DISMAL SWAMP STATE PARK

2294 US 17 North
South Mills, NC 27976

252-771-6593
252-771-6582

dismal.swamp@ncparks.gov

GPS: 36.5057, -76.3551

ACTIVITIES

Education and Events: Dismal Swamp State Park holds the key to many of nature's best-kept secrets. Unlock the door to nature's classroom and watch the mysteries begin to unfold. Our rangers will guide you on exciting explorations where you'll uncover fascinating natural surroundings, and make great discoveries about the world in which we live. Bring our state's rich natural and cultural heritage alive. Embark on a learning adventure at the Dismal Swamp and discover the wonders of a nonriverine swamp forest.

The swamp boardwalk allows visitors to get a feel for the swamp without having to get off the beaten path. The platform allows a group to gather, look, listen and learn together.

Join a regularly scheduled interpretive program. Contact the park office to arrange a special program for your group or class.

Visitor Center: A unique hydraulic arm bridge that spans the Dismal Swamp Canal allows access to the Dismal Swamp State Park. Boaters along the canal have 'right of way' which may cause some delay in pedestrians crossing the bridge. The visitor center/exhibit hall, restrooms and parking are accessible.

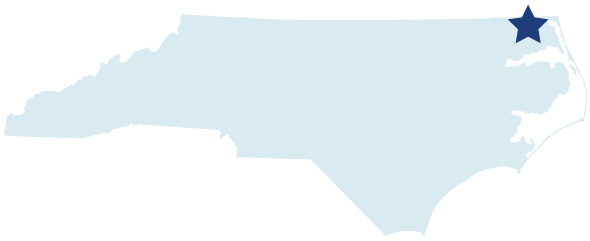
Trails: Hop on your bike or lace up your shoes to enjoy the miles of trails that Dismal Swamp has to offer. The average, leisurely hiker can walk about one mile in 20 minutes. Keep this in mind and plan accordingly to avoid being caught in the park after closing. Remember that you must return to the parking area 30 minutes prior to the posted seasonal gate closing time. The last bridge access is at 5:30 p.m. Trails do not loop in the park. Distances given on the map are one-way. Bring your bike or rent one from the park. Men's, women's and children's bikes are available, as well as helmets. Contact the park for rental information.

Paddling: Glide along the amber colored waters of the historic Dismal Swamp Canal in your own canoe or kayak. A boat ramp near the parking area gives access to the canal waters. Don't forget your life vests! Or rent a canoe or kayak from the park. One and two person kayaks are available. Contact the park for rental information.

Check out the beautiful boats that travel on the Dismal Swamp Canal, which is an alternate route for the Intra-Coastal Waterway, which is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The best time to see the boats is in the spring and fall.

Take a journey into the Dismal Swamp, one of North America's great wetland forests. At one time, the Dismal Swamp covered nearly 1.28 million acres in North Carolina and Virginia. Today's swamp is smaller but its beauty and mystery live on.

LOCATION



Dismal Swamp State Park is located in Camden County, near the Virginia border. The entrance to the park is located north of the town of South Mills, on U.S. 17 north.

PARK HOURS

North Carolina State Parks are open every day, with the exception of Christmas Day. Park hours vary with the seasons.

Please visit the North Carolina State Park website or contact the park office for the most current information about seasonal hours, activities, alerts, camping fees, programs rules and weather.

www.ncparks.gov

Make a reservation online at ncparks.gov or call 1-877-722-6762.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS
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