

About Cold Brook Reserve

Cold Brook Reserve is comprised of 180 acres of Hunterdon County parkland, along with 111 acres of conservation easements on privately-owned properties with no public access. Benjamin and Emma Van Doren purchased the majority of the property as farmland in the 1850s, and planted 5000 peach trees. Their son John switched to dairy operations around 1900 and had the first farm in the area that installed milking machines. In 1955, John Jr. took over the farm, and planted 400 apple trees in addition to other crops. In 1973, the farm was sold to Malcolm and Miriam Klein. The property was acquired from a developer by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF), who added additional acreage and ensured its preservation. The property was subsequently purchased from NJCF and added to the Hunterdon County Park System, in 1984.



The property when the barns were still standing.

Hunting

In order to control the population of deer on park property, hunting is permitted. Hunters must obtain a special permit issued by the Division to be able to hunt on the preserve. Visitors between September and February are strongly encouraged to wear blaze orange or confine visits to Sundays.

The Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation 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.

Cold Brook Reserve

Location: Cold Brook Reserve is located at 65 Old Turnpike Road, Oldwick 08858 (Tewksbury Township). The park is open from sunrise to sunset. *Please note that there are no restroom facilities at this park.*

Directions from the Clinton Area: Take Interstate 78 east to exit 24, Oldwick/Whitehouse. Proceed north from this exit on Route 523 towards Oldwick. Continue straight on Route 517 when Route 523 turns to the right. After passing through the center of Oldwick, the park entrance will be on the left. A gravel parking lot is located on the right side of the driveway.

Recreational Opportunities

Cold Brook offers many forms of recreational activities. Visitors can hike over two miles of easy trails. The trails take advantage of existing farm roads and field edges. Horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking are permitted on the trail system. Visitors are exposed to a variety of habitats along the trail which include meadows, wooded areas, edge habitat, and a small drainage pond.



Horse and rider on trail.

(Revised 2/2020)

It is the policy of the County to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities upon advance notice of need. Persons requiring accommodations should make a request at least two weeks prior to program attendance.

Wildlife

The fields of Cold Brook offer a wonderful opportunity to view and find evidence of some of the County's predators. Scan the skies to see if any raptors are hunting in the area. Red-tailed Hawks are common and Northern Harriers have been known to reside here during the winter season. While walking the trails, look for scat and tracks of coyotes and foxes.

There is an abundance of edge habitat throughout Cold Brook. The field edges provide shelter to several birds throughout the season. Some of the species sighted Brown Thrashers and Fox Sparrows, in addition to other unusual sparrows. Small mammals, such as rabbits and skunks, also take advantage of this terrain.

Old debris and wood piles, which are scattered about in the old fence rows and tree lines, provide excellent habitat for snakes. Potential sightings include Black Rat Snakes and Eastern Milk Snakes.



Northern Harrier. Photo by Brigitte Segmuller.

Agricultural Use

In keeping with Cold Brook's history, the County contracts much of the land to a local farmer. In accepting the agreement, the farmer has agreed to farm the property while complying with a management plan. *Please be considerate. Stay on the trails and do not pick or damage any crops.*

With the exception of park properties with reservable facilities, all properties are "carry in / carry out" and trash/recycling receptacles are not provided. Please plan accordingly and do not leave any trash/recyclables behind.

Cold Brook Reserve

Trail Map and Guide



Coyote



Hunterdon County
Division of Parks & Recreation
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Telephone (908) 782-1158
Fax (908) 806-4057

E-mail: parks@co.hunterdon.nj.us
Website: www.co.hunterdon.nj.us
(click on "Parks & Recreation")

Office Hours:
Monday to Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

SUMMARY OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules and regulations governing use of facilities or properties administered by the Hunterdon County Division of Parks and Recreation 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 or regulation."

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

Permits: A fully executed Facility Use Permit, issued by the County of Hunterdon for any activity, shall authorize the activity only insofar as it may be performed in strict accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. The State of NJ, County of Hunterdon, or the local municipality may require additional permits.

Prohibited Acts: The violation of any Municipal, State, or Federal law. Advertising, solicitation, ice skating, ice fishing, any other on-ice activities, downhill skiing, bathing, fuel-powered modeled aircraft, the release of any animal, explosives of any kind, poisons of any kind, after-hours use, alcohol without a permit in a non-designated area, controlled dangerous substances, weapons, posting of signage, inappropriate attire, and climbing on, or rappelling from any cliff, rock face, or boulder, with or without the use of specialized equipment.

Regulated Activity: The sale of merchandise, aviation, boating, cross-country skiing, bicycling, and sledding. Battery-powered modeled aircraft and horses must be in designated areas, dogs must be restrained with a leash not exceeding six feet, pet waste must be removed, camping/fires are by permit only. All groups of 15 or more must obtain a permit for use of any Park area.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of Property: No person shall make, excavate on, destroy, paint, fill in, cut, remove or tamper 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, dump debris, or release helium balloons in any property. It is illegal to remove any natural resource from, or introduce any plant material, bulbs, or seeds to any property without a proper permit or license.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of People: No person shall obstruct a county employee/official, interfere with a visitor, conduct any unsafe act, or cause a hazardous condition.

Vehicles: All the provisions of the NJ State Motor Vehicle Act apply. Vehicles are not allowed in unauthorized areas. Parking is allowed in designated areas only. **ATVs, dirt bikes, and snowmobiles are prohibited on County Park lands.**

Enforcement: The rules and regulations of the County shall be enforced by duly authorized Rangers or representatives of the County 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 facilities and properties administered by the Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation.

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: County Park Rangers of the Division of Parks and Recreation have the authority to issue summons and make arrests for violations of rules and regulations governing the use of facilities and properties administered by the Division of Parks and Recreation. 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.

