



Somerset County Park Commission

PO Box 5327, North Branch, NJ 08876

www.somersetcountyparks.org

Parks

Colonial Park Rangers	732 873-2695
Duke Island Park Rangers	908 722-7779
Environmental Education Center at Lord Stirling Park	908 766-2489
Lord Stirling Stable	908 766-5955
Natirar Rangers	908 781-2560
North Branch/Headquarters	908 722-1200
Ranger Headquarters	908 231-0802

Golf Courses

Green Knoll	908 722-1301
Green Knoll Pitch & Putt	908 722-1302
Neshanic Valley	908 369-8200
Quail Brook	732 560-9528
Spooky Brook	732 873-2242
Warrenbrook	908 754-8402
Tee Time Reservation Service	908 231-1122

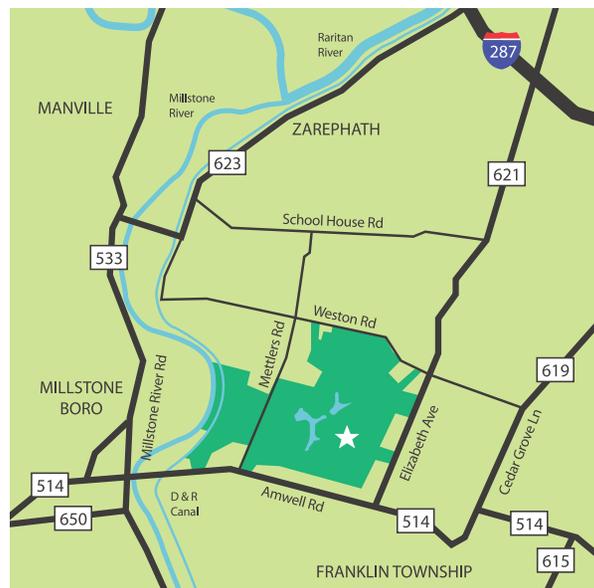
Recreation

Colonial Park Putting Course and Paddle Boats	732 873-8585
Colonial Park Tennis	732 873-2695
Green Knoll Tennis	908 722-1303
Picnic & Athletic Field Permits	908 722-1200 ext. 225
Therapeutic Recreation	908 526-5650
Warrenbrook Pool	908 754-8404

Gardens

Buck Garden & Wedding Photos	908 234-2677
Rose Garden & Wedding Photos	732 873-2459
Perennial Garden/ Arboretum	732 873-2459

Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may use the Relay Service at 711.



Welcome to Colonial Park

MISSION STATEMENT

*The Somerset County Park Commission
is committed to excellence in promoting
stewardship of land and resources,
providing outstanding recreation opportunities
and leisure services, and fostering
an environment which is service oriented
and responsive to public needs.*



**Somerset County
Park Commission**

Colonial Park • Duke Island Park • North Branch Park
Lord Stirling Park • Green Knoll Golf Course & Tennis Center
Quail Brook Golf Course • Spooky Brook Golf Course
Warrenbrook Golf Course & Park • Woodfern Farm
Sourland Mountain Preserve • Washington Valley Park
Leonard J. Buck Garden • Watchung Mountain Greenway
Little Brook Sanctuary • South Branch Reserve • Natirar
Neshanic Valley Golf Course • North Branch Greenway Park
Raritan River Greenway • East County Reserve • Chipman Tract
Ralph T. Reeve Cultural Center • Torpey Athletic Complex



**Somerset County
Park Commission**

Colonial Park

Colonial Park, located in Franklin Township, offers a spectacular variety of features and activities for park visitors. Acquired in 1965, this 685-acre facility



includes scenic frontage on both the historic Delaware and Raritan Canal and the Millstone River. Recreation facilities, prize-winning horticultural displays, and pristine natural areas are spaced amid the broad lawns and ponds of this diverse Somerset County park. Located within Colonial Park is Spooky Brook Golf Course; an 18 hole championship course which offers a wide open layout with spacious fairways and greens.

Picnic Areas



Colonial Park offers two picnic areas available by reservation to groups of 50 people or more. The Knob Hill picnic area can accommodate up to 150 people, and is located just off the main park drive near a playground and other family recreation facilities. The Pine Grove picnic area can accommodate up to 250 people, and is adjacent to a softball field. Additional picnic tables and grills are located throughout the park for use on a casual basis. The Morgan Pellowski playground features innovative, barrier-free equipment.

Athletics and Lifetime Sport Opportunities

A 1.4 mile fitness parcourse is laid out along a paved path used by walkers, joggers, and bicyclists. There are four ponds in the park. Each year the NJ State Division of Fish and Wildlife stocks Spooky Brook pond, offering anglers of all ages prime fishing locations. A softball field is available for casual use friendly ball games, as well as by reservation to leagues and tournaments. In winter, ice-skating and cross-country skiing are offered when weather permits.

Putting Course and Paddleboats



The Putting Course is a challenging family fun activity, which offers players fairways from 25 to 70 feet long in naturally landscaped water and garden settings. The Putting Course is fully accessible to accommodate players with physical disabilities. The popular paddleboats are located on Powder Mill Pond, and are available for rent for a cruise around the water. A boat with hand pedals is available for persons with limited mobility.

Tennis Center

Eight all-weather courts are available at the tennis center for classes, leagues, varsity competitions, as well as walk-on matches.



Horticulture Displays



Colonial Park's horticultural area features a variety of displays for the public to enjoy. The Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden offers a formal display of more than 3,000 roses. The formal garden is adjacent to a 5.5 acre Arboretum that contains labeled specimens of flowering trees, evergreens, shade trees, and flowering shrubs. The Fragrance and Sensory Garden is designed to encourage visitors to look, touch, and smell plants that are easily accessible. The Perennial Garden, centered around a gazebo, is a four-acre garden and a popular site for wedding ceremonies.



Leash-Free Dog Area



Dogs and their owners visit the three acre fenced leash-free area in which dogs are free to roam and play. This leash-free area is located off of Mettlers Road and is accessed via the same driveway as the Spooky Brook Golf Maintenance area. For more information, and a copy of the guidelines for this area, please call the Park Rangers at 732 873-2695.

Natural History

The Lois Howe Nature Trail is a remnant of the oak, hickory, and beech forests which characterized this area in the past. A main trail and several smaller branch trails lead visitors into areas rich in varied plant and animal life. Trees and water areas provide habitat for birds and animals, and wildflowers bloom among the low foliage on the forest floor. The area around Powder Mill Pond is a wildlife refuge, with trails and blinds designed so that visitors may observe wildlife in their undisturbed settings. Wooded areas and open fields complete the rich variety of natural landscape in Colonial Park.



Protect Your Parks

Please follow the posted park regulations so that everyone may enjoy the park. Leave flowers, plants, animals, and other features as you found them. Possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages is not permitted. Pets must be on leashes, except in the leash-free dog area. The park is open each day from dawn until dusk, unless otherwise posted. Park Rangers are available to assist you.

Somerset County Park Commission welcomes everyone to participate in its programs and facilities regardless of race, color, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious or political affiliation.