TRAILS OF BELLEPLAIN STATE FOREST

There are 24 miles within Belleplain State Forest of which 12 (24 miles) are designated for non-motorized use and 12 (23 miles) are authorized for motorized use with street legal vehicles. Trail width in length and most are easy-moderate in difficulty because the terrain within Belleplain is generally flat.

Boundary Trail
Pink • 1.7 miles • Multi-use Easy • Short trail along eastern boundary of forest Trailhead: At Dechristen Avenue, Boundary Trail follows the Dennis Township Line and connects Mistle Road with Seabrook Line Trail. The three- to five-foot-wide trail traverses pitch pine and oak forest and is slightly gullied due to its origins as a fire break.

Eagle Fitness Trail
Black • 0.3 miles • Hiking Easy to moderate • Flat loop trail with fitness stations Trailhead: Parking area at south end of Camp Road. Eagle Fitness Trail is a designated fitness circuit, allowing participants to use eight different exercise stations.

East Creek Trail
White • 7 miles • Multi-use Moderate • Long loop trail to East Creek Pond Trailhead: River Road at the southern end of Lake Sunapee. East Creek Trail is the longest hiking trail within the forest as it circles the area drained by Swages Run. The trail width varies between two and four feet with a natural surface of sand, dirt and pine needles.

Goosekill Trail
Green • 0.5 miles • Multi-use Easy • Trail around east side of Lake Sunapee Trailhead: On Champion Road near North Shore Campground. Goosekill Trail links Mistle Trail with North Shore Trail and travels north to Northshore Campground.

Meistle Trail
Orange • 0.6 miles • Hiking Easy • Trail around south edge of Lake Sunapee Trailhead: Access from Interpretive Center. Meistle Trail runs along the southern shore of Lake Sunapee. The trail was named for the Meistle Bog that once existed where Lake Sunapee is now.

Mountain Bike Trail
Pink • 9.2 miles • Multi-use Moderate • Windy single-track trail through pine forests Trailhead: Near athletic fields at Lake Sunapee day use area. Mountain Bike Trail was designed to provide recreational opportunities for various levels of bike riders. The route begins and ends near the athletic field just past the Lake Sunapee parking area.

Nature Trail 1
White • 0.7 miles • Hiking Easy • Short interpretive trail Trailhead: From parking lot near lake, trail begins near lake parking lot. Nature Trail 1 is a self-guided loop trail along the northern edge of Lake Sunapee with signed stations explaining relevant natural history of Belleplain.

Nature Trail 2
Yellow • 0.5 miles • Multi-use Easy • Short interpretive trail Trailhead: East of Nature Trail 1 along north shore of Lake Sunapee. Nature Trail 2 is linked to Nature Trail 1 with a footbridge and also follows a self-guided loop trail along the northern edge of Lake Sunapee.

North Shore Trail
Red • 0.7 miles • Multi-use Easy • Connects forest office parking lot with Lake Sunapee area. North Shore Trail runs between the forest office and the North Shore camping area. A portion of the trail passes through a small cedar swamp.

Ponds Trail
Blue • 2.2 miles • Multi-use Easy • Trail links Pickle Factory and East Creek Ponds Trailhead: From parking areas at Pickle Factory or East Creek Pond. Ponds Trail traverses several fields and forest habitats as it connects Pickle Factory Pond with East Creek Pond.

Tarklin Bog Trail
Green • 0.8 miles • Multi-use Easy • Trail through old cranberry bog Trailhead: On Cinder Trail. Tarklin Bog Trail runs along the western edge of an abandoned cranberry bog before meeting with John’s Run Trail.

TRAILS SENSE AND SAFETY

Trail Markings Official trails are marked by colored blazes on posts and trees. On the map, “connector trails” are tan-colored lines. For habitat protection and your safety, please stay on the trails and don’t alter trail markings or create new trails.

Hunting Sections are open to hunting. Bright orange clothing is recommended during hunting season.

Bicycle Riders Follow the NJMBA “Rules of the Trail” guidelines for trail etiquette and yield appropriately. Helmets are required by law for children under 17 and highly recommended for all riders.

pets All pets must be on a leash (maximum 6’) and under the physical control of the owner at all times. Please clean up after your pets.

Hikers Visitors are welcome on the trails from dawn to dusk. Trail use is not permitted after sunset.

Carry-in/Carry-out Help keep the park clean and beautiful by carrying out your trash.

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

Forest Office Phone (609) 861-2404
Emergency Numbers 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) or 911
Belleplain State Forest (mailing address) PO Box 450 Woodbine, NJ 08270
Belleplain State Forest (physical address) 1 Henkin-Sifkin Rd Woodbine, NJ 08270 (609) 861-2404

TRAILS FOR MOTORIZED USE

The use of road–legal motorized vehicles is permitted on the trails below. Please follow speed restrictions and be aware that walkers, cyclists and horseback riders also use these trails.

Champion Trail
Yellow • 0.9 miles • Motorized & multi-use Easy • Wide forest road Trailhead: At Route 550 or Steelmantown Road. Champion Trail is a graded gravel–sand road that runs from Steelmantown Road to Route 550, intersecting with Seashore Line Trail.

Cinder Trail
Green • 0.8 miles • Motorized & multi-use Easy • Trail connects to Tarklin Bogs Trailhead on south side of Weatherby Road (Route 548) west of Route 605. Cinder Trail connects with Tarklin Bogs Trail and meets Old Cape and John’s Run Trails.

Duck Pond Trail
Blue • 1.8 miles • Multi-use Easy • Trail to remote pond Trailhead: Approximately one mile southwest of the village of Belleplain on north side of Route 550. Duck Pond Trail follows winds its way across a small wetland area before leading to a secluded pond which was a former cranberry bog fed by a small drainage stream.

Dundrea Trail
Red • 1.3 miles • Motorized & multi-use Easy • Semi-loop trail from Steelmantown Road Trailhead: North side of Steelmantown Road. Dundrea Trail is a semi-circular route that begins and ends from Steelmantown Road. Dundrea Trail is 6 miles to eight feet wide and winds its way through pine–oak forest.

Seashore Line Trail
Yellow • 7.3 miles • Motorized & multi-use & multi-use Easy • Follows old rail line Trailheads On Weatherby Road (Route 548), on Hunters Mill Road, and of Dechrish ranch in Woodbine. Seashore Line Trail follows the abandoned Pennsylvania-Reading Seashore Line Railroad that once ran from Cape May to Manahawkin. Please take care when using this trail as motorized vehicle use is approved for most of Seashore Line Trail. No vehicles are permitted from Weatherby Road to Hunters Mill Road. The trail is not contiguous across Route 605. Vehicles cannot enter the northern portion of the trail from Route 605.

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Parks and Forestry
State Park Service
njparksonline.org

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