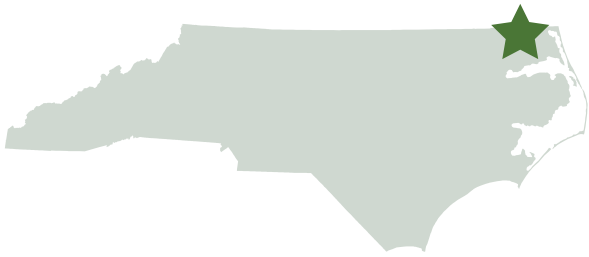


# Dismal Swamp STATE PARK



## Dismal Swamp State Park

2294 US 17 North  
South Mills, NC 27976

252-771-6593

dismal.swamp@ncparks.gov

GPS: 36.5057, -76.3551

## Fun Facts

- The park was established in 1974.
- At one time, the swamp covered 1.28 million acres.
- Dismal Swamp has a 22-mile long canal.
- The swamp is one of the largest pieces of undeveloped land in the eastern U.S.
- The area around the swamp is covered in peat soil — which can be from 3 to 15 feet deep
- Dismal Swamp was an integral part of the Underground Railroad, and home to one of the largest maroon colonies in the US.
- To European settlers, “dismal” meant swamp.
- The rich, coffee brown color of the water comes from the tannins in tree leaves.
- The entrance has a one-of-a-kind hydraulic swing bridge.

## Activities



Located in North Carolina's northeastern border with Virginia, Dismal Swamp State Park provides numerous recreational opportunities. The area surrounding the park has a rich history intertwining with George Washington, the Underground Railroad and Prohibition. The park provides public access to the Great Dismal Swamp, the largest remaining swamp in the eastern United States, and its unique and abundant plant life and wildlife.

## Experience the Park!

### 10 TRAILS

### 20+ MILES OF HIKING



The rare Hessel's  
Hairstreak Butterfly  
can be found at  
Dismal  
Swamp.



### FAUNA

- Wild turkey
- Bobwhite
- Deer
- Marsh rabbit
- Raccoon
- Black-throated green warbler
- Opossum
- Gray fox
- Bobcat
- Black bear



The swamp  
is said to  
be haunted  
by ghosts.



Because Dismal Swamp  
is a drier swamp, there  
are more **red maple**  
than white cedar trees  
and cypress.



Many fruits grow wild at Dismal Swamp:  
**blackberry, persimmons  
and blueberries**



See the  
Park Map

[ncparks.gov](http://ncparks.gov)

