

About Deer Path Park

Deer Path was originally owned by Alois and Berta Batz. Until 1967, the land was used for agriculture. That year, they established a summer camp on the property for children. The pond was expanded to its current size. Storage sheds were converted to picnic pavilions and a shower house for the camp was constructed. The camp offered a variety of opportunities for children which included swimming, boating, horseback riding, archery and tennis. An estimated 125 children visited the camp each year. The county acquired the property in 1973 for development and operation as an active park. Eight acres were subdivided from the property in 1980 for the construction of the Hunterdon County YMCA. Today, Deer Path Park provides a wide diversity of recreational activities for the public.



The Hunterdon County Parks and Recreation Department is dedicated to preserving open space and natural resources, providing safe parks and facilities, and offering educational and recreational opportunities, all contributing to an enhanced quality of life for present and future generations.



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SUMMARY OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules and regulations governing the Hunterdon County Parks and Recreation Department are promulgated in accordance with provisions of the N.J. Statutes Title 40:32-7.12, which reads as follows:

"The Board of Chosen Freeholders may by resolution make, alter, amend, and repeal rules and regulations for the supervision, regulation and control of all activities carried on, conducted, sponsored, arranged, or provided for in connection with a public golf course or other county recreational, playground or public entertainment facility, and for the protection of property, and may prescribe and enforce fines and penalties for the violation of any such rule and regulation."

These rules and regulations have been promulgated for the protection of our patrons and for the facilities and natural resources of the Hunterdon County Parks and Recreation Department.

Permits: A written permit issued by the Board of Chosen Freeholders for any activity shall authorize the activity only insofar as it may be performed in strict accordance with the terms and conditions thereof.

Prohibited Acts: The violation of any Municipal, State, and Federal Law. Advertising, solicitation, the release of any animal, explosives of any kind, poisons of any kind, after hours use, the sale of merchandise, alcohol without a permit in a non-designated area, weapons, posting of signage, attire.

Regulated Activity: Aviation, bathing, boating, skating, skiing, bicycling, and sledding. Powered models, horses, dogs must be restrained with a leash not exceeding six feet, camping, fires, groups 25 or more must obtain a permit.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of Property: No person shall make, excavation on, destroy, paint, fill in, cut, remove or temper with any property, organic or inorganic.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of Natural Resources: No person shall disturb wildlife or vegetation in any manner. No person shall pollute waters, litter, or dump debris.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of People: No person shall obstruct the duty of a ranger or an official, interfere with a visitor, or conduct any unsafe act.

Vehicles: All the provisions of the N.J. State Motor Vehicle Act apply. Vehicles are not allowed in unauthorized areas. Parking is allowed in designated areas only.

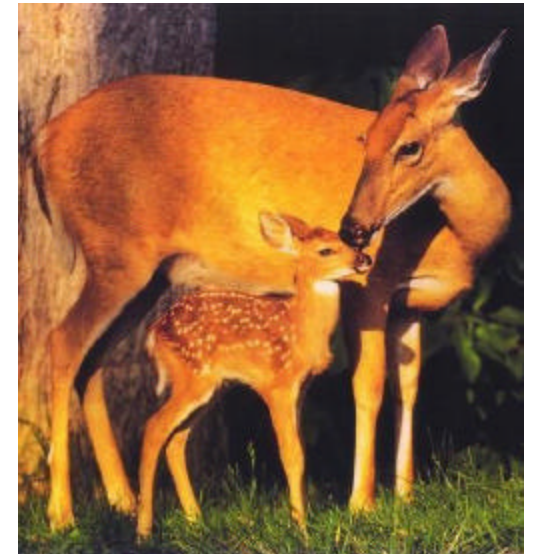
Enforcement: The rules and regulations of the Board shall be enforced by duly authorized Rangers or representatives of the Board under the provision of N.J.S.A. 40:32-2 thru 40:32-7.13 Any person who enters into a County Park for any purpose whatsoever has a duty and is presumed to be aware of the provisions of these rules and regulations governing the use of the Hunterdon County Parks and Recreation Department.

Penalties: Any person violating any of the provisions of these regulations shall, upon conviction before a court or other adjudicative body of jurisdiction, be liable for the replacement, repair or restoration of damaged property, if any, and shall pay a penalty of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or other amount in the discretion of the court or other adjudicative body or may be sentenced to imprisonment in the County jail for the term not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both, provided that this section shall not supersede any applicable penalty provision for specific offenses, which may be set forth in the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice, N.J.S.A. 2C:1-1, et seq., or in any other applicable state or federal law.

NOTE: The Park Rangers of the Board of Chosen Freeholders are vested with police authority and empowered to make arrests for violations of rules and regulations governing the Hunterdon County Parks and Recreation Department. This is only a summary of the rules and regulations. Rules applying to special conditions, activities, or situations may be supplemental to these rules and regulations. When special rules apply, they will be posted at affected areas. The complete text of regulations is available for inspection at the Park administration office in Clinton Township during regular business hours.

Deer Path Park

Trail Map and Guide



County of Hunterdon
Department of Parks and Recreation
PO Box 2900, Flemington, NJ 08822-2900
1020 State Route 31, Lebanon, NJ
Telephone (908) 782-1158 : Fax (908) 806-4057
E-mail: parks@co.hunterdon.nj.us

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 AM to 4:30 PM
Sat. 8:30 AM to 12 PM, and 12:30 PM to 4 PM

Deer Path Park

Location: Deer Path Park is located in Readington Township on West Woodschurch Road. The park is open from 8:00 AM to sunset.

Directions from the Flemington Area:

Take Route 31 north about 4 miles from the Flemington Circle. Turn right onto West Woodschurch Road, following the signs for Deer Path Park and the YMCA. Proceed about 0.7 miles on West Woodschurch Road to the entrance to the park on the right. The YMCA's entrance is the immediate right off of the driveway. Continue past the YMCA entrance. The parking lot for the soccer fields will be visible on the left-hand side of the driveway. The main parking lot for the park is located at the end of the driveway near the rest rooms.

Directions from the Clinton Area:

Take Route 31 south about 6.5 miles from Interstate 78. Turn left onto West Woodschurch Road at the signs for Deer Path Park and the YMCA. Then follow the corresponding directions above.

Fishing

Deer Path Pond is a 3 acre spring fed pond which offers wide open banks. Anglers can fish for a variety of species which include bass, catfish and sunfish. The pond is designated for catch and release and State Fish and Wildlife rules apply.

Picnic and Pavilion Facilities

Deer Path offers walk-in picnic sites with grills at Locust Grove, Pongside, and Hideaway Pavilions.

The Cedars and Overlook Pavilions are reservable for groups of 25 or more people. Both are located near parking areas and included running water and electric onsite. **Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted , except by special permit at the Cedars Pavilion.**



Memorial Gazebo and Garden

Named in remembrance of Alois and Berta Batz, this gazebo and small garden offers a place of color and tranquility along the pond. The gazebo can be reserved for activities such as wedding photos.

Reservations

Reservations for facilities must be made at the Main Office located at the Arboretum on Route 31. See the front of this brochure for the address, hours of operation, and phone number.

Softball and Soccer Fields

There are two soccer fields and a softball field that can be reserved independently or in conjunction with a pavilion. The soccer fields were constructed by the Hunterdon United Soccer Club and serve as their home fields.

Fitness and Running Trail

The one mile fitness trail consists of 20 different exercise stations. The stations offer a balanced program of muscle toning, cardiovascular, and flexibility exercises.

Along with the fitness trail, an additional two miles of trails are available for running or walking. **Pets must be kept them on a leash at all times. Owners must clean up after their pets.**

These trails also serve as the home course for the Hunterdon Central Regional High School Cross-country Track Team. During the winter months these trails are available for cross-country skiing and snow shoeing.

Special Events

Special events and performances are offered at Deer Path Park at various times throughout the year. The most notable is our Summer Concert Series. Other events have included performance camp, community festivals and scout events. Contact the main office for the latest schedule of community events.

**TRAIL MAP FOR THE
DEER PATH PARK
COMING SOON!!**