News from the Monmouth County Park System

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SEE WHAT THE PARK SYSTEM HAS PLANNED FOR DECEMBER



LINCROFT - From nature walks to visits with Santa, the Monmouth County Park System is filling December with activities the whole family can enjoy. Here's what is planned:

Casual Birder

Tuesday, December 1 at 9 a.m.

Thompson Park, Lincroft - Meet in the Marlu Lake Parking Area.

Tuesday, December 15 at 9 a.m.

Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area Activity Center, Manasquan

Join a Park System Naturalist for a laid-back morning bird walk and meander through the park for about an hour and a half to see what birds we can find. No need to be an expert at identifying birds to enjoy. A limited number of binoculars will be available to borrow, if needed. ***FREE!***

Open Mic Poetry - Waiting and/or poems written as a list

Wednesday, December 2 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Thompson Park Visitor Center, Lincroft

Explore or recite literary works during a time of alliteration, rhythm and verse. All are welcome to read your work aloud or read work from your favorite poet(s). Must be appropriate for a family-oriented audience. Pre-registration is recommended for readers. ***FREE!***

Wondrous Winter Walks

Wednesday, December 2 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Huber Woods Park, Middletown - Meet in the Environmental Center Parking Lot.

Wednesday, December 16 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Freneau Woods Park, Aberdeen - Meet in the Visitor Center Parking Area.

Toss on your winter gear and tag along with a Park System Naturalist as you explore nature in the wintertime. Open to all ages; under 18 with adult. Please Note: Sturdy footwear recommended, trails used may have inclines or tree roots to step over. ***FREE!***

Holiday Tree Trimming

Saturday, December 5 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Create a Victorian ornament to be displayed on the Visitor Center's Christmas tree for all to see. ***FREE!***

Creative Arts Center Exhibit & Sale

Saturday-Friday, December 5-11 from 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Thompson Park Creative Arts Center, Lincroft

Celebrate the original artwork of the Creative Arts Center's students and instructors during this exhibit and sale. Admission and parking are free.

19th Century Christmas Ballads

Sundays, December 6 & 20 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Listen to 19th century Christmas ballads played on the piano in the Longstreet farmhouse. ***FREE!***

Winter Beach Walk

Saturday, December 12 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area, Manasquan

Collect and identify some of the ocean's natural treasures during this Park System Naturalist-guided walk along the beach. Dress in warm clothing and bring along something to carry shells in. ***FREE!***

Nature Lecture: Seahorses of the Jersey Shore

Saturday, December 12 from 1-2 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth

Discover the fascinating world of seahorses during this engaging talk by a Park System Naturalist. ***FREE!***

The Sounds of Christmas

Saturday, December 12 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Enjoy the tranquil music as Max Rowland and the Stark & Steady band play Victorian-era Christmas carols in the Longstreet farmhouse. ***FREE!***

Visit with Santa

Saturday & Sunday, December 12 & 13 from 12-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Father Christmas is coming! He invites young visitors and their families to join him and welcomes them to bring their letters for him to read. No appointment needed and pictures are encouraged. ***FREE!***

Pine Barren Bonfires

Sunday, December 13 from 6-8 p.m.

Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold

Enjoy a winter evening around a bonfire with games, s'mores, and the night sky. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Open to all ages, under 18 with adult. The cost is $15 per family of four; cash or check only.

To learn more about these Park System activities, please visit www.MonmouthCountyParks.com or call the Park System at 732-842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is

711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

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