

Turkey Swamp Park

Freehold Township, NJ



www.MonmouthCountyParks.com

Welcome to Turkey Swamp Park

This 2,283-acre wooded park was acquired and developed with campers in mind. Major attractions include the 17-acre lake for fishing and boating, and group picnic facilities. The park has playgrounds and trails for hiking, cycling, and equestrian use. Because of the swamps and bogs, visitors may encounter wet areas along the trails. Many plants and animals associated with the NJ Pine Barrens can be found here.

History of the Park

The heart of the park (lake, picnic areas and campgrounds) was purchased in 1963. Addition of adjacent lands during the past 50+ years helped give the park its present configuration as the Park System's largest property.



Protect Your Parks

The Park System preserves and manages natural and cultural resources on more than 17,000 acres of land in Monmouth County. Protecting water quality, eliminating invasive plants, 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 rules; using designated containers for trash and recyclables and keeping your pets leashed. Possessing or consuming alcohol is not permitted.

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

Family Camping 732-462-7286

The family campground, open from April 1–November 15, accommodates tents and travel trailers. There are 64 wooded family campsites: 52 are reservable with a prepaid fee for at least 2 nights, the other 12 sites are first-come, first-served. There are also 3 cabins, one is handicapped accessible.

- Electrical service
- Drinking water
- Picnic tables
- Restrooms, showers, laundry
- Playground
- Water service (approx. 4/15–11/15)
- Dump Station
- Firewood available for purchase

Group Camping 732-462-7286

Platform tent camping is available to chartered groups from April 1–November 15 at the Nomoco Activity Area. There are 6 campsites that each accommodate about 40 people. Three sites have platform tents, all have picnic shelters and ground grills, and most have pit toilets.

- Showers & restroom (approx. 4/15)
- Basketball courts
- Volleyball courts (grass)



Archery Range

This training and practice facility consists of 8 excelsior bale targets placed at various distances for all skill levels. Please call for more information.

Lake Activities

Canoes, kayaks, rowboats and paddle-boats are available for rental during the summer months. You can also fish for bass, catfish, crappie, and bluegills from shore or by boat. (A fishing license is required for people age 16–69.) In winter, you can skate on the lake when safe-skating signs are posted. Call 732-842-4000, ext. 3 to check for ice conditions.

Park Hours

Turkey Swamp Park is open daily from 7 a.m. to dusk, free of charge.

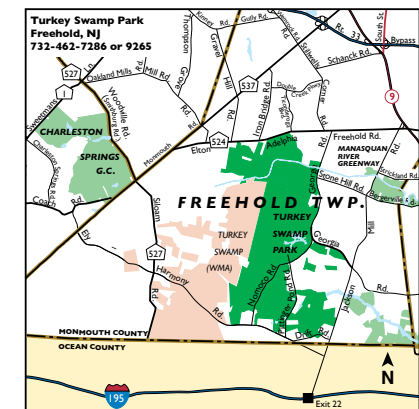
Avoiding Tick Bites

Ticks that may cause illness can be active year-round, (highest risk April–July) take precautions: use insect repellent; wear light-colored clothes, long sleeve shirt tucked into pants/pants tucked into socks; check yourself for ticks during and after park visits; shower soon after being outdoors. To minimize contact keep to formal trails, walk in the center; stay away from tall grasses, brushy/shrubby areas, 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.

For More Information

Visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call 732-842-4000, ext. 4312 (TTY/TDD 711) if you would like information about Monmouth County's more than 43 parks, recreation areas, and golf courses or a complete listing of the 6,000 classes and programs offered by the Park System each year.

From the Garden State Parkway: Exit 98 to I-195 West. At Exit 22, turn right onto Jackson Mills Road. Turn left onto Georgia Road, and follow signs for Turkey Swamp Park.



From the NJ Turnpike: Exit 7A to I-195 East. At Exit 22, turn left onto Jackson Mills Road. Follow directions above.

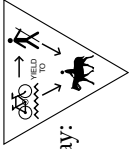


Turkey Swamp Park

GPS: Use 200 Georgia Road
Freehold Township, NJ 07728
Ranger/Campground Office:
732-462-7286
Park Maintenance:
732-462-9265
www.MonmouthCountyParks.com

Trails

Turkey Swamp Park has more than 8 miles of trails through fields, forests and wetlands. Please stay on marked trails, plan your route, take a trail map with you, and wear appropriate safety gear.



Obey rules for yielding right of way: bicyclists yield to all other trail users and pedestrians yield to equestrians.

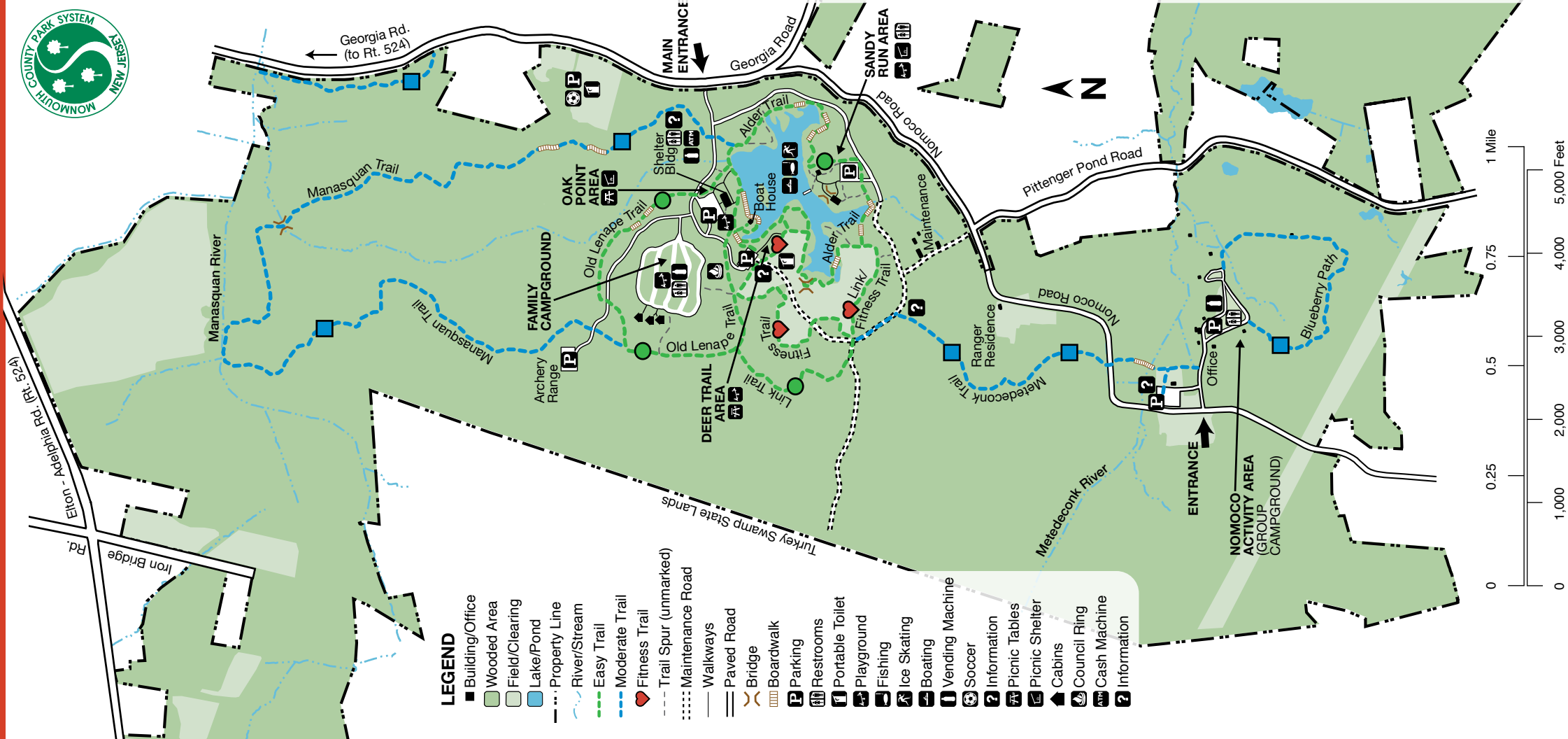
Note: It takes approximately 20 minutes to walk 1 mile (1.6 km) at a brisk pace.

Trail Key

- Alder Trail:** This 1.6 mile (2.6 km) trail tracks around the lake with access to bogs and swamps.
- Link Trail:** Extend your hike with this 0.7 mile (1.1 km) trail connecting the north and south sections of the park.
- Old Lenape Trail:** This 1.2 mile (1.9 km) loop, named after early Indian inhabitants, explores the pineland forest that was their home.
- Fitness Trail:** A 1.0 mile (1.6 km) trail along the field edge with 20 exercise stations.
- Metedeconk Trail:** This 1.0 mile (1.6 km) trail travels across the Metedeconk River to Nomoco.
- Blueberry Path:** Take this 1.0 mile (1.6 km) loop around the southernmost areas of Nomoco. *Note: There is no trailhead.*
- Manasquan Trail:** This longer, 2.5 mile (4.0 km) trail travels deep into the forested areas along the Manasquan River.

Trail Standards

- EASY:** short, maintained or paved trails intended for casual walking; may have some grade changes/obstructions (eg. tree roots)
- MODERATE:** longer trails 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 hikers, equestrians, and all-terrain bicyclists (none at this park)
- FITNESS:** walking/running trails with exercise stations. Follow signs for stations



Picnic Areas & Group Shelters

Turkey Swamp offers a beautiful and natural setting for group picnics. All groups of 50 or more must register with the Park System at least 7 days prior. Call 732-842-4000, ext.1

Oak Point Area

- Picnic area with shelter; by reservation, for fee
- Picnic area without shelter; first-come/first-served, free
- Shelter Building (with kitchen); by reservation for fee

Sandy Run Area

- Private area with shelter; by reservation for fee
- Sand volleyball courts, horseshoe pits

Deer Trail Area

- Picnic area without shelter; first-come/first-served, free

Soccer Fields (2)

Available by reservation for official games, fee required. Please call 732-542-1642.