



**CONTACT:** Karen Livingstone  
Communications  
732-842-4000, ext. 4256  
[klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com](mailto:klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com)

or

Patti Conroy  
Visitor Services  
732-842-4000, ext. 4247  
[pconroy@monmouthcountyparks.com](mailto:pconroy@monmouthcountyparks.com)

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, December 19, 2023**

### **MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM FILLS JANUARY WITH FAMILY FUN**



LINCROFT– From *Wondrous Winter Walks* to a *Seashore Open House*, the Monmouth County Park System is filling January with family fun. Here's what is planned:

#### **Wondrous Winter Walks**

**Wednesday, January 3 at 10 a.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell - Meet in the parking lot.**

**Wednesday, January 17 at 10 a.m.**

**Hartshorne Woods Park - Meet in the Rocky Point parking lot in Highlands.**

**Wednesday, January 31 at 10 a.m.**

**Freneau Woods Park, Aberdeen - Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot.**

Toss on your winter gear and tag along with a Park System Naturalist and explore the serenity that is nature in the wintertime. Open to all ages; under 18 with adult. Please note that sturdy footwear is recommended; trails used may have inclines or tree roots to step over. **FREE!**

### **Cutting, Splitting and Hewing**

**Sunday, January 7 from 12-2:30 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Get warmed up using a two-man saw and splitting wedge, and learn how farmers used a froe to rive shingles or a broad ax to hew beams. Open to adults. **FREE!**

### **Casual Birder**

**Tuesday, January 16 at 9 a.m.**

**Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park, Long Branch - Meet at the pavilion.**

**Tuesday, January 30 at 9 a.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell**

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!**

### **National Seed Swap Day**

**Saturday, January 27 from 10-11 a.m.**

**Freneau Woods Park Visitor Center, Aberdeen**

Bring seeds in an envelope labeled with the plant name, year collected, and where it was purchased or collected. Vegetable/annual/perennial/native seeds are all welcome (no invasive species). Throughout January, if possible, please deliver your seed submissions to Huber Woods Park Environmental Center, Middletown. **FREE!**

### **Nature Lecture: Philip Freneau - Monmouth County Poet and Patriot**

**Saturday, January 27 from 3-4 p.m.**

**Freneau Woods Park Visitor Center, Aberdeen**

Come to this talk by local historian Barry Orr as he discusses the life of poet, journalist, patriot and sea captain, Philip Freneau (1752-1832), who is best known as the "Poet of the American Revolution." **FREE!**

### **Story Time at Walnford**

**Sunday, January 28 from 11-11:45 a.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Join us as we read a story in front of the hearth in the Waln House. Children are welcome to bring a snack and a mat, blanket or towel to sit on. Open to grades pre-K to second. **FREE!**

### **Parlor Games for Wintry Weather**

**Sunday, January 28 from 12-2:30 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Play two long-forgotten 1890s board games - Halma and Basilinda. We'll also have old-time favorites like Backgammon, Checkers and Reversi. **FREE!**

### **Seashore Open House**

**Sunday, January 28 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park Activity Center, Long Branch**

Enjoy hands-on activities that will entertain and educate you and your family about the shore and the sea. Speak with a Park System Naturalist about your own shell collection or the aquatic animals on display. **FREE!**

To learn more about these Park System activities, please visit [www.MonmouthCountyParks.com](http://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.

#