

About Echo Hill

Echo Hill was established in 1836 as a farm, consisting of the stone house, a barn, chicken coops, and a peach orchard. In 1936, the property was purchased by Robert and Hermia Lechner, who established a summer camp for boys. They called their facility “Camp Echo Hill.” The first summer 65 boys attended. The camp was expanded the following year to permit girls. During the transition from farm to summer camp, many of the existing structures were demolished or converted to new uses. Salvaged beams from the barn were used in the boys’ dining hall (what is now the Main Lodge). The orchard was cut down and replaced by 200,000 evergreens by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1939. In 1943, the Lechners acquired the Stanton Station Railroad Station from the Lehigh Valley Railroad for \$75.00. This structure was transported to the property and converted into the girls’ dining hall (now known as the South Activity Center). The Lechners’ home in the stone farm house served as the camp infirmary for many years. The Lechners constructed a pond for children to learn to swim. They retired from the camp in 1959 and sold the operation to a local church. The county acquired the property in 1974. Today, Echo Hill still continues its tradition of teaching children about nature through the Summer Nature Program and other activities.



Main Activity Center

(Revised 8/2019)

Echo Hill Park

Location: Echo Hill is located at 42 Lilac Drive, Flemington 08822 (Clinton Township).

Directions from the Flemington Area:

Take Route 31 north about 5.6 miles from the Flemington Circle. Make a right onto the jug handle for Stanton Station Road. Travel 0.4 miles to Lilac Drive. At Lilac Drive turn right and proceed another 0.4 miles. The entrance to the park will be on the right. The main parking area is on the left near the playground.

Directions from the Clinton Area:

Take Route 31 south about 6.2 miles from Interstate 78 to the traffic light for Stanton Station Road. Turn right onto Stanton Station Road and then follow the corresponding directions above.

Main Activity Center

The Main Activity Center offers two meeting rooms which may be reserved. The Main Lodge can accommodate up to 100 people and has an attached kitchenette. The lodge contains camp memorabilia, including wagon wheel lighting, a stone fireplace, a small stage painted in Native American motif, a totem pole, and numerous photos and crafts. The Multi-purpose Room can accommodate up to 50 people, and offers a projection screen, a sink, and a mini refrigerator.

Organized Group Camping

A primitive tenting site is available for groups. Water is available at the lodge.

Reservations

Reservations for the building or tent site must be made at the office at the Arboretum, 1020 State Highway 31 N, Lebanon 08833.

The Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation is dedicated to preserving open space and natural resources, providing safe parks and facilities, and offering educational and recreational opportunities, all contributing to an enhanced quality of life for present and future generations.

Picnic Site

The walk-in picnic site is located off the corner of the parking lot and adjacent to the playground. Grills are located within the site for public use.

Recreation Opportunities

Hikers can enjoy a circular trail around the perimeter of the park. It winds through a wide variety of habitats and affords a beautiful overlook of the Prescott Brook.

Fishing

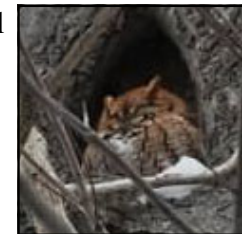
Anglers can fish for several species at the pond, including Largemouth Bass, catfish, and sunfish. The pond is designated for catch and release and State Fish and Wildlife rules apply.

Hunting

Bow hunting, by limited permit, is used to control the deer population. Hunters must obtain this special permit from the Division in order to be able to hunt at this location. Park visitors during hunting season are strongly encouraged to wear blaze orange or confine visits to Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Sundays.

Special Programs

Throughout the year the Division offers many programs at Echo Hill, including Summer Nature Program, Maple Sugaring, and our seasonal nature club for kids. Groups can also sign up for a program with a naturalist or recreation leader. Please contact the Main Office for scheduled events.



Eastern Screech-Owl

It is the policy of the County to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities upon advance notice of need. Persons requiring accommodations should make a request at least two weeks prior to program attendance.

Echo Hill Park

Trail Map and Guide



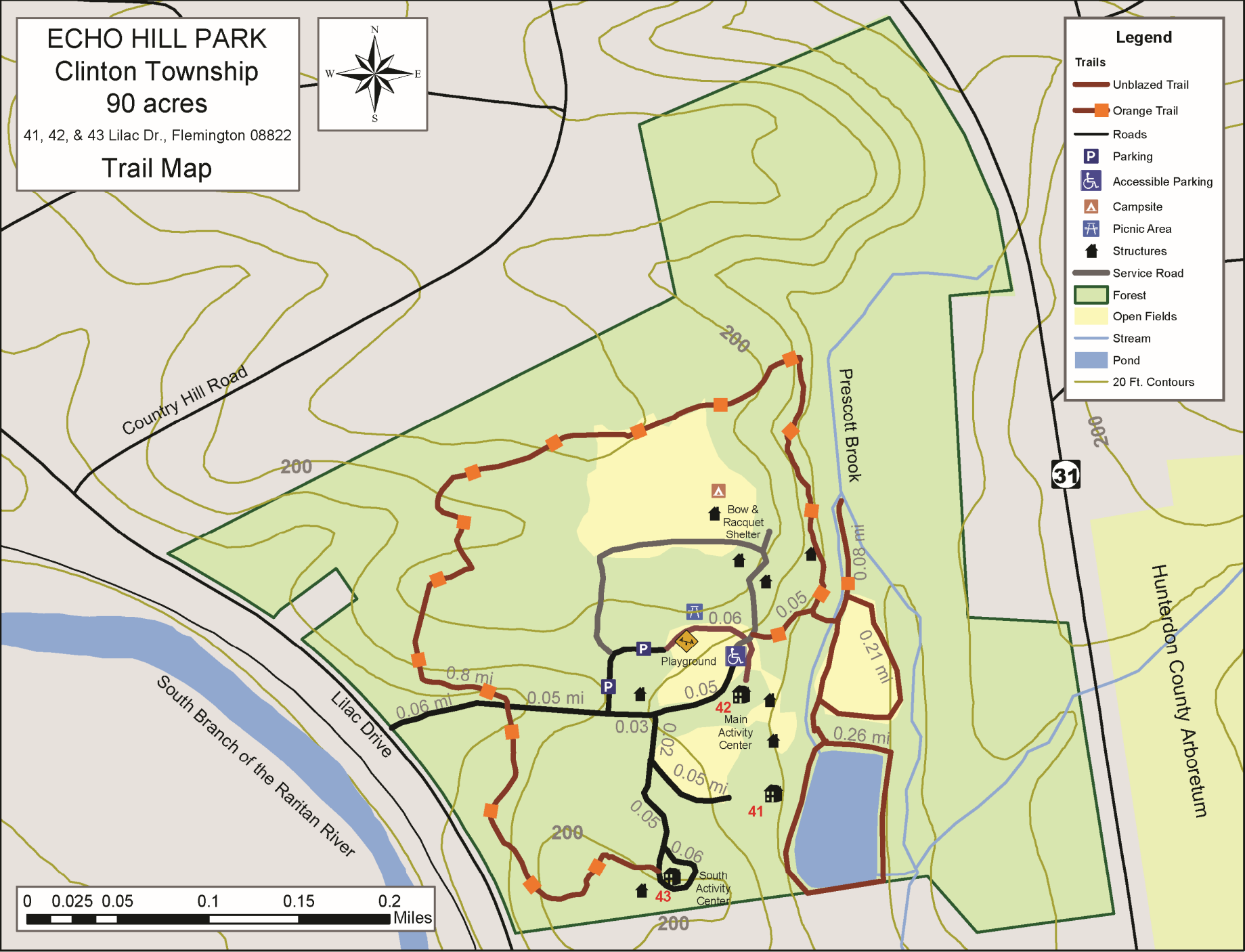
Building a boat, Camp Echo Hill, circa 1950



Hunterdon County
Division of Parks & Recreation
PO Box 2900, Flemington, NJ 08822-2900
1020 State Route 31, Lebanon, NJ 08833
Telephone (908) 782-1158
Fax (908) 806-4057

E-mail: parks@co.hunterdon.nj.us
Website: www.co.hunterdon.nj.us
(click on “Parks & Recreation”)

Office Hours:
Monday to Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM



SUMMARY OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules and regulations governing use of facilities or properties administered by the Hunterdon County Division of Parks and Recreation are promulgated in accordance with provisions of the N.J. Statutes Title 40:32-7.12, which reads as follows:

"The Board of Chosen Freeholders may by resolution make, alter, amend, and repeal rules and regulations for the supervision, regulation and control of all activities carried on, conducted, sponsored, arranged, or provided for in connection with a public golf course or other county recreational, playground, or public entertainment facility, and for the protection of property, and may prescribe and enforce fines and penalties for the violation of any such rule or regulation."

These rules and regulations have been promulgated for the protection of our patrons and for the facilities and natural resources administered by the Hunterdon County Division of Parks and Recreation.

Permits: A fully executed Facility Use Permit, issued by the County of Hunterdon for any activity, shall authorize the activity only insofar as it may be performed in strict accordance with the terms and conditions thereof. The State of NJ, County of Hunterdon, or the local municipality may require additional permits.

Prohibited Acts: The violation of any Municipal, State, or Federal law. Advertising, solicitation, ice skating, ice fishing, any other on-ice activities, downhill skiing, bathing, fuel-powered modeled aircraft, the release of any animal, explosives of any kind, poisons of any kind, after-hours use, alcohol without a permit in a non-designated area, controlled dangerous substances, weapons, posting of signage, inappropriate attire, and climbing on, or rappelling from any cliff, rock face, or boulder, with, or without the use of specialized equipment.

Regulated Activity: The sale of merchandise, aviation, boating, cross-country skiing, bicycling, and sledding. Battery-powered modeled aircraft and horses must be in designated areas, dogs must be restrained with a leash not exceeding six feet, pet waste must be removed, camping/fires are by permit only. All groups of 15 or more must obtain a permit for use of any Park area.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of Property: No person shall make, excavate on, destroy, paint, fill in, cut, remove or tamper with any property, organic or inorganic.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of Natural Resources: No person shall disturb wildlife or vegetation in any manner. No person shall pollute waters, litter, dump debris, or release helium balloons in any property. It is illegal to remove any natural resource from, or introduce any plant material, bulbs, or seeds to any property without a proper permit or license.

Prohibited Acts for the Protection of People: No person shall obstruct a county employee/official, interfere with a visitor, conduct any unsafe act, or cause a hazardous condition.

Vehicles: All the provisions of the NJ State Motor Vehicle Act apply. Vehicles are not allowed in unauthorized areas. Parking is allowed in designated areas only. **ATVs, dirt bikes, and snowmobiles are prohibited on County Park lands.**

Enforcement: The rules and regulations of the County shall be enforced by duly authorized Rangers or representatives of the County under the provision of N.J.S.A. 40:32-2. thru 40:32-7.13. Any person who enters into a County Park for any purpose whatsoever has a duty and is presumed to be aware of the provisions of these rules and regulations governing the use of the facilities and properties administered by the Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation.

Penalties: Any person violating any of the provisions of these regulations shall, upon conviction before a court or other adjudicative body of jurisdiction, be liable for the replacement, repair or restoration of damaged property, if any, and shall pay a penalty of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or other amount in the discretion of the court or other adjudicative body, or may be sentenced to imprisonment in the County jail for the term not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both, provided that this section shall not supersede any applicable penalty provision for specific offenses, which may be set forth in the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice, N.J.S.A. 2C:1-1, et seq., or in any other applicable state or federal law.

NOTE: County Park Rangers of the Division of Parks and Recreation have the authority to issue summons and make arrests for violations of rules and regulations governing the use of facilities and properties administered by the Division of Parks and Recreation. This is only a summary of the rules and regulations. Rules applying to special conditions, activities, or situations may be supplemental to these rules and regulations. When special rules apply, they will be posted at affected areas. The complete text of regulations is available for inspection at the Park administration office in Clinton Township during regular business hours.