

WHAT YOU CAN DO

You can also help the Diamond Brook by reducing the volume of rainwater that leaves your property:

- Direct downspouts away from driveways and onto lawns where the water can slowly be absorbed.
- Rainwater can be used to water your plants. Use a rain barrel to capture water from your roof.
- Reduce the size of your lawn and use native plants and shrubs that have deeper roots and absorb more water.

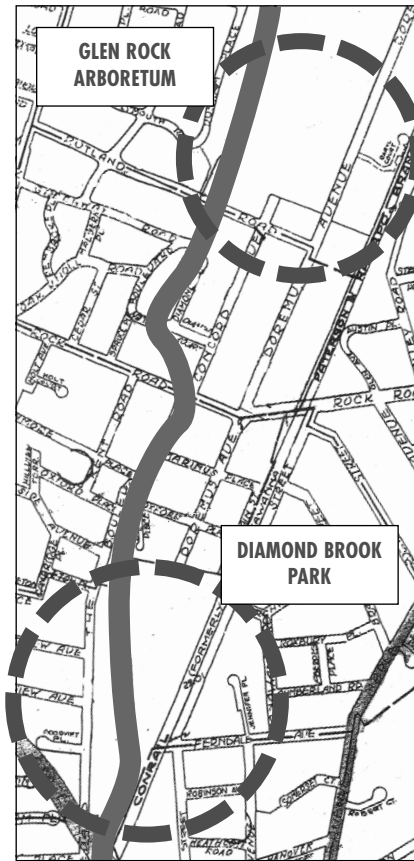
DID YOU KNOW?

Glen Rock's water supply is derived from ground water, pockets of water deep underground stored in porous rock formations called aquifers. Water that stays on your property replenishes and recharges the aquifer – Glen Rock's source of drinking water!



Funding provided by the Glen Rock Environmental Commission and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. For more information about the Glen Rock Environmental Commission or the Arboretum please contact these organizations at Borough Hall, Harding Plaza, Glen Rock, NJ 07452, (201) 670-3956.

DIAMOND BROOK GREENWAY GUIDE



TRACE THE PATH

The Diamond Brook is a flowing reminder of the timeless natural beauty that has brought generation after generation to Glen Rock.

The Diamond Brook follows a winding two-mile course through the entire length of Glen Rock paralleling the western border. It flows from the North to the South through wetlands, residential properties and a natural forest. The brook is spring-fed with the headwaters located just north of the Glen Rock border in Ridgewood near the Orchard School.

The Diamond Brook flows past Upper Faber Field, the Glen Rock Recycling Center, the pool and the **Arboretum** where it can be viewed from a series of woodland trails. It continues under Rock Road and parallels Boulevard as it passes behind Byrd Elementary School and runs along the edge of **Diamond Brook Park** — another great place for streamside walks.

The Diamond Brook then travels through an industrial park and into Fair Lawn. From there it joins the Lower Passaic River and continues through Newark

DID YOU KNOW?

Once the Diamond Brook had enough gradation to power a water wheel. The Marinus Lumber Mill was built on the west bank of the Diamond Brook in the vicinity of today's Boulevard and Rock Rd. in the 1870s. When the mill was torn down, the machinery and water wheel were too heavy to move so they were buried beneath the street and remain there to this day.

and into the Newark Bay, finally emptying into the Atlantic Ocean. Quite a voyage for our little stream!



Railroad Turntable in the Diamond Brook Park

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

The Diamond Brook and surrounding habitats are home to a variety of wildlife including: deer, red foxes, woodchucks, chipmunks and raccoons. You may happen upon shy brown snakes, painted and snapping turtles, bullfrogs and even salamanders.



Study the skies and perhaps you'll catch a glimpse of an egret, a heron or a hawk. These animals depend on the fish and the small aquatic insects, also known as macroinvertebrates, that live in the brook for their survival.

DID YOU KNOW?

When the Erie Railroad Company owned the trainlines in town, there used to be a stop at Ferndale Ave. several blocks south of the present Main St. Station. At this junction there was a turntable, a large circular apparatus used to rotate freight cars. It was one of the largest train turntables east of the Mississippi. You can still see the stone foundation of the turntable in the center of the park as indicated on the map.

A NATURAL FILTER

Much of the land surrounding Diamond Brook was originally **wetlands** – marshy and boggy due to underground springs. Portions of wetlands still remain behind Upper Faber Field, in the Arboretum and in Diamond Brook Park.

Wetlands are crucial to the environment because they:

- Help control flooding,
- Improve water quality,
- Replenish drinking water,
- Provide critical habitat, *and*
- Allow education and recreation opportunities.

Rainwater from Ridgewood, Hawthorne and the western portion of Glen Rock feeds into the Diamond Brook. The Diamond Brook is able to absorb large quantities of water, however in times of heavy rainfall the volume is so great that flooding can occur. Besides eroding the banks of the

Diamond Brook, **the pollution and volume of storm water has seriously impacted the quality of life in and around the brook.**



Glen Rock Arboretum

WHO PROTECTS DIAMOND BROOK?

You and me. By making relatively small and easy changes in our daily lives, we can start to control flooding and erosion, increase our supply of drinking water and keep pollutants out of the waterways. These changes will help to maintain or increase the diversity of life in and around our stream.

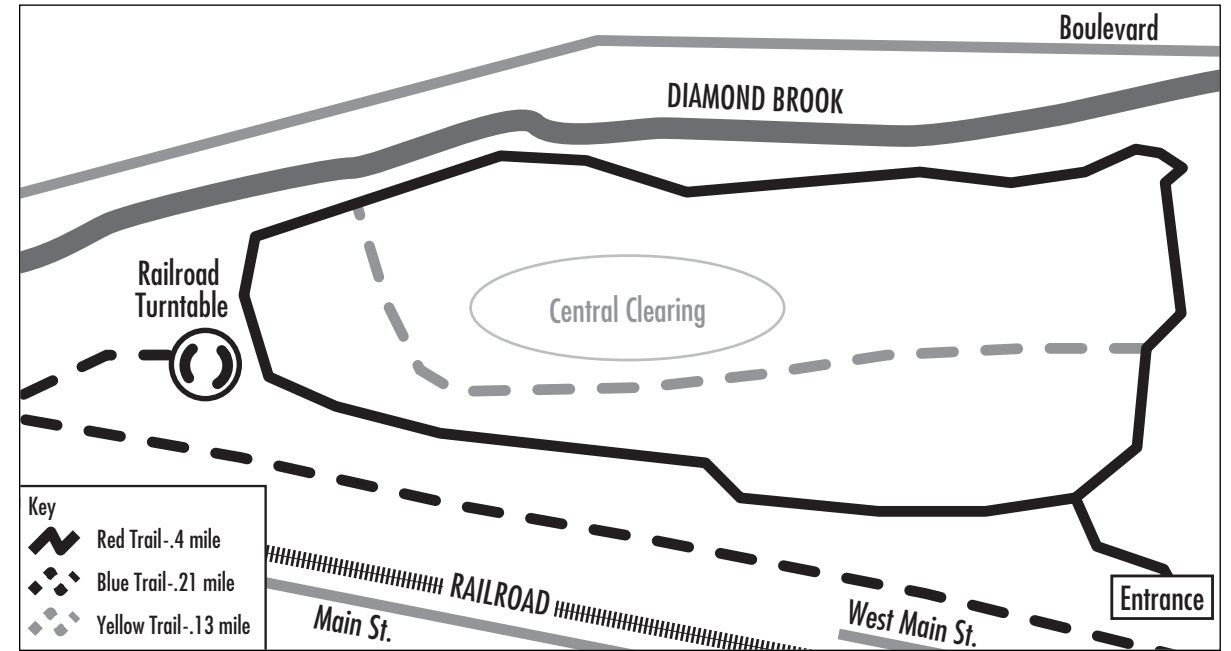
HOW TO REDUCE NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION

- Minimize your use of lawn chemicals and fertilizer.
- Please do not litter, and recycle bottles and cans.
- Dispose of motor oil, pet waste and other hazardous wastes properly.
- Never pour anything other than water down a storm drain.
- Keep leaves, grass clipping and other lawn debris away from storm drains.
- Do not feed wildlife such as ducks and geese.

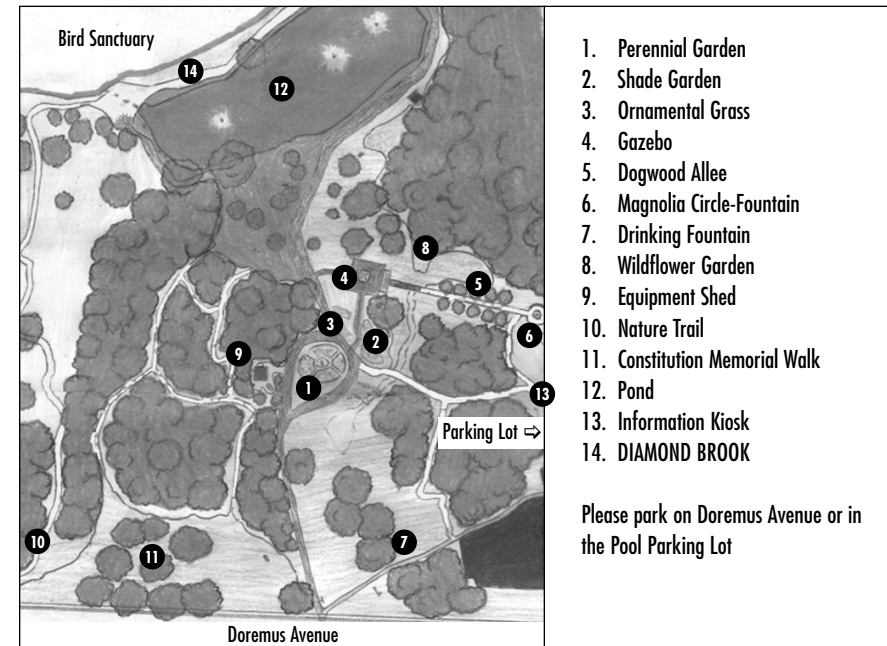
DID YOU KNOW?

NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION is litter and pollution on streets and lawns that is washed by rain into storm drains and then directly to our streams. Nonpoint source pollution is a serious threat to the Diamond Brook and New Jersey's supply of clean, plentiful water. Fertilizer, motor oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, and grass clippings can potentially end up in our streams, rivers and oceans.

DIAMOND BROOK PARK



GLEN ROCK ARBORETUM



DID YOU KNOW?

The Diamond Brook was also known as the Bass Brook. In the past, people used to fish for bass and trout along the stream's shady banks.