

Chapter 1 : Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge - Wikipedia

Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge is located only 26 miles west of New York City's Times Square. It is a square-mile natural oasis in an area that is mostly suburban, making the refuge an outstanding area for migrating waterfowl to stop, rest and feed on their migration.

The lake was formed by the melting waters of the retreating Wisconsin Glacier at the end of the last Ice Age. The glacier had pushed a moraine ahead of its advance, a rubble of soil and rocks that plugged the existing outlet for the waters that drained into the area. As the retreating glacier melted, the waters rose to create the lake before a new outlet began to allow the water to exit at a much higher elevation. A range of mountains to the west of Morristown formed the western boundary of the new lake and the most easterly line of the Watchung Mountains became the eastern boundary. The tops of some of the Watchung range became islands in the great lake. Water that had vented through the Watchung range, or to its south, found a new path that altered the old drainage paths. When the plug collapsed, the river still was forced to travel north through the range before finding a new outlet near present-day Paterson where it could manage the eastern turn toward the sea. Early settlers[edit] Some ten thousand years ago, Amerindians arrived in the area and established settlements shortly after the retreat of the glacier, hunting, fishing, and farming. In , Dutch colonists claimed part of the area as New Netherlands , and traded with the natives. Later, British settlers came, establishing dominion over what they called the Province of New Jersey. The watershed touches ten modern communities, many of which were settled by European colonists long before the American Revolution. The Jersey Jetport Site Association was the first to form in opposition. Their efforts to prevent the development of an airport in the swamp became public knowledge on December 3, when four of its members Kafi Benz , Joan Kelly, Esty Weiss, and Betty White were expelled from a meeting at the Essex House in Newark that had been organized to generate support for its construction. In , Representative Peter Frelinghuysen, Jr. It lies within the Northeastern coastal forests ecoregion. The major routes of birds migrating along the eastern portion of the United States follow the corridor that includes the Great Swamp as an important stopping place for rest and nutrition. Many species of birds reside permanently in the watershed. Deer, fish, fox, frogs, muskrat, raccoons, snakes, turtles, as well as many insects and a wide variety of wildflowers and plants call the refuge "home". Some of the animals hunted by the prehistoric native inhabitants and colonists, such as bear and beaver, are encountered occasionally. Its role in draining the region and absorbing flood water for gradual release can be critical during extreme weather conditions. The refuge also plays an important role in improving water quality by acting as a natural ecological filter trapping sediments and contaminants. Related organizations[edit] Numerous nonprofit organizations have arisen from the communities within the Great Swamp watershed and work closely in partnership with the refuge. The park is entered from the community of Stirling that is named after a military officer of the American Revolution who lived in the community, William Alexander. The park is located immediately adjacent to the southwestern boundary of the refuge on the west side of the Passaic River. The park offers excellent hiking facilities that include trails, boardwalks, observation blinds, and naturalist exhibits displayed in its park office that are related to the swamp and its wildlife.

Chapter 2 : The Great Swamp - Red Trail - New Jersey | AllTrails

Photo of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge - Basking Ridge, NJ, United States by Maggie P. See all 83 photos "First, it has these really cool boardwalk trails that run through the woods and over the swamp, so you can get fairly deep into the refuge while staying nice & dry." in 2 reviews.

If you are planning to visit The Great Swamp while exploring Basking Ridge, then it is necessary to have some basic information to plan a trip properly. You have come to the right page. You will find logistics like ticket prices, opening and closing timings, address, and contact number of The Great Swamp. You can find the exact location of this park by clicking on the link of maps as it will help you calculate the distance and reach on time. Then help us in providing more information. You can add and edit any missing information on this page. You are welcome to add photos as it will help other TripHobo users to get an idea of this place. Consider contacting our team of experts if you have any queries and they will help you right away. It is important to plan a detailed trip when you are visiting a new place. For that, you need to create an itinerary using TripHobo. It will give you an opportunity to add other tourist attractions in your list. You can check different itineraries created by other enthusiastic travellers to see how they have explored the areas near The Great Swamp in Basking Ridge. Referring to Basking Ridge travel itinerary planning app will also give you more details and make things easier. When you are visiting The Great Swamp, it is necessary to have all the emergency numbers to have a safe trip. If you are travelling by car or taxi, get the list of nearby gas stations and parking lots on this page. And in case you are planning to use public transport, then find the detailed list of nearby bus stops, railway stations, and other transportation facilities in Basking Ridge. If you are not feeling well or need to buy any medicines, you can easily locate nearest pharmacies by using information on this page. It is not an easy thing to find a perfect place to satisfy your hunger. But, you do not have to worry about anything when you are using TripHobo. We provide you with an extensive list of restaurants that may provide different cuisines like American, European, Japanese, Lebanese, Mexican, Chinese, or Indian for example. If you are in a hurry, then you can choose from cafes, bistros, and bars nearby The Great Swamp to grab a refreshing drink or quick bites. This page will help you with finding a right place of accommodation suitable for your needs. From budget hotels to lavish resorts, you can find everything on Booking. If you are interested in soaking yourself in local flavor, then go for cozy and comfortable homestays. If you have booked a room already, then you can easily add that to your itinerary. Referring to our Basking Ridge vacation packages will also help you in getting some exciting deals. If you are interested in knowing what Basking Ridge has to offer, then do not forget to check things to do in Basking Ridge near The Great Swamp. Free Try the best online travel planner to plan your travel itinerary! Are you associated with this business?

Chapter 3 : LHT - The Great Swamp - Township of Long Hill, Morris County, New Jersey

Jim Marando's Birding added a new photo at The Great Swamp, NJ. May 14 Basking Ridge, NJ Debbie Yaniga shared Jim Marando's Birding 's photo to the group: New Jersey Birders.

Wildlife Observation Area in the Refuge. Arthur Panzer "What are the magic words? To those that know it, the words themselves--Great Swamp-- hold enough magic and wonder for years of learning, exploration and understanding. A series of 15 displays tells the tale. Lying feet above the surrounding terrain, the remnants of the glacial Lake Passaic are sometimes referred to as the great swamp in the sky. There is evidence of paleo-Indian habitation in the area on the heels of the glacier, 15, years ago. Lord Stirling Masion as rendered in exhibit. Archeological work at the site has recovered thousands of artifacts which are on display and which have inspired the Lord Stirling festival each fall. Lord Stirling is one of three facilities at which the public may access this most precious tract of marsh, pond, meadow, wetland and woodland. Opened in by the Morris County Park Commission, this teaching center for natural history uses the Great Swamp as a outdoor classroom. Between the two county run outposts lies the National Wildlife Refuge. Hundreds of annual programs focus on education. The adjoining Lord Stirling Stable offers ten miles of riding trails. The headquarters will also open for many weekends during spring and fall. One mile of trails, an interpretive trail, informational kiosk, blinds, restrooms, boardwalk. Hikers are welcome on the two miles of trails, an observation blind, and boardwalk through woods, fields, swamps and marshes. Self-guiding trail books are available, and there is a connecting trail to the Eastern edge of the National Wildlife Refuge. Weekend family programming, trail walks, and workshops are scheduled on a seasonal basis. Swamps have long been recognized for their ability to accumulate water quickly and disperse it slowly. During the s the Army Corps of Engineers proposed the first of several flood control plans. Photos by Michelle Mykowski In the s the struggle between modern commercial developers and environmentalists began. In , acres were set aside as a sanctuary. Three years later, nomination of the Great Swamp as location for a 10, acre jetport unleashed a deluge of public fury. The area also provides unique research opportunities. After the eastern half of the federally managed land was designated as a National Wilderness Area in , the U. Fish and Wildlife Service returned the area to an unblemished natural state, restoring drained wetlands and removing all traces of human habitation. Eight miles of trails through the wilderness area are accessible only on foot and offer expeditions especially sublime. A walk through the swamp usurps your will, absorbing you into its primeval past. Hillock poke through shallow puddles. Tree stumps dissolve into the muck and new growth arises from the decay. For bird lovers the Great Swamp is paradise. A multitude of ecological systems; woodland, hardwood ridges, cattail marsh, grasslands, ponds and meandering streams; support more than species of birds, 29 kinds of fish, 18 types of amphibians, 21 reptile varieties, and 33 examples of mammals. Endangered species include the blue-spotted salamander, the bog turtle, and the wood turtle.

Chapter 4 : Events | Lord Stirling School

BASKING RIDGE, NJ "The Great Swamp Experience" officially opened at the Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Education Center (EEC) in Basking Ridge on Thursday. Located downstairs at.

Chapter 5 : Great Swamp Devil Run Reviews - Race Information

Public Facilities at the Great Swamp Lord Stirling Environmental Education Center at Lord Stirling Park. Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, /

Chapter 6 : Friends of Great Swamp

The Great Swamp is a beautiful green space nestled in Basking Ridge. If you are planning to visit The Great Swamp

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while exploring Basking Ridge, then it is necessary to have some basic information to plan a trip properly. You have come to the right page. You will find logistics like ticket prices.

Chapter 7 : About Us – Friends of Great Swamp

The Environmental Education Center (EEC), Lord Stirling Road in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, will be the location for a fun-filled night for children and their parents under the light of the moon.

Chapter 8 : The Great Swamp, Basking Ridge | Address | Hours | Reviews: TripHobo

We are a family owned garden center located in the heart of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Open all year round, we specialize in poinsettias at Christmas, mums in the fall, houseplants and birding in the winter, and annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs in the spring.

Chapter 9 : The Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey

Welcome to the Friends of Great Swamp NWR Website. Our independent, non-profit organization is committed to protecting and supporting Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.