police Emergency 1-800-255-3577

ASK ANY AND ALL QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU HUNT!

Protect your privilege to hunt at Sampson State Park. Observe the law and these rules. Be respectful to the park, its neighbors, and park patrons. Practice good hunting ethics and be safety conscious at all times



New York State
Parks, Recreation and
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SEASONAL HUNTING PERMIT

ALL HUNTERS ARE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A SEASONAL HUNTING PERMIT, DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, IN ORDER TO HUNT AT SAMPSON STATE PARK. Permits can only be applied for in person, **NO** permits will be issued over the phone or online. You must have all your information including a valid phone number on which you can be reached at while hunting, your vehicle information, an accurate address, and emergency contact **BEFORE** you will be issued a permit. This permit is valid for big game, fall turkey, and small game. (Waterfowlers are still required to obtain a daily permit) With this permit all rules, regulations, hunting boundaries, and tree stand requirements, apply.

Seasonal Hunters will be required to use sign in and out sheet at the Park Office by listing their Seasonal Hunting Permit Number and Time in/out. **ALL HUNTERS MUST CHECK OUT NO LATER THAN 30 MINS AFTER SUNSET. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE CHECK IN/OUT POLICY MAY RESULT IN REVOCATION OF YOUR HUNTING PERMIT.** Failure to comply with check in/out procedures or violation of any hunting regulation will result in termination of this permit and will affect your hunting privileges at Sampson.

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New 2025 Season

- We have discontinued the reserved special archery zones 1-4.
- These zones have now become bow only areas.
- The bow only area North of the camping loops (former zone 3) will not open until Nov. 1st. Stands may be placed in all bow only areas starting the first day of seasonal hunting sign ups.

TREE STAND AGREEMENT

No stands may be placed in the park before September 3rd. **No stands may be placed prior to obtaining a Seasonal Hunting Permit.**

- **All stands must be removed from the park no later than Feb 1st following the termination of the hunting season**
- All placed tree stands must be recorded at the park office with a mark on the park map and a valid tree stand tag attached
- **Hunters will be limited to 2 stands**
- Initial registration must be submitted in person during office hours.
 - Each stand will be issued a laminated permit with a designated stand number.
 - This permit must be affixed to the tree stand for the remainder of the season.
 - Any change in stand location must also be reported to the office and your map updated with its designated permit number on your map.
- The same day a stand is removed, the laminated permit must be returned to the park office to verify removal. All stands must be removed no later than Feb. 1st.
- Hunters not returning tree stand tags and/or verifying removal to park office, may lose or limit their privilege to maintain a legal stand at Sampson
- Stands not registered, stands not compliant with this agreement, and stands left from the previous season will be immediately confiscated, and disposed of at the park's discretion. Parks are not responsible for any equipment left during or after hunting season.
- No permanent built tree stands or permanent blinds are permitted.
 - Temporary ground blinds will be allowed during **archery season ONLY** and must be removed during the gun season. Temporary ground blinds must be registered just like tree stands but noted as blinds.
 - The use of screw in foot pegs is prohibited. Stands with screw in pegs will be immediately confiscated and possession transferred to park police.
 - No person shall injure or destroy any trees or tamper with any park or personal property in any way.
- Practice good hunting etiquette when placing stands not to encroach on others.
 - Placement of tree stands does not entitle any hunter exclusive use of this area.
 - A minimum 80-yard rule between stands will be enforced. During gun season, please insure greater distances between stands.
 - DO NOT use other hunter's tree stands without specific permission to do so.
 - Be respectful of hunters and non-hunters alike.

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2025 Shotgun Lottery Hunting Rules

Sampson's Lottery Shotgun Season is 5 days long, starting on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Open lottery application dates are Sept 3 – Oct. 16. You must be at least 18 years of age to apply. Drawing will be conducted publicly at the park office on Oct. 17. Hunters may apply ONCE for each day of anticipated hunting. There will be a total of **20 hunters** drawn for each hunt day. Successful applicants will be informed the day of drawing. An acceptance confirmation must be received by phone or in person within 7 days of notification. If you are unable to be contacted or do not respond within seven days, your days will be forfeited. If you cannot hunt on a particular day please make sure not to apply for that day!

- Any hunter found abusing the lottery in any way will not be eligible for future draws.
- Only successful lottery drawn participants will be allowed into the gun hunting areas. You cannot, under any circumstance, bring anyone else with you. Those found in violation, and all those associated will be eliminated from future lottery draw considerations.
- Gun hunting is permitted in designated areas only. No hunting in "Restricted" or "Bow Only", areas. Access to gun hunting areas through "Bow Only" areas is strictly prohibited.
- "Bow Only Areas" will be entirely closed during the 5-day lottery Gun Hunt.
- Moving, harassing, pushing deer from one area to another is strictly prohibited and is a major park violation.
- If a wounded deer enters either a "Restricted" or "Bow Only" area you must first notify park staff or Park Police for confirmation then, and only then, can you enter the area without a weapon to retrieve the animal.
- Shotguns equipped with a magazine must be plugged and limited to a maximum of 3 rounds.
- **All hunters are required to wear blaze orange while hunting.**
- Ground blinds are not permitted during the shotgun portion of our deer season.
- Rifles, Handguns, and Crossbows are prohibited from all park property.
- Abide by ALL sections of NYS Environmental Conservation Law and NYS Parks special Rules and Regulations.
- Please practice good hunting etiquette. Be respectful of your fellow hunter, and practice gun safety at ALL times

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Sampson State Park

2025 Big Game Season Schedule

September 2nd, 2025 (Tuesday)

- Permitted Tree Stands allowed to go in-- (mandatory registration)->(removal by 2/1/26)
- Lottery Registration for Firearm Season Begins - (09/03 until 5 p.m. through 10/15)
- All information must be complete to receive a permit (Phone number you can be reached at WHILE hunting, Vehicle information, Address, and Emergency contact)

October 1st, 2025 (Wednesday)

- Opening Day of Big Game Bow Season

October 15th, 2025 (Wednesday)

- End of Lottery Registration for 5 day Shotgun Season - (5 pm deadline.)

October 16th, 2025 (Thursday)

- Lottery drawing for 5 day Shotgun Season - (Limited to 20 hunters per day)
- 10am Lottery Draw open to the public

November 28th, 2025 (Friday)

- Sampson 5 day Shotgun Season Open - (11/28 to 12/2)

December 2nd, 2025 (Tuesday)

- Sampson 5 day Shotgun Season Closes

December 8th, 2025 (Monday)

- Late Bow & Muzzleloader Season Open (9 days only)

December 16th, 2025 (Tuesday)

- All Big Game Seasons Close - No Holiday Hunt Dates

December 17th, 2025 - February 28th, 2026

- Small Game (only after Big Game season has ended in the Park)

February 1st, 2026 (Sunday)

- All tree stands must be removed from the park and permits returned to the office upon removal.

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