

## About Sunnyside Picnic Area

Sunnyside Picnic Area was owned by Charles W. Alpaugh from 1921 until 1932. He was president of the South Branch Power Company and a self-proclaimed “Pioneer Power Developer.” He proposed a plan to harness the waters of the South Branch by constructing a power plant to generate hydroelectricity, however, his venture never gained public support and the project was abandoned by 1928. This 63-acre property changed hands several times until 1975. That year, the County acquired the land as an addition to the South Branch Reservation.

Today, the South Branch Reservation encompasses over a thousand acres and helps preserve the watershed of the South Branch of the Raritan River. The reservation preserves wildlife habitat and provides recreational opportunities.



*Eastern Painted Turtle*

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.

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.

## Sunnyside Picnic Area

**Location:** Sunnyside Picnic Area is located at 47 Kiceniuk Road, Annandale 08801 (Clinton Township). The park is open from sunrise to sunset. *Please note that there are no restroom facilities in this area.*

**Directions from the Flemington Area:** From the Flemington Circle, take Route 31 north about 5.6 miles, and make a right onto the jug handle for Stanton Station Road. On Stanton Station Road, make the first right onto Lilac Drive. Travel approximately one mile to Kiceniuk Road and turn left. After crossing the railroad tracks, Kiceniuk bears to the right. Continue to follow Kiceniuk, and the parking lot is on the left just before the bridge.

**Directions from the Clinton Area:** Take Route 31 south about 5 miles from Interstate 78 to the traffic light for Payne Road. Turn right onto Payne Road and proceed to the end. Turn left on to Lilac Drive and proceed for just over a mile. Turn right at Kiceniuk Road and follow the directions above.

## Nearby Parks

**Echo Hill Park:** Located on Lilac Drive, this site offers a mile loop trail, playground, and a fishing pond. Special events are held here and two meeting rooms are reservable.

**Stanton Station Section:** Offers a fisherman’s trail along the South Branch of the Raritan River and provides a few scenic overlooks.

**Valinski Section:** Offers a canoe launch area into the South Branch of the Raritan River, and a meadow managed for grassland birds.

See the guides for these locations to obtain more information about the sites.

## Awossagame Grove

This grove is dedicated to the residents of Hunterdon County who were lost on September 11th, 2001. “Awossagame” is the Lenni Lenape word that means “heaven” or “a sacred place.” Twenty trees were planted in the grove shortly after the tragedy, but at the time the number of victims had not been confirmed. Later, sixteen of the trees were dedicated, one for each county resident lost. A stone monument reads “To plant a tree is to trust in the future.” Five Arrowwood Viburnum bushes planted in the grove represent the five points of the Pentagon. Four benches along the riverbank symbolize the four planes that were lost that tragic day.

## Recreational Opportunities

Along the trail, three picnic sites with grills are available for public use. The area just beyond the parking lot provides river access for canoes. Canoeing is a wonderful way to view wildlife, including waterfowl and aquatic reptiles like Painted Turtles.

## Fishing

Adjacent to the South Branch of the Raritan River, Sunnyside offers a wonderful location for fishing. The river is stocked with Rainbow, Brook, and Brown Trout. A trail runs the length of the property and provides several points of access to the river. A state fishing license must be displayed while fishing along the river.

(Revised 11/2019)

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.

# Sunnyside Picnic Area & Awossagame Grove

## Part of the South Branch Reservation

### Trail Map and Guide



*Canoeists on South Branch River*

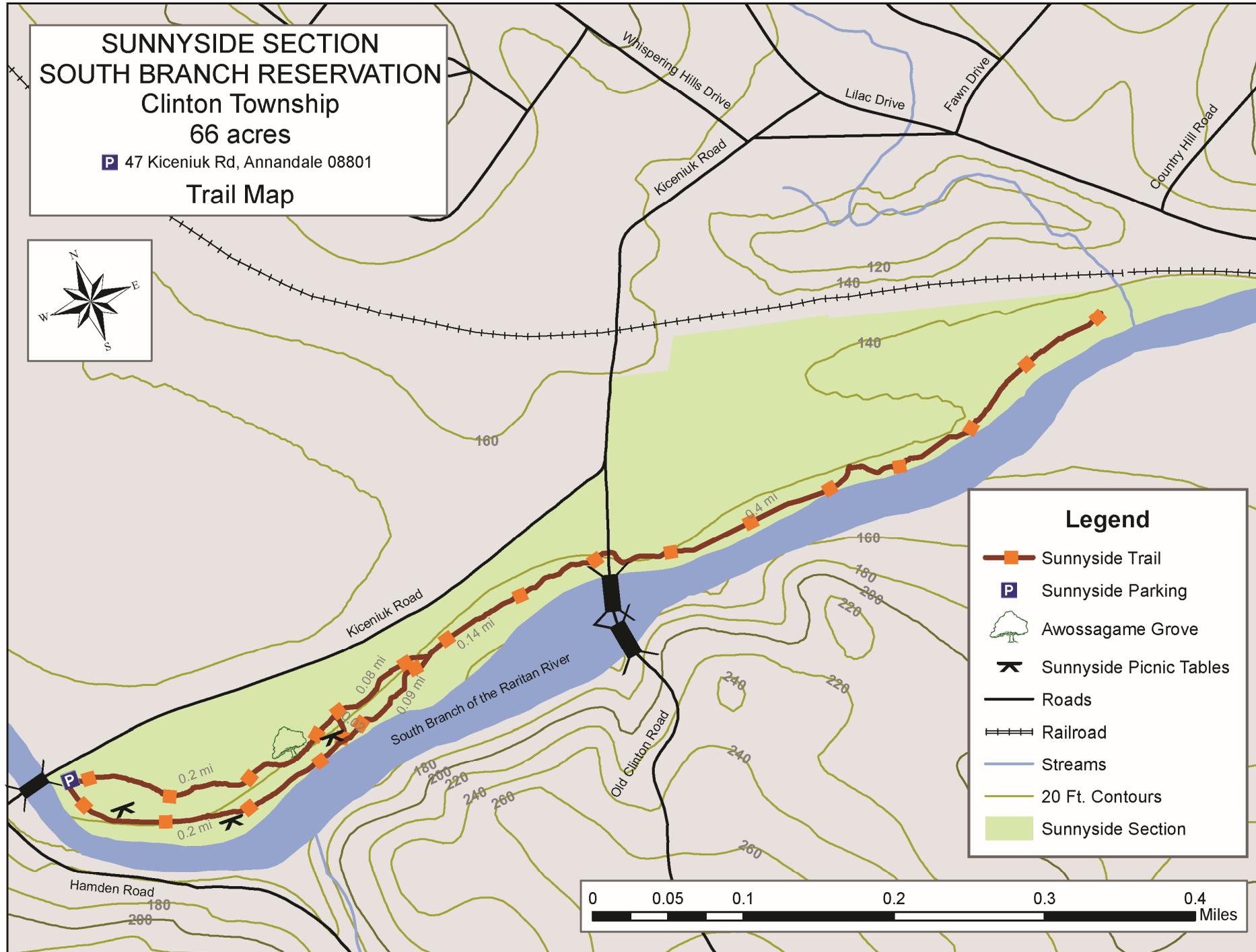


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(click on “Parks & Recreation”)

*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.