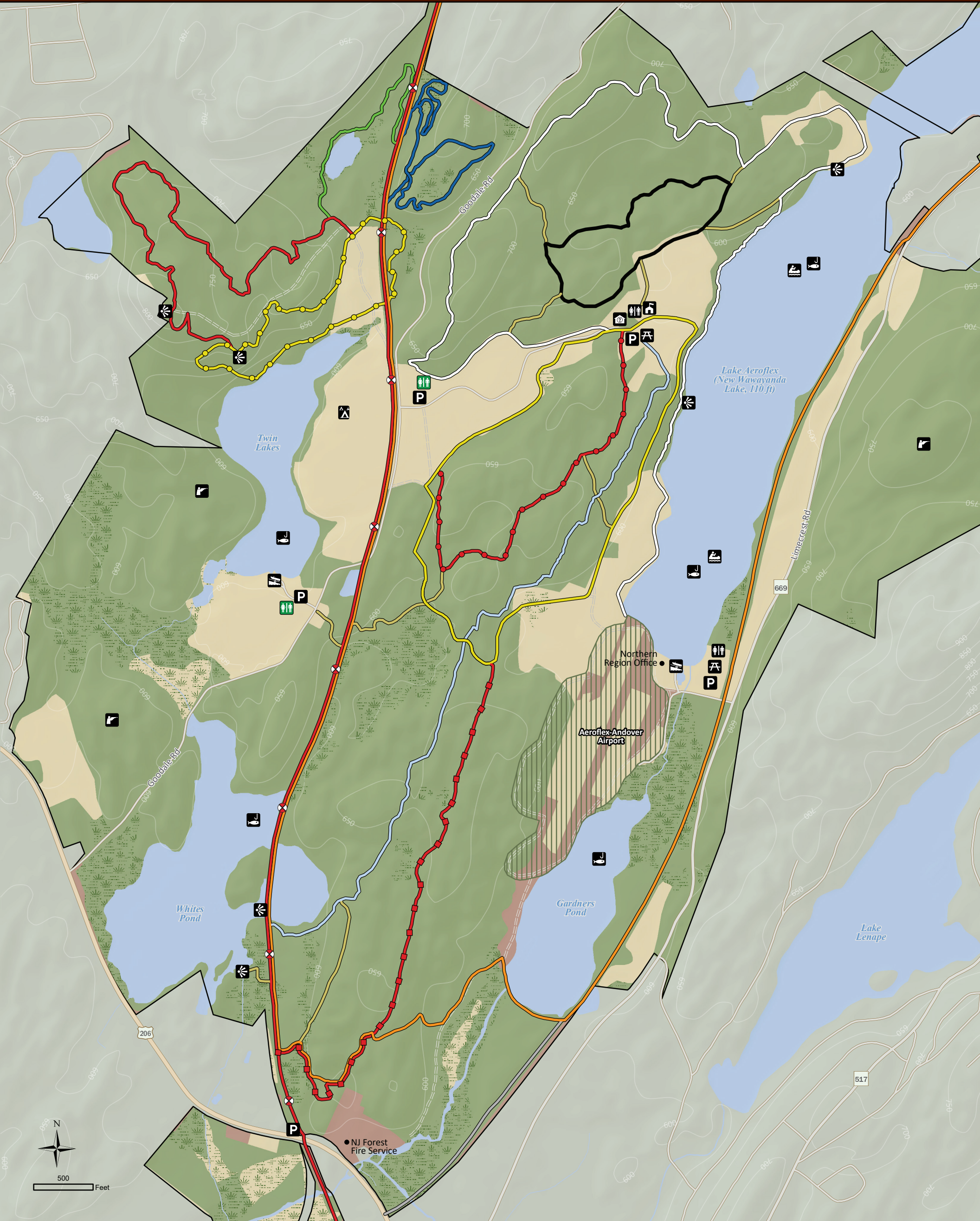


KITTATINNY VALLEY State Park



- Open Field or Grass
- Forest
- Developed Area
- Water
- Wetland
- Restricted Area

- Andover Junction Trail (1.0 mi)
- Andover Loop Trail (6.8 mi)
- Explorer Trail (1.6 mi)
- Glacial Trail (2.6 mi)
- Hemlock Trail (0.8 mi)
- Limestone Trail (1.2 mi)
- Mount Nebo Trail (0.8 mi)
- Raccoon Trail (0.9 mi)
- Shale Trail (1.0 mi)
- Sussex Branch Trail (3.0 mi)
- Twin Lakes Trail (0.8 mi)
- Vernal Trail (0.5 mi)
- Trail Connector
- Rail Trail (Proposed)

- Boat Launch
- Canoeing
- Fishing
- Group Campground
- Hunting
- Interpretive Center
- Parking Lot
- Picnic Area
- Restrooms
- Restrooms (Primitive)
- Scenic View
- Visitor Center

TRAILS OF KITTATINNY VALLEY STATE PARK

There are 11 official trails within Kittatinny Valley State Park that offer more than 15 miles of trail plus connections to extensive regional trail systems. Trails in the park vary in difficulty and terrain, from flat gravel roads to technical single-track trails that have natural obstacles. The Sussex Branch Trail, a 20-mile-long rail trail, passes through the middle of the park then goes beyond park borders. It also intersects with Paullinskill Vallley Trail and Great Valley Rail Trail to form a 14-mile loop. Many features from its previous existence as a railroad can be seen, including graded fill areas, cuts through bedrock, underpasses for farm equipment and livestock access, and bridges that cross the Paulins Kill River.

Andover Junction Trail

Red • 1.0 mile • Multiuse
Easy to moderate • Hilly and rocky trail

Trailhead On Sussex Branch Trail, 400 feet north of parking area off Route 206.
Andover Junction Trail heads east into the woods on dirt single track that winds around rocky hillsides before turning to the north. Follow the trail through forested hillsides and around small ridges with stacked rock outcroppings to merge with Explorer Trail.

Explorer Trail

Yellow • 1.6 miles • Multiuse
Easy • Trail follows gravel access road

Trailhead Visitor Center. **Explorer Trail** is a loop trail that begins at the Visitor Center and follows paved and gravel roads around the central portion of the park. It travels alongside Lake Aeroflex, through the site of a 1920s YMCA camp, then runs adjacent to Aeroflex-Andover Airport. The trail then turns into the forest and winds through large rock outcroppings and ledges before returning to the park’s entrance road and Visitor Center.

Sussex Branch Trail

Red & white • 3.0 miles • Multiuse
Easy • Flat rail trail

Trailhead Across from park entrance road. Three miles of the 20-mile-long **Sussex Branch Trail** traverses the park. Heading north from the park entrance, this trail intersects with Paulinskill Valley Trail and Great Valley Rail-Trail to form a 14-mile rail-trail loop before reaching its terminus in Branchville. Heading south, Sussex Branch Trail passes the Kittatinny Valley State Park group campground and White’s Pond, eventually ending at Waterloo Road.

Twin Lakes Trail

Orange • 0.8 miles • Multiuse
Moderate • Loop trail along lake and hillside

Trailhead 0.2 miles north of park entrance on Sussex Branch Trail. **Twin Lakes Trail** is a loop trail that runs along the northern end of Twin Lakes. It follows along the lake’s edge then heads uphill to cross the ridgeline above.

Vernal Trail

Green • 0.5 miles • Multiuse
Easy • Short & flat trail along a seasonal pond

Trailhead Mount Nebo Trail or Sussex Branch Trail. **Vernal Trail** heads north from Mount Nebo Trail along the west side of a seasonal pond to a small stand of eastern hemlock trees. Vernal Trail continues north of the pond and then turns east to join Sussex Branch Trail.



This brochure was funded by the NJDEP and the FHWA Recreational Trails Program.

Glacial Trail

White • 2.6 miles • Multiuse
Moderate • Semi-loop trail north of Visitor Center

Trailhead 50 yards west of Visitor Center parking. **Glacial Trail** makes a long traverse around the hillsides north of the Visitor Center. The trail stays low along a meadow edge before ascending broad switchbacks up a forested hillside. The trail heads to the northeast along Goodale Road then descends through small ravines. Turning north, the trail circles around an open meadow then heads south along the edge of Lake Aeroflex for almost one mile before reaching its end at Aeroflex-Andover Airport.



Hemlock Trail

Red • 0.8 miles • Multiuse
Easy to moderate • Short hilly trail through forest

Trailhead Visitor Center parking area. **Hemlock Trail** heads south from the picnic area on a dirt road then turns west onto a single-track path. Hemlock Trail travels around small forested ridges and rock stacks then heads southwest, ending in a large meadow across from the main park entrance at Goodale Road.

Limestone Trail

Lt. blue • 1.2 miles • Multiuse
Easy to moderate • Rocky north-south single-track trail

Trailhead Across from visitor center. **Limestone Trail** heads south from the visitor center through an open meadow then into the forest on a single-track path that turns west toward Whites Pond. Limestone Trail meets with the Sussex Branch Trail at Whites Pond.

Mount Nebo Trail

Red • 0.8 miles • Multiuse
Moderate • Semi-loop trail on forested hilltop

Trailhead On Twin Lakes Trail. **Mount Nebo Trail** ascends and reaches the summit of Mount Nebo, the highest point in the park, with scenic views of Twin Lakes to the south. After passing a cell tower, the trail crosses a gravel access road and descends into the forest to rejoin Twin Lakes Trail.

Raccoon Trail

Black • 0.9 miles • Multiuse
Easy • Hilly single-track loop trail
Trailhead Off of the connector trail behind visitor center. **Raccoon Trail** is a loop trail on rocky hillsides north of the visitor center. It follows a mostly single-track trail, staying low along the meadow’s edge before moving onto forested hillsides. Raccoon Trail is inside the larger loop formed by Glacial Trail.

Shale Trail

Blue • 1.0 mile • Multiuse
Moderate • Single-track trail along rocky hillside
Trailhead On Sussex Branch trail, approximately 0.3 miles from park entrance. **Shale Trail** is a short set of two interconnected loop trails. Along the northern portion, the trail follows a winding single track along the flat forested floor. The southern portion ascends the shale hillside to a small ridge that overlooks Goodale Road, before it returns to Sussex Branch Trail.



TRAIL SENSE AND SAFETY

Trail Markings: Official trails are marked by colored blazes on posts and trees. For your safety and habitat protection, please stay on the trails and do not alter trail markings or create new trails. Be aware of changing trail conditions.

Be Prepared: Consider bringing water, snacks, sunscreen, insect repellent and a hat. Dress for the weather. Tell someone where you plan to go and when you expect to return.

Pets: Pets must always be on a leash no longer than six feet in length and under the control of the owner at all times. Please clean up after your pets and take the waste with you.

Keep It Clean and Green: Bring a bag or two and carry your trash out with you. Trash cans are not provided. Don’t forget to recycle!

Tick Protection: Use insect repellent, wear light-colored clothing, tuck pants into socks, stay on trails, check yourself thoroughly, shower and launder clothes immediately.

Bear Aware: Black bears are found throughout New Jersey. Do not approach or attract bears by making food available. Feeding bears is dangerous and illegal. Never run from a bear! To report an aggressive bear, call 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) immediately. Please report any damage or nuisance behavior to the park office. Visit the NJDEP Fish & Wildlife at dep.nj.gov/njfw/bears for additional information on bear safety.

Emergency Numbers
1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) or 911

KITTATINNY VALLEY STATE PARK
Goodale Road
Newton, NJ 07860
(973) 786-6445

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
State Parks, Forests & Historic Sites
New Jersey State Parks

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TRAILS

KITTATINNY VALLEY STATE PARK

NEW JERSEY STATE PARKS