

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for day and camping uses. Enter your choice of date in the space provided. If camping, list the nights (limit 2, unless extended by island manager) you wish to stay at Swan Island.
2. Print your name, address, city, state, and zip code.
3. List a telephone number where you can be contacted so that alternative arrangements can be made (in the event that no vacancies are available on the date(s) that you have selected).
4. Indicate the number of adults and children over 6 years of age that will be included in your group; and the number of children age 5 and under (no charge). All groups composed of minors under 18 years of age must be accompanied by adult supervisors at a ratio of 1 supervisor for every 8 minors.
5. List your arrival and departure times. Ferry service is on a scheduled basis only, and we accept arrival times for visitors coming onto the Island: 9:15 A.M. or 11:15 A.M., and 1:15 or 3:15 in the afternoon. Your arrival time will be stated on your reservation. Since the ferry comes to the Richmond side of the river only if a party is scheduled to arrive or depart, the ferry will not automatically arrive at the next given hour if you miss your pre-arranged arrival time.
6. A \$5.00 reservation fee must accompany your application. The full amount of this reservation fee is applied to your total fee. Additional monies will be collected when you arrive at Swan Island. The \$5.00 reservation fee is not refundable if you cancel your reservation but may be applied to a rescheduled visit. If for any reason we cannot schedule your visit to Swan Island, your deposit will be refunded.
7. Mail your reservation application and deposit to arrive at least 7 days prior to your requested arrival date. Reservation payment must be made with a U.S. Postal Money Order, certified check or personal check made payable to TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE. Personal checks must have current address and telephone number. Canadian Travelers Checks, Money Orders or payment will not be accepted. Mail completed request form and payment to:
Swan Island Reservations
284 State St.
41 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

DETACH & RETURN WITH APPLICATION FEE
APPLICATION FOR RESERVATION TO STEVE POWELL WMA

1. RESERVATION: PREFERRED DATE (List 1st and 2nd choice): _____
(Check one) DAY USE ONLY OVERNIGHT CAMPING (# of nights _____)

2. NAME OF APPLICANT _____
ADDRESS _____

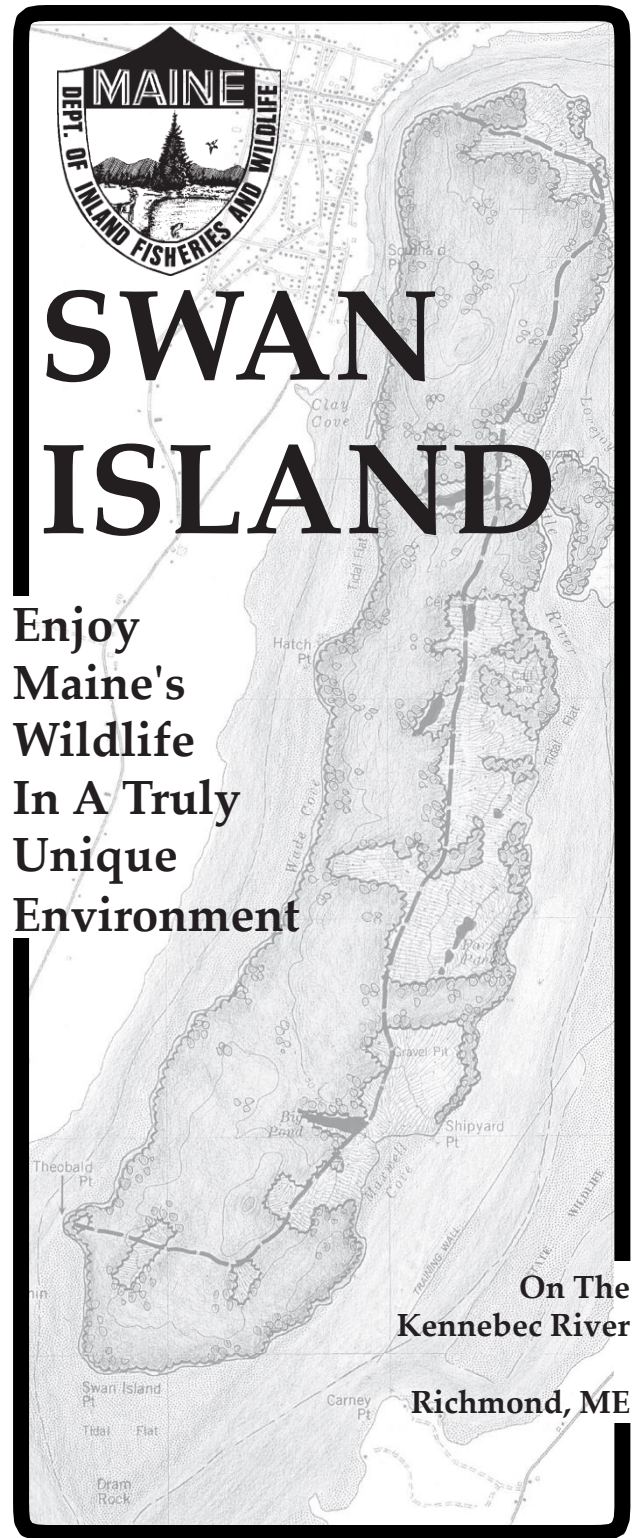
3. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Home) _____ (Email) _____

4. NUMBER IN PARTY: 3 & under _____ 4 - Adult _____

5. ARRIVAL TIME (Circle one): 9:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 1:15 p.m. 3:15 p.m. DEPARTURE TIME (Circle one): 9 a.m. 11 a.m. 1 p.m. 3 p.m.

6. ENCLOSE \$5 RESERVATION FEE, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE

DATE _____ APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____



MAINE
DEPT. OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

SWAN ISLAND

Enjoy
Maine's
Wildlife
In A Truly
Unique
Environment

On The
Kennebec River

Richmond, ME

RULES

- Operating Season Dates:** Generally from May through October by reservation.
- The use of Swan Island shall be limited to the purposes for which it is being managed and to activities determined by the Department to be compatible with the intended use of the facility. Activities which endanger persons or property are prohibited.
- The removal, molesting, injury or damage of anything natural, physical, prehistorical, or historical within these areas is strictly prohibited.
- Feeding or touching wild animals found on Swan Island is prohibited. For health and safety reasons, visitors are required to put away food securely and leave picnic areas and campsites clean.
- Reservations and Fees:** Reservations are required for all trips to Steve Powell Wildlife Management Area except day-use visitors arriving by canoe or kayak. A nonrefundable reservation fee must accompany the application (the full amount of the reservation fee to be applied to the total fee). These fees are charged by the Department solely for the use of Steve Powell W.M.A., including goods and services thereon. No charge is made by the Department for ferry services provided from Richmond to Steve Powell W.M.A., and the Department assumes no risk or liability for the use of the ferry service by members of the public.
- Hours:** The area will be available for daily use between sunrise and sunset. The camping day is from 1:00 p.m. until 11:00 a.m. Camping shall be limited to 2 consecutive nights unless extended by facility manager. Quiet hours are between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- Campsite occupancy and use is limited to:
 - A minimum of one (1) adult 18 years of age or older per camping party.
 - A family consisting of up to two (2) adults and any number of their children under 18.
 - A maximum of six (6) individuals including children, except as set forth in 6b.
 - Two tents are allowed only in the immediate vicinity of the assigned shelter.
 - Moving picnic table(s) from site to site and using one site by several parties is prohibited.
- Restricted Areas:** Little Swan Island, portions of Swan Island and some historic buildings and maintenance areas are restricted areas. Entrance into these areas are by permission only and all visitors to these areas must be accompanied by Department personnel.
- Supervision:** All groups composed of minors under 18 years of age, must be accompanied by adult supervisors. A ratio of 1 supervisor for every 8 minors is required.
- Fires:** Fires shall be built and used only in places provided or designated for such purposes and shall not be left unattended. Camp stoves are permissible if used in areas designated for fire building.
- Refuse:** All visitors and campers must "carry out" all refuse and trash.
- Pets:** No dogs or other pets will be allowed on the island. (Exception: seeing-eye dogs)
- Firearms:** The use or possession of firearms, fireworks, air arms, or similar weapons within the boundaries of the area, above the high water mark, is prohibited; and the hunting, trapping, removal, molesting, injury or damage to any animal

- bird, or anything natural within the boundaries of the area, above the high water mark, is prohibited.
- Fireworks:** The use or possession of fireworks and explosives is prohibited.
 - Liquor:** Intoxicating beverages are prohibited. Disorderly conduct is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, indecent acts, intoxication and coarse language.
 - Metal Detectors:** Metal Detectors are not allowed to be used on Swan Island, or Little Swan Island.
 - Fishing:** Island Ponds are restricted to fishing for those less than 16 years of age. All ages may fish the Kennebec River as allowed by law.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What is Swan Island?

A. Swan Island is a state owned wildlife management area with abundant wildlife including migrating waterfowl, wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, and bald eagles. It is also the only management area where camping is allowed and programs are provided for visitors. One of the early biologists working there was Stephen E. Powell. After Powell's death in 1971 the area was dedicated as The Steve Powell Wildlife Management Area in his memory.

Q. Where is Swan Island? Is it the same as Swan's Island?

A. Swan Island (Steve Powell Wildlife Management Area) is located within the Kennebec River at the head of Merrymeeting Bay in Sagadahoc County. It is legally known as Perkins Township and is situated between the towns of Richmond and Dresden. This area is often confused with Swan's Island which is located in the Atlantic Ocean five miles southwest of Mount Desert Island (Acadia National Park) and is accessible by auto ferry at Bass Harbor.

Q. Is Swan Island a State Park?

A. No. Swan Island is a Wildlife Management Area (WMA) operated by Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. State Parks are operated by [Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands](#). The purpose and management of Swan Island is not the same as state parks. State Park Passes are not accepted to access the island.

Q. What facilities are available on the area?

A. Adirondack shelters are available to campers. They are 3-sided lean-tos with shingled roofs and a substantial overhang on the open side of the shelter. There is a gravel apron in front of each shelter with a picnic table and fireplace as part of the campsite. Ten campsites are located some distance apart and are arranged along the edge of a grassy field overlooking the river. Water is provided and modern bathroom facilities are available. Firewood is available for a charge. Canoes and kayaks are available for rent. There is no food or supplies on the island.

Q. How much does it cost to visit the area?

A. Normal Rates: 5 and under are free!

Day Use	Camping
\$8 per person	\$8 per person plus \$20/site/night

Picnic Shelter - \$20/day

Canoe/Kayak - \$10/hr or \$35/day (available at campground)
Firewood - \$4/bundle

Season Passes *

Individual Day Use: \$30
Individual Camping: \$45
Family Day Use: \$75
Family Camping: \$130
Business Pass: ask for details

Call 207-547-5322 for more information. [Season Pass Application \(PDF\)](#)



Q. Is it necessary to make a reservation for just a short visit?

A. Reservations are necessary for all trips to the island except for those accessing the island with their own canoe or kayaks for day visits, and not requiring any transportation. To make reservations call 207-547-5322 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm or mail in this [reservation form \(PDF\)](#). Please leave your name and number and the best time to reach you and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Q. How do I find the area?

A. The [parking area and landing](#) is located on the Kennebec River near the intersection of Routes 24 and 197 in Richmond village. The Swan Island landing is marked with a large sign.

Q. Can we take our vehicle or camper onto Swan Island?

A. No. The Department provides transportation for people only. A parking area is provided on the Richmond side of the Kennebec River where you may leave your vehicle.

Q. How far is it from the dock on Swan Island to the campground? Is transportation available?

A. About 1 1/2 miles along the main dirt road. A truck equipped with an open slat-sided body and benches can take you from the dock to the camping/picnicking area. These rides may be uncomfortable for some persons with physical problems, or senior citizens.

Q. Can a small private boat or canoe be used during our stay at Swan Island?

A. Yes. Visitors accessing the island by canoe or kayak must still make reservations for overnight visits. Visitors to Swan Island for day-use and not requiring transportation do not need to make reservations. They simply must self-register and pay at one of two collection boxes located at the island landing site and at the campground. Season passes are also available. Due to tidal fluctuations of 5-7 feet, small boats are not recommended. **Docking facilities are for department personnel and are not to be used to store private watercraft.**

Q. Is the island large enough so we may explore and see some wildlife?

A. Yes. Swan Island is 4 miles long with a gravel road and nature trails. There is wildlife over all the area and only limited sections are restricted.

Q. Is swimming allowed?

A. The only swimming opportunity is in the Kennebec River. Not only are there strong river currents the area is also subject to tidal action. Much progress has been made in cleaning this river and water quality is rated suitable for swimming. However, all swimming is at your own risk.

Q. Can I bring a metal detector to the island?

A. No. The island is owned and managed by MDIFW and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Collecting or removing items (even those you may consider valueless) is not allowed.

The Steve Powell Wildlife Management Area is owned and maintained by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Its operation and maintenance are supported by your fees as well as revenue from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, and federal monies under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program.

Since the Department receives federal funds, all of its programs and activities must be operated free from any discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against should write to Director, Office of Equal opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.