

INTRODUCTION

Allaire State Park is located in Monmouth County on the New Jersey coastal plain. It is an extension of the New Jersey Pine Barrens, with characteristics of sandy soil, forest of oak, cedar and pine, and cool, iron-tinged waterways. In addition to being an idyllic spot for outdoor activities such as picnicking and hiking, this area also provides cultural flavor with a historic industrial village and a diesel narrow-gauge railway. There is something for families, groups and individuals of all ages to experience and enjoy.

HISTORY

Allaire State Park's earliest recorded history of industrial activity was in the early 1790s when the area was the site of the Williamsburg Forge. By 1814, a furnace had been built and the site was known as the Monmouth Furnace.

In 1822, James P. Allaire purchased the Monmouth Furnace, a 5,000-acre iron producing enterprise. Allaire renamed the property the Howell Works and proceeded to rebuild and expand the property between 1827 and 1837. The furnace provided pig iron made of bog ore for his New York City foundry, the Allaire Works, where he recast it into parts for steam engines and boilers. The Howell Works, in addition to the pig iron, also produced hollowware, water pipe, stove plates and other castings for the retail market.

Under the guidance of James P. Allaire, the site developed into a self-contained community with a church, school, general store, bakery, carpenter and blacksmith shops, several mills and housing for the workers and their families. The mid-1830s were the most prosperous ear of the Village, at which time there were approximately 200-300 people living in the community.

The decline of the village as an industrial community resulted from several factors: the discovery of high-grade iron ore near coal beds in Pennsylvania, newer smelting technologies and a national depression. The fires in the furnaces were extinguished in 1846 and this once active and industrious community gradually declined. The property, diminishing in acreage over the years, remained in the Allaire family until 1901, by which time it was referred to as Allaire Village.

In 1907, Arthur Brisbane, a famous Hearst newspaperman, purchased the property. Mr. Brisbane built a residence outside of the village and rented the village to various enterprises, including the Boy Scouts for their use as Camp Burton.

In 1941, 800 acres of land, including the Village, were deeded to the people of the State of New Jersey as a gift from the estate of Arthur Brisbane. Since that time, Allaire State Park has increased in size to over 3,000 acres.

In the late 1950s, a group of interested citizens founded a non-profit organization to assist and advise the State in the restoration and interpretation of Allaire Village. This corporation, which exists today under the name of Allaire Village, Inc., has a board of trustees composed of private citizens and State-appointed trustees. Its staff and volunteers assist the State in providing interpretive and educational programs for the public.

FEATURES AND ACTIVITIES

Allaire Village - The outdoor areas of Allaire Village are open year-round. The historic buildings are open on a more limited basis, please call ahead for schedule. The historic buildings feature artifacts of the 19th century and are brought to life by interpreters in period clothing who demonstrate crafts and explain the history of Allaire Village in the 1830s.

There are special events throughout the year, such as flea markets, crafts shows, lantern tours and 1830s historical events. Program and event fees vary, contact Allaire Village Inc. at 732-919-3500 or visit allairevillage.org.

Pine Creek Railroad -

Founded in 1952, New Jersey Museum of Transportation's Pine Creek Railroad is one of the oldest operating narrow gauge railway exhibits in the country. The Pine Creek line offers a narrow-gauge train ride and provides an authentic feel of early rail travel in the United States. Train rides are available for a fee on weekends from early April through late fall.

For more information, please call 732-938-5524 or visit njmt.org.



Nature Areas and Nature Interpretive Center

To help preserve the park's flora and fauna, large areas of Allaire State Park have been left in their natural state. The floodplain of the Manasquan River bisects the park and provides an excellent habitat for plant species not usually found in the Jersey Shore region. Over 200 species of wildflowers, trees, shrubs and other plants have been identified within the park.

Located along the Atlantic flyway, Allaire provides a feeding and resting place for migrating birds. A large variety of bird species may be observed throughout the year.

The Nature Interpretive Center is open seasonally, call the park office for hours.



Picnicking

Picnic facilities are provided for family outings in attractive wooded settings adjacent to the village. Charcoal grills, picnic tables, restroom facilities and a playground are provided.



Fishing

Annual trout stocking of the Manasquan River ensures excellent opportunities for freshwater anglers. Fishing is subject to New Jersey DEP Fish & Wildlife regulations.



Hunting

A portion of Allaire State Park is available for deer hunting only. For information about hunting, refer to the New Jersey DEP Fish & Wildlife Digest or contact the park office.



Trails

Allaire offers several miles of hiking trails and multiuse trails, which are marked and easily followed. Hiking trails are located in the day use area and are to be used for foot traffic only. Multiuse trails are located throughout the remainder of the park and are open for hiking, bicycling and equestrian use. All trails are open during park operating hours. The "South Side" area of the park is approximately 800 acres of varying terrain and has miles of unmarked trails as well as four primary marked multi-use trails. The South Side trails trailhead is off a large gravel parking lot located on Hospital Road.



Camping

Family camping facilities are located in the northwestern portion of the park, approximately one mile west of Allaire Village. There are 45 campsites, and 10 shelters; each site contains a picnic table and a fire ring. Modern sanitary facilities, showers and drinking water are within walking distance of all sites. There are no water, electric or sewer connections for recreational vehicles, however, a dump station is available from mid April through mid October. Online reservations can be made 7 days per week/24 hours a day at camping.nj.gov. To make a reservation over the phone, please call the park office.

Six group campsites are located in the southern portion of the park. Four of the group sites have a maximum of 50 people each. Two of the group sites have a maximum of 25 people. All of the group sites have fire rings and picnic tables. The group campsites do not have flush toilets or showers and use of the family campsite facilities is not permitted.



Access For People With Disabilities

Allaire State Park recreational facilities are partially accessible to persons with disabilities. Please contact the park office for further information regarding disability access needs. 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.



Pets

Pets must always be on a leash no longer than six feet in length and under the control of the owner at all times. Please clean up after your pets. Pets are not permitted in overnight facilities.



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 and 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.



ALLAIRE STATE PARK
4265 Atlantic Ave
Farmingdale, NJ 07727
732-938-2371

Directions: Allaire State Park can be reached from exit 98 off the Garden State Parkway or exit 31B off Interstate 195. Follow signs to the park entrance.



NJPARKSANDFORESTS.ORG

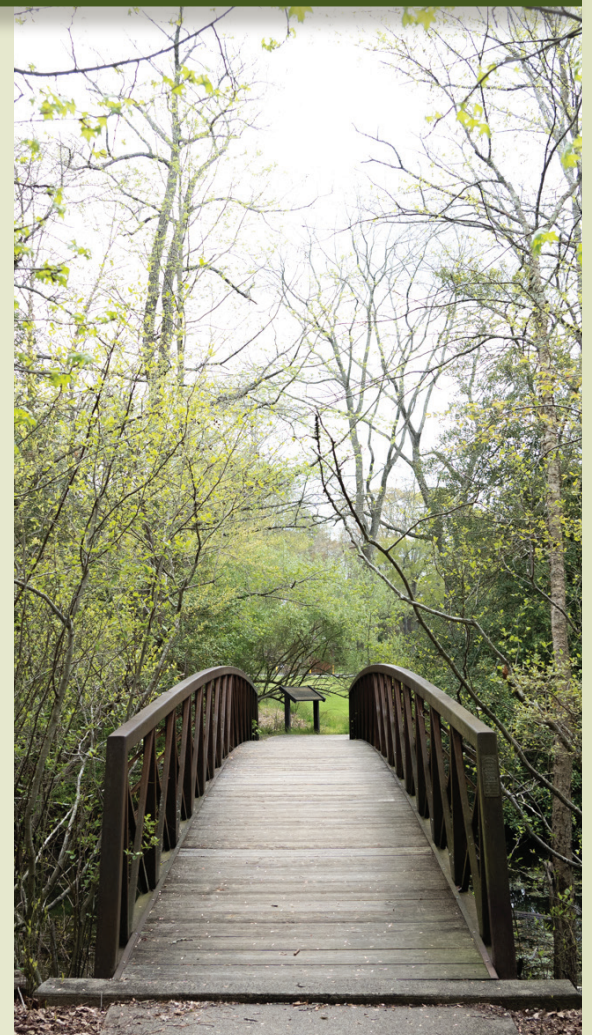


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Allaire State Park



State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
State Park Service



ALLAIRE State Park



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| Open Field or Grass | Boy Scout Trail (1.3 mi) | Nature Trail (1.5 mi) | Campground | Museum | Playground |
| Forest | Brisbane Trail (2.8 mi) | Oak Trail (2.7 mi) | Concession | Parking Lot | Primitive Restrooms |
| Developed Area | Canal Trail (2.5 mi) | Pine Trail (4.6 mi) | Group Campground | Pull Off Parking | Restrooms |
| Water | Capital to Coast Trail (1.9 mi) | Upper Squankum Trail (2.2 mi) | Fishing | Picnic Area | Tours |
| Wetland | Mountain Laurel Trail (3 mi) | Trail Connector | Interpretive Center | Picnic Shelter | |