

# Bombay Hook

## National Wildlife Refuge

### Trail Map



For more information contact Refuge Manager  
Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge  
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Smyrna, DE 19977  
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[www.fws.gov/refuge/bombay\\_hook](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/bombay_hook)  
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## Welcome to Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge

The refuge was established in 1937 as a link in the chain of refuges extending from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. The refuge has 16,251 acres located along the Atlantic flyway and provides feeding, resting, and breeding grounds for migrating birds and other wildlife. The variety of habitats welcomes a variety of wildlife throughout the year.

The refuge is open from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset every day of the year. The visitor center is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on spring (March-May) and fall (September-November) weekends from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The visitor center is closed on federal holidays.

### Wildlife

**Spring** - migrating waterfowl, song birds, and shorebirds. Spring peepers and wood frogs are in full voice.

**Summer** - herons, egrets, avocets, black-necked stilts, bald eagles, and birds of prey. Wood duck and mallard broods are present.

**Fall and Winter** - Canada and snow geese, swans, pintails, shovelers, teals, ruddy ducks, buffleheads, mallards, and black ducks. Mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish, and lush flora are prevalent from spring into late fall.

### Trails

**Wildlife Drive** - 12 miles

Vehicles, Bicycle, Walking – Drive along diverse habitats, including freshwater man-made pools, salt marshes, woodlands, and fields. Five walking trails are located along the wildlife drive. All trails are flat terrain.

**Raymond Tower Trail** - .25 mile

Walking – 30 ft. high observation tower. Forest and Upland Field

**Boardwalk Trail** Over the Salt Marsh - .25 mile

Walking – Tidal Salt Marsh



**Parsons Point Trail** - 1 mile

Walking – Freshwater Marsh and Forest.

**Bear Swamp Trail** - .25 mile

Walking trail is accessible - 30 ft. observation tower and floating platform are not accessible. Forest and Freshwater Marsh.



**Shearneck Tower Trail** - .25 mile

Walking – 30 ft. high observation tower. Forest and Upland Field



**Obey Closed Area Signs**  
Stay on named trails and wildlife drive

### Permitted Activities:

-  Dogs on a leash no more than 10-feet in length  
Pick up after your dog
-  Bicycling is permitted on wildlife drive only
-  Vehicles are permitted on wildlife drive and designated parking areas
-  Public hunting permitted under special regulations
-  Visitor center open weekdays 8:00-4:00 & seasonally on weekends
-  Wildlife observation
-  Wildlife photography
-  Environmental education

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1 800/344 WILD  
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August 2016



### Prohibited Activities:

-  Camping/Overnight stays
-  Fires
-  Swimming
-  Horseback riding
-  Off road vehicles
-  Collecting natural or historic objects
-  Do not feed, disturb, capture or release any wildlife. The use of mechanical or electronic devices to lure or attract wildlife is prohibited.
-  Fishing or crabbing from wildlife drive
-  Drinking alcoholic beverages
-  Littering
-  Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones)