TRAILS OF VOORHEES STATE PARK

Voorhees State Park, originally a farm owned by New Jersey Governor Foster M. Voorhees, was donated to the State in 1926. The pastoral property became home to a Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) camp from 1933 to 1941. The CCC built the present-day roads, shelters, latrines, visitor amenities, and trails. There are 11 official trails at Voorhees that extend nearly 10 miles. The trails range from wide, gravel woods roads to rocky and steep single-track paths, making them suitable for a wide range of abilities and interests. Trails are multi-use except for Cross Park Trail and Parcourse Trail, which are for hiking only. Parcourse Trail is a specially-designed fitness circuit. All trails are well-marked with colored blazes. Highlands Trail follows existing trails and is co-blazed with teal diamonds.

Brookside Trail

Orange • 0.6 miles • Multi-use
Moderate • Semi-loop trail along Willoughby Brook

Trailhead Numerous access points with parking along Park Road. **Brookside Trail** travels from Cross Park Trail and runs along the south side of Willoughby Brook. Two connector trails provide access to Hollow Trail to create a loop.

Campground Trail

Red • 0.12 miles • Multi-use
Easy to moderate • Short path to campground

Campground Trail is a short, wide trail created to provide campers with a safe alternate route from the campground to the nearby observatory. The trail is marked with reflectors that are visible at night.

Company Street

Black • 0.12 miles • Multi-use
Easy • Historic entrance to CCC camp

Trailhead North side of park office.

Company Street is a short trail heading north from a grassy area outside the park office and connecting to the north side of Park Road. The trail follows a six-foot-wide grass and gravel road and passes several stone foundation remains of the historic CCC camp.

Cross Park Trail

White • 1.4 miles • Hiking
Moderate • Long trail across middle of park

Trailhead Day-use parking area across from playground at Hoppock Grove. **Cross Park Trail** is the longest trail in the park. It traverses a section of forest that was once farm field and is now in the evolving process of succession. Fast-growing shrubs and young pine have given way to mature sugar maple, oak, and beech. A great loop around the park can be completed by connecting to Vista and Hill Acres Trails.

Hollow Trail

Dark yellow • 0.85 miles • Multi-use
Moderate • Trail through creek bottomland

Trailhead Brookside Trail or Park Road.

Hollow Trail is a loop trail that crosses to the north side of Willoughby Brook and stays within forested creek bottomlands and surrounding woods. The trail is a mix of rocky, single-track along the creek edge and four- to six-foot-wide cleared paths through thick vegetation.

Highlands Trail

Teal diamond • 2.3 miles • Hiking
Moderate • Long-distance hiking trail

Trailhead Along Buffalo Hollow Road on east side of park. The entire **Highlands Trail** is a 150-mile long-distance trail crossing New York and New Jersey. This section of the Highlands Trail takes hikers through Voorhees State Park along existing trails and park roads.

Hill Acres Trail

Dark blue • 1.0 mile • Multi-use
Easy • Flat road, connects two main areas of park

Trailhead Day-use parking area across from playground at Hoppock Grove.

Hill Acres Trail connects the main use areas of the park. Historically, these were the two tracts of Hill Acres Farm (Hill Acres and Hoppock tract). These sections were part of the Voorhees-owned property in 1906. The trail from the Hoppock Grove parking area begins as a six-foot-wide gravel road through the forest and then becomes a narrow path near the campground area. The trail continues to Observatory Road and ends across from the scenic overlook parking and picnic area. To form a loop and return to the Hoppock Grove parking area, hikers can take Solar System Trail to Vista Trail and connect with Cross Park Trail, a distance of 3 miles.

Parcourse Trail

Yellow • 1.0 mile • Hiking
Moderate • Flat loop trail with fitness stations

Trailhead South side of Park Road, 50 yards from park entrance. **Parcourse Trail** is a loop trail that incorporates a fitness and exercise circuit in a series of 15 stations spaced along the route. The stations provide opportunities for warming up, stretching, muscle strengthening, cardiovascular conditioning, and cool downs, combined with walking or jogging in between stations. The trail and fitness stations are designed for use by persons at every level of fitness and athletic ability.

Solar System Trail

Purple • 0.25 miles • Multi-use
Easy to moderate • Interpretive trail

Solar System Trail is a short wooded path that connects the scenic overlook to the observatory. The interpretive signs along the trail discuss the planets in our solar system. They are spaced to scale with each sign's distance from the first sign (the Sun) being equal to that planets's real distance from the Sun.

Tanglewood Trail

Green • 0.4 miles • Multi-use
Easy • Trail crosses forested area within park boundary

Trailhead Hoppock Grove. **Tanglewood Trail** begins adjacent to the bathroom building and heads northeast. It joins the road across from Brookside Trail. Tanglewood Trail traverses the forested section of the park that is surrounded by Park Road.

Vista Trail

Pink • 1.3 miles • Multi-use
Moderate • Trail leads to observatory

Trailhead Parking pull-out along west side of Observatory Road. **Vista Trail** passes through thick forest and heads up to George's Thrones and scenic views that change with leaf and foliage covering. At this location, the trail crosses Observatory Road and heads up the steep, wooded hillside leading to the Robinson Observatory, the highest elevation in the park (at 840 feet above sea level). Connections from Vista Trail can easily be made to Solar System Trail, Hill Acres Trail and Cross Park Trail, to create a loop.

This brochure was funded by the NJDEP and the FHWA Recreational Trails Program.

TRAIL SENSE AND SAFETY

Trail Markings Official trails are marked with colored blazes on posts and trees. As a matter of safety, do not alter any trail markings.

Preparations Consider bringing water, snacks and sunscreen. Check the weather before you go, dress appropriately, and tell someone where you intend to go and when you expect to finish.

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

Carry-in/Carry-out Help keep the park clean and beautiful by carrying out trash that you carry in.

Tick Protection Bring insect repellent, wear light-colored clothing, tuck pants into socks, check yourself when you get home, shower, and launder clothes immediately.

Bear Awareness Bears are active in this area. Do not approach or attract bears by making food available. Bear sightings should be reported to 877-WARN-DEP.

Emergency Numbers DEP's 24-hour, toll-free hotline: 877-WARN-DEP (877-927-6337) or 911.

Voorhees State Park is administered by
Spruce Run Recreation Area
68 Van Syckles Road
Clinton, NJ 08809
(908) 638-8572

Voorhees State Park (physical address)
251 County Route 513
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826

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TRAILS *of* Voorhees State Park

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
State Park Service
njparksandforests.org