



**PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK
WATERFOWL BLIND REGULATIONS
ADDENDUM 2023**

Every individual license holder must complete an application for the blind drawing in person. Hunters are not permitted to complete applications for others. Signups will be taken seven days a week at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC) from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM beginning on Friday, September 1 through Saturday, September 16. Also, you may sign up on Sunday, September 17, outside of the TREC 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM before the drawing. Signup locations, days and times are listed below:

IMPORTANT DATES

Registration Period	Opening: Friday, September 1, 2023 at 8:00 AM Closing: Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 4:00 PM
Drawing*	Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 10:00 AM -- TREC, Room 112
Issuance of Permits**	Sunday, September 24, 2023 at 10:00 AM -- Picnic Shelter 2 by the western square pond, on Presque Isle State Park
Deadline for Removal of Blinds	All blinds and blind materials must be removed from the park by sunset, the third Sunday after the close of Lake Erie Zone Duck Season. For the 2023/2024 season, the deadline for blind removal is Sunday, January 21, 2024 by sunset. It is recommended that blinds be removed as soon as possible after the season, or when blind holders have finished hunting for the season, rather than waiting for the deadline date. If removing a blind early, notify the park office so the blind location can be allocated to other hunters.

* A drawing will be held at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. Signups will be accepted from 8:00am to 10:00am the morning of the drawing at the AAUW Pavilion outside of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. At 10:00am, several Club representatives will enter the Center and set up a FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM with the supervision of park administrators to officiate. The drawing will be done live online and the names of those drawn will be read in order. The listing will then be published immediately afterwards on www.paduck.com

** **Issuance of Waterfowl Blinds:** Several changes have been made to the blind pick procedures. The pick will take place starting at 10:00am on Sunday, September 24 at Picnic Shelter 2 on Presque Isle State Park. The shelter is located on the corner of the western square pond. To reach the shelter from the park gate, travel approximately 2.6 miles into the park and take the first left turn past the Niagara boat launch. You will be heading back towards the entrance. Then take the first right turn to reach the picnic shelter parking area (see the map below). Blind owners will receive a postcard with their drawing order number to pick their blind. Every 10 blind picks will have a different half hour time slot (see the table below). Failure to arrive before the corresponding time slot will result in blind forfeiture. Each drawing winner may only bring one guest to help with the selection. When one group of 10 finishes, the next group will be called up from the parking area to the selection table. These measures will help limit crowd size and promote social distancing. The Primary Owner or Co-owner must be in attendance to pick a blind and must have both person's sets of required documents: hunting license, PA migratory bird privileges, and federal duck stamp. No exceptions.

Blind Pick Time Slots	
10:00am-10:30am	Picks 1-10
10:30am-11:00am	Picks 11-20
11:00am-11:30am	Picks 21-30
11:30am-12:00pm	Picks 31-40
12:00pm-12:30pm	Picks 41-50
12:30pm-1:00pm	Picks 51-60
1:00pm-1:30pm	Remaining picks



Water Level May Impact Blind Locations at Beach 11 and elsewhere on Park

The Duck Club and park will monitor water levels and shoreline configurations prior to and during the waterfowl seasons and *may* have to relocate or temporarily escrow locations that are unsuitable for hunting due to conditions. **Due to high water levels, blind locations 1-10, 18, 62-68, 72, and 73 are boat access only. Blind locations 37-41 may require boat access. At locations 65, 72, and 73, blind construction is prohibited. Instead, buoys will be place at those locations that allow for the mooring of hunting boats. Blind locations 64 and 66 are temporarily suspended due to high water levels. Due to high water affecting blinds at locations 29, 31, and 32, duck club members will construct and maintain the blinds at those locations. These blinds will not be available to blind drawing winners. They will instead be open for first come first serve use throughout the season. This will add to the opportunities to hunt for those not selected in the drawing.**

Special Note on Littering

Littering at or in blinds is a punishable offense. When concluding your hunting session each day, remove all garbage, packaging, shot shells and food from the area. Do your part in protecting Presque Isle and the hunting opportunities that you enjoy. Contact the park office immediately if you observe violations. Blinds and blind materials left at blind locations after January 21, 2024 will also be considered litter.

Presque Isle State Park
301 Peninsula Dr, Suite 1
Erie, PA 16505
(814) 833-7424

ALL HUNTING DOCUMENTS AND A LIST OF BLIND OWNERS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT PADUCK.COM

For questions on blind rules and placements, please call Shawn Feiock, 814-882-3473.



Presque Isle State Park
2023 WATERFOWL BLIND POLICIES

Does not apply to Early or Late Goose Seasons

Waterfowl blind permits for Presque Isle State Park will be issued according to the following policies and procedures:

1. ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must sign up in person during the established registration period (see Addendum). Every applicant must present a valid PA Hunting License and PA Migratory Game Bird License along with a Federal Duck Stamp before completing an application for the blind drawing. The applicant's signature must be on the licenses and stamp. **Applications must be completed in person. Hunters are not permitted to complete applications for others.**

Note: Those persons who did not remove their blinds by the prescribed deadline for any one of the past five years are not eligible to participate in this year's drawing.

2. GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

The following restrictions govern all waterfowl hunting on parklands and waters:

- a. Waterfowl hunting is only permitted at approved blind locations. Hunting on inland waters, including Lagoons, or land areas is not permitted, including Gull Point.
- b. All shooting must be directed away from park shores.
- c. No layout or boat blinds are permitted to set up in Marina Lake or Misery Bay (Misery Bay includes all areas north of Perry Monument). All layout and boat blind hunting must be 500 ft. offshore of the special management area at Gull Point and all other areas surrounding Presque Isle State Park on Lake Erie and Presque Isle Bay. Layout box tending from waterfowl blinds is permitted. (Special Note: the end of the North Pier to the shore on Beach 11 is exactly 500 ft from shore.) Both blind hunters and layout box hunters should remember to always be courteous of each other.
- d. All blind locations are subject to approval of park officials.
- e. The possession of a loaded gun outside the blind is not permitted except in pursuit of a crippled waterfowl.

3. WATERFOWL BLIND PERMITS

Waterfowl blind permits are assigned by drawing 100 names of those registered. All times listed shall be in accordance with Eastern Standard Time or Daylight Saving Time, as in effect on the date listed. The procedures shall be as follows:

- a. **Registration:** Each eligible person may register only once. **Do not separate postcard from stub.** Any person registering more than once will be disqualified.
- b. **Drawing:** A drawing will be held at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. Signups will be accepted from 8:00am to 10:00am the morning of the drawing at the AAUW Pavilion outside of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. At 10:00am, several Club representatives will enter the Center and set up a FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM with the supervision of park administrators to officiate. The drawing will be done live online and the names of those drawn will be read in order. The listing will then be published immediately afterwards on www.paduck.com One hundred numbers corresponding with

the postcard numbers on the registration cards will be selected using a computerized random number generator. The random number generator found at <https://www.random.org/> will be used. The sequence drawn will determine the position the person drawn will have on the blind selection list. In the event that the random number generator is unavailable, the drawing will be conducted using numbered chips as in previous years.

- c. Issuance of Waterfowl Blinds: Several changes have been made to the blind pick procedures. The pick will take place starting at 10:00am on Sunday, September 24 at Picnic Shelter 2 on Presque Isle State Park. The shelter is located on the corner of the western square pond (see Addendum for directions and map). Blind owners will receive a postcard with their drawing order number to pick their blind. Every 10 blind picks will have a different half hour time slot (see the table below or www.paduck.com). Failure to arrive before the corresponding time slot will result in blind forfeiture. Each drawing winner may only bring one guest to help with the selection. When one group of 10 finishes, the next group will be called up from the parking area to the selection table. These measures will help limit crowd size and promote social distancing. **The Primary Owner or Co-owner must be in attendance to pick a blind and must have both person's sets of required documents: hunting license, PA migratory bird privileges, and federal duck stamp. No exceptions.**

Blind Pick Time Slots	
10:00am-10:30am	Picks 1-10
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1:00pm-1:30pm	Remaining picks

- d. Late Assignments: After all available blinds have been assigned, all remaining names on the selection list shall be discarded. Should there be any blind cancellations, forfeitures, etc., blinds will be reassigned by the duck club blind committee chairman. Such reassignments can only be made after verification of the blind's availability. If the chairman does not have a builder for the vacant blind spot, a hunter may request permission to build at that location. This request may be made by contacting Shawn Feiock at 814-882-3473. Upon approval they will have to make arrangements to pick up a new blind permit and show that they meet the eligibility requirements of the new owner and co-owner (Hunting license, Duck Stamp and PA Migratory Game License Required).
- e. Listing of Permit Holders: A list of permit holders and their telephone numbers is posted at the Ranger Station and the NW PA Duck Hunters website, paduck.com, during the open waterfowl hunting seasons.
- f. Notification by Postcard: A postcard will be sent to everyone whose name is drawn so that you may prepare for the blind selection process. Please do not call the Presque Isle State Park office to find out if your name has been drawn.

4. DEADLINES FOR WATERFOWL BLINDS

Blinds must be erected by the date and time established for opening of the Lake Erie Zone Duck Season. If a permit holder fails to erect a blind by this time, the permit will be forfeited. The blind may be reissued following the late assignment policy above.

All blinds, blind materials, posts, and litter must be removed by the time and date listed in the addendum for each year. Failure to do so will disqualify the permit holder from being eligible for a blind for a period of five successive yearly drawings. In addition, a \$100.00 penalty will be assessed by the Northwestern PA Duck Hunters' Association against those blind holders who fail to remove their blinds. Failure to pay the penalty will result in the five-year ineligibility being extended indefinitely until such time as payment is received. The permit holder may also face littering citations from the state for failure to remove materials from the blind site.

5. TRANSFER OF BLIND PERMIT

The transfer of blind permits is not permitted. If a person is not able to use the permit, the Ranger staff and the PADUCK Association representative, must be notified, so that the permit can be reassigned.

6. USE OF BLINDS

No more than five (5) persons may hunt together from a blind location at any one time. If the official permit holder is not occupying the assigned blind, other hunters may use the blind. If the official permit holder arrives later to use the blind other hunters must vacate the blind if requested to do so by the official permit holder. Hunters without an official permit must wait until 1 hour prior to shooting times daily to occupy blinds. All hunting, including regular season goose hunting, shall end on the last day of the established duck season for the Lake Erie Zone. This does not apply to any Late Goose Season approved for the park.

7. CONSTRUCTION OF BLINDS

Permanent blinds are to be constructed by the permit holder from materials suitable to withstand the weather conditions experienced throughout the waterfowl seasons. Permanent blinds must include walls and a roof. All blinds must have permanently installed seats. Permit holders may not use park materials in the construction of blinds. Drift materials found on shore may be used. It is unlawful to nail to trees, destroy vegetation, or build an open fire on the park. No vegetative matter is to be brought on the park.

Blinds must be constructed so that they do not exceed 6 ft by 12 ft in size. Only one blind may be placed at each blind marker stake. **Blinds must remain in an upright position and be usable by others when the blind holder is not present.**

Orange stakes and buoys mark the location of all blind locations. Blinds must be located within **10 feet of wooden stake.** Moving of blind stakes or buoys is expressly forbidden. Failure to obey these rules may result in the loss of your blind permit.

Permit holders must post the blind permit in the blind throughout the season. If the permit is lost or destroyed, a new permit must be obtained from the NW PA Duck Hunters Association prior to any future hunting.

8. GENERAL

The cooperation of all participants is important for the success of this program. The intent of this method of blind issuance is to give equal opportunity for the limited number of blinds available. Attempting to circumvent this process impacts all hunters and creates unfair situations.

Driving to remote blind locations to erect or remove a blind must be approved in advance by park officials. Failure to obtain the park's permission may result in the issuance of a citation to the offender and the forfeiture of the blind. **It is not permissible to drive or park on service roads to drop off decoys or hunt.** Never block gates since this may prevent access to emergency vehicles. If parking along side of the road, ensure all tires are completely off of the road and multiuse trail and that "no parking" signs are not present. Failure to do so will result in parking fines. The feather access road is closed to all vehicular traffic. No exceptions. Contact the park office with questions about access.

It is the hunter's responsibility to retrieve game. A boat or trained retriever is highly recommended due to deep water in front of many blinds.

The park office or ranger station staff must be notified if a blind is destroyed or removed for repairs by the owners. Absence of a blind for more than seven days may result in forfeiture of the blind permit. Park staff or NWPAC Duck Club staff will attempt to contact a blind holder to inquire about a missing blind. Blinds can be removed by the owner prior to the close of duck season, but please notify the park office or ranger station staff if doing so.

Individuals selecting Blind #18 on the east shore of Misery Bay in the vicinity of the Coast Guard Station must use a boat to access their blind. Do not trespass on United States Coast Guard property. Additionally, blinds 1-10, 62, 63, 65, 67, 68, 72, and 73 are boat access only due to high water. Blinds 37-41 may require a boat to access. At locations 65, 72, and 73, blind construction is prohibited. Instead, buoys will be placed at those locations that allow for the mooring of hunting boats. Blind locations 64 and 66 are temporarily suspended due to high water levels.

Due to high water affecting blinds at locations 29, 31, and 32, duck club members will construct and maintain the blinds at those locations. These blinds will not be available to blind drawing winners. They will instead be open for first come first serve use throughout the season. This will add to the opportunities to hunt for those not selected in the drawing.

- **During the remaining Goose hunting seasons, in the resident population zone, hunters are permitted to hunt from ALL approved blind locations. Temporary blinds may be used at these locations if permanent blinds are not present. Only one blind may be present at each location.**

9. BLIND FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

A specially designed accessible blind is located on East Fisher Drive at blind location 30 for hunters with disabilities. This blind is not issued to a permanent holder so it can be used on a daily basis during the season with preference given to individuals with a disability regardless of the time of day. Individuals without disabilities may not occupy this blind prior to 7:00 AM.

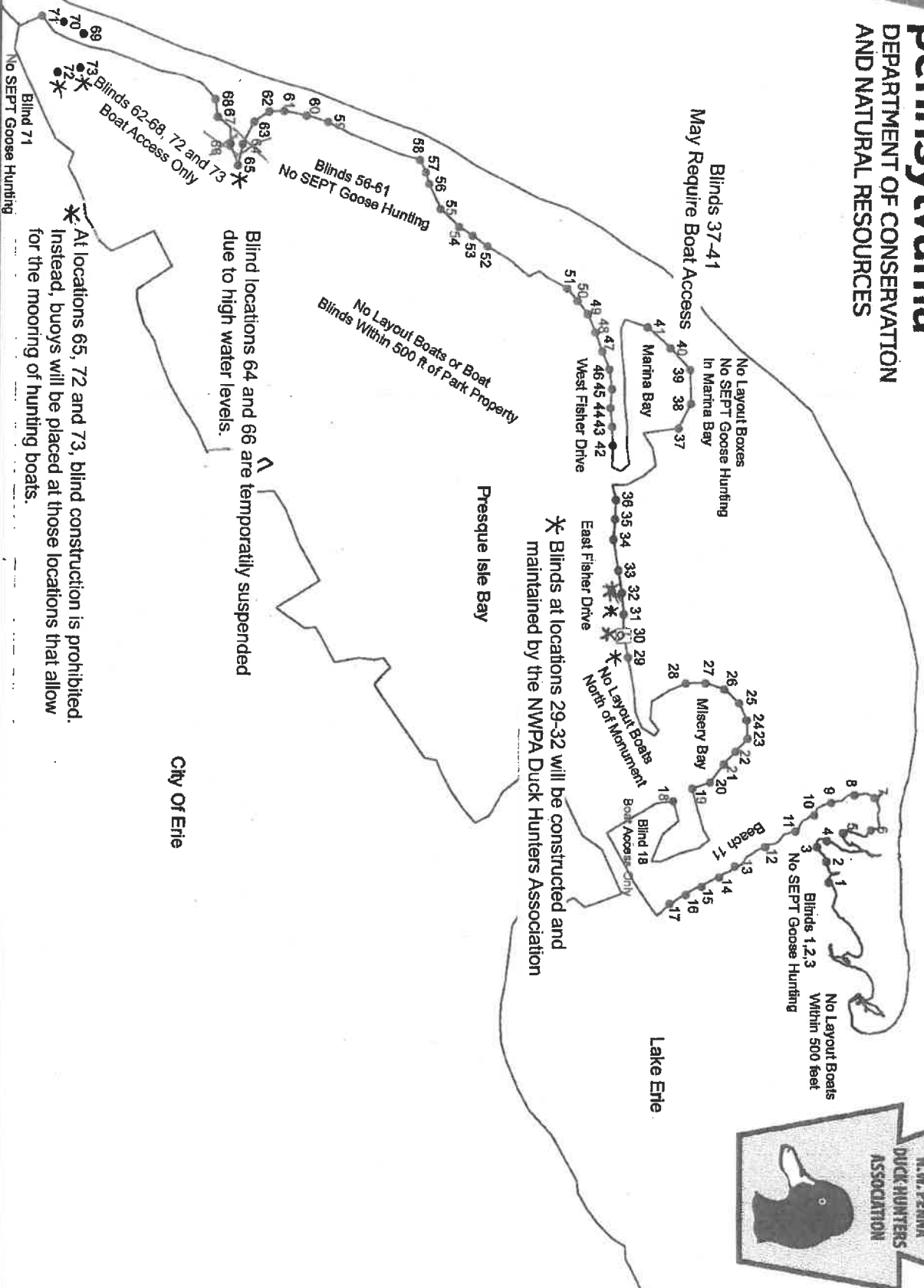
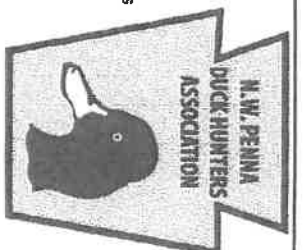
If you or a member of your group is a person with a disability and requires an accommodation to participate in the activities, please contact the park, or the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at 1-800-654-5984 (TDD) to discuss how the Bureau of State Parks can accommodate your needs.

SEE MAP ON NEXT PAGE



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Presque Isle Duck Blind Locations

New Rules for Ownership of Blind
Important, Read Carefully
Participation in this program is solely up to the person whose name is drawn.
This program is not mandatory.

Blind Owners and Co-Owner Definitions, Rights and Responsibilities:

1. The person, whose name is drawn, is the Primary Owner of the Blind.
2. Primary Owner may list one other person as the Co-Owner of the Blind.
3. These designations are permanent and cannot be changed throughout the season.
4. One of these two people **must be present** at the Blind Pick.
 - A. Co-owner must show proof of their hunting license, PA migratory bird privileges, and federal duck stamp and have the primary owner's blind application postcard, hunting license, PA migratory bird privileges and federal duck stamp.
 - B. Co-owner is established on day of pick. If co-owner is not present, owner must show proof of co-owner's eligibility (Hunting license, state migratory bird privileges and federal stamp).
5. Both Owner and Co-owner have equal rights to occupy their blind, at any time. **No other person**, other than the two specific names on the permit, has the right, at any time, to ask another party to vacate a blind.

* If you are using someone else's blind and someone shows up and claims to be the Owner or Co-owner and asks you to leave, that is their right to so, at any time, but identification must be shown to verify that they are in fact the Owner or Co-Owner. Park Rangers will not tolerate disputes and will ask all parties to leave the park.
6. When neither Primary Owner nor Co-owner are present, the blind may be used by the public. Non-owners should not take possession of a blind anytime earlier than one hour before shooting hours. **No exceptions.**
7. A person's name may only appear on **ONE** blind permit on the park. If you are **EITHER** the Owner or a Co-owner on one blind, you **MAY NOT** be the Owner or Co-owner on any other blind on the park that year.
8. With equal rights comes equal responsibility. **Both** Owner and Co-owner are responsible for maintaining their blind. Trash bags should be provided, regularly removed and the blind maintained for the public.
9. At the end of the season, both Owner and Co-owner are responsible for blind removal on or before the posted deadline.
10. Failure to remove your blind, by the deadline, will result in **BOTH the Owner and Co-owner being fined and BOTH being placed on the list of ineligibility for future blind drawings.**