

Park Hours

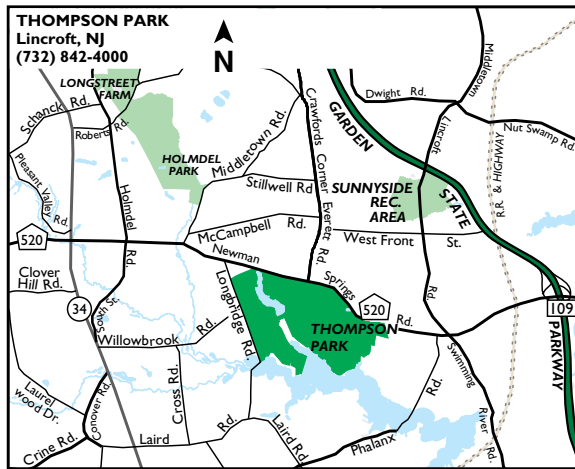
Thompson Park is open every day of the year from 8 am to dusk, free of charge. Park Rangers are available to assist you.

Lyme Disease Information

To avoid contact with the deer tick that may carry Lyme Disease, stay away from tall grass and shrubby areas, wear light-colored clothes, tuck long pants into socks, and check yourself for ticks after each visit to the park.

For More Information

For information about the County's parks, recreation areas, and golf courses or a complete listing of the more than 4,000 classes and programs offered by the Park System each year, call (732) 842-4000 or visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com.



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 Dorbrook 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.

Monmouth County
Board of Chosen Freeholders
Board of Recreation Commissioners



A9404 09/09

Monmouth County Park System

Thompson Park

Lincroft, NJ



www.monmouthcountyparks.com

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 its 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.



Fishing At Marlu 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.

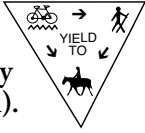
Protect Your Parks

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.

Trails

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.



Thompson Park

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



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