CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK

Within the boundaries of this 90-acre park, you will find the diversity of the Pine Barrens wetlands, uplands, and the beauty of 20 acres of cranberry bogs all year long.

The early settlers of New Jersey referred to the Pine Barrens as “barren” because traditional crops grew poorly here. Other types of agriculture were later established in the region. This trail will allow you to experience the natural beauty of the Pine Barrens and delve into its rich historical and agricultural past.

The Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund Program acquired Cloverdale Farm in 2004. The park was the site of the Collins’ family farm, which several generations of the family operated, going back to the early 1900s.

As you meander along the bog edges be sure to keep your eye out for different species of flora and fauna. You might just find one of our native carnivorous plants luring in ants with its false nectar bribes or be amazed by the sheer beauty of mountain laurel in bloom. As you wander, keep your eyes and ears open or you might miss a red-tailed hawk as it cries soaring overhead or a bluebird on its morning forage for insects.

PUBLIC USE

Cloverdale Farm County Park is open to the public from dawn to dusk every day. We encourage all visitors to stop in and tour our interpretive center prior to their use of the park grounds. We aspire to meet all ADA standards. If you need special assistance, please call the Cloverdale Visitor’s Center at 609-607-1861 prior to your visit.

GROUP USE

We request all organized groups looking to come to Cloverdale Farm County Park for the day to contact our Visitor’s Center during regular business hours. Our staff is available for naturalist led tours for all community and school groups.

How to Schedule a Visit

• Call 609-607-1861 during normal business hours.
• Please be prepared with the following information:
  o Group name, address and phone number.
  o Grade level and program
• We strive to maintain a ratio of no more than 25 students to 1 naturalist.
• Let us know in advance, if any members of your group have special needs so we can serve you better.
• All scheduled groups are be mailed a confirmation letter along with rules and regulations and in certain cases, pre-tip activities.
• All group programs are free of charge.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer efforts account for a large part of Cloverdale Farm County Park. Volunteers are greatly appreciated and help with group programs, maintenance and have a positive effect. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call Cloverdale Farm County Park for an application or online.
The creek running through the Cloverdale bogs is known as Four Mile Branch. The Four Mile Branch eventually joins Mill Creek as feeding into Manahawkin Lake, and is part of the Barnegat Bay Watershed.

In 1957, the Collin’s family planted Christmas trees to subsidize the family farm income after the cranberry harvest. The species planted included Norway Spruce, Blue Spruce, Douglas Fir, and White Pine. They also planted Japanese Black Pine as a nursery planting. These were popular on nearby barrier islands due to their resistance to salt spray.

1DIRECTIONS TO CLOVERDALE FARMS COUNTY PARK
34 CLOVERDALE ROAD, BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP, NJ

FROM THE NORTH:
Take the Garden State Parkway south to Exit 67-B (Barnegat). Make right onto Route 554, West Bay Avenue. Travel about 1 mile through 3 traffic lights. After the 3rd light make a left onto Cloverdale Road which is a dirt road. Follow to the entrance of the Park.

FROM THE SOUTH:
Take the Garden State Parkway north to exit 67. Make a left off the exit (at the traffic light) and travel through three traffic lights. After the 3rd light make a left onto Cloverdale Road which is a dirt road. Follow to the entrance of the Park.