



PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

WATERFOWL BLIND REGULATIONS

ADDENDUM 2024

Every individual license holder must complete an application for the blind drawing in person. **Hunters are not permitted to complete applications for others.** Sign-ups 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, August 30th through Saturday, September 14th. Also, hunters may sign up on Sunday, September 15th, outside of the TREC 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM before the drawing. Sign-up dates, times, and locations are listed below:

IMPORTANT DATES

Registration Period	Opening: Friday, August 30, 2024, at 8:00 AM Closing: Saturday, September 14, 2024, at 4:00 PM
*Drawing	Sunday, September 15, 2024, at 10:00 AM -- TREC, Room 112
**Issuance of Permits	Sunday, September 22, 2024, at 10:00 AM -- Picnic Shelter 2 on Presque Isle State Park (see map on next page)
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 2024/2025 season, the deadline for blind removal is Sunday, January 26, 2025, 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.

***Drawing:** The drawing will be held at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. Signups will be accepted from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM the morning of the drawing outside of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. At 10:00 AM, 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: All drawing winners must report by 9:45 AM. Failure to arrive before the required time will result in blind forfeiture.** The pick will take place starting at 10:00 AM on Sunday, September 22nd at Picnic Shelter 2 on Presque Isle State Park. Blind owners will receive a postcard with their drawing order number to pick their blind. Each drawing winner may bring only one guest to help with the selection. **The Primary Owner or Co-owner must be present to pick the blind and must have BOTH the Primary and Co-Owner’s sets of required signed documents: PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges and Federal Duck Stamp. Failure to have all required signed documents for both Owner and Co-Owner will result in blind forfeiture. No exceptions.**

Picnic Shelter 2 Directions: 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 map below).



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

The Duck Club and the 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/unsafe for hunting due to conditions. **Individuals selecting Blind #18 on the east shore of Misery Bay by the Coast Guard Station must use a boat to access their blind. Do not trespass on United States Coast Guard property.** Due to high water levels, blind locations 1-10, 37-41, 62, 63, 65, 68, 72, and 73 may require boat access. At locations 65, 72, and 73, blind construction is prohibited, instead, buoys will be placed at these 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 these 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 for those, not selected in the drawing, to hunt.

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 at 814-833-7424, immediately, if you observe violations. Blinds and blind materials left at blind locations after January 26, 2025, will also be considered litter.

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

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



PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK

2024 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:

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must sign up in person during the established registration period (see Addendum). Every applicant must present a valid PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges, and 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 deadline for any one of the past five years are not eligible to participate in this year's drawing. No exceptions.

GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

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

- 1) Waterfowl hunting is only permitted at approved blind locations. Hunting on inland waters, including Lagoons, or land areas is not permitted, including Gull Point.
- 2) All shooting must be directed away from park shores.
- 3) 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).
 - a) 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.
 - b) 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.
- 4) All blind locations are subject to approval of park officials.
- 5) The possession of a loaded gun outside the blind is not permitted except in pursuit of a crippled waterfowl.

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. Registration will be at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center from August 30, 2024, to September 14, 2024.

- b) Drawing: The drawing will be held at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center on Sunday, September 15, 2024. Signups will be taken from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM the morning of the drawing outside of the Tom Ridge Environmental Center. At 10:00 AM, 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. 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. The listing will then be published immediately afterwards on www.paduck.com.
- c) 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.
- d) Issuance of Waterfowl Blinds: **All drawing winners must report by 9:45 AM. Failure to arrive before the required time will result in blind forfeiture.** The pick will take place starting at 10:00 AM on Sunday, September 22nd at Picnic Shelter 2 on Presque Isle State Park (see addendum). Blind owners will receive a postcard with their drawing order number to pick their blind. Each drawing winner may bring only one guest to help with the selection. **The Primary Owner or Co-owner must be present to pick the blind and must have BOTH Primary and Co-Owner's sets of required signed documents: PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges and Federal Duck Stamp. Failure to have all required signed documents for BOTH Owner and Co-Owner will result in blind forfeiture. No exceptions.**
- e) 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 (PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges and Federal Duck Stamp).
- f) Listing of Permit Holders: A list of permit holders and their telephone numbers is posted at the Public Safety Building on Presque Isle State Park and the NWPA Duck Hunters website, paduck.com, during the open waterfowl hunting seasons.

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 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.

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/Public Safety Building, and the PA DUCK Association Representative, must be notified, so that the permit can be reassigned.

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.

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 or buoys mark the location of all blinds. Blinds must be located within 10 feet of the orange stake. Moving of blind stakes or buoys is expressly forbidden. Failure to obey these rules will result in the loss of your blind permit.

Permit holders must post the blind permit in the blind throughout the entire 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. No exceptions.

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 as this may prevent access to emergency vehicles. If parking along the side of the road; ensure all tires are completely off of the road and the multi-purpose recreation trail, that "no parking" signs are not posted and also do not block any park information signs. Failure to do so will result in parking fines. The feather access road is closed to all vehicle traffic. No exceptions. Contact the park office at 814-833-7424 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 Public Safety Building/Rangers 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 NWPA 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 Public Safety Building/Rangers staff if doing so.

- ❖ Individuals selecting Blind #18 on the east shore of Misery Bay by the Coast Guard Station must use a boat to access their blind. **Do not trespass on United States Coast Guard property.** Due to high water levels, blinds 1-10, 37-41, 62, 63, 65, 67, 68, 72, and 73 may require boat 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, NWPA Duck Club Members will construct and maintain the blinds at these 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 for those, not selected in the drawing, to hunt.
- ❖ **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.**

BLIND FOR HUNTERS WITH DISABILITIES

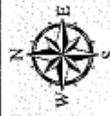
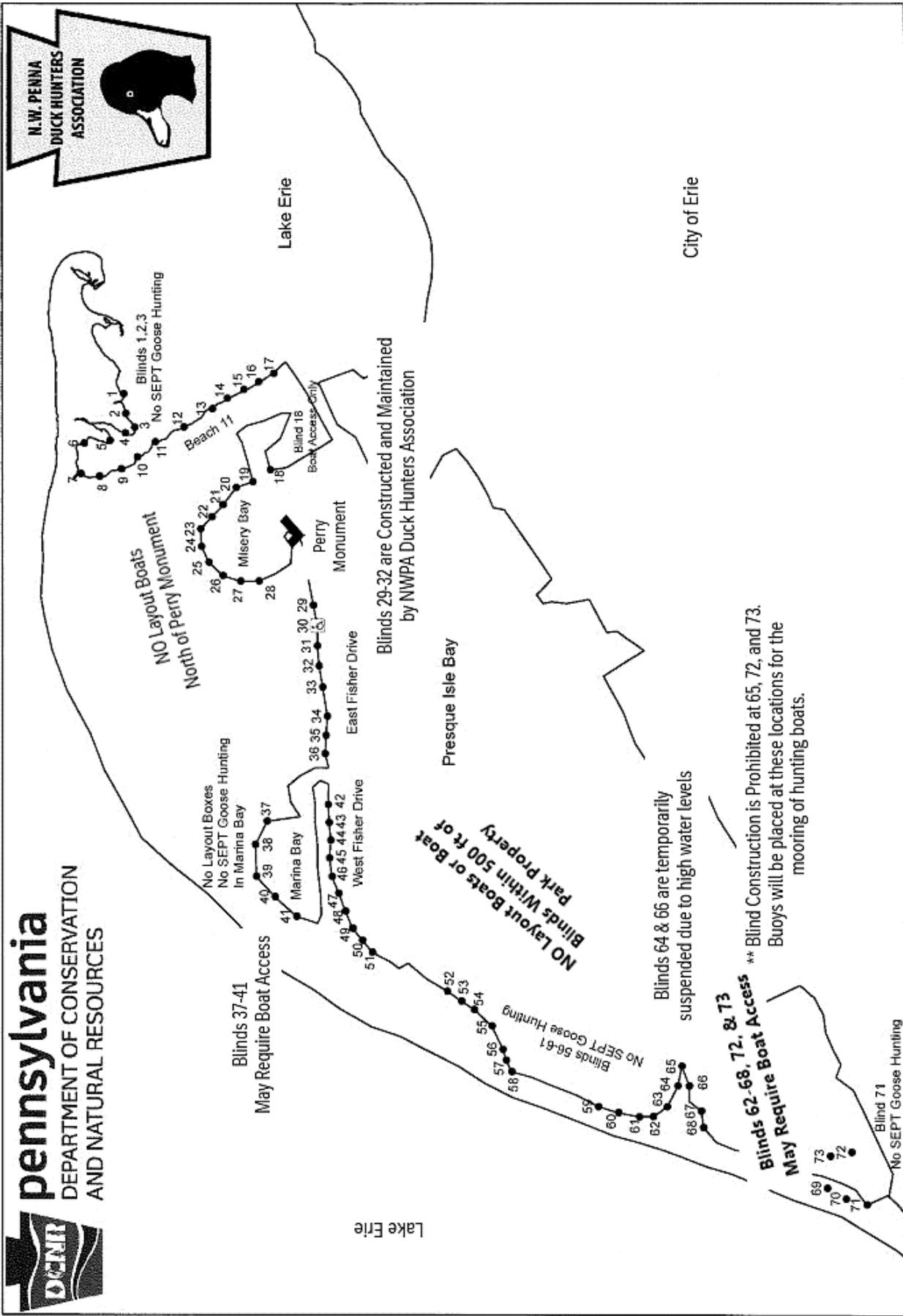
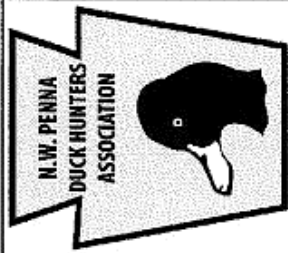
A specially designed accessible blind is located on East Fisher Drive at blind location 30 for hunters with disabilities. This blind is not issued to a permanent holder so it can be used on a daily basis during the season with preference given to individuals with a disability regardless of the time of 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 these activities, please contact the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service by dialing 711 or at 1-800-654-5984 (TDD), or 1-800-654-5988 (VOICE).

MAP ON NEXT PAGE



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Presque Isle Duck Blind Locations



PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK - Rules for Ownership of Waterfowl Blind **Blind Owners and Co-Owner Definitions - Rights and Responsibilities**

1. The person, whose name is drawn, is the **Primary Owner of the Blind.**
2. The 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. The Owner or Co-Owner **must be present** at the Blind Pick:
 - a) Co-Owner must show proof of their PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges and Federal Duck Stamp **and have the Owners blind application post card, PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges and Federal Duck Stamp.**
 - b) Co-Owner is established on the day of pick. **If Co-Owner is not present, the Owner must show proof of Co-Owner's eligibility** (PA Hunting License, PA Migratory Bird Privileges and Federal Duck 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 person/party to vacate a blind.
 - a) 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 may 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, all trash must be removed after each hunt and the blind must be maintained for the public to use.
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.**



Participation in this program is up to the person whose name is drawn
- This program is not mandatory.