

Darlington Waterfowl Unit Hunt 2023

Background Information

The Darlington Waterfowl Hunt is a controlled hunt that operates in McLaughlan Bay within Darlington Provincial Park in Bowmanville. The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) along with Zones E and G, assist in funding and administering the hunt. This year the hunt operated from September 23rd to December 2nd, 2023, on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, for morning hunts only, from 30 minutes before sunrise until noon. There are 5 blinds that hold 2 people each; a boat is required to access each blind.

This hunt offers waterfowl hunters, both new and experienced, the chance to hunt in a safe and controlled area. It is a unique hunting opportunity as it is in a small bay along Lake Ontario, which is popular for a variety of waterfowl species during migration. Darlington Provincial Park is located close to Highway 401 and near the Greater Toronto Area, so it draws people from a large geographic region.

Success

From opening day on September 23rd to the last day on December 2nd, there were 41 days for hunting. Two days were lost due to ice on the Bay and eight days were lost due to no participants, resulting in a total of 31 hunting days for 2023.

Hunters were successful in harvesting at least one bird 25 out of the 31 days that hunting took place (83% success rate).

This is just part of the report. If you would like a full copy of the “Darlington Waterfowl Unit Hunt 2023” report, please call the Zone E Secretary Treasurer John Hockley 4166844587.