

Silver Lake – Stop & Scan

Foster Avenue, Gibbsboro
Phone: 856-783-6655

www.gibbsborotownhall.com/gibbsboropride.htm

OWNER: Gibbsboro Borough

DIRECTIONS FROM NEAREST HIGHWAY: From I-295, take exit 32 for Route 561/Berlin Road and head South toward Berlin. After 3.7 miles, turn Right at the traffic light onto Clementon Road. Turn Left at the first traffic light onto Foster Avenue, and then left into the parking area at Silver Lake.

DIRECTIONS FROM SITE TO SITE: Exit Rowands Pond WMA and turn Right onto Higgins Avenue. After 0.3 miles turn Left onto Route 30/ White Horse Pike. At the second traffic light, turn Right onto East Gibbsboro Road. After 2 miles, turn Right at the traffic light onto Foster Avenue, and then left into the parking area at Silver Lake.

NEAREST PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: New Jersey Transit Bus Lines No. 459 Voorhees Town Center/Camden County College/Avandale Park & Ride stops at Laurel Oak Road and Haddonfield Berlin Road. Walk 2 blocks on South Lakeview Drive. Walk straight on North Lakeview Drive for 5 blocks. Continue straight on Haddonfield Berlin Road for 1 block. Walking distance is less than 1 mile.

Gas
Food

ACCESS AND PARKING: Open daily from dawn to dusk. Respect all posted areas in the industrial park and be mindful during business hours.

SITE DESCRIPTION: Silver Lake is part of the larger Gibbsboro Greenway and Bikeway network, for which a map is available at www.gibbsborotownhall.com/gibbsboropride.htm.

Silver Lake is a consistently good location for waterfowl and provides a nice walk any time of year. The mature oak, holly, and pitch pine woods around the lake are home to neighborhood wildlife and the lake itself has a healthy population of fish and turtles. The site includes two sets of three smokestacks and other historical structures that are the remnants from a time when the lake was the location of a major paint manufacturing facility for the John Lucas Company. Patents for ready mixed paint (modern pre-mixed paint) were developed on the site.

Gibbsboro's off road bikeway network can be accessed near Silver Lake at the Gibbsboro Police Department (in the heart of the Paint Works Corporate Park). It includes numerous scenic overlooks of Bridgewood Lake (off United States Avenue) and the Philadelphia skyline from Blueberry Hill and Haines Point. Bridgewood Lake is accessible from the bike route and

provides habitat for many common birds, fish, and turtles. Great Blue Herons, turkeys, and whitetail deer are commonly observable along the five mile bike route.

DON'T MISS: Explore the 0.75 mile paved "paintworks" trail around the lake in the fall for the best foliage colors and a nice variety of waterfowl.

THROUGH THE SEASONS:

Winter: The lake hosts Ring-necked Duck, Mallard, Canada Goose, Common Merganser and the occasional American Coot. Ring-billed Gulls are sometimes joined by the larger Herring Gull. The woods are full of White-throated, Song and House sparrows. Gray squirrels rustle for acorns.

Spring: Scan for Blue-winged teal and Black Ducks mixing with Mallards. Baltimore Orioles and Red-eyed Vireos sing from the treetops. Look for American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, and Black and White Warbler, among others.

Summer: Red-bellied turtles bask on logs and on the banks of the lake. Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets stalk the shallows. Double-crested Cormorants dive for fish. Look for Osprey overhead. Laurels bloom in the woods. Ferns and lily pads are abundant. Dragonflies and damselflies can be found in the Northeast corner of the lake.

Fall: Sour gum trees turn beautiful shades of orange and red. Ruddy Ducks and Hooded Mergansers arrive on the lake. Scan the trees for perched Belted Kingfisher or Red-tailed Hawk.

Butterflies/Dragonflies

Hiking Trails

Ideal for beginning birders

Parking