

**Stoll Trail**

*Blue & gray • 0.7 miles • Multi-use • Easy*  
**Trailhead** South side of Dimon Road just past the Cook 4-H Camp. **Stoll Trail** is a relatively short and level trail with rhododendron thickets and large trees like beech, hemlock, white pines and oak.

**Stony Brook Trail**

*Brown • 2.8 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Parking area at end of Kittle Road. **Stony Brook Trail** follows a small creek with waterfalls and continues to Kittle Field, Stony Lake, and Sunrise Mountain Road. Stony Brook Trail is moderately steep and a good climb for those who wish the exercise. The trail crosses many areas of the park.

**Stony Lake Trail**

*Blue & brown • 0.7 miles • Multi-use • Easy*  
**Trailhead** From the playground at Stony Lake beach. **Stony Lake Trail** is a short, looped trail around the south side of Stony Lake. It provides good views and follows along the edge of the lake.

**Swenson Trail**

*Red • 3.7 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** West side of Crigger Rd. **Swenson Trail** connects to and shares the path with Blue Mountain Trail through a section of forest that was clear cut in the last century. Over the last 90-100 years, natural succession has taken place leading to the mature forest of oaks and other hardwood trees seen here today.

**Tillman Ravine Trail**

*White • 1.5 miles • Hiking only • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** West side of Stokes, along Dimon Road. **Tillman Ravine Trail** is a looped trail between ridges and a ravine along Tillman Brook in the Tillman Ravine Natural Area. The ravine is a narrow red shale and sandstone gorge set among tall hemlock trees.

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

**Tinsley Trail**

*Yellow • 2.0 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Skellenger Road or Sunrise Mountain Road. **Tinsley Trail** connects the Blue Mountain Trail to Sunrise Mountain Road. It also provides access to the Geology Trail.

**Tower Trail**

*Green • 1.6 miles • Multi-use • Difficult*  
**Trailhead** On Sunrise Mountain Road, 1.5 miles from Route 206. **Tower Trail** leads uphill to the Appalachian Trail with excellent view of rural Sussex County. It leads downhill from the trailhead to Stony Brook Trail.

**TRAIL SENSE AND SAFETY**

**Trail Markings** Official trails in the state forest are marked with colored blazes or markers on posts or trees. Horses and bicycles must stay on designated trails or roads and hikers are encouraged to stay on trails. One blaze means to continue straight. Two blazes indicate that the trail makes a turn in the direction of the top blaze.

**Hunting** Stokes State Forest is open to various hunting seasons year-round. Contact Stokes office for more information. It is advisable to wear bright colored clothing (blaze orange recommended) that can be seen from all directions.

**Report** trail issues to Stokes office (973) 948-3820

**Emergency Numbers** 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) or 911

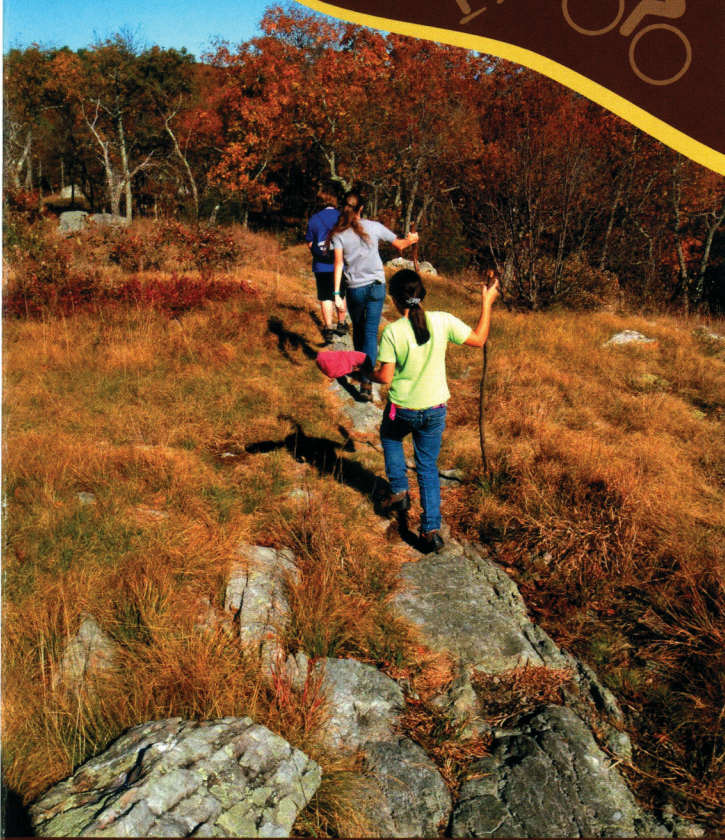
Scan the QR code to learn more about each trail.

**Stokes State Forest**  
1 Coursen Road  
Branchville, NJ 07826  
(973) 948-3820



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**TRAILS**  
*of*  
**Stokes State Forest**



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

**TRAILS OF STOKES STATE FOREST**

**Stokes State Forest** encompasses 16,447 acres of mountainous woodlands in the Kittatinny Mountains, from the southern boundary of High Point State Park to the eastern boundary of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Stokes offers 21 marked trails for a total of over 63 miles. Many of the trails are multi-use (for hiking, biking and horse-back riding), but some, including the 12-mile section of the Appalachian Trail, are hiking only. Permitted uses are indicated on trail signage.

**Acropolis Trail**

*Gold & brown • 1.0 mile • Hiking • Difficult*  
**Trailhead** On south side of Route 206 across from Culvers Lake. **Acropolis Trail** is the steepest trail within Stokes with a continuous climb to the top of the Kittatinny Ridge. Views of nearby Culver Lake and the Pocono Plateau are spectacular.

**Appalachian Trail**

*White • 12 miles • Hiking • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Numerous entry points along the trail. The **Appalachian Trail (AT)** is a historic national scenic trail extending from Maine to Georgia. It is well-marked and well-traveled, with numerous rocks, bridges, boardwalks, and changes in elevation.

**Blue Mountain Trail**

*Blue • 17.3 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** There are numerous places to enter Blue Mountain Trail. **Blue Mountain Trail** is a new and extensive loop created by incorporating existing trails, as well as short sections of new trail. The trail encircles the heart of the northern portion of Stokes State Forest. With so many connections to other trails, there are many opportunities to plan a hike of almost any length.

**Naismith's Rule** Allow one hour for every three miles length, plus an hour for every 2,000 feet of elevation changes. When walking in groups, calculate for the speed of the slowest person.

**Coursen Trail**

*Blue • 1.5 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** One mile from Route 206 on north side of Sunrise Mountain Road. **Coursen Trail** is a gently sloping route along a hillside that connects with Stony Brook Trail near Stony Lake, encountering wetlands along the way.

**Criss Trail**

*Gray & teal • 2.2 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Two access points on north side of Grau Road. **Criss Trail** is moderately sloped, moving along a boulder-strewn hillside. It follows an old road along a rocky stream bed. The trail loops from Grau Road near Cabin 12 to Grau Road near Forked Brook.

**Deep Root Trail**

*Red & yellow • 1.2 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Starts from Criss Brook Trail. **Deep Root Trail** follows a creek then climbs moderate slopes in a boulder-strewn hardwood forest. The trail levels out along the ridge-top and meets with upper reach of DeGroat Road.

**Geology Trail**

*Blue triangles • 1.0 mile • Hiking & interpretive • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** This loop trail begins and ends from Tinsley Trail, downhill from Sunrise Mountain Road. **Geology Trail** is narrow and winds through an area of glacial landforms. Along the way, numbered posts correspond with an interpretive guide (available at the Stokes office) that explains the numerous points of geologic interest.

**Ladder Trail**

*Blue & gray • 0.4 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Access from Red Maple Trail on Woods Road. **Ladder Trail** is a steep trail that runs up the side of the Kittatinny Ridge to connect with the Appalachian Trail. Located in the remote southern end of the forest, mixed hardwoods, mountain-laurel and blueberry are abundant.

**Lead Mine Trail**

*Blue & gray • 0.7 miles • Multi-use • Easy*  
**Trailhead** From Coursen Road, 0.4 miles from Stokes office. **Lead Mine Trail** runs from Coursen Road to the Blue Mountain Trail over generally level terrain. The trail includes an open clear-cut area from the mid-1980s.

**Red Maple Trail**

*Red maple leaf • 5.0 miles • Multi-use • Moderate to difficult*  
**Trailhead** Parking lot off Struble Road for Lake Ashroe Recreation Area, or the upper parking lot at Tillman Ravine Natural Area. **Red Maple Trail** connects the Lake Ashroe Recreation Area with the unique Tillman Ravine Natural Area.

**Rock Oak Trail**

*Blue & yellow • 1.5 miles • Multi-use • Easy*  
**Trailhead** West side of Deckertown Turnpike, one mile from Crigger Road. **Rock Oak Trail** traverses a small ridge and passes an old logging deck. The trail highlights forest land in various stages of succession.

**Shay Trail**

*Brown & yellow • 1.5 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** South side of Dimon Road just past the Cook 4-H Camp. **Shay Trail** served as a fire control route in July 1966 when a major forest fire burned through 2,000 acres at the southern end of Stokes. The trail is moderately steep and rocky.

**Silver Mine Trail**

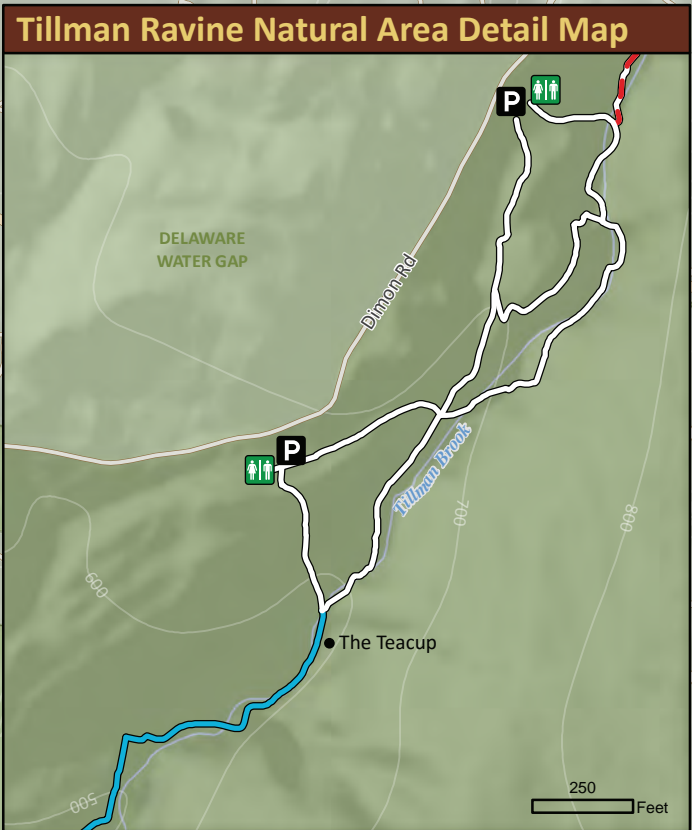
*Orange • 2.2 miles • Multi-use • Moderate*  
**Trailhead** Near the waterfall on Stony Brook Trail. **Silver Mine Trail** climbs a gently sloping hill then descends back into the creek to an old silver mine shaft used by the previous property owner, John Snook, in the late 1800s. The trail loops back to Blue Mountain Trail.

**Steffen Trail**

*Black & gray • 1.8 miles • Multi-use • Easy*  
**Trailhead** Parking lot on right, after turning onto Struble Road. **Steffen Trail** is moderately-sloped throughout its length along a low forested ridge. Most of the woodland is chestnut oak and contains evidence of a destructive hurricane which felled many trees in 1950.



# STOKES State Forest



- |                     |                               |                               |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Open Field or Grass | Acropolis Trail (1.0 mi)      | Red Maple Trail (5.0 mi)      | Accessible Facility | Park Office           |
| Forest              | Appalachian Trail (12 mi)     | Rock Oak Trail (1.5 mi)       | AT Camp Shelter     | Parking Lot           |
| Developed Area      | Blue Mountain Trail (17.3 mi) | Shay Trail (1.5 mi)           | Boat Launch         | Picnic Area           |
| Water               | Blue Mountain Connector       | Silver Mine Trail (2.2 mi)    | Cabins              | Picnic Shelter        |
| Wetland             | Cemetery Trail (0.33 mi)      | Steffen Trail (1.8 mi)        | Campground          | Playground            |
|                     | Coursen Trail (1.5 mi)        | Stoll Trail (0.7 mi)          | Concession          | Restrooms             |
|                     | Criss Trail (2.2 mi)          | Stony Brook Trail (2.8 mi)    | Canoeing            | Restrooms (Primitive) |
|                     | Deep Root Trail (1.2 mi)      | Stony Lake Trail (0.7 mi)     | First Aid           | Scenic View           |
|                     | Geology Trail (1.0 mi)        | Swenson Trail (3.7 mi)        | Fishing             | Shower                |
|                     | Ladder Trail (0.4 mi)         | Tillman Ravine Trail (1.5 mi) | Group Campground    | Swimming              |
|                     | Lead Mine Trail (0.7 mi)      | Tinsley Trail (2.0 mi)        | Lean-to             |                       |
|                     | Parker Trail (0.5 mi)         | Tower Trail (1.6 mi)          |                     |                       |