

SPECIAL PLACES OF BORDENTOWN CITY

#1 Hilltop Park: A short walking trail (with benches) provides views along the bluffs above Crosswicks Creek. Panoramic views include the Trenton-Hamilton-Bordentown Marsh, Crosswicks Creek, RiverLINE bridge, and the City of Trenton in the distance. Enjoy the various gardens, including rare irises and other colorful plants. *Access from north end of Farnsworth Avenue or Second Street.*

#2 Bordentown Beach Boat Ramp and Park: Explore this natural area at the mouth of Blacks Creek. Note the tidal influence (as much as 8 feet) of the Delaware River. Canoes and kayaks may be launched from the boat ramp. A picnic area is located nearby. *Access end of West Park St.*

#3 Crosswicks Creek Water Trail: Launch a canoe or kayak from the boat ramp and explore Crosswicks Creek and the Trenton-Hamilton-Bordentown Marsh, the largest, northernmost freshwater tidal marsh on the Delaware River. See Lock #1 of the historic Delaware & Raritan Canal. Continue under the light rail bridge (watch for swallows swooping!) and explore the unusually steep bluffs along the eastern banks of Crosswicks Creek. Wild rice and spatterdock abound in the summer. *Free access for non-motorized craft launching from Bordentown Boat Ramp.*

#4 Historic Corner (Hopkinson House, Borden House and Wright House): Homes of Joseph Borden (1687-1765), early settler for whom the town is named; Francis Hopkinson (1737-1791), signer of the Declaration of Independence; and Patience Lovell Wright (1725-1786), Colonial-era sculptress, are located on three corners of the intersection of Park Street and Farnsworth Avenue.

#5 RiverLINE Pedestrian Bridge: Perch above Crosswicks Creek and observe the ebb and flow of the tide. Watch for great blue herons or bald eagles. Wave at the train as it approaches the nearby station! Fishing is permitted. *Access from north end of Farnsworth Avenue.*

#6 Gilder Park: Bring the children to the playground. Enjoy a baseball game in the spring or summer. See the historic Gilder House, which dates from the 18th century. *Access from Crosswicks Street.*

#7 Thomas Paine Statue/Prince Street Overlook: Contemplate the "Father of the American Revolution," who resided in Bordentown City in the 18th century. Gaze over his shoulder at the confluence of Crosswicks Creek and the Delaware River. *North end of Prince Street.*

*Printed on recycled paper
Publication date: October 2005*

BORDENTOWN CITY...

...is located in central New Jersey, just southeast of Trenton, on the bluffs of Crosswicks Creek near the Delaware River. Settlement of the area dates to the late 17th century, when the location was chosen by early settlers because of its proximity to these navigable waterways. A rich and varied history includes: the first use of a steam locomotive in New Jersey, the *John Bull*; a hotbed of revolutionary fervor; and home to many historical figures, including Thomas Paine, Clara Barton, and Joseph Bonaparte. Today, the local environment continues to be defined by water. The City boundaries are comprised of Mile Hollow Run to the northeast, Blacks Creek to the southwest, and Crosswicks Creek to the northwest, and several other streams traverse the City. It is these waterways that account for the special natural resources that are found in Bordentown City, and it is their attributes that provide a natural buffer along the edges of the urban fabric.

Bordentown City presents the curious explorer with a wide variety of natural landscapes. Tidal marsh and freshwater wetlands abound, providing wildlife with valuable habitat. Steep slopes along the streams offer dramatic views of the unique topography of the region. Scenic vistas offer a glimpse into the human and geologic history of the area. The contrast of the urban and natural environments are everywhere evident within the City's one square mile.

It is hoped that this brochure will provide a handy "rough guide" for both residents and visitors alike to some of the special natural areas and historic places in Bordentown City.

BORDENTOWN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION...

...is comprised of volunteers who are residents of Bordentown City. The BCEC advises local officials and the Planning Board regarding environmental issues and acts as a watchdog for environmental problems and opportunities. They inform elected officials and the public, serve on committees, research issues, develop educational programs and advocate for sound environmental policies. Local issues include preservation of open space, promoting walking and bicycling trails and the RiverLINE, protection of wetlands and water quality, recycling and energy conservation, and environmental education. To learn more, visit www.bcec.us. Or use this guide to get out and explore some of the natural wonders of Bordentown City!

This brochure has been funded by the City of Bordentown and a grant from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection

Special Places of Bordentown City



**Bordentown City
Environmental Commission
324 Farnsworth Avenue
Bordentown, NJ 08505
www.bcec.us**

SPECIAL PLACES OF BORDENTOWN CITY



#1 Hilltop Park



#2 Bordentown Beach



#3 Crosswicks Creek Water Trail



#4 Hopkinson House



#5 RiverLINE Bridge



#6 Gilder House



#7 Thomas Paine Statue

Legend

Special Places

Waterways

Roads

City Boundary