The Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, a National Estuary Program, promotes this Estuary as a regional resource through public education and outreach. Our goal, with this brochure, is to promote awareness based upon the Estuary's watershed boundaries rather than its geographical location. This brochure is designed to educate you about the natural resources of this watershed while being sensitive to its preservation.

For more information, call 1-800-445-4915 or visit our web site at www.DelawareEstuary.org.

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“Man must go back to nature for information.”
—Thomas Paine
The Crosswicks Creek Watershed is one of many tributaries of the Delaware Estuary. It is the square miles, with many historically significant and naturally beautiful places of interest. We chose to introduce you to two towns in the Watershed – Bordentown and Allentown.

Bordentown

As a center of revolutionary zeal, Bordentown was occupied by the Hessians in 1776 and then pillaged and burned by the British in 1778. Once home to prominent historical figures such as Thomas Paine, Clara Barton, and Joseph Bonaparte (ex-lieutenant of Spanish and brother of Napoleon), Bordentown is now a bustling community with much to offer visitors and residents alike.

Referred to as a “little city with a lot of charm,” the revitalized business district features interesting shops, galleries, restaurants and historically significant architecture. Founded by Clara Barton in 1842, the first free public one-room schoolhouse in New Jersey still stands near the center of town. Visitors can take in the view of the Delaware River at Point Breeze, also known as Bonapartes Park, while pondering what remains of Joseph’s castle beneath the ground – brick tunnels built to provide a quick escape from his enemies.

The main street in town is Farnsworth Avenue, which is where you’ll find the unofficial visitor center. By the Book @ U & I Gift Shop, 150 Farnsworth Ave, (609) 298-3344. Just walk in and ask for Alice! The Thomas Paine Society has printed a self-guided tour of Mr. Paine’s haunts while he was a resident of Bordentown. A statue has been erected in his honor on the bluff at the end of Prince Street. Take the time to roam around the streets of this town, where locals will take the time to say hello.

Before you go, visit www.downtownbordentown.com.

Allentown

The country village of Allentown was settled in 1768 by Nathan Allen, who built three mills alongside Doctor’s Creek. Today, Allentown has a successful business district and approximately 220 homes within its historic district dating prior to 1860. It’s a very pleasant place for an afternoon of antiquing in the Old Mill and maybe a quick paddle on the Millpond adjacent to Pete Sensi Park. But before doing so, grab a cup of coffee or some picnic supplies at Hoffman’s Bake Shoppe, 2 N Main St, (609) 259-8442. This Victorian commercial building was built in the mid-1800s, and has been a hatter’s shop, several food markets, restaurants, and now a bakery.

Learn more about Allentown by exploring online at www.allentown nj.com, or by calling (877) 208-1141.

Enjoying nature...

The Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh is located in one of the most populous areas of Mercer County yet it supports over 1,000 different plant and animal species. Paddling, hiking and nature-watching opportunities abound in this place “where eagles hunt and humans play.” Most of the marsh is located within the Abbott Farm National Historic Landmark, which is the largest Native American site in the mid-Atlantic dating back to 400 BC. Contact the Delaware & Raritan Greenway at (609) 924-4646 for more information, or visit www.marshfriends.org.

The Crosswicks Creek Park, near Bledisloe, (732) 842-4000, borders the Creek preserving the integrity and ecology of the waterway. Located in the heart of the park is Historic Walnford, (609) 215-4275, a 36-acre historic district that was once the homestead of Richard Waln. This former estate, with mill and out buildings, has been restored and is open to the public.

Clayton Park, near Milamstead, (732) 842-4000, features 417 acres that includes six miles of trails for hikers, bikers, and equestrians.

The 70-mile Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park, (732) 873-3050, is one of the area’s most popular recreational corridors for canoeing, jogging, cycling, fishing and horseback riding. The canal and the park are part of the National Recreation Trail System. This linear park is also a valuable wildlife corridor connecting fields and forests. Visit the park at www.dandrcpNJ.org.

Other places of interest...

In downtown Burlington, on the southwest corner of High and Broad Sts, you’ll find the Blue Anchor Inn eatery, a long established arm wrestling restaurant that took place in the 19th Century. Located at 32 High and Ulysses S. Grant. At 309 Wood St, you can see the overseeing Grant’s House where General Grant’s wife and children are to be found. The house has been restored, and currently is a museum with period antiques.


DiMattia’s Restaurant & Lounge, 25 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown. A Bistro with Italian influences. (609) 298-9963

Steger’s Cafe, 233 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown. An American cafe with Italian influences. (609) 298-9963

Oliver, A Bistro, 222 Farnsworth Ave, Bordentown. Food to tell your friends about. (609) 298-7777

Ummo Ice Cream Parlor, 236 High & Union Streets, Burlington. Coffee and dessert in an authentic “old-time” ice cream parlor, open early April to mid-December. (609) 387-7986

Where to lay your head...

The Dancer Farm B&B Inn, 19 Archantown Rd., New Egypt. A 250-acre working farm with fields, meadows, a barn and training facilities for standardbred racehorses. (609) 752-0200 or www.dancerfarm.com

Earth Friendly B&B. 17 Old Noah Hunt Rd., Cream Ridge. Visitors can pick unsprayed fruit in season, stroll in the woods or around the fishpond, gather eggs and enjoy the fresh, clean air. Located only three miles from Six Flags Great Adventure and the Horse Park of New Jersey. (609) 259-9744

Fenbrook B&B. 142 Georgetown Rd., Bordentown. A gracious estate with lush country gardens, fireplaces and a 19th Century mahogany pool table, in the billiards room. (609) 298-3868 or www.blissbend/blissbendbl

Laurel Pond, 710 Rt. 537, Cream Ridge. Laurel Pond is a luxury outdoor hostel resort along Lahway Creek. (888) POND-123 or www.laurelpound.com.

Timberland Lake Campground, P.O. Box 48, Reed Road, Jackson. A 14 acre campground with an Olympic size pool, five-acre lake, minigolf and arcade. (609) 758-2255 or www.timberlandlakesc Campground.com.