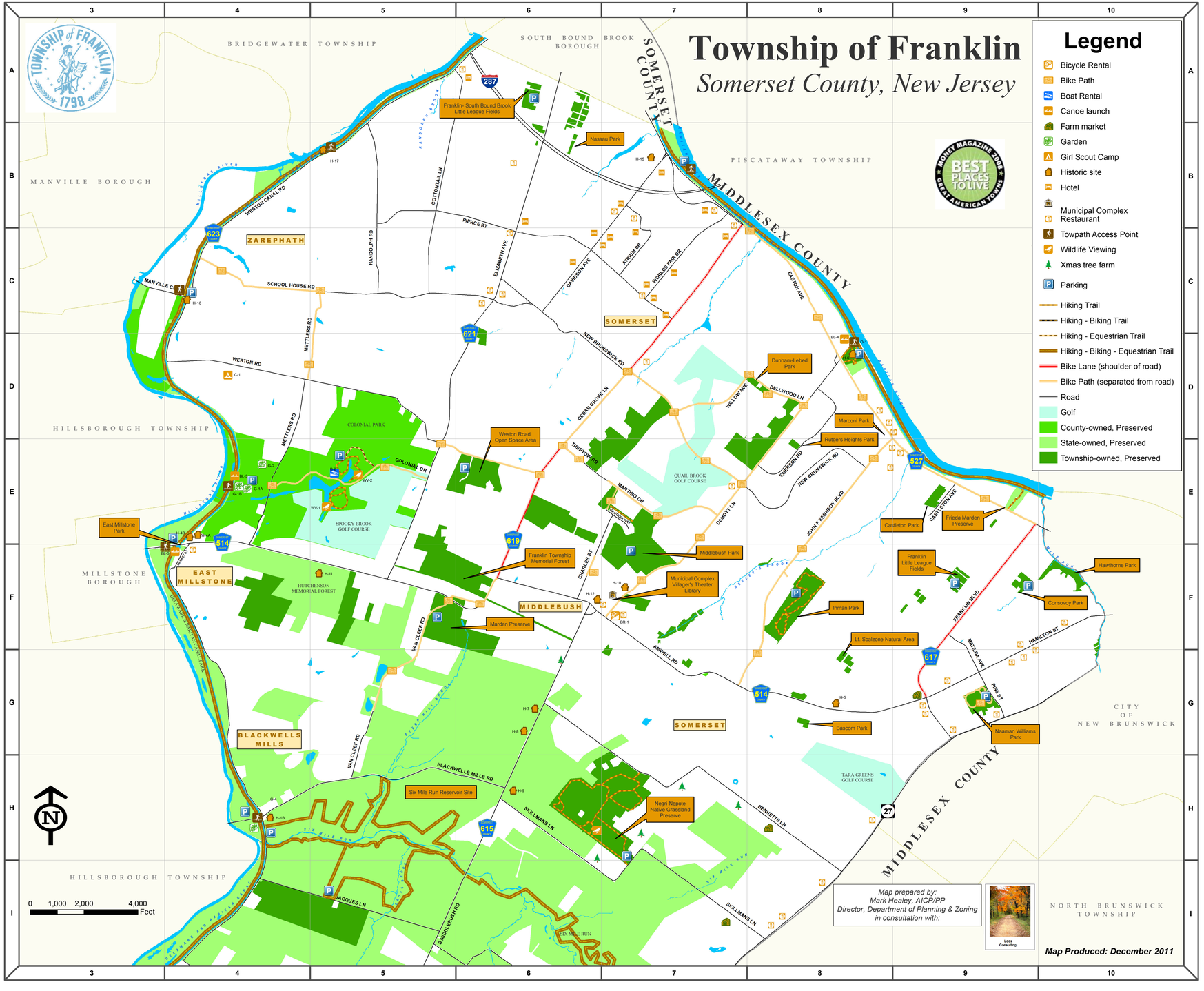
Township of Franklin

Somerset County, New Jersey



Legend

- Bicycle Rental
- Bike Path
- Boat Rental
- Canoe launch
- Farm market
- Garden
- Girl Scout Camp
- Historic site
- Hotel
- Municipal Complex Restaurant
- Towpath Access Point
- Wildlife Viewing
- Xmas tree farm
- Parking
- Hiking Trail
- Hiking - Biking Trail
- Hiking - Equestrian Trail
- Hiking - Biking - Equestrian Trail
- Bike Lane (shoulder of road)
- Bike Path (separated from road)
- Road
- Golf
- County-owned, Preserved
- State-owned, Preserved
- Township-owned, Preserved

Colonial Park Rose Garden:
Peak color in June each year

D&R Canal Towpath:
A great place to walk in any season

Meadows Foundation Historic Houses:
Open to public
2nd Sunday
1 -3 PM

BIKING.

Franklin's rural roads have great scenic views—especially Canal Rd. & its intersecting roads Also, paved bike paths & lanes are marked on the map.
Bike Rental: **Bike 'N Gear** 732 873-0212. Limited rentals. BR-1 @ F7

Off-road unpaved trails:
Six Mile Run Reservoir Site has two off-road trails (yellow and blue trails) totaling about 5 miles @ H4
D&R Canal is open to bikes the entire length.
Flemer Preserve's path is & open to bikes. (See reverse side of map.)

BIRDING.

Franklin has spectacular array of bird life viewable along all hiking paths. Two of the better locations are:
Negri-Nepote Native Grassland Preserve @ H7
Griggstown Native Grassland Preserve (See reverse side.)

BOATING.

Electric, row and inflatable boats, canoes and kayaks are all permitted in the D&R Canal.

Boat launches: **Colonial Park** BL-3 @ E4
Old DeMott Lane BL-4 @ D8
E. Millstone Park BL-5 @ E4
Griggstown Causeway BL-6 (See reverse side.)

Boat rental: **Griggstown Canoe Rental Co**. 908-359-5970 B-1. (See reverse side.)
Colonial Park paddleboat rental B-2 @ E5

CAMPING.

No overnight camping is available to the general public, but Franklin is home to Oak Spring Environmental Education Girl Scout Camp 732-821-9090 x125 C-1@ D4.

EQUESTRIAN.

Six Mile Run Reservoir Site's Blue trail is approximately 3 miles.
Colonial Park Bridle trail begins just east of the paddleboat pond.
The entire length of the **D&R Canal towpath**.
The Ten Mile Run Greenway Equestrian trail

FISHING.

The **D&R Canal** & **Millstone River** have many access points for freshwater fishing. Also **Colonial Park** has three stocked ponds.

GARDENS.

Colonial Park 732 873-2459, has 3 different gardens:

- **Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden** G-1A @ E4
- **Fragrance & Sensory Garden** G-1B @ E4
- **Perennial Garden** G-2 @ E4

Ten Mile Run Butterfly Garden G-3 (See reverse.)
Blackwells Mills Canal House Perennial Garden G-4 @ H4

GOLFING.

Regulation 18 & 9-hole golf:

Bunker Hill G.C. 220 Bunker Hill Rd. 908- 359-6335. (See reverse side.)
Quail Brook G.C. 625 New Brunswick Rd. (732) 560-9199. 6,617-yard County course is heavily wooded with rolling front 9 & tight, hilly back 9. Golf shop, driving range and snack bar @ E7
Spooky Brook Golf Course Elizabeth Ave. (732) 873-2242. 6,612-yard County course with spacious greens & fairways & a senior's favorite Golf shop, driving range & snack bar. @ E5
Tara Greens 955 Somerset St. (732) 247-8284. Regulation 9-hole course. @ H8

Driving ranges:
Quail Brook @ E7, see above.
Spooky Brook. @ E5, see above.
Tara Greens @ H8, see above. Lighted.

Pitch and Putt:
Tara Greens @ H8, see above. A 9-hole pitch-and-putt course.

Miniature golf:
Tara Greens @ H8, see above. 18-hole miniature golf course.
Colonial Park putting course @ E5. 732- 873-8585. 18-hole putting course unlike traditional resort -type miniature golf & offers gardens and natural areas. Open Apr. – Oct.

HERITAGE.

The Delaware and Raritan Canal and its remaining structures were placed on the National Register of Historic Places making these 20 miles along the Township's borders a great place to visit.
Griggstown. The wooden canal bridge, the Mutender's Barracks building, the Bridgetender's House and Station (H-2A & H2B) and **The Griggstown Lock** (H16) are situated at this historic section of the canal. H-2A & H-2B (See reverse side.)
Blackwells Mills. The Bridgetender's House, the Bridgetender's Station, wooden bridge and mill site are reminders of the area's active past. **Blackwells Mills Canal House** built circa 1835, was built for those operating swing-bridges along the Canal. The house has many programs– craft and antique shows, house tours, art exhibits & plant sales. H-1B @ H4
The Ten Mile lock H-17 @ B5
Rockingham Museum was George Washington's headquarters in. 1783. H-3 (See reverse side.)
The Franklin Inn. Originally a Dutch farmhouse built in the late 18th century, a 1734 addition turned it into a tavern. British Gen. Cornwallis encamped here during the Revolution. H-4A @ E4.
East Millstone Canal House H4-A @ E4 and the **Weston Canal House** H-18 @ C4. These historic houses are in need of major renovation.
Tulipwood 1165 Hamilton St. The only known Dutch, shingle-style architecture in central NJ designed by well-known architect J. August Lienau in the late 1890's. Open 2nd Sun. of each month, 1-3 pm. H-5 @ G8.
Van Wickle House 1289 Easton Ave. (732) 828-7418. Built in 1722, facing the Raritan River & is an excellent example of early 18th C. Dutch architecture unique to the NJ-NY area. Restoration includes formal gardens, canal bridge, wetland boardwalk & nature trail. Open 2nd Sun. of each month, 1-3 pm. H-6 @ D8.
Hageman Farm 209 South Middlebush Rd. (732) 828-7418 The rear portion of the house was built in 1702, a Victorian addition was added in 1868 & a dairy barn was built in 1876. Open the 2nd Sun. of each month, 1-3 pm. H-7 @ G6
Van Liew-Suydam House 280 South Middlebush Rd. (732) 828-7418 A Dutch-framed barn, older outbuildings & the 1875 house that includes ornate woodworking on the porch & walls. This is a great example of 19th C. Victorian farm-house architecture. Open the second Sun. of each month, 1-3 pm. H-9 @ H6
Wyckoff-Garretson House 215 South Middlebush Rd. (732) 828-7418 Built around 1705, part of the house may be the oldest standing township building. Open the second Sun. of each month, 1-3 pm. H-8 @ G6
Pleasant Plains Schoolhouse Part of this dates from the early 19th C. and part from the mid to later part of that century. H-10 @ F7
The Hutcheson Memorial Forest Though forests are not normally listed as historic sites, this is because it has one of the last uncut forests in the Mid-Atlantic States and appears on the National Park Service Register of Natural Landmarks. Access only by tours given on Sundays. *www.rci.rutgers.edu/~deer/HMF.html* H-11@ F5
Voorhees House–O'Connor's Restaurant 1783 building is the oldest house in Middlebush. H-1 @ F7
Ukrainian Cultural Center and Orthodox Museum 136 Davidson Ave. 908-469-1018. Museum displays decorative Easter eggs, lacework, hand embroidery, statuary, church vessels & other Ukrainian cultural & historical treasures. Hours by appointment only. H-15 @ B7
The Hendrick Fisher Homestead is likely the oldest structure in Somerset County. The 1688 structure remains but later additions & alterations changed the house from the original farmer's house. At St. Andrew Center. H-15 @ B7

Hunting.

State-land Bow hunting on Six Mile Run Reservoir Site. 609-924-5705.

HUNTING, cont'd

Township-open space
White-tailed deer hunting on open space by permits issued in Sept. 732-873-2500 x255

SCENIC AND HISTORIC ROADS.

Canal Road along Franklin's western border has tree canopy over much of road & the canal is generally visible, making it one of the more scenic roads in Central NJ.
Kings Highway, (now Rt. 27), listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was the first Colonial road in NJ; was important stagecoach route; first postal route in NJ; and became part of Lincoln Highway, the 1st transcontinental road in the US. Franklin's portion runs from southern border with Princeton Twp., north to Raymond Rd. in So. Brunswick.

TRAILS.

The following are trails in the northern portion of the Township. (See reverse side for southern portion.)
Colonial Park 651-acre park with 1.4-mile par-course, paved bike path & several miles of nature paths. @ E5
Franklin Township Memorial Forest 80-acre preserve will have trees planted in memory of lost loved ones. Trails in the 20-acre forest & around field edges. @ F6
D&R Canal State Park Linear park bordering D&R Canal has 20-mile towpath in Franklin. Open to walkers, bikers & equestrians. Side trails leave the towpath in Griggstown at Little Valley & at the Griggstown lock. Also, the **Frieda Mardan Preserve** @ E9 has a trail leading to the canal bank.
Hutcheson Memorial Forest See HMF under Heritage Tourism. H-11 @ F4
Inman Park 51-acre Township park. @ F8
Negri-Nepote Native Grassland Preserve 163-acre preserve has 110-acres of grassland, a forest, scrubland & a 2-acre wetland attracting migratory birds & amphibians. Over 3-miles of pedestrian trails, bird boxes & interpretive signage. @ H7
Six Mile Run Reservoir Site The 3000-acre site has over 6-miles of 'official' trail which begin at the old Park Headquarters on Canal Rd. There also are many miles of unofficial trails located at various sites around the park—including trails running between Rt. 27 and S. Middlebush Rd., beginning at the rear of the parking area of the Jersey Knights' soccer field on Rt. 27. @ H4
Ten Mile Run Greenway 684-acre greenway (See reverse side.)
Spieden & Hoebel Farms & Little Valley Natural Area 120-acre natural area. (See reverse side.)
Flemer Preserve 7.4-acre preserve adjacent to D&R Canal. (See reverse.)
Van Wickle House's short trail loops through trees, across a boardwalk, through a marsh & along edge of canal. H-6 @ D8

Canoeing & kayaking on the D&R Canal

Franklin's Rural Landscapes and Bike-paths: Perfect for biking

Golfing in Franklin:
Regulation & Miniature