

Meet Me in the Meadowlands



The NJSEA offers a number of resources for Meadowlands District municipalities and educational programs for the public. They include:

- 🌊 Digital mapping services
- 🌊 Shared heavy equipment pool, including jet-vac truck
- 🌊 Scientific research and air, soil and water quality testing conducted by the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute (MERI)
- 🌊 Guided pontoon boat cruises, canoe tours and nature walks
- 🌊 More than 21 parks and eight miles of walking and hiking trails
- 🌊 Annual Butterfly Day
- 🌊 Year-round environmentally themed workshops and programs for all ages, including animal visits and art work shops
- 🌊 Science and environmental education programs for students in Grades K-12 focusing on ecology, chemistry, biology, astronomy and natural history
- 🌊 Public viewing nights and astronomy lessons at the William D. McDowell Observatory
- 🌊 Annual Halloween Party and Spooky Walk
- 🌊 The Flyway Gallery, featuring local environmental art exhibits
- 🌊 Tideland Treasures gift shop, featuring environmentally themed educational products for kids, birding books, home and garden decor, and much more.



About the NJSEA: The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority is the planning and zoning agency for the 30.4-square-mile Meadowlands District, comprised of parts of 14 municipalities in Bergen and Hudson counties. In February 2015 the former New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) was consolidated into the NJSEA.

Nature programming: In collaboration with the Bergen County Audubon Society, the NJSEA offers free twice monthly nature walks and additional special events. For a complete schedule, go to njmeadowlands.gov and click on "Events." The Sports Authority also offers guided pontoon boat tours and canoe trips of the Hackensack River.

The Meadowlands Nature Blog: meadowblog.net, includes daily updates and great photography of the region's flora and fauna, environmental-themed news and information about NJSEA public programs.

Created in 1969, the NJMC (now NJSEA) has fought to end illegal dumping and encourage appropriate development in the Meadowlands District, and has helped to protect thousands of acres of wetlands and open space. The agency has also developed or contributed to the design of 21 parks throughout the District.

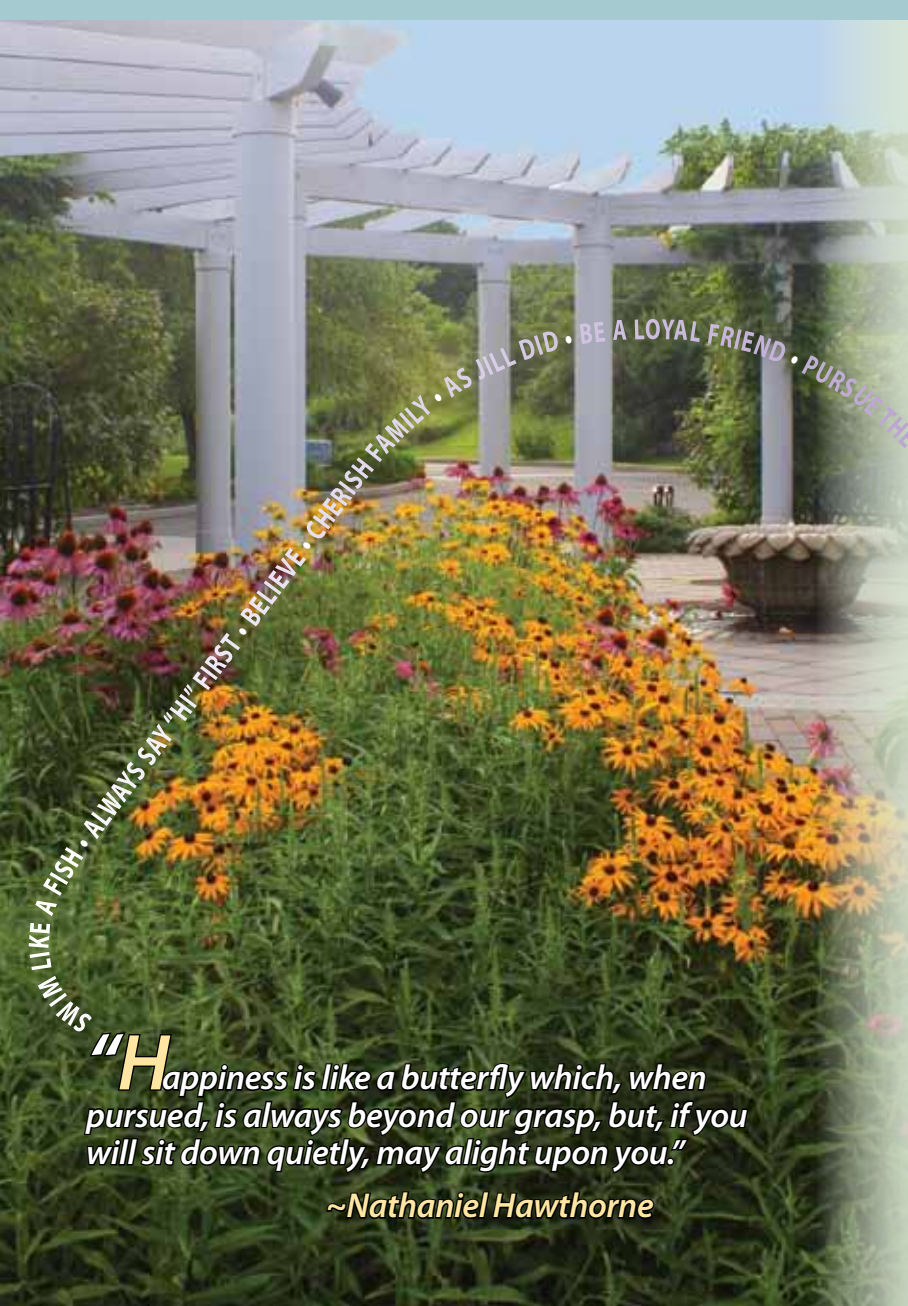


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www.njmeadowlands.gov



DBB 3000 715

Come and Explore the New Jersey Meadowlands!



**About the
Jill Ann Ziemkiewicz
Butterfly Garden**

This garden was built to honor the memory of Jill Ann Ziemkiewicz, a Rutherford resident and the youngest member of the flight crew assigned to TWA Flight 800, which crashed into the ocean off Long Island on July 17, 1996. Jill's Garden was designed as a teaching garden, a living classroom where students can observe butterflies in late spring and summer. As a functioning butterfly garden, the colorful flowers and plants provide food and cover for butterfly larvae and adults. At its center is a hand-carved limestone fountain shaped like a sunflower, Jill's favorite.



About DeKorte Park:

Featuring 3.5 miles of walking trails, panoramic views and birds galore, this one-square-mile park is the center of New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority nature activities.

The park includes the NJSEA's Center for Environmental and Scientific Education which hosts school groups, the William D. McDowell Observatory open free to the public, our Administrative Offices, and the Meadowlands Environment Center, which offers hands-on educational programs for adults and children.

Other Butterfly Hotspots:

Other great areas in DeKorte Park for viewing these delicate winged marvels include the butterfly bushes by the Meadowlands Environment Center, the flowers at the WTC Memorial Cove and the Butterfly Garden near the AMVETS Carillon on nearby Disposal Road.

"Happiness is like a butterfly which, when pursued, is always beyond our grasp, but, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you."

~Nathaniel Hawthorne

LIKE A FISH • ALWAYS SAY "HI" FIRST • BELIEVE • CHERISH FAMILY • AS JILL DID • BE A LOYAL FRIEND • PURSUE THE DREAM • SMILE A LOT • SHINE LIKE THE SUN • AS JILL DID • LAUGH • SING IN THE SHOWER • CELEBRATE LIFE • PLANT A GARDEN • AS JILL DID

Richard W. DeKorte Park Butterfly Guide



Butterfly Basics

With their delicate and symmetrical wings, butterflies are the goodwill ambassadors of the insect kingdom. They don't bite, sting or buzz, and most are colorful and easy to see.

People associate these captivating insects with a beautiful summer's day, and for good reason: Butterflies, flowers and sunshine just seem to go together. If you see a butterfly, chances are you're in a pretty good place – a spot that is sunny and warm, with blossoming flowers nearby. Small wonder that butterflies might just be the world's most popular bugs.



Black Swallowtail Caterpillar

The butterfly's life cycle is amazing: egg, larva (caterpillar), chrysalis and butterfly. Butterflies typically lay their eggs on specific types of plants, which serve as food sources after the eggs become caterpillars – that's why creating and maintaining the right habitat is crucial to attracting these enchanting insects. Butterfly life spans range from a week or two up to eight or nine months, depending on species. Some butterfly species migrate, others do not.

Butterflies are related to moths, with major differences. Butterflies' antennae are knobbed on the end, and they have thin bodies, while moths tend to be plump. Also, butterflies are seen during the day; moths tend to fly at night.

For more information on Butterflies:

North American Butterfly Association: www.naba.org

Butterflies Through Binoculars - The East, by Jeffrey Glassberg

Butterflies of the East Coast, by Rick Czech and Guy Tudor

Butterflies of New Jersey, by Michael Gochfeld and Joanna Burger

Note: All photos taken in DeKorte Park or nearby Harrier Meadow.

Note: Special thanks to the North Jersey Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association for their help on this brochure.

Watching Butterflies

The best time of year to see butterflies at DeKorte Park is from late spring through September, with peak season typically occurring in the latter part of July (depending on how rainy May and June have been). The best time of day to see butterflies is from mid-morning to mid-afternoon on sunny days.

From early July through mid-August, you may also see a remarkable little bug called a Clear-winged Moth, which looks like a cross between a hummingbird and a bee.

Most butterflies can be seen with the naked eye, but special butterfly binoculars can give you a magnified look at the subtle features of these amazing insects. Unlike birding binoculars, built to see things far away, butterfly binoculars typically focus closer than six feet away. A good pair can be purchased at a birding supply store or on the Web.

Larger Butterflies



Monarch



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail



Black Swallowtail



Great Spangled Fritillary

Mid-sized Butterflies



Viceroy



Common Buckeye



Cabbage White



Orange Sulphur



Pearl Crescent



Red Admiral



Question Mark



Painted Lady

Smaller Butterflies



Silver-spotted Skipper



Broad-winged Skipper



Summer Azure



Common Sootywing



Wild Indigo Duskywing



Eastern Tailed-Blue



Eight-spotted Forester Moth



Clear-winged Moth

Moths

DeKorte Park Basics
 Open daily, 8 am to dusk • Dogs must be leashed
 Fishing -- catch and release in dedicated areas only • Picnics allowed
 Fires, alcoholic beverages prohibited • No feeding wildlife • No picking flowers or vegetation
Emergency Telephone Numbers:
 Weekdays: 201-460-1700 • Weekends: 201-484-9193
 Lyndhurst Police: 201-939-2900

NJSEA's Websites:
 Our home page: njmeadowlands.gov
 Our research arm: meri.njmeadowlands.gov
 Our nature blog: meadowblog.net