

About the Three Bridges Section

Although this property is not within the main body of the South Branch Reservation, it does lie along the South Branch of the Raritan River. The area was named after the nearby railroad town of Three Bridges, which was founded in the 1860s. At one time, two steel bridges crossed the river and a covered bridge crossed a nearby farm stream. In 1881, all three bridges were damaged by a severe storm. Only the steel bridges were replaced.

The County acquired most of the land that makes up the South Branch Reservation in 1975, but the Three Bridges Section was acquired in 2004. Today, the reservation totals over 1000 acres. Besides providing recreational opportunities, the reservation helps preserve the South Branch of the Raritan River Watershed and provides habitat for wildlife.



Along the South Branch of the Raritan River

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.

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, and 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 N.J. State Motor Vehicle Act apply. Vehicles are not allowed in unauthorized areas. Parking is allowed in designated areas only. **ATV's, 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 and 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.

Three Bridges Section

Part of the South Branch Reservation Trail Map and Guide



Northern Water Snake



Hunterdon County
Division of Parks & Recreation
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(click on "Parks & Recreation")

Office Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Three Bridges Section

Location: The Three Bridges Section is located at 15 Dory Dilts Road, Flemington 08822 (Readington Township). It is open from sunrise to sunset. *No restroom facilities are available.*

Directions from the Flemington Area:

Take Route 202 north from the Flemington Circle to the junction with Route 613. At the traffic light, turn right and proceed 0.7 miles, crossing over the railroad tracks and the river. The park sign and entrance are on the left side.

Directions from the Clinton Area:

Take Route 31 south to the jug handle for Route 618. Cross over Route 31 and take Route 618 until it ends at Route 629. Turn right onto Route 629 and follow it to the junction with Route 202. Turn right to take Route 202 south until the junction with Route 613. Proceed as above.

Recreational Opportunities

Three Bridges has a picnic site for the public in a wooded area. It is also a popular fishing location for the South Branch of the Raritan River. The river is stocked with Rainbow, Brook, and Brown Trout. A state fishing license must be displayed while fishing along the river. A short trail spans along the river's edge and provides additional access to the river.

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. Visitors during hunting season are strongly encouraged to wear blaze orange or confine visits to Sundays.

(Revised 6/2016)

