

## About South Branch Reservation

Hunterdon County began buying land along the South Branch of the Raritan River in 1974, when the Assiscong Marsh was acquired. Most of the remaining land was purchased in 1975, but additional parcels have been purchased through the 21st century. Today, over 1000 acres of parkland exist along this river, and these pieces are collectively referred to as the South Branch Reservation. This reservation helps protect the watershed and provides wildlife habitat. It also provides recreational opportunities such as canoeing, fishing, birding, hiking, biking, and picnicking.

This brochure is designed as an overview of the South Branch Reservation. Many of the sections have their own trail map and guide. These brochures are available at the Hunterdon County Arboretum or the Hunterdon County Website: [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us) (click on "Parks & Recreation").



*Sycamore at Riverfield*

(Revised 12/2013)

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.

## South Branch Sections

**Arches:** West Main & Arch Streets, High Bridge. This is a popular fishing spot and also has one picnic table. *Section not shown on map.*

**Riverfield:** 1738 Route 31 North, Clinton. Park in the front right corner of lot of the Clinton Health Campus of the Hunterdon Health and Wellness Center. A circular trail, about 3/4 mile, provides river access for fishing. *Section not shown on map.*

**Landsdown Meadows & Trail:**  
5 Sidney Road, Pittstown or  
36 Main Street, Clinton

**Melick's Bridge:**  
245 Hamden Road, Annandale

**Pine Hill:**  
34 Pine Hill Road, Annandale

**Valinski:**  
502 Hamden Road, Annandale or  
123 River Road, Annandale

**Sunnyside:**  
47 Kiceniuk Road, Annandale

**Stanton Station:**  
30 Stanton Station Road, Flemington

**Wings:**  
52 Deerpath Road, Flemington

**Assiscong Marsh:**  
150 River Road, Flemington

**Three Bridges:**  
15 Dory Dilts Road, Flemington

## 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 reservation. Visitors between September and February are strongly encouraged to wear blaze orange or confine visits to Sundays.

## Canoeing

Canoeing the South Branch of the Raritan River is a wonderful way to view wildlife. The river corridor provides an excellent habitat for waterfowl, which can be seen all along the river. Aquatic reptiles, such as Painted Turtles and Northern Water Snakes, are regularly observed perched on the stone and tree outcroppings along the banks of the river. Recommended canoe access sites are Melick's Bridge, Pine Hill, Valinski, Sunnyside, and Stanton Station.

## Fishing

The South Branch of the Raritan River is a popular fishing destination. All sections listed here permit fishing, except Assiscong Marsh. The river is seasonally stocked with trout. New Jersey State Fish and Wildlife laws apply, and a state fishing license with a trout stamp must be displayed to fish trout-stocked waters.

## Sharing the South Branch of the Raritan River

River etiquette calls for canoers and tubers to maneuver around someone fishing whenever possible. But please understand not all paddlers have this knowledge, nor is it always feasible with river currents, so those who are fishing should politely communicate their needs to ensure a safe passing distance is obtained.

## Trails

Many of the South Branch sections have short hiking trails, including Wings and Stanton Station. Some can also be used for biking or horseback riding. Please check each section's brochure for specific information, or look for our guides on Hiking, Biking, and Horseback Riding. The basic rule of trail etiquette is "wheels yield to heels, yield to horses" (Bikers yield to both, and pedestrians yield to horses).

# South Branch Reservation

## Map and Guide



### County of Hunterdon Division of Parks and Recreation

Office Location:

1020 State Route 31, Lebanon, NJ 08833 (Clinton Twp.)

**Mailing Address:**

PO Box 2900

Flemington, NJ 08822-2900

Phone: (908) 782-1158 \* Fax: (908) 806-4057

E-mail: [parks@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:parks@co.hunterdon.nj.us)

Website: [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us)  
(click on "Parks & Recreation")

**Office Hours:**

Mon.-Wed, Fri. 8 AM to 4:30 PM

Thur. 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM

