Monmouth County Park System

Shark River Park

Neptune, NJ
Wall Township, NJ



www.MonmouthCountyParks.com

Welcome to Shark River Park

Established in 1960 with 24 acres of surplus land from construction of the Garden State Parkway, this is the first and oldest Monmouth County Park. Today, there are 992 acres along either side of the Shark River in Neptune and Wall Township. A variety of picnic facilities host thousands of park visitors each year.



Fishing and Skating on the Pond

Area residents can fish the park's scenic white pine and oak-lined pond (mostly sunfish.) A state fishing license is required for anglers age 16-69. To ice skate in winter, please call 732-842-4000 to check conditions first.



The Shark River, which flows near the pond, is stocked seasonally with trout. A popular site for nature activities, please note that fossiling is allowed only with park programs.

Playground, Shuffleboard, and Horseshoes

Children will enjoy climbing, swinging, sliding and rocking on the features of the playground. There are also facilities for shuffleboard and horseshoes: equipment may be signed out for free at the Shelter Building.

Open Picnic Areas

Shark River Park has more than 95 shady picnic tables and 35 grills for visitors to enjoy for free on a first come, first-served basis. Bring your own charcoal if you would like to cook. Groups of 50 or more must obtain a free permit first; please call 732-842-4000, ext. 1.

Large Group Picnic Areas *(By Reservation, For Fee)*

Celebrate outdoors by reserving one of two large-group picnic areas. The Shelter Building (with kitchen) is available for rental by groups up to 80 (except during ice skating season, Dec. 15 – Mar. 15). Or, reserve the covered picnic pavilion and its large grill cooking area. Visit www.MonmouthCountyParks.com for site photos and prices. Call 732-842-4000, ext. 1 for reservations.

Protect Your Parks

The Park System preserves and manages natural and cultural resources on more than 18,000 acres of land in Monmouth County. Protecting water quality, eliminating invasive plant species, and promoting healthy wildlife habitats are just a few objectives. Please help protect the park by leaving flowers, plants, animals, and other features as you found them; adhering to posted park rules; using designated containers for trash, recyclables and pet waste; and keeping your pets leashed.

No Person shall possess, consume or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages, cannibis, or controlled dangerous substances within any County park land. New Jersey's Smoke Free Air Act prohibits use of all tobaccoo products while on County park land, with the exception of Golf Courses.

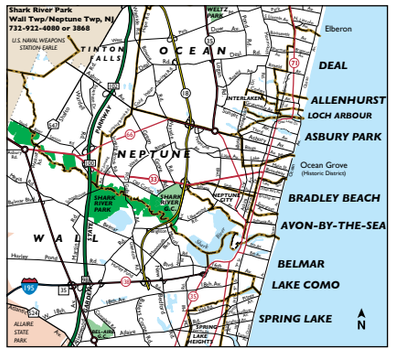
An overabundance of white-tailed deer in and around this park is threatening the health of native plant and animal species. Portions of Shark River Park may be open for deer hunting during all or some of the State-regulated hunting season. All hunting areas are clearly posted. Call 732-842-4000, ext. 4312 or visit **www.MonmouthCountyParks.com** for more information.

Park Hours

Shark River Park is open every day of the year from 7 a.m. to dusk, free of charge.

Avoiding Tick Bites

Ticks can be active year-round (highest risk April-July). Take precautions: use insect repellent, wear light-colored clothes, tuck in all applicable clothing and check yourself for ticks during and after park visits. To minimize contact keep to formal trails; stay away from tall, bushy and shrubby grasses, leaf litter, tree branches and woodland edges next to lawns, athletic fields and along trails. Protect your pets. Read more at **www.cdc.gov/ticks.**



From Garden State Parkway, Exit 100

To Main/Schoolhouse Rd. Entrance: Take Hwy. 33 East for 0.5 miles to Schoolhouse Rd. Turn right onto Schoolhouse Rd. and follow to park entrance on right.
To Gully Road Entrance: Follow Hwy. 33 East for about 1 mile, turn right onto Old Corlies Ave. (convenience store/gas station on corner). Stay right onto Gully Road at curve, and follow to park entrance on the right. **To Hillside Area:** Follow Hwy. 33 East for 2.8 miles, follow signs for All Turns/Exit Route 18 N. At light, turn right onto Brighton Ave and follow for 1 mile. Turn left onto Hillside Rd., parking lot on right.

From State Hwy. 18

To Main/Schoolhouse Rd. Entrance: Take Exit 8, and travel Hwy. 33 West for 1.8 miles to Schoolhouse Rd. Turn left onto Schoolhouse Rd. (convenience store/gas station on corner) and follow to park entrance on right.
To Gully Road Entrance: Take Exit 8 and follow Hwy. 33 West for 1.5 miles. Turn left onto Old Corlies Ave. (church/gas station on corner). Stay right on Gully Rd. at fork, pass American Legion Hall and follow to park entrance on right.
To Hillside Area: Follow Hwy. 33 East to signs for U-turn/Exit Route 18 North. At first light, turn right onto Brighton Ave and follow for 1 mile. Turn left onto Hillside Rd., parking lot on right.

Monmouth County
Board of County Commissioners
Board of Recreation Commissioners

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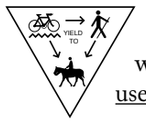
Shark River Park

GPS: 1101 Schoolhouse Rd. (Main Entrance)
or 1043 Gully Rd., Wall Township, NJ 07753
732-842-4000, ext. 4312 Information
732-922-4080 Park Maintenance
www.MonmouthCountyParks.com

Trails

Shark River Park has 6 miles of trails to walk, run, hike, bike and ride horses. Please stay on marked trails, plan your route, take a trail map with you and wear appropriate safety gear.

NOTE: At a brisk pace, it takes approximately 20 minutes to walk 1 mile (1.6 km).



Please obey the rules for right of way: bicyclists yield to all other trail users; pedestrians yield to equestrians.

Cross the street at Schoolhouse Rd. to access the main trial system

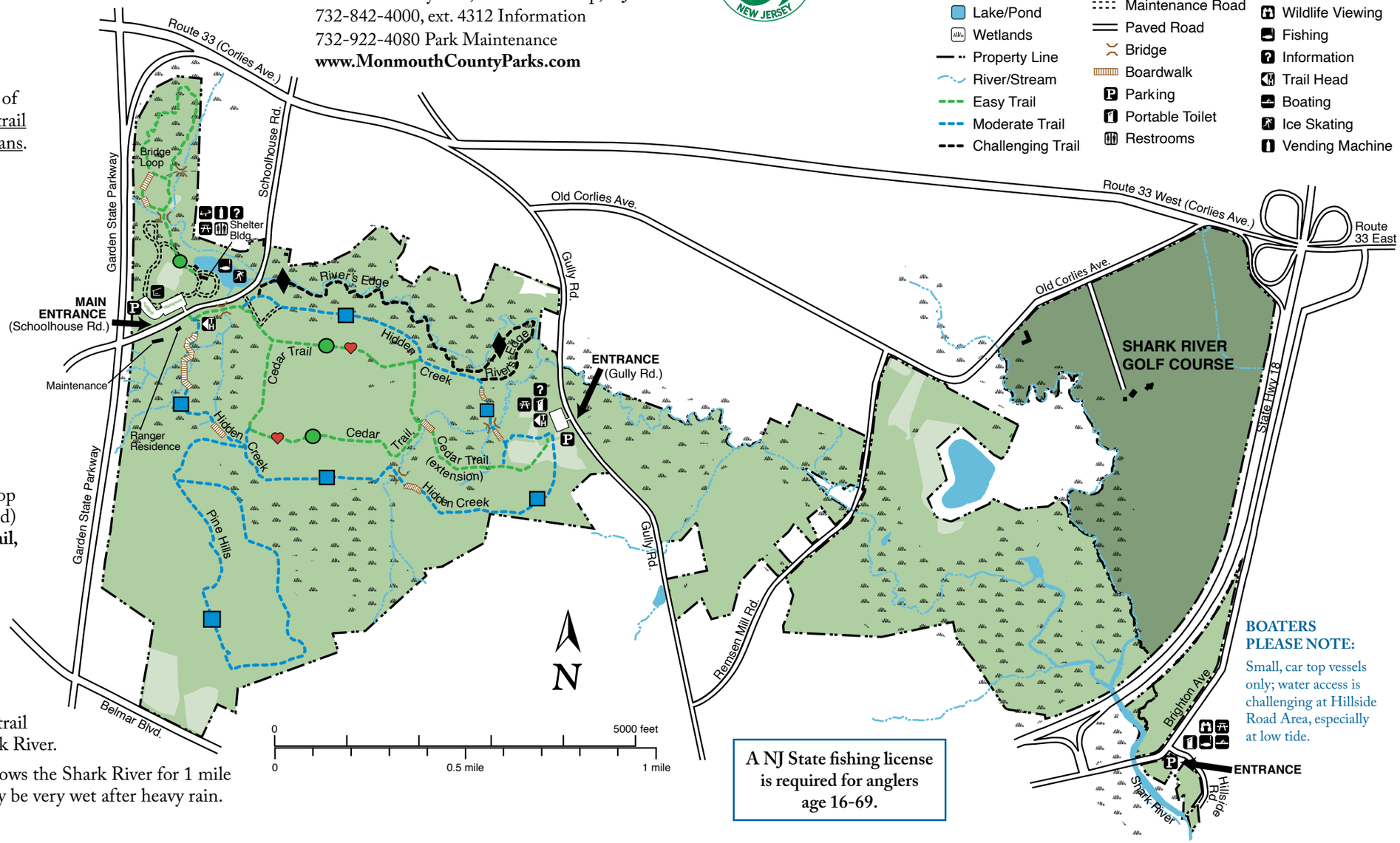
Trail Key

Multi-Use Trails - Open to All Trail Users (unless otherwise noted)

- **Cedar Trail:** This wide 1.2 mile (1.9 km) loop travels through the center of the park. A 0.2 mile extension through an Atlantic white cedar bog connects to Gully Rd.
- **Fitness Trail:** Illustrated signs along the Cedar Trail guide fitness enthusiasts through a 20 station exercise workout.
- **Hidden Creek:** At 2 miles (3.2 km), this loop travels through forests of red maple (lowland) and pine-oak (upland). **A portion of this trail, from Schoolhouse Rd. to Pine Hills, is Foot Traffic Only.**
- **Pine Hills:** This 1.4 mile (2.3 km) loop trail travels off Hidden Creek to explore the "hills" of Shark River Park.

Restricted Trails - Foot Traffic Only

- **Bridge Loop:** This short 0.8 mile (1.3 km) trail offers a picturesque tour alongside the Shark River.
- **River's Edge:** This short, primitive, trail follows the Shark River for 1 mile (1.6 km), on the north side of the park. May be very wet after heavy rain. **Foot Traffic Only.**



A NJ State fishing license is required for anglers age 16-69.

BOATERS PLEASE NOTE:
Small, car top vessels only; water access is challenging at Hillside Road Area, especially at low tide.

LEGEND

- Building/Office
- Wooded Area
- Field/Clearing
- Lake/Pond
- Wetlands
- Property Line
- River/Stream
- Easy Trail
- Moderate Trail
- Challenging Trail
- Fitness Trail
- Trail Spur (unmarked)
- Maintenance Road
- Paved Road
- Bridge
- Boardwalk
- Parking
- Portable Toilet
- Restrooms
- Playground
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic Tables
- Wildlife Viewing
- Fishing
- Information
- Trail Head
- Boating
- Ice Skating
- Vending Machine

Trail Standards

- EASY: short, maintained or paved trails intended for casual walking; may have some grade changes/obstructions (e.g. tree roots)
- MODERATE: longer trail or trails with grades/obstructions; intended for hiking, equestrians and all-terrain bicyclists (may be suitable for some walkers and runners)
- CHALLENGING: long, more primitive trails with steep grades/obstructions; intended for hardy, experienced trail users

Hillside Road Area/River Access

Visit this small section of the park, located just off Brighton Avenue to watch wildlife, go fishing or to put-in kayaks at the Shark River.