Little Tinicum Island Natural Area

Area Facts



- ➤ Area is 80 acres.
- Tract is in the Delaware River, southwest of the Philadelphia International Airport.
- Area contains a unique tidal mud flat ecosystem.
- Tract is part of William Penn State Forest.
- Features the Little Tinicum Trail with wildlife viewing area and nearby primitive campground, accessible by watercraft only.

William Penn State Forest

For more information, please contact:

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Ecosystem/Terrain

- The island exhibits a good example of a tidal mud flat, which is subject to tidal fluctuation.
- Dominant forest species include riparian trees like black willow, sycamore, silver maple, cottonwood, boxelder, and river birch.



Mud flats at Little Tinicum Island.

- Common herbaceous species include pickerel weed, wild rice, arrow arum, water hemp, spadderdock, and mud plantain.
- Common shrubs on the island include staghorn sumac, common alder, and blackberry.
- Area is adversely affected by a variety of non-native trees, vines, and herbs.

Wildlife

The natural area supports a robust heron rookery, which can be viewed at the wildlife viewing area.



Great blue heron.

- The natural area is a special Reptile and Amphibian Protection Area (PA Fish and Boat Commission), supporting populations of turtles and snakes.
- Common birds on the island include red-winged blackbird, common grackle, Baltimore oriole, and American redstart.

Access

Access to the area is via watercraft only, which are permitted to be landed on the island.



