

Double Trouble Village is a former company town with a once-thriving sawmill operation and cranberry farm. The natural environment of cedar forest and rapidly flowing streams provided both raw materials and water power for an extensive lumber industry from the mid-1700s through the early-1900s. As timber was cut, the cleared swampland created bog habitat ideal for growing cranberries. Cranberry culture began at Double Trouble Village in the 1860s. By the early 20th century, the Double Trouble Company was one of the largest cranberry operations in the state. Changes in the industry brought decreased profits, and the property was purchased by the State in 1964 in part to protect the Cedar Creek watershed. The abandoned village was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

There are conflicting stories about the naming of "Double Trouble." Most of the common legends center around an earthen dam at a mill pond on Cedar Creek. Sawmill operator Thomas Potter may have coined the words "Double Trouble" in the 1770s after heavy rains twice damaged the dam, causing first trouble and then double trouble. A more colorful legend involves muskrats who persisted in gnawing at the dam, causing frequent leaks. Such leaks, when discovered, gave rise to the alarm, "Here's trouble!" upon which workmen would rush to repair the leak. One day two breaks were discovered and one workman overheard the owner shout, "Here's double trouble!"

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

#### TRAILS OF DOUBLE TROUBLE STATE PARK

Double Trouble State Park offers over 8 miles of official, blazed trails. Most trails around the historic village and old cranberry bogs are fairly flat. All blazed trails are multi-use (hiking, biking, horse-back riding, cross-country skiing) with the exception of a section of the nature trail as it passes through a cedar swamp between the Lower Hooper Bog and Sweetwater Reservoir.

### Nature Trail

Green • 1.9 mile loop • Hiking • Easy

**Trailhead** Double Trouble Village at Cranberry Packing House • **The Nature Trail** has wayside signs and numbered posts that highlight the natural ecology of Double Trouble. Please check out the Nature Trail Guide in this brochure. The trail passes the old Gowdy and Upper and Lower Hooper Cranberry Bogs, crosses a foot bridge over Cedar Creek, passes through a cedar forest, and follows a reservoir and tributary before crossing Cedar Creek at the White Bridge and returning to the village. Note: No horses or bicycles are permitted on the cedar forest section of the Nature Trail between the Lower Hooper Bog and Sweetwater Reservoir.

## **TRAIL SENSE AND SAFETY**

**Be prepared** Consider bringing water, snacks, sunscreen, insect repellent, and a hat. Check the weather before you go, dress appropriately, and tell someone where you intend to hike and when you expect to finish.

**Be alert! Be careful!** Parks include natural hazards such as ticks and poison ivy. Stay on trails and avoid tall vegetation. Sections of this park (outside the historic district and cranberry bogs) are open for hunting. Visitors are encouraged to wear bright colors, especially during the fall/winter deer management season.

**Prescribed Burning** Charred and blackened trees may be a sign that prescribed burning has occurred in the area. Prescribed burning is a technique used by the NJ Forest Fire Service to reduce flammable vegetation that could act as fuel in a wildfire. Prescribed burning is usually done in the winter, according to a plan, in a safe and controlled manner.

#### Report all emergencies to the NJ State Park Police 1.877.WARN.DEP [1.877.927.6337]

#### **Double Trouble State Park**

(*administered by Brendan T. Byrne State Forest*) 581 Pinewald Keswick Road Bayville, NJ 08721 Park Office (BTBSF): 609.726.1191 Historic Village Interpretive Center: 732.341.4098



Intersection of Double Trouble Road and Pinewald Keswick Road Bayville, NJ 08722

Cranberry Scoop Sketch by Educational Technology Clearinghouse - University of South Florida

FOR GPS

Scan the QR code to learn more about each trail, Double Trouble history and hunting safety zones.

# **Clear Brook Path**

Purple • 0.3 mile out & back • Hiking & Multi-use • Easy

**Trailhead** Intersection south of White Bridge • Because of its pristine waters, Cedar Creek was alternately known as the Clear Brook during the colonial era. This 0.3-mile-long path follows an abandoned sand road that once serviced the now overgrown Mill Pond Cranberry Bog to a scenic overlook of Cedar Creek.

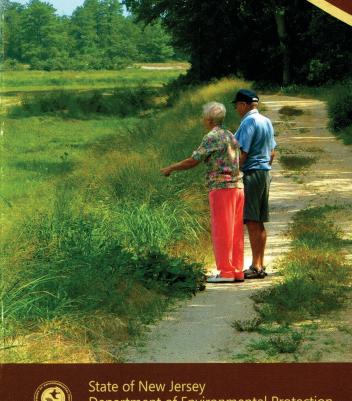
### Swordens Pond Trail

Yellow • 1.5 mile semi (lollipop) loop • Hiking Easy to Moderate

**Trailhead** South of Sweetwater Trail between reservoir ponds • Located south of the Double Trouble Historic District, this lollipop loop travels through more of a wilderness setting while passing this hidden pond. Sections of the trail are often wet and flooded after heavy rain or snow. (*Note: This trail is outside the hunting safety zone*)

## Dover Forge Trail

**TRAILS** of Double Trouble State Park





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

#### NATURE TRAIL GUIDE

- **1** Virginia pine, also known as scrub pine/Jersey pine, has short, twisted needles in clumps of two and numerous pine cones that are a winter food source for animals such as the red squirrel.
- 2 Gowdy Cranberry Bog.
- **3** Gray birch is a short-lived tree (30 years) with triangular leaves and white bark that many people often mistaken for white birch.
- **4** Pitch pine is the most common evergreen of the Pine Barrens with needles in clusters of three, cones with sharp spines, and thick bark.
- **5** Scrub oak prefers sunny locations and rarely reaches tree size, with acorn crops close to the ground providing food for white-tailed deer, squirrel, grouse, quail and other wildlife.
- 6 Upper & Lower Hooper Cranberry Bogs.
- **7** There is competition for sunlight between maples and cedars.
- **8** Red maple, also known as swamp maple, has smooth gray bark and red autumn leaves.
- **9** Atlantic white cedar is a rot-resistant wood that was once milled in the village

# Mill Pond Trail

Red • 1.3 mile loop • Hiking & Multi-use • Easy

**Trailhead** Double Trouble Village at converted pickers' cottage/public restrooms • The original mill pond supplied water power to a series of sawmills that existed at this location since the colonial era. The pond then served as a reservoir to supply water for the cranberry industry. **The Mill Pond Trail** follows a service road from the village to the reservoir, then parallels the sluiceway to the sawmill and returns to the village.

# **Sweetwater Trail**

Orange • 2.5 mile loop • Hiking & Multi-use • Easy

**Trailhead** Double Trouble Village parking area at entrance near mailbox • **The Sweetwater Trail** parallels Pinewald Keswick Road and the Garden State Parkway until it reaches location of 20th century cranberry bogs. The trail then follows the Nature Trail along a reservoir and tributary before crossing Cedar Creek at the White Bridge and returning to the village. White • 0.3 mile out & back • Hiking & Multi-use • Easy

**Trailhead** Dover Road/CR 618 approximately 1.2 miles south of Pinewald Keswick Road • The site of a former bog iron forge and cranberry bogs, Dover Forge has a 1/3 mile walking trail to a scenic overview of Cedar Creek. (*Note: This trail is outside the hunting safety zone*)

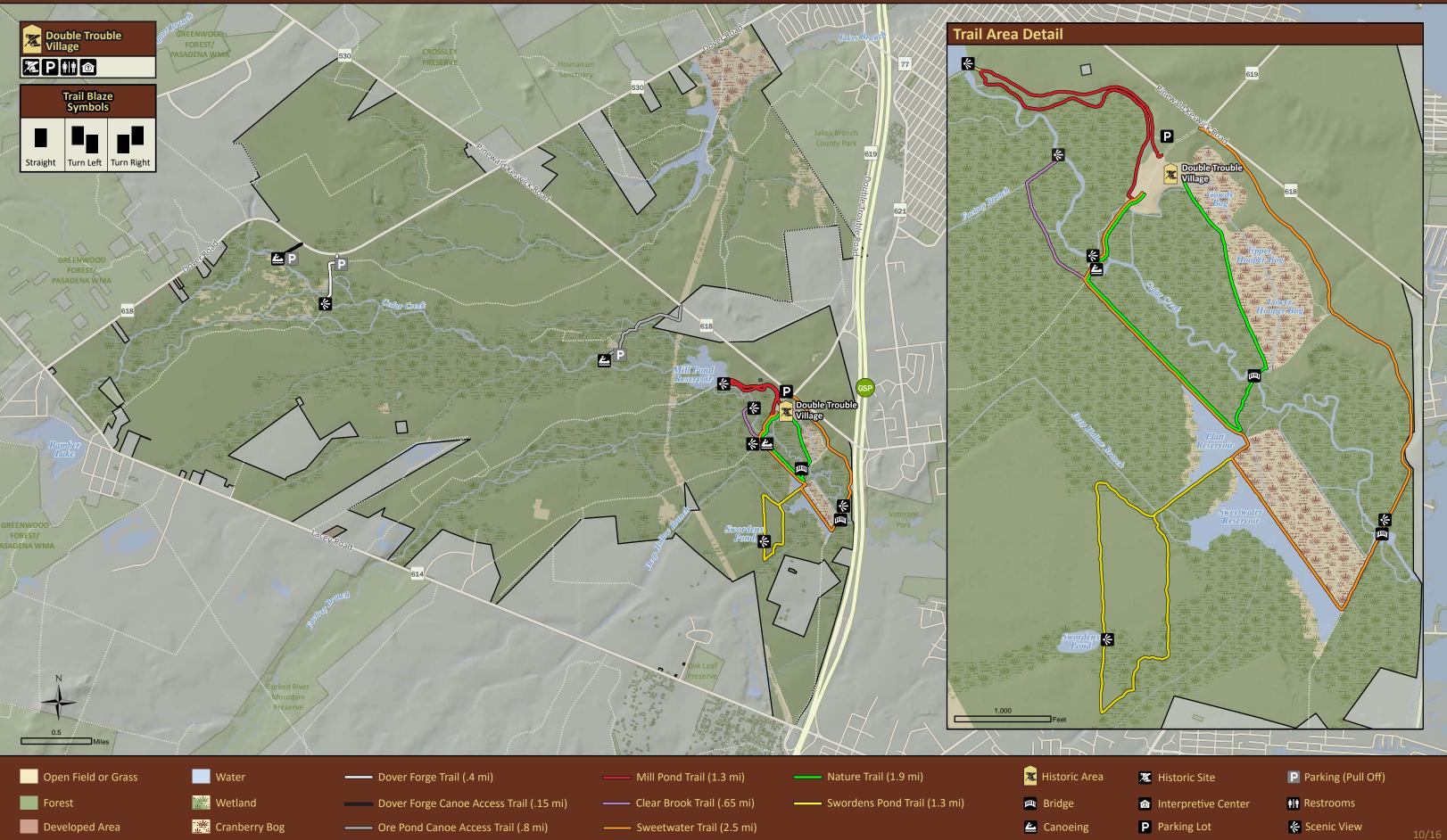


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- **10** Abandoned bog. Once a cranberry bog, this moist, shady area is now home to mosses and moisture-preferring plants.
- **11** Endangered plants can grow in swamps.
- **12** Reservoir for cranberry bogs. Home to pickerel fish, painted turtles, snapping turtles, and water snakes.
- **13** Dead trees in reservoir provide nesting sites and stopovers for migratory waterfowl.
- **14** Sweet bay magnolia has white fragrant flowers in June and July.
- **15** Greenbrier/catbrier berries provide a winter food supply to grouse, deer and rabbits.
- **16** Mountain laurel has white-pink flowers during late May and early June.
- **17** A tree canopy is formed by trees growing to gain the most sunlight.
- **18** Red maples and Atlantic white cedar have overtaken the abandoned 55 acre Mill Pond Bog.
- **19** Poison ivy has leaves of three, so let it be.

20 The sawmill was used for milling cedar.

# **DOUBLE TROUBLE** State Park



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