

About Schick Reserve

Consisting of 311 acres of rolling hills, fields, and woodlands, this was the site of dairy and farming operations for the Apgar and Schick families for over 150 years. In 1844, Philip Apgar, a blacksmith, and his wife, Rebecca, acquired the first 126 acres. To meet the needs of an expanding farm and family of 13 children, they built several barns, including a Pennsylvania-German style bank barn which still stands.

The farm remained in the family until 1917, when a neighboring farmer, Herman Schick, bought 160 acres, farm equipment, and livestock for \$5000. He added another 120 acres to the farm in 1932. Eventually retiring from farming, he died in 1997 at the age of 101. His son, Curtis, sold the farm to the County as open space in 1994.

In 2011, the Alexandria Equestrian Society agreed to construct and adopt a trail system on the property. The total length of the trail system adds up to about eight miles.

Hunting

In order to control the population of deer on park property, hunting is permitted. Hunters must obtain a special permit issued by the Division to hunt on the preserve. Visitors between September and February are strongly encouraged to wear blaze orange or confine visits to Sundays.

With the exception of park properties with reservable facilities, all properties are “carry in / carry out” and trash/recycling receptacles are not provided. Please plan accordingly and do not leave any trash/recyclables behind.

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.

Schick Reserve

Location: Schick Reserve is located in Alexandria Township with parking areas on Schick Road and 486 Little York—Mt Pleasant Road/ (Route 631). The park is open from sunrise to sunset. *No restroom facilities.*

From the Clinton Area to Schick Road: Take Interstate 78 west to exit 11 and cross over I-78 and follow the signs for Pattenburg. Follow Route 614 through Pattenburg to the junction with Route 579. Turn left onto Route 579 and make the first right onto Hickory Corner Road. Proceed for 1.5 miles, turn right on Schick Road, and make a quick left into a gravel parking lot.

From the Clinton Area to Route 631: Take Interstate 78 west to exit 11 and cross over I-78 and follow the signs for Pattenburg. Follow Route 614 to the Little York intersection with Route 631. Turn left onto 631 and park in the gravel lot on the left just after the firehouse.

From the Flemington Area to Schick Road: From the Route 31/202 Circle, take route 12 west to Route 579. Turn right on to Route 579 and travel through Pittstown to Hickory Corner Road. (Be careful to follow signs for Route 579 because it makes several turns.) Turn left onto Hickory Corner Road, and proceed 1.5 miles. Turn right on Schick Road, and make a quick left into a gravel parking lot.

From the Flemington Area to Route 631: Proceed as above; once on Hickory Corner, continue past Schick Road and turn right onto 631 at the T-intersection. Park in the gravel lot on the right just before the firehouse.

Agricultural Use

The County leases much of the land to a local farmer. The farmer has agreed to farm the property while complying with a management plan. *Please be considerate. Stay on the trails and do not pick or damage any crops.*

Recreational Opportunities

The Schick Reserve trail system is suitable for hiking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. Many of the trails follow the field edges and some wind through the woods. Be prepared for traversing the occasional brushy and muddy areas. Trailer parking is recommended for the Route 631 lot.

Wildlife and Habitat

The fields at the Schick Reserve offer a wonderful opportunity to view and find evidence of some of the County’s predators. Scan the skies to see if any raptors are hunting overhead. Red-tailed Hawks are common and Northern Harriers have been known to reside here during the winter season. While walking the field roads, look for scat and tracks of coyotes and foxes.

There is an abundance of edge habitat throughout the Schick Reserve. The field edges provide shelter to several birds throughout the season. Some of the rarer species sighted include Fox Sparrows and Brown Thrashers. Small mammals, such as rabbits and skunks, also take advantage of this terrain. (Revised 9/2019)



Hay field with bales

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.

Schick Reserve

Trail Map and Guide



Workhorses & drag leveler, Schick Farm, 1923



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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.

