



Parks for Life

Monmouth County Park System 2017 Annual Report

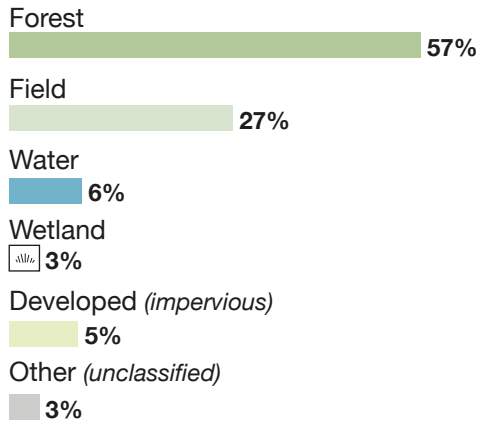
CLASS TRIPS & COOKING LESSONS • SUNSHINE & SWIM LESSONS • PICNICS & PROM PHOTOS • TAKE A HIKE, RIDE YOUR BIKE • SCOUTS, SKATING & WILDLIFE • MEDITATE, LEARN TO SKATE • VOLUNTEER WITH FRIENDS • HOBBIES & LIFE SKILLS • PLAYGROUNDS & DAYDREAMERS • FITNESS OR 5K • RETIREES, MOMMY & ME • ON STAGE, TURN THE PAGE • FAMILY TIME & FRESH AIR • GARDENS & GREENERY • SEASONAL OR SUMMER JOBS • FISHING & PHOTOGRAPHY • KAYAKING & ARCHERY • CRAFTS & CAMPING • GO SLEDDING, HAVE A WEDDING • SUNSETS & SUMMER CAMP

2017 Quick Facts

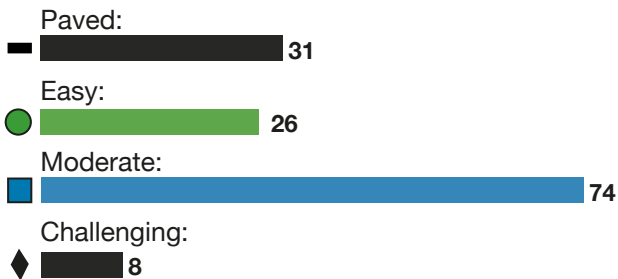
Land

New Acres Acquired in 2017 **179**

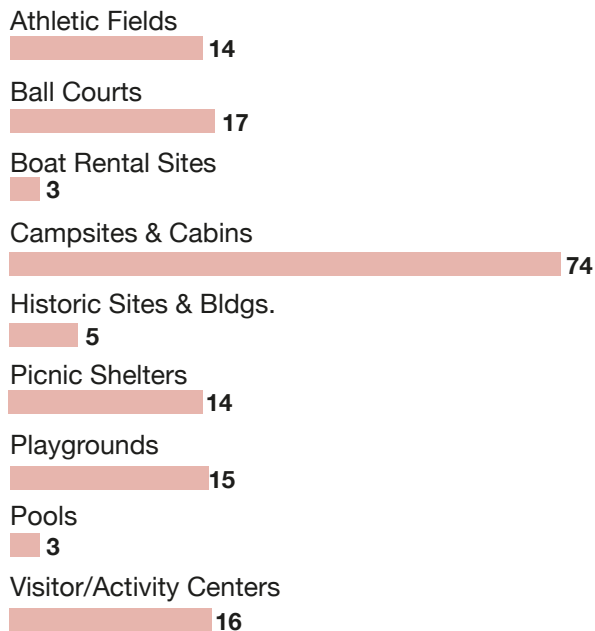
Total Acres of County Parkland** **17,155**



Trails (*miles*) **139**



Recreation Facilities **162**



Visitation

Total County Park Visits 2017† **6,825,964**

Visits to Park System Website **1,046,092**

Recreation Programs

Number of Programs Offered **5,987**

Program Attendance **92,280**

Golf

Number Golf Courses **8**

Golf Rounds Played **209,079**

FootGolf Rounds Played **2,486**

Personnel

Full-time Staff **338**

Hourly/Part-time Staff (*Seasonal*) **331**

Program Staff/Instructors **285**

Volunteers **1,225**

*Excludes easements. This represents approx. 6% of Monmouth County's total acreage of 301,804.

† % Does not equal 100 due to rounding.

‡ Population of Monmouth County is 625,846 (2017 Planning Board estimate)

Life Happens In The Parks

The Monmouth County Park System is now large enough to offer recreation for just about every lifestyle, yet small enough to feel convenient and close to home. Many residents use the parks regularly as an extension of their own backyard for exercise, to walk the dog, play on a playground, or swim in a pool. Some visit often to meet friends for a hike, attend a class or special event, or bring visitors to see local sites.

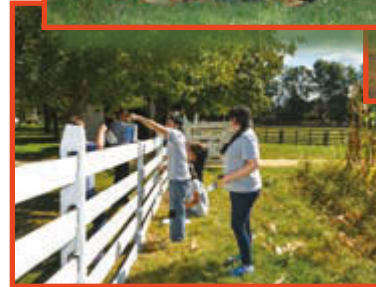
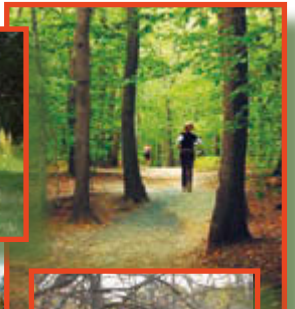
For others, the parks provide a beautiful setting for a special occasion, such as a birthday party, family reunion, employee picnic, or marriage ceremony. When there's a need to take a break and recharge with an art or yoga class, give back to the community as a volunteer or just find a quiet place to meditate, there's a place in the parks to do so. There are countless ways to let life happen in a park...



Getting To Know Youth: Story time, playgrounds and sprayground, toddler hikes and special events.



Student Interactions: New skills and hobbies, sports practice, winter outdoors, class trips and summer camps, and scouting.



Recreation for Young Adults: Volunteering, summer jobs, environmental education, hiking with friends, and competing in a park race.



Activities for Families & Grown-Ups: Mommy/Daddy & Me, family-friendly events, picnics and playgrounds, children's birthday parties, relaxation/meditation.



Retirees & Active Seniors: Commit to fitness, learn something new, volunteer with the parks or work part-time, garden events and senior hikers.



2017 The Year in Review

Park visitation is up another 3.5% this year; it's great news that people continue finding the county parks a desirable place to spend time. But popularity, along with aging infrastructure and ongoing storm damage, also means that maintenance remains a high priority. Shoreline stabilization to protect waterfront properties, as well as the usual repair and upkeep of roofs, restrooms and parking lots were among the year's projects. Critical work was completed to re-open waterfront portions of the Henry Hudson Trail (HHT), along with improvements to playgrounds and golf course bunker/irrigation systems.



Waterfront sections of the HHT were stabilized prior to reopening.



This year was also notable for people coming to volunteer in the parks through their workplace. These large groups helped park staff tackle some big clean-up jobs along our beaches, and at Freneau Woods and Holmdel Parks.



Monmouth County residents also showed their support for the parks by voting to increase the Open Space Trust Fund tax from 1.5 cents to 2.75 cents per \$100 of equalized valuation, a decision that will allow the Park System to move forward with critical land acquisition projects.

Volunteers helped tackle some big clean-up jobs (and remove unusual debris) at Freneau Woods Park.



In 2017, the Park System closed on an important new parcel for Freneau Woods Park with buildings that will be converted for visitor use, and acquired land that will eventually become another Park System wedding reception site at Wickatunk Recreation Area.



Renamed Spring Valley, this outdoor wedding venue (with reception barn) formerly known as Peppadew Fresh Farms was acquired as an addition to Wickatunk Recreation Area.



2017 Visitation To Monmouth County Parks

Bayshore Waterfront Park	217,147
Bel-Aire Golf Course (18-hole)	22,748
Bel-Aire Golf Course (9-hole)	13,609
Clayton Park	26,175
Charleston Springs Golf Course	56,263
Deep Cut Gardens	101,833
Dorbrook Recreation Area	656,903
East Freehold Showgrounds	127,695
Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area	49,566
Hartshorne Woods Park	297,591
Henry Hudson Trail	208,957
Historic Longstreet Farm	106,322
Historic Walnford	14,446
Holmdel Park	990,329
Hominy Hill Golf Course	35,899
Howell Park Golf Course	28,535
Huber Woods Park	99,236
Manasquan Reservoir	1,215,320
Monmouth Cove Marina	26,573
Mount Mitchell Scenic Overlook	158,129
Perrineville Lake Park	14,809
Pine Brook Golf Course	18,281
Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park	643,130
Shark River Golf Course	33,744
Shark River Park	121,664
Tatum Park	138,644
Thompson Park	867,666
Turkey Swamp Park	261,394
Union Transportation Trail	21,732
Wolf Hill Recreation Area	251,624
TOTAL	6,825,964



2017 Accomplishments

New Facilities & Improvements



NEW A sport court and instructional kitchen were completed at Fort Monmouth Recreation Area.



The Challenge Course at Big Brook Park was repaired and expanded.



A new irrigation system was installed at Shark River Golf Course.



Howell Park Golf Course underwent bunker improvements in 2017.



NEW A sensory feature, tubular bells, was added to the playground at Dorbrook Recreation Area.



NEW Trail development began at Freneau Woods Park in 2017.

Golf course maintenance staff completed dozens of other projects in-house during 2017, including repairs to irrigation/drainage, bunkers, cart paths and tees.



The bathrooms and exterior walkways were renovated at Huber Woods Environmental Center.



New trail bridges were installed at Shark River Park and Clayton Park (shown).



Playgrounds were resurfaced at Holmdel Park (Forest Edge and Hilltop), Thompson Park, and Turkey Swamp Park.

Environmental Projects

Wildlife habitat was enhanced with selective land clearing to remove invasive species at Crosswicks Creek Park (42 acres), De Bois Creek Recreation Area (11 acres), and the Rocky Point Section of Hartshorne Woods Park (9 acres).

A variety of shrubs, groundcovers, perennials and grasses along with 125 trees were installed throughout the parks in 2017. New trees at Big Brook Park, for example, were planted to provide shade for these very sunny benches near the kiosk (pin oak shown).



The septic system in the county's busiest park, Manasquan Reservoir, was replaced in 2017.



A water detention basin was repaired and upgraded for biofiltration at Shark River Golf Course.



Solar powered light towers were installed at the Fort Monmouth Recreation Center.

Shoreline Protection

The bulkhead along Claypit Creek at Hartshorne Woods Park was replaced with a more resilient living shoreline to survive future coastal changes.



Renovations to repair storm damage to the Henry Hudson Trail west of Popamora Point were completed in 2017. In addition to installing drains and new surfacing, the boardwalks (pictured) are made of concrete instead of wood.



The beach at Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area was widened with sand leftover from a NJDOT project to clear the channel at Manasquan Inlet.



Programs, Events, Activities & Awards

Sunnyside Equestrian Center's SPUR Program was recognized by multiple agencies in 2017 for outstanding therapeutic programs for people with disabilities, including receipt of the Spinnaker Award for Non-Profit of the Year from the Eastern Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce (EMACC).

Golf outings were up significantly, due to a program change allowing for smaller groups of eight or more. Winter Golf, Veteran's/Active Military Discounts and Early Morning Specials at Charleston Springs also did well in 2017.

Hominy Hill Golf Course received a marker from the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee acknowledging its importance as an area landmark.



The lifeguards at Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park were honored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders in 2017 for filling in post-season to protect beach-goers when warm weather continued alongside dangerous rip currents.

2017 Land Acquisition

A total of 179 acres were added to ten park properties in 2017. Highlights include the 38-acre addition of the former St. Basil's monastery at Freneau Woods Park in Aberdeen, the acquisition of the 26-acre Peppadew Fresh Farms at Wickatunk Recreation Area in Marlboro, and additional land at two golf courses. The Park System now owns/manages 17,155 acres at 43 park sites across Monmouth County.

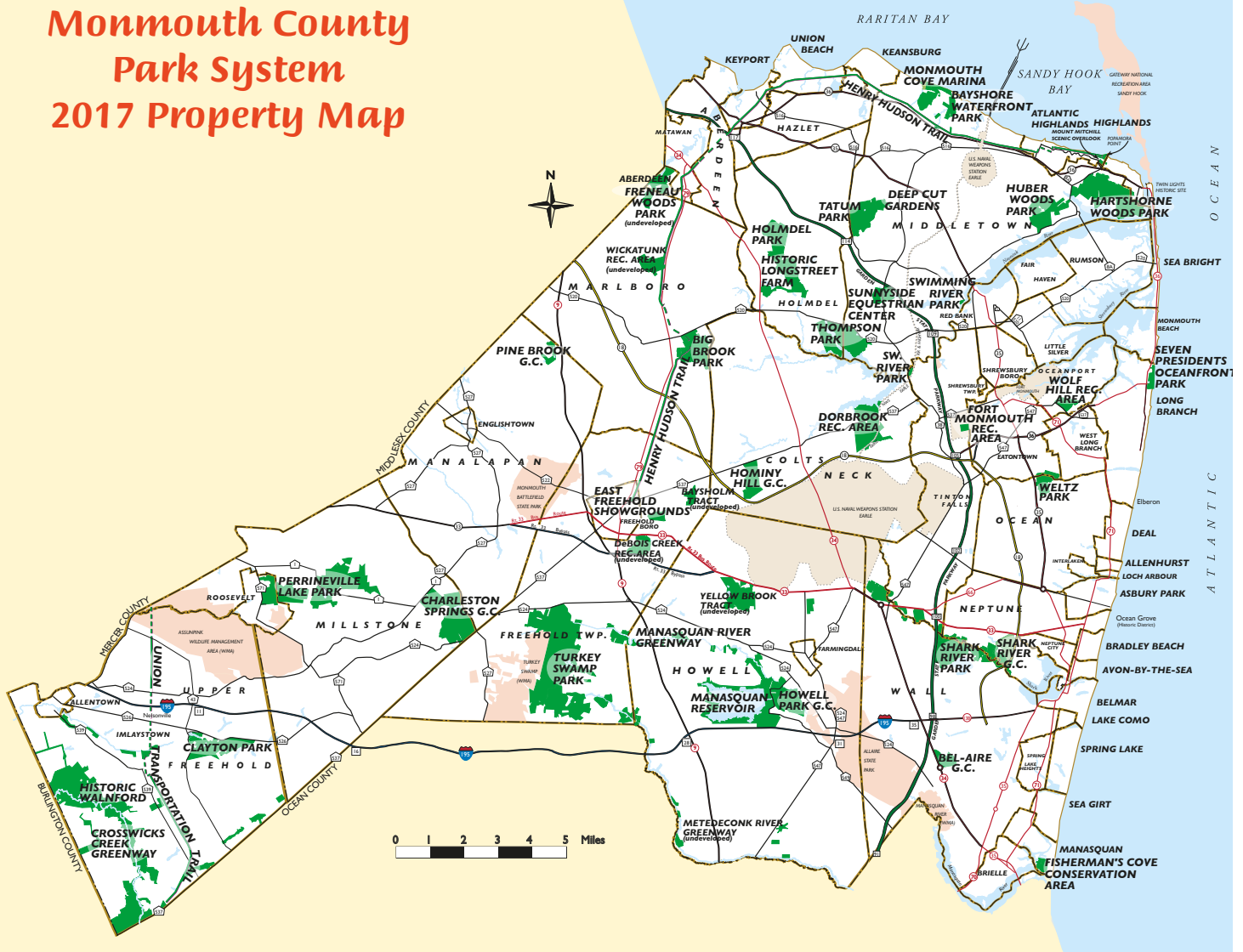
NEW PARK ACRES			
Crosswicks Creek Park	35	Howell Park Golf Course	37
Charleston Springs Golf Course	8	Manasquan River Greenway	25
Fort Monmouth Recreation Area	3	Perrineville Lake Park	2
Freneau Woods Park	38	Turkey Swamp Park	4
Henry Hudson Trail	<1	Wickatunk Recreation Area	26
<i>Another 7 acres of open space were protected as easements, which have reached a total of 2,777 acres (NOT shown on map or included in total below).</i>		LAND ADDITIONS	179
		EASEMENTS	7
		TOTAL	186

2017 PARK ACRES			
Bayshore Waterfront Park	229	Mount Mitchill Scenic Overlook	12
Bel-Aire Golf Course	114	Perrineville Lake Park	1,241
Big Brook Park	432	Pine Brook Golf Course	61
Charleston Springs Golf Course	789	Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park	38
Clayton Park	450	Shark River Golf Course	176
Crosswicks Creek Park	2,314	Shark River Park	988
Deep Cut Gardens	54	Sunnyside Equestrian Center	135
Dorbrook Recreation Area	535	Swimming River Park & Greenway	16
Durand Tract (leased to Freehold Twp.)	94	Tatum Park	366
East Freehold Showgrounds	81	Thompson Park	667
Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area	55	Turkey Swamp Park	2,270
Fort Monmouth Recreation Area	10*	Union Transportation Trail (UTT)	110 ^s
Freneau Woods Park	196	Weltz Park	169
Hartshorne Woods Park	794	Wickatunk Recreation Area	98
Henry Hudson Trail (HHT)	215 [†]	Wolf Hill Recreation Area	92
Historic Longstreet Farm	9	Miscellaneous Trail Corridors (2)	4
Historic Walnford	36	UNDEVELOPED SITES	
Holmdel Park	566	Baysholm Tract	71
Hominy Hill Golf Course	262	DeBois Creek Recreation Area	165
Howell Park Golf Course	348	Metedeconk River Greenway	444
Huber Woods Park	381	Yellow Brook Tract	369
Manasquan Reservoir	1,208 [‡]	TOTAL ACRES OWNED AND/OR	
Manasquan River Greenway	481	MANAGED BY THE PARK SYSTEM	
Monmouth Cove Marina	10	17,155	



The new parcel at **Freneau Woods Park** included monastery buildings; some were demolished while others were converted into a visitor center and park offices. Volunteers also helped clean up and establish the first trails around the property.

Monmouth County Park System 2017 Property Map



*6 acres at Fort Monmouth are leased to the Park System through the Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization Authority (FMERA).
 †83 acres of the HHT are owned by the county and leased to the Park System; another 103 acres are under 20 year lease from NJ Transit.
 ‡1,052 acres at the Manasquan Reservoir are owned by the NJ Water Supply Authority and leased to the Park System for perpetual use,
 §64 acres of UTT under permanent easement from JCP&L as a right of way.

2017 Park Partners



In 2017, 1,225 dedicated volunteers contributed 25,810 hours of service in 1,920 positions across the parks. In addition to the many retirees with free time and students completing their community service requirements, more and more companies now sponsor volunteer workdays for employees to give back to the community. As such, our large group volunteer events grew substantially this year. Here are the very special groups who volunteered with us and individuals who gave more than 40 hours of time to the parks in 2017 (+ indicates >100 hours).

CORPORATE GROUPS

Morgan Stanley
Vonage
iCIMS
Stantec Consulting Services
L'Oreal
Ogilvy
NJ Manufacturers Insurance

STUDENT GROUPS

Brookdale College	Holmdel High School
Rutgers University	MAST
Marlboro HS LEO Club	Collier Youth Services
Raritan HS Interact Club	YMCA Camp Zehnder
St. John Vianney Key Club	Boy Scouts of America
Colts Neck HS ROTC	Girl Scouts of America
Red Bank Catholic HS	

NON-PROFITS

Monmouth Reform Temple
New Horizons in Autism

Werner Aehlich +
Arbob Ahmad
Jodee Anderson
Andrew Antonioli
Jane Banahan +
Paula Belem
Joan Berg
Patricia Bernstein
Paige Biebel
Elizabeth Bird
Denise Bixby +
Janice Blake +
Amanda Bossert
Linda Bradley +
Christine Bremseth +
Sandy Burn +
Mary Byrne
Monica Cantor
Barbara Carroll
Susan Cartmell
Anne Caruso
Mary Christopher +
Elizabeth Clarke +
Saul Cohen
Shayna Cohen
Helen Cole
Marie Costa
Jessica Coyne
Kathleen Culver +
Judy Curry-Phipps
Scott Cytryn +
Eric Dalton
Michael Dasaro
Denise Day +
Louise DelCollo +
Emma DeSantis
Elizabeth DeToma
Sara Donnelly
Barbara Duggan

Patricia Duplak
Deborah Elsinger
Nancy Endresen
Harvey Evans +
Kathleen Evans
Carol Fornwald
Harden Fowler +
Kay Franzese
Kathleen Freeman +
James Gault +
Loma Gault +
Dana Giordano +
Trevor Gokusinski
Cheryl Greenfield +
Rebecca Gwinnell
Susan Halle
Judy Hands
Kathleen Harbort
Ellen Harrold +
James Henry +
Liz Hesper
Amanda Hintelmann +
Carol Huber
Karen Kacani +
Jessica Kaden
Katie Kalfayan +
Nadide Karacay
Ria Kiafoulis
Roberta Kilduff
Alix Knice
Anita Knoepfel
Molly Kocsik
Edward Kosberg
Sherry Kosberg
Janet Kranis
Arthur Lackner +
Gale Lackner
Douglas Lahey
Linda Lawton +

Patricia Leo
Mason Leong
Phoebe Li
Elizabeth Lilleston
Jeanette Lingelbach +
Daniel Lingelbach +
Gerry Lingner +
Chelsea Livingstone
Lois Lyons +
Maura Magnier
Michele Mancino
Maury Mangan
Ralph Maratea
Danielle Martinez
Alice McCaddin
Alexandra McCarthy
Riley McDermott
Emily McNeill
Richard Merker
Catherine Merker
Nicholas Miller
Matthew Miller
Robert Moe
Eileen Murphy +
David Nass
Laurie Nass
Les Neiman +
Frank Nofi +
Madelyn Oliveira
Alex Osnato +
Deborah Palumbo
Camryn Pecyno
James Pegg
Scott Pendell
Martha Pineda
Morgan Plosica
Thomas Puskar +
April Qin
Eileen Reed

Anna Maria Mandala
Patricia Richter
Diana-Lee Salerno
Walter Salzman +
Gage Sands +
Elizabeth Scharmann
Patricia Schoenfelder
Alexa Setteducati
Jill Socha
Fran Stefanelli
Benjamin Stillman
Lynn Stone
Margaret Swan
Eleanor Swanson +
Kylie Swanson +
Linda Thorn
Patricia Thul
Michaela Tovar +
Daniel Tutler +
Ann Tvaroha
Sanuel Udell
Jean Vail
Kelli Valentini
Barbara Venanzini
Jeanne Wadle
Elaine Weigl +
Nicholas West
John Wheelock
Lewis Whitaker +
Kimberly Winters
Peter Winters
Sandra Wolfe
Shannon Wood
Christine Yovnello
Anna Zimmer
Lara Zullo



iCIMS

Employees from L'Oreal helped clean up along Bayshore Waterfront Park, while Morgan Stanley removed invasive plants species around the pond at Holmdel Park and iCIMS helped clean up our newest property at Freneau Woods Park.



L'Oreal



Morgan Stanley

FRIENDS of the Monmouth County Park System, Inc.

This non-profit, founded in 1991, provides funding for special park projects. In 2017, this included financial assistance to complete the military history exhibits at Battery Lewis in Hartshorne Woods Park (in total, the Friends provided \$92,000 for this project since 2014). The Friends also provided financial support for improvements to Timolat Farm at Huber Woods Park, the Union Transportation Trail and the disc golf course at Wolf Hill Recreation Area. Sustained support also continued in 2017 for professional education of Park System staff, scholarships for urban youth to attend park camps, and special activities for young adults with disabilities and volunteers.



www.friendsofmonmouthcountyparks.com

MCF MONMOUTH CONSERVATION FOUNDATION



Monmouth Conservation Foundation (MCF), now celebrating its 41st year, is dedicated to saving open space, creating parks, preserving farmland, protecting wildlife and safeguarding waterways throughout Monmouth County. MCF has directly preserved more than 6,500 acres of open space and farmland and is one of nearly 400 accredited land trusts out of 1,700 nationwide. In partnership with Monmouth County, Asbury Park, and Interfaith Neighbors, MCF helped provide funding for Springwood Avenue Park, the first city-owned and city-maintained park on the city's west side; now a green space for all ages in the midst of a densely populated urban environment.

www.monmouthconservation.org

SPUR

Special People United to Ride (SPUR) is a non-profit organization that supports therapeutic horseback riding and equestrian programs at Sunnyside Equestrian Center in Lincroft. In 2017, participation continued to grow with 35 new SPUR students and 95 new volunteers. The Equine Environment for Learning and Horses for Heroes programs continue to be successful. Sunnyside received the following recognitions in 2017: Spinnaker Award for Nonprofit of the Year, Joint Legislative Resolution from the Senate and General Assembly of NJ, Citation of Commendation from NJ's 11th Legislative District, Recognition Certificate from the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and Certificate of Appreciation from the Township of Middletown.



www.spuronline.org

2017 Financial Statement

(unaudited)

Combined Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Fund Balances
For Year Ending December 31, 2017

	TOTALS	GENERAL	TRUST	CASH DONATIONS
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	\$11,723,897	\$0	\$11,588,737	\$135,160
INCOME				
County Appropriation				
Salaries/Wages	18,534,257	18,534,257		
Other Expense Approp.	1,918,410	1,918,410		
Revenue				
Donations	5,961			5,961
Golf Courses	10,009,623	6,009,775	3,999,848	
Parks	2,499,061	1,365,562	1,133,498	
Monmouth Cove Marina	1,574,650		1,574,650	
Visitor Services	3,309,635		3,309,635	
Open Space Tax	5,064,445			
TOTAL INCOME	\$42,916,042	\$27,828,005	\$10,017,632	\$5,961
EXPENDITURES				
Personnel	20,801,240	18,884,234	1,917,006	
Operations	8,086,980	1,235,955	6,842,691	8,334
General Revenue Returned to Treasurer				
Golf Courses	6,009,775	6,009,775		
Parks	1,365,562	1,365,562		
Open Space Tax ^(a)	5,064,445			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$41,328,002	\$27,495,526	\$8,759,697	\$8,334
Excess (Deficit) in Revenues	1,590,414	332,479	1,257,935	
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$13,311,938	\$332,479	\$12,846,672	\$132,787

Capital Cash & Open Space Expenditures: ^(b)

Site Improvements	\$12,194,847
Land Acquisition	5,419,863
Line Item Capital - Equipment (additional & replacement)	932,454
Total	\$18,547,165

Note:

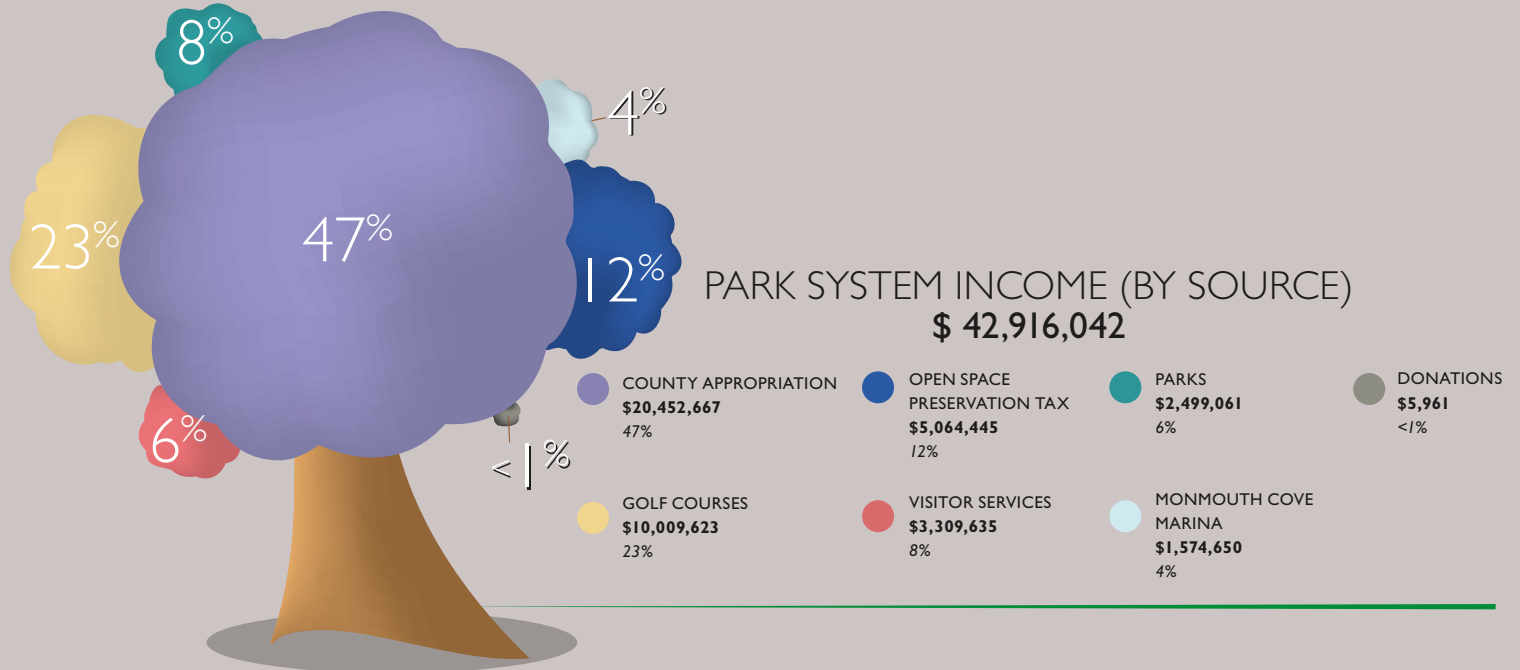
(a) Open Space Preservation Tax offsets maintenance personnel and other expense appropriation

(b) Not included in above statement of expenditures

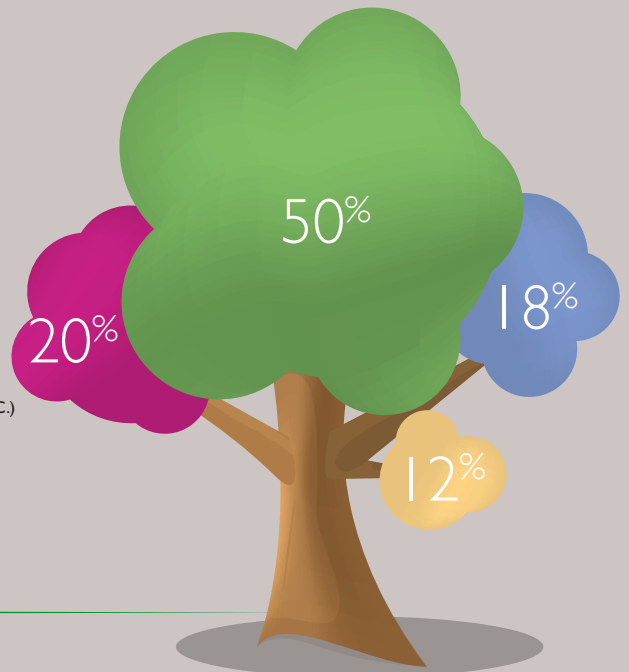
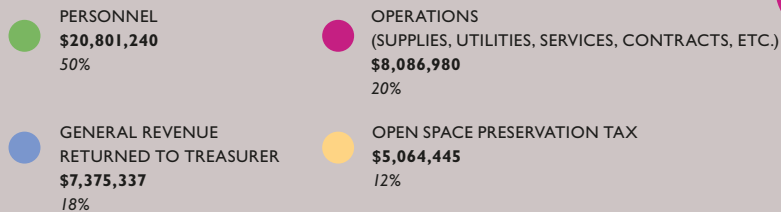
Capital items listed are not amortized.

Appropriation does not include salary adjustments, fringe benefits, insurance, and legal services

2017 Income and Expenditures



PARK SYSTEM EXPENDITURES \$41,328,002 (EXCLUDING CAPITAL)



2017 Value of In-Kind Donations, Contributions & Grants

(unaudited)

Donations and Contributions		
Friends of the Park		
Battery Lewis	\$50,000.00	
Benches for Various Parks	4,551.00	
Deep Cut Gardens	584.00	
E. Murray Todd Race	544.00	
Employee Training	6,008.00	
Environmental Summit	127.00	
Historic Longstreet Farm	494.00	
Holmdel Park	2,185.00	
Hospitality	230.00	
Manasquan Reservoir	4,315.00	
Public Information	2,500.00	
Therapeutic Recreation	776.00	
Thompson Park	1,650.00	
Timolat Farm	17,442.00	
Union Transportation Trail	4,607.00	
Urban Recreation	8,548.00	
Volunteer Services	2,125.00	
Wolf Hill Recreation Area	273.00	
		\$106,959.00
Land		\$1,794,500.00
Miscellaneous Donated Items		\$2,235.00
Monmouth Conservation Foundation (MCF)		
Acquisition	\$0.00	
Support Services	40,000.00	
		\$40,000.00
Monmouth University Urban Rec. Camps		\$9,250.00
Special People United to Ride (SPUR)		
Scholarships	\$40,277.25	
In-Kind Donations/Equipment & Misc. Items	17,850.00	
Instructor Training	1,070.00	
		\$59,197.25
Sponsorships - Monmouth County Fair		\$500.00
Grants		
Green Acres Program - Freneau Woods Property		\$4,325,000.10
Project Cost-Share		
Lustgarten - Crosswicks Creek Park		\$392,695.17
Volunteer Hours(a)		
1,225 volunteers for a total of 25,810 hrs @\$27.46/hr		\$708,742.60
	TOTAL	\$7,439,079.12

^(a) Based on 2016 Independent Sector Value/NJ

2017 Monmouth County Park System Administration

(left to right)

Superintendent of Recreation Patti Conroy
Director of Development Maria Wojciechowski
Purchasing Agent Jennifer Kaczala
Public Information Officer Karen Livingstone
Assistant Director Andrew J. Spears
Secretary-Director James J. Truncer
Superintendent of Parks Thomas Fobes
Chief of Land Acquisition and Design Gail Hunton
Director of Personnel Kevin Dunn
Office Services Manager Barbara Berry
Superintendent of Golf Michael Janoski



2017 Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners

(Standing, left to right)

Park System Secretary-Director James J. Truncer
Commissioner Thomas E. Hennessey Jr.
Commissioner Mark E. Zelina
Commissioner David W. Horsnall
Commissioner Michael G. Harmon

(Seated, left to right)

Commissioner Violeta Peters
Chairman Fred J. Rummel
Freeholder Liaison to the Park System Lillian G. Burry
Vice Chairman Kevin Mandeville
Commissioner Patricia M. Butch
Commissioner Thomas W. Adcock



2017 Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders

(left to right)

Thomas A. Arnone
Director Lillian G. Burry
Gary J. Rich
Serena DiMaso, Esq.
Deputy Director John P. Curley





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