

INTRODUCTION

Located in the wooded hills of Northern Hunterdon County, two miles north of the town of High Bridge, Voorhees State Park is a popular hiking and camping destination. This 1,342-acre park can be reached from Interstate 78, taking Route 31 North to Route 513 North.

HISTORY

The land that now encompasses Voorhees State Park is part of a rolling landscape that was once a rural agricultural region, which existed for almost 200 years. The vision for the park was a direct result of Foster McGowan Voorhees, former Governor of New Jersey (1899-1902). Upon his death in 1927, he generously donated his 323-acre farm known as "Hills Acres" to the State of New Jersey to use for forestry demonstration projects. Voorhees State Park was officially established in 1929.

The 1920s and 1930s sent the nation into the uncertain times of the Great Depression. To combat unemployment and other economic ravages, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established a national job-training program for American youth in March of 1933. By June of that year, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was created through an act entitled "Emergency Conservation Work."

On October 1, 1933, construction of the CCC camp at Voorhees State Park began. Fourteen days later, the first enrollees began arriving from Priest River, Idaho to assist with the building of the camp. October 31 of that year marked the opening of Company 1268, Camp 20 S.P.5. By November 29th, the camp was ready for occupation to unmarried, unemployed young men in need. From October 1933 through June 1941, the CCC planted trees and constructed three shelters, picnic sites, roads, parking areas and trails. The legacies of the CCC contributions remain visible today throughout the park. Today, Voorhees State Park has grown into a multipurpose recreational facility offering both daytime and nighttime recreational opportunities.

FEATURES AND ACTIVITIES



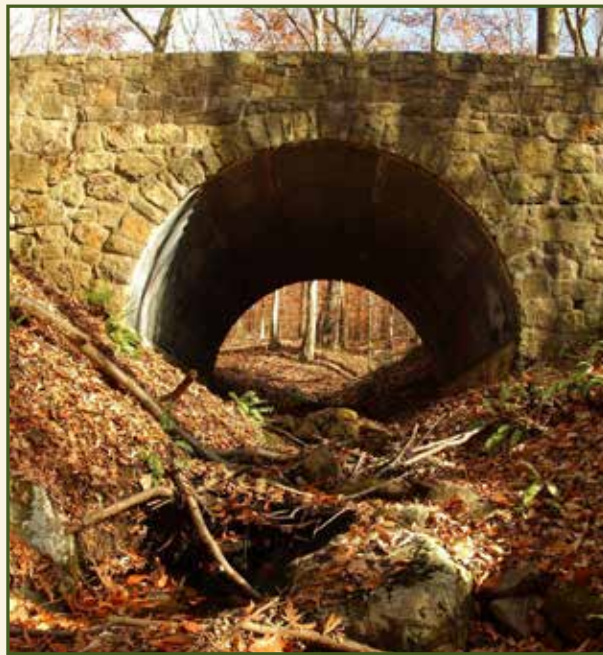
Trails

Voorhees has more than 9.5 miles of trails that meander through the park and are popular for hiking, jogging and bicycling. The Highlands Trail extends more than 150 miles from Storm King Mountain on the Hudson River in New York south to Riegelsville, New Jersey, on the Delaware River. A 2.3 mile section of the Highlands' Trail takes hikers across the park through varying forest terrain.



Camping

Family campsites, shelters and group campsites are available from April 1 – October 31. Each campsite is equipped with a picnic table, fire ring and parking for two vehicles. Restrooms, showers, drinking water, and a playground are located within the campground. The entrance to the campground is on Observatory Road, one mile south of the main park entrance along Route 513. Advanced reservations can be made at www.camping.nj.gov. Same day reservations can



be made at the Spruce Run Recreation Area park office. **Ground fires are permitted in the provided fire ring. Pets and alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the campground.**



Picnicking

Voorhees State Park picnic areas are situated in wooded settings throughout the park and are ideal for family picnics. Picnic areas have charcoal grills and picnic tables, all are first-come, first-served. A playground and open playing fields are nearby. Charcoal fires must be confined to the metal grills provided, or to grills brought by the picnicker.

Voorhees offers two reservable group picnic areas which includes picnic tables, charcoal grills, a covered pavilion, playground, parking and Clivus unit restrooms. For more information contact the Spruce Run Recreation Area Park Office. **Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.**



Hunting and Fishing

Hunting and fishing are permitted and subject to New Jersey DEP Fish & Wildlife regulations. Hunting maps are available at the Spruce Run Recreation Area Park Office and on our website. Willoughby Brook is designated as a "Wild Trout Stream" and Wild Trout Stream regulations apply. For information about fishing and hunting regulations or to obtain a license go to njfishandwildlife.com.

Observatory

Located on the highest elevation in the park, 840 feet above sea level, the New Jersey Astronomical Association (NJAA) observatory and education center offers astronomical viewing experiences for all ages. Built in 1965, it features a 26 inch Newtonian reflector telescope, the largest privately-owned telescope in the state, along with three mini observatories. The NJAA delivers monthly lectures and dynamic youth programs covering a broad range of astronomy activities. Online instrumentation and a real time night sky camera keep everyone informed of evening viewing conditions. For more information, please visit www.njaa.org or call 908-638-8500.

Parcourse

Cooperatively installed by the NJ Division of Parks & Forestry and Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ, the Parcourse combines all the elements of a scientifically designed exercise program in an outdoor setting. This fitness course is a series of 15 exercise stations spaced along a one mile path. The stations provide opportunities for warming up, stretching, muscle strengthening, cardiovascular conditioning, and cooling down combined with walking, jogging and running between stations. The wooded trail has been carefully designed for use by people at every level of fitness and athletic ability.



Scenic Overlooks

The scenic overlook on Observatory Road has a vantage point towards Round Valley Reservoir, which lies in the gently rolling hills of Hunterdon County. The winter views from Vista Trail provides glimpses of Spruce Run Reservoir.



Access For People With Disabilities

Voorhees State Park facilities are partially accessible for people with disabilities. Please contact the Spruce Run Recreation Area park office for further information regarding disability access. Text telephone (TTY) users, call the NJ Relay & CapTel Service at 711 or 1-800-852-7897 for English or 1-866-658-7714 for Spanish.



Be Bear Aware

Black bears are found throughout New Jersey. Do not approach or attract bears by making food available. Feeding bears is dangerous and illegal. Never run from a bear! To report an aggressive bear, call 1-877-WARNDEP (1-877-927-6337) immediately. Please report any damage or nuisance behavior to the forest office. Visit New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife at njfishandwildlife.com for additional information on bear safety.



Pets

Pets must always be on a leash no longer than six feet in length and under the control of the owner at all time. Please clean up after your pets.

Pets are prohibited in the campground.



Keep It Clean and Green

Bring a bag or two and carry your trash out with you. Trash cans are not provided. Don't forget to recycle!

NOT PERMITTED

ATVs, Alcoholic beverages, Smoking and vaping* are NOT permitted in this park.



*Smoking and vaping permitted only inside your personal vehicle.

To report an emergency or suspicious activity, call 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) or 911.



VOORHEES STATE PARK
251 County Road Route 513
Glen Gardner, N.J. 08826
908-638-8572

Voorhees State Park is administered by Spruce Run Recreation Area.
68 Van Syckles Road
Clinton, N.J. 08809

Directions: From I-78 Westbound take Exit 17, Eastbound take Exit 16, to Route 31 North to Route 513 North.



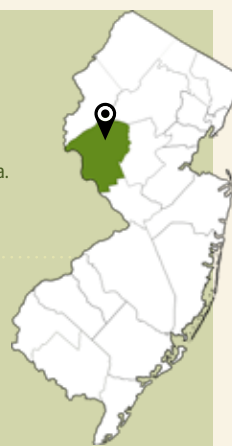
NJPARKSANDFORESTS.ORG



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10/2021 CMY

Voorhees State Park

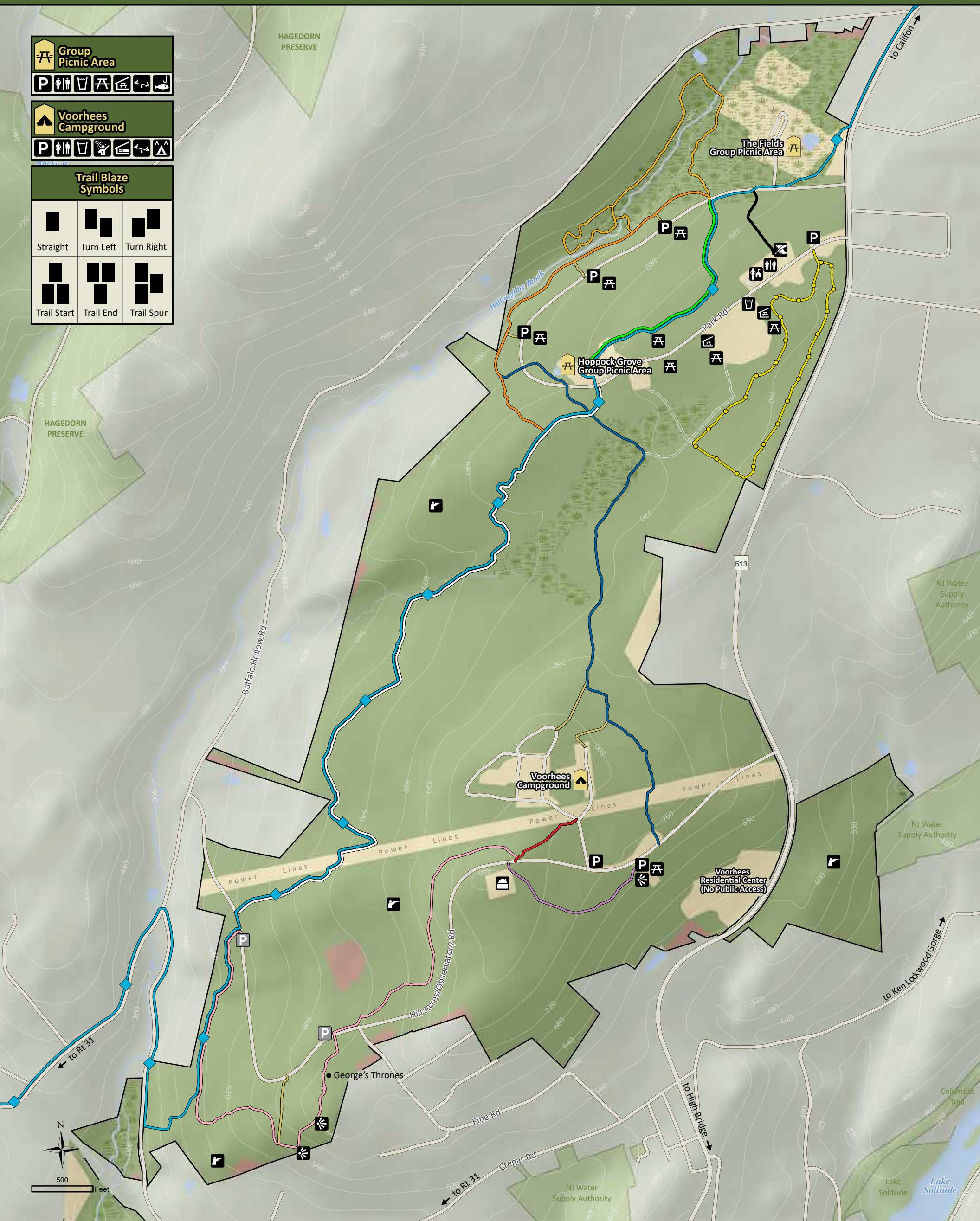


State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
State Park Service



VOORHEES State Park

Group Picnic Area		
Voorhees Campground		
Trail Blaze Symbols		
Straight	Turn Left	Turn Right
Trail Start	Trail End	Trail Spur



Open Field or Grass	Brookside Trail (0.6 mi)	Hill Acres Trail (1.0 mi)	Camp Shelters	Observatory	Playground
Forest	Campground Trail (0.12 mi)	Parcourse Trail (1.0 mi)	Drinking Water	Parking Lot	Restrooms
Developed Area	Company Street (0.12 mi)	Solar System Trail (0.25 mi)	Fishing	Parking (Pull Off)	Scenic View
Water	Cross Park Trail (1.4 mi)	Tanglewood Trail (0.4 mi)	Group Campground	Park Office (Closed)	Shower
Wetland	Hollow Trail (0.85 mi)	Vista Trail (1.3 mi)	Historic Site	Picnic Area	Picnic Shelter
	Highlands Trail (2.3 mi)	Trail Connector	Hunting		