

## Stokes State Forest

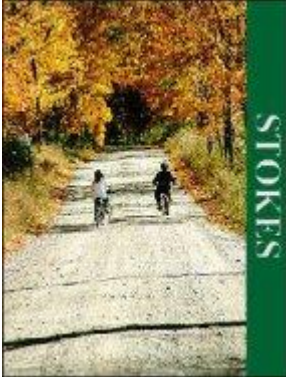


Photo by Maureen E. Woods

### Facilities & Activities:

- Sunrise Mountain scenic overlook
- Tillman Ravine Natural Area
- [Camping](#)
- [Fishing](#) (lakes, ponds, and the Flatbrook)
- [Hunting](#)
- [Picnicking](#)
- Boating/canoeing: cartop launch
- Swimming: (Stony Lake), bathhouse
- Winter sports: ice skating, cross- country skiing, snowmobiling, ice fishing
- [FAQ's](#)

### Trails:

- Hiking
- Horseback riding
- Mountain biking

### [Appalachian Trail](#)

**The breathtaking and panoramic view from Sunrise Mountain along the Appalachian Trail rewards the hiker who has trekked up the steep side of the mountain. The view encompasses the pastoral farmland of New Jersey to the east and undeveloped forests and mountain ridges to the west. For those who don't relish the idea of climbing up the side of a mountain and following a sometimes rocky and steep trail for a few hours, there is a short drive to the pavilion at the top of the mountain.**

Stokes is famous for its impressive beauty, whether it is at the top of a mountain ridge or in the cool and fragrant Tillman Ravine with its rushing stream and steep cliffs. Hikers, campers, fishermen and photographers are attracted to its wild setting.

The crest of Sunrise Mountain is one of the most frequently visited sites in Stokes State Forest. The mountaintop provides a breathtaking view at an elevation of 1,653 feet above sea level. The thin soil and harsh climate characteristic of Sunrise Mountain is a difficult environment in which few plants can survive. Mountain laurel, wild blueberry, pitch pine and scrub oak are among the natural vegetation found throughout the area. The pavilion at the summit was built in the late 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The [Appalachian Trail](#) runs along the ridge.

### **Tillman Ravine Natural Area (525 acres)**

This cool evergreen forest of eastern hemlock is ideally suited for the steep slopes carved by the rushing waters of Tillman Brook. Several trails wander through this spectacular ravine, providing views of waterfalls and ferns clinging to rock crevices. The area is home to the threatened barred owl and other endangered species.

**Location:**  
Sussex County

**Mailing Address:**  
1 Coursen Road  
Branchville, NJ 07826  
(973) 948-3820

**Directions:**  
Take Route 206, four miles north of Branchville.

