Monmouth County Park System
Thompson Park
Lincroft, NJ

Welcome To Thompson Park
Established in 1968 when Geraldine Thompson bequeathed the famed 19th century horse estate "Brookdale Farm" to the citizens of Monmouth County, Thompson Park's 667 acres now serve as administrative headquarters for the Monmouth County Park System. The preserved historic buildings offer a rich glimpse into the area's past, while the surrounding fields, trails, and lake provide a beautiful location for outdoor activities.

Visitor Center
The site's original grand colonial revival mansion, built in 1896 as the Thompson family residence, was destroyed by a fire in 2006. It was rebuilt to retain historic architectural character (signature columned porches, metal roof, distinctive French doors, and yellow/green paint scheme) and re-opened in 2009 as an information center with exhibits and program/office space. The beautifully manicured front lawn features some remarkable trees.

Playground
Located next to a shaded area of picnic tables, this modern playground offers hours of fair weather fun for children and parents to enjoy.

Craft Center
Arts, crafts, pottery, and ceramics classes are offered year round, days and evenings, weekdays and weekends, for all ages and skill levels.

Off-Leash Dog Area
Bring your dog to this fenced-in area next to the Craft Center for a leash-free run (open during regular park hours.) Guidelines available at www.monmouthcountyparks.com.

Fields And Meadows
Play frisbee, run across the manicured lawns, or watch wildlife—the meadows are home to many bird, animal and insect species. Rent a pair of cross-country skis (at the Outdoor Recreation Building) after the snow falls for a strenuous winter work-out. Call 732-842-4000 ext. 4238, or 4236.

Protect Your Parks
The Park System preserves and manages natural and cultural resources on more than 14,500 acres of land in Monmouth County. Protecting water quality, eliminating invasive plant species, and promoting healthy wildlife habitats are just a few objectives. Please help protect the park by leaving flowers, plants, animals, and other features as you found them; adhering to the posted park rules; using designated containers for trash, recyclables and pet waste; and keeping your pets leashed. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted.

An overabundance of white-tailed deer in and around the parks is threatening the health of native plant and animal species. Portions of Thompson Park may be open for deer hunting during some or all of the State-regulated hunting seasons. All hunting areas are clearly posted. Call (732) 842-4000 ext. 4237 or visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com for more information.

Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders
Board of Recreation Commissioners

Fishing At Marlucchini Lake
Cast from shore, or bring a canoe/kayak or trailered boat (electric motors only) to fish for bass, bluegills and perch. NJ freshwater license required for people age 16 and over.

Tennis Courts & Athletic Fields
Enjoy a match on one of four tennis courts available on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, several regulation-sized fields are available by reservation for league use; fee required, please call (732) 542-1642.

Theater Barn
This renovated horse barn is home to the Park System's summer musical and theater productions.

Group Picnic Areas
Thompson Park is a lovely setting for group picnics (up to 125 people, groups >50 require a permit.) A designated site with a tent is available by reservation for a fee. Please call (732) 842-4000, ext 1.

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From the Garden State Parkway: Exit 109 to Route 520 (Newman Springs Road) west. Follow for 2.2 miles (past entrance to Brookdale Community College) and turn left into park.

From Western Points: Route 33 East to Route 9 North or Route 79 North. Turn east onto Route 520 (Newman Springs Road). Follow signs to park. From Route 537 East, pass Deerbrook Recreation Area, turn left onto Tinton Ave/Swimming River Road. Follow north and make a left onto Route 520 (Newman Springs Road). Follow signs for park on left.

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Thompson Park offers more than 12 miles of multi-use trails through woods, meadows, and waterfront areas. Please stay on the marked trails, plan your route, take a trail map with you, and wear appropriate safety gear. Obey the rules of protocol for right of way: bicyclists yield to all other trail users, and pedestrians yield to equestrians. NOTE: At a brisk pace, it takes approximately 20 minutes to walk 1 mile (1.6 km).

Trail Key

**PAVED TRAIL:** This long, paved trail is perfect for walkers, runners, strollers and in-line skaters. It will eventually form a complete 5 mile (8.0 km) loop around and through the park (portions under construction.)

**MARSHY WALK:** An EASY 0.2 mile (0.3 km) trail perfect for a short family walk in the forest, with boardwalks for easy crossing of wetland areas. Park in Old Orchard lot.

**WOODLAND TRAIL:** This EASY 0.6 mile (1 km) trail for all ages takes only about 10 minutes to walk. Park in Old Orchard lot.

**TRACK LOOP:** This EASY, 1 mile (1.6 km) loop trail is shaded by a canopy of trees. The 0.7 mile (1.1 km) grassy WANDERER TRAIL, located inside, provides good wildlife views and adds another 10 minutes to your walk. Park in the lot at Filly Run.

**MARLU TRAIL:** This MODERATE, 0.8 mile (1.3 km) trail begins near the Marlu Lake and travels through forest and field to Route 520 where it joins the Paved Trail. Park at Marlu Lake or in the lot at Three Barns.

**RESERVOIR LOOP:** This MODERATE 4.8 mile (7.8 km) loop offers a lengthy and scenic hike around the Swimming River Reservoir and Marlu Lake along both grass and dirt trails. Park in the lot at Old Orchard or Marlu Lake.

Trail Standards

- **Easy:** shorter, well-maintained trails for casual walking
- **Moderate:** longer trails with some grades/obstruction for hiking, equestrians and all-terrain bicycles (may be suitable for some walkers and runners)
- **Challenging:** long, more primitive trails with steep grades/obstructions for hardy experienced hikers, equestrians, and all-terrain cyclists

Thompson Park
805 Newman Springs Road (Route 520), Lincroft, NJ
(732) 842-4000 • www.monmouthcountyparks.com

Legend
- Property Line
- River/Stream
- Reservoir/Lake
- Paved Trail
- Moderate Trail
- Easy Trail
- Service Road
- Paved Road
- Phone
- Information
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Accessible
- Trail Head
- Park
- Fishing
- Tennis Court
- Wildlife Viewing
- Boat Launch
- Bridge
- Boardwalk
- Memorial Grove
- Closed Portion of Trail

You may notice that field edges are mowed to provide additional access. These are not marked trails.