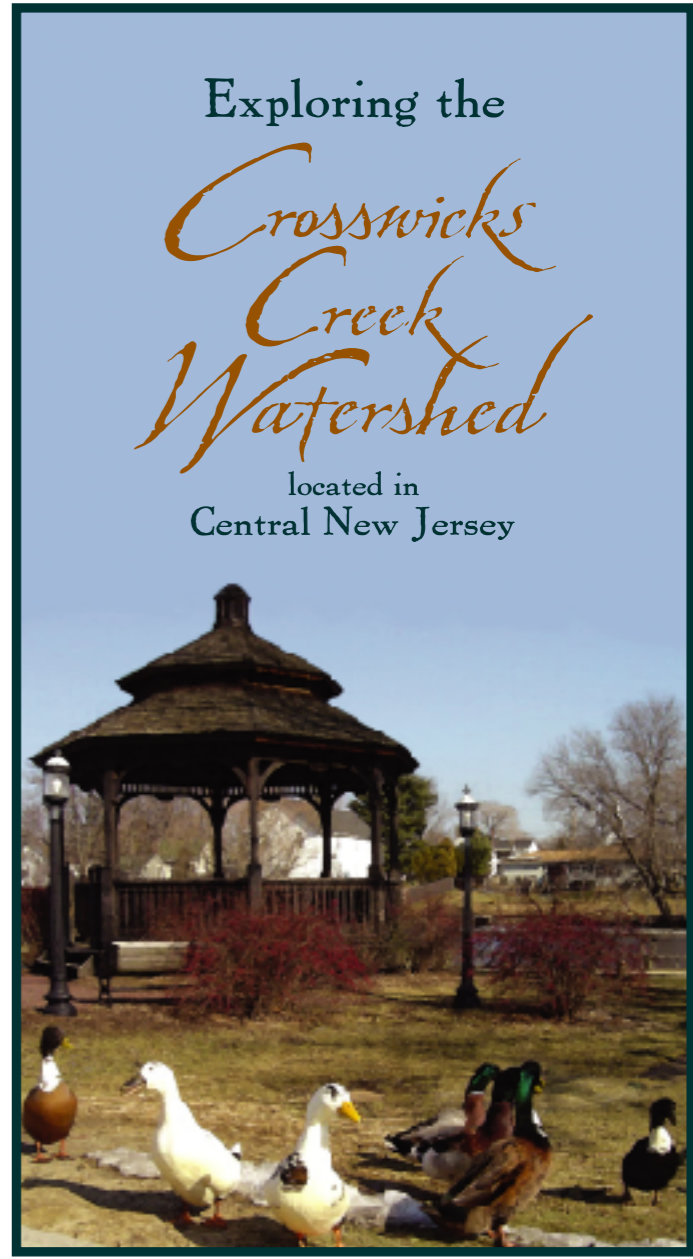
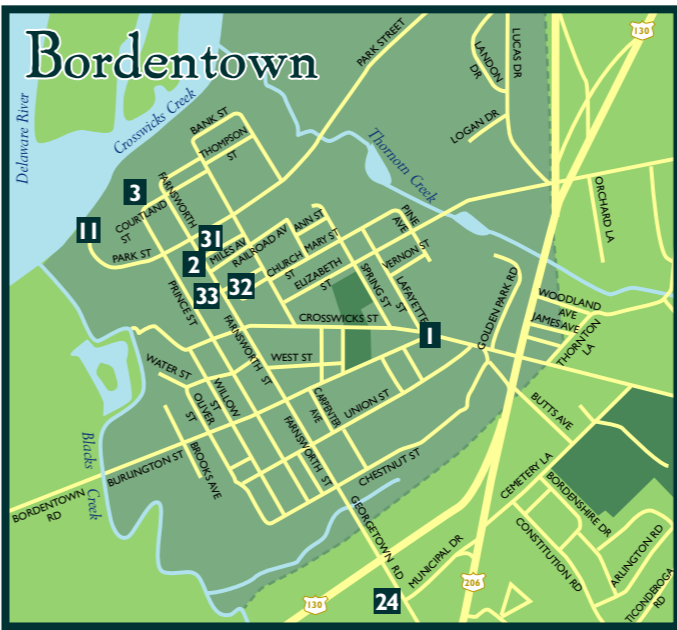
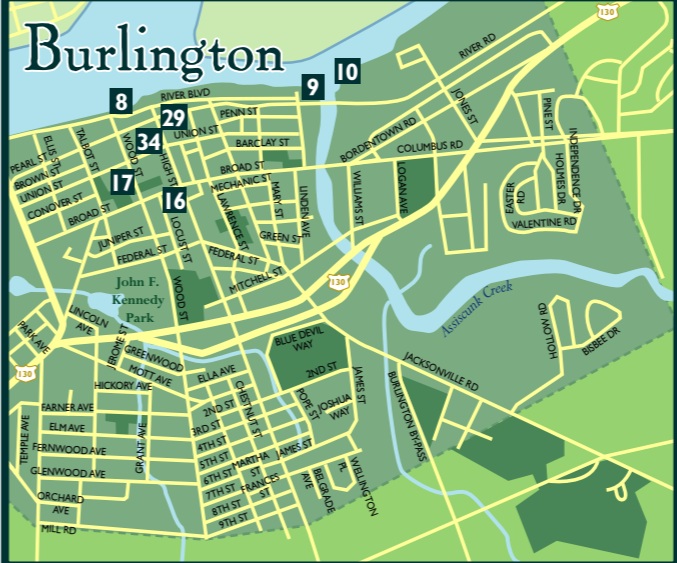


Map of the Crosswicks Creek Watershed



Illustration and Design by Frank McShane
 Printed on Recycled Paper



Exploring the
*Crosswicks
 Creek
 Watershed*
 located in
 Central New Jersey

"Man must go back to nature for information."

Thomas Paine



The Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, a National Estuary Program, promotes the Estuary as a regional resource through public education and outreach. Our goal, with this brochure, is to promote ecotourism based upon the Estuary's watershed boundaries rather than politically designated county or township lines. It is also designed to educate you about the natural resources of this watershed while being sensitive to its preservation.

For more information, call 1-800-445-4935 or visit our web site at www.DelawareEstuary.org.

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elcome!

Flowing through time, past and present, the **Crosswicks Creek Watershed** is a special place for memories...memories of yesteryears, and those yet to come. Once the stomping grounds of patriotic heroes, exiled royalty, infamous inventors, and artists, the tree-lined streets in these small town communities still beckon visitors to come and stay a while.

Spanning parts of Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean Counties, the Crosswicks Creek flows for 25 miles from the Fort Dix and McGuire military bases to the marshes on the Delaware River at Bordentown. Crosswicks Creek is one of many tributaries of the Delaware Estuary.

The Delaware Estuary Region extends from the falls at Trenton, New Jersey and Morrisville, Pennsylvania to the mouth of the Delaware Bay. It is the tidal portion of the Delaware River – where salt waters of the Atlantic Ocean and fresh waters of the Delaware River mix. The Delaware Estuary provides critical habitat for many species of plants, animals, birds, and fish.

Identified in this brochure are listings of natural areas, recreational resources, and locally owned and operated accommodations and eateries. We have made an effort to include businesses that provide visitors with a unique insight into the culture of the Watershed. Many of the proprietors listed have a professed interest in our environment. Your support for these businesses will in turn help to sustain the local economy and in doing so, may help to protect the natural resources of this wonderful area.

We hope you find this guide helpful and that you enjoy your visit to the Crosswicks Creek Watershed.

In Town...

The Crosswicks Creek Watershed is a large area (approximately 146 square miles), with many historically significant and naturally beautiful places of interest. We chose to introduce you to two towns in the Watershed – Bordentown and Allentown.

Bordentown

As a center of revolutionary zeal, Bordentown was occupied by the Hessians in 1776 and then pillaged and burned by the British in 1778. Once home to prominent historical figures such as Thomas Paine, Clara Barton, and Joseph Bonaparte (ex-king of Spain and brother of Napoleon), Bordentown is now a bustling community with much to offer visitors and residents alike.

Referred to as a “little city with a lot of charm,” the revitalized business district features interesting shops, galleries, restaurants and historically significant architecture. Founded by Clara Barton in 1843, the first free public, **1 one-room schoolhouse** in New Jersey still stands near the center of town. Visitors can take in the view of the Delaware River at Point Breeze, also known as Bonaparte’s Park, while pondering what remains of Joseph’s castle beneath the ground – brick tunnels built to provide a quick escape from his enemies.

The main street in town is Farnsworth Avenue, which is where you’ll find the unofficial visitor center **2 By the Book @ U & I Gift Shop**, 150 Farnsworth Ave., (609) 298-3334. Just walk in and ask for Arlene. The Thomas Paine Society has printed a self-guided tour of Mr. Paine’s haunts while he was a resident of Bordentown. A **3 statue** has been erected in his honor on the bluff at the end of Prince Street. Take the time to roam around the streets of this town, where locals will take the time to say hello.

Before you go, visit www.downtownbordentown.com.

Allentown

The country village of Allentown was settled in 1706 by Nathan Allen, who built three mills alongside Doctor’s Creek. Today, Allentown has a successful business district and approximately 220 homes within its historic district dating prior to 1860. It’s a very pleasant place for an afternoon of antiquing in the **4 Old Mill** and maybe a quick paddle on the **5 Millpond** adjacent to Pete Sensi Park. But before doing so, grab a cup of coffee or some picnic supplies at **6 Hoffmann’s Bake Shoppe**, 2 N. Main St., (609) 259-8442. This Victorian commercial building was built in the mid-1880s, and has been a hatter’s shop, several food markets, restaurants, and now a bakery.

Learn more about Allentown by exploring online at www.allentownnj.com, or by calling (877) 208-1141.

Boating, Biking or Hiking...

7 The Delaware River Heritage Trail is a planned 50-mile loop route between Philadelphia and Trenton that will take cyclists and hikers along the banks of the Delaware River in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The **8 Riverfront Promenade** in Burlington is one of the trail’s key links, and a good spot to catch a free summer concert. There are also a number of parks in the region with hiking trails for all ages and skill levels.

If boating is your preferred recreation, two access sites flank either side of the Assiscunk Creek in Burlington. The **9 Burlington City Boat Ramp**, (609) 386-4070 or the **10 Curtin Marina**, (609) 386-4657, both require a fee/permit to use the facilities.

Paddlers will want to visit **Paint Island Canoe & Kayak**, to check out new and used canoes and kayaks, rentals, and gear. They offer guided day trips and can make recommendations for self-guided trips on the local waterways. Paint Island was located in downtown Bordentown, but was planning a move at the time of publication. So visit them on the web at www.paintisland.com to check out their status.

The **11 Bordentown City Boat Ramp**, also known as Bordentown Beach, is at the end of Park Street. It provides locals and visitors with access to the Delaware River and a quiet spot for a mid-day break from work. Ample parking and picnic tables complete the scene. There is a fee to use the ramp. Call (609) 298-2800 for details.

Enjoying nature...

The **12 Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh** is located in one of the most populated areas of Mercer County, yet it supports over 1,000 different plant and animal species. Paddling, hiking and nature-watching opportunities abound in this place “where eagles hunt and humans play.” Most of the marsh is located within the Abbott Farm National Historic Landmark, which is the largest Native American site in the mid-Atlantic dating back to 400 BC. Contact the Delaware & Raritan Greenway at (609) 924-4646 for more information, or visit www.marsh-friends.org.

13 Crosswicks Creek Park, near Ellisdale, (732) 842-4000, borders the Creek preserving the integrity and ecology of the waterway. Located in the heart of the park is **Historic Walnford**, (609) 259-6275, a 36-acre historic district that was once the homestead of Richard Waln. This former estate, with mill and out buildings, has been restored and is open to the public.

14 Clayton Park, near Imlaystown, (732) 842-4000, features 417 acres that includes six miles of trails for hikers, bikers, and equestrians. Visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com for more information.

The 70-mile **15 Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park**, (732) 873-3050, is one of the area’s most popular recreational corridors for canoeing, jogging, hiking, cycling, fishing and horseback riding. The canal and the park are part of the National Recreation Trail System. This linear park is also a valuable wildlife corridor connecting fields and forests. Visit the park at www.dandrcanal.com.

Other places of interest...

In downtown Burlington, on the southwest corner of High and Broad Sts., you’ll find the **16 Blue Anchor Inn** est. 1750 where a legendary arm wrestling match took place in the bar between Abe Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. At 309 Wood St., you can see the **17 Ulysses S. Grant House** where General Grant’s wife and children lived in safety during the Civil War.

18 Old Barracks Museum, Barracks Street, Trenton, (609) 396-1776. During the French and Indian War, British soldiers were sent over to aid colonists. New Jersey built five barracks in different towns to accommodate the soldiers. Only the Trenton barracks, built in 1758, remain. It’s now a museum featuring recreated soldier’s quarters and hospital rooms filled with period antiques.

19 New Jersey State Museum, 205 W. State St., Trenton, (609) 292-6464. Fine art, folk art, dinosaur fossils, Native American artifacts, and a planetarium, all housed in a modern building overlooking the Delaware River, round out this museum experience. Visit them in person or at www.state.nj.us/state/museum.

20 Columbus Farmers Market, 2919 Rt. 206, Columbus, (609) 267-0400. Everything from fine jewelry to funnel cakes, and from antiques to auto parts are sold indoors and out at “the place where everyone shops.” To map out your shopping strategy before you go, visit www.columbusfarmersmarket.com.

The **21 Horse Park of New Jersey**, near Stone Tavern, (609) 259-0170, is a unique partnership of public and private interests who have come together to beautifully preserve 147 acres for equine events scheduled from March through November. Visit them on the web at www.horseparkofnewjersey.com.

Where to lay your head...

22 The Dancer Farm B&B Inn, 19 Archertown Rd., New Egypt. A 250-acre working farm with fields, meadows, a vineyard and training facilities for standardbred racehorses. (609) 752-0303 or www.dancerfarm.com

23 Earth Friendly B&B, 17 Old Noah Hunt Rd., Cream Ridge. Visitors can pick unsprayed fruit in season, stroll in the woods or around the fishpond, gather eggs and enjoy the fresh, clean air. Located only three miles from Six Flags Great Adventure and the Horse Park of New Jersey. (609) 259-9744

24 Fernbrook B&B, 142 Georgetown Rd., Bordentown. A gracious estate with lush country gardens, fireplaces and a 19th Century mahogany pool table in the billiards room. (609) 298-3868 or www.bbhost.com/fernbrookbb

25 Laurel Pond, 720 Rt. 537, Cream Ridge. Laurel Pond is a luxury outdoor hospitality resort along Lahaway Creek. (888) POND-123 or www.laurelpond.com

26 Timberland Lake Campground, P.O. Box 48, Reed Road, Jackson. A 54-acre campground with an Olympic size pool, five-acre lake, mini-golf and arcade. (609) 758-2235 or www.timberlandlakecampground.com

Where the locals grab a bite...

27 Black Forest, 42 South Main St., Allentown. Brush up on your German before ordering the jaeger schnitzel. (609) 259-3197

28 Blue Claw Seafood Restaurant, Crab Eatery & Takeout, 4494 Rt. 130 N., Burlington. Serving all types of crabs. (609) 387-3700 or www.crabeatery.com

29 Café Gallery, 219 High St., Burlington. French and continental cuisine with a stunning view of the Delaware. (609) 386-6150

30 DiMattia’s Restaurant & Lounge, 1 N. Main St., Allentown. Historically known as the Cunningham Hotel, this building was constructed in the mid-1700s. Benjamin Franklin is believed to have stayed here. (609) 259-9128

31 The Farnsworth House Restaurant, 135 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown. Fine dining in a comfortable setting. (609) 291-9232

32 Jester’s Café, 233 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown. An American café with Italian influences. (609) 298-9963

33 Oliver, A Bistro, 222 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown. Food to tell your friends about. (609) 298-7177

34 Ummm Ice Cream Parlor, 236 High & Union Streets, Burlington. Coffee and dessert in an authentic “old-tyme” ice cream parlor, open early April to mid December. (609) 387-9786