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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Monday, June 24, 2024**

**SEE WHAT THE PARK SYSTEM HAS PLANNED THIS JULY!**



MIDDLETOWN — July is Park & Recreation Month and the Monmouth County Park System fills the month with family-fun offerings. Here's what is planned:

### **Seining Along Sandy Hook Bay**

**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, July 1-31 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

#### **Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth**

Discover a variety of fish, crabs, and other sea creatures as we pull a long seine net along the edge of Sandy Hook Bay. Closed-toe shoes are required. Meet on the beach near the parking lot. Parents or guardians are required to stay with and supervise their children. No swimming during the event. This program is designed for individuals and families. Weather permitting. **FREE!**

### **Seabrook-Wilson House Open**

**Mondays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29; Thursdays, July 11, 18 & 25; and Sundays, July 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 1-4 p.m.**

#### **Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth**

Visit this house which dates back to the early 1700s and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and see displays on the ecology of the bay and local history. **FREE!**

### **Historic Portland Place Tours**

**Wednesdays-Sundays, July 3-7; 10-14; 17-21 and 24-28 at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.**

#### **Historic Portland Place, Hartshorne Woods Park, Locust**

Tour this beautifully restored 18th century house with exhibits that help tell the story of the region's history and the Hartshorne family legacy in Monmouth County. Through September 22, *Julia's Wardrobe*, an exhibit featuring five custom-made 19th century gowns, is on display. Tours are limited to 10 persons and may be suspended during severe weather conditions. Register on site at the Portland Place Visitor Center day of tour. **FREE!**

### **Independence Day Celebration**

**Thursday, July 4 from 12-3 p.m.**

#### **Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Celebrate the holiday with games and contests. **FREE!**

### **Life in a Freshwater Pond**

**Thursdays, July 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

#### **Freneau Woods Park, Aberdeen - Meet outside the Visitor Center.**

Join Park System Naturalists to explore a freshwater pond. We'll look for basking turtles, hopping frogs, hunting herons, splashing fish and anything else that catches our eye. We will also discover the unique life that lies underneath the water in a freshwater pond. Wear closed-toe shoes. Open to all ages; under 18 with adult. Weather permitting. **FREE!**

### **Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir**

**Thursday, July 4 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Friday, July 5 at 6 p.m. & 7 p.m.**

**Saturdays & Sundays, July 6 & 7, 13 & 14, 20 & 21 and 27 & 28 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Wednesdays, July 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. & 4 p.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir, Howell**

These 45-minute tours are narrated by Park System Naturalists and include opportunities to view local wildlife. The cost is \$6 per adult and \$4 per child, age 12 and under. Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent. All tours leave from the Visitor Center. Lifejackets required. Tickets can be purchased on day of tour only.

**Thompson Park Canoe Rentals**

**Saturdays & Sundays, July 6 & 7 and 20 & 21 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

Canoes will be available for rent on Marlu Lake. All equipment provided; limited number of canoes available. Open to all ages; under 18 with adult. All rentals must be returned by 3 p.m. Fee is \$15 per boat for 1-3 people for two hours. Cash or check only.

**Historic Battery Lewis Tours**

**Saturdays & Sundays, July 6 & 7, 13 & 14, 20 & 21 and 27 & 28 at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.**

**Hartshorne Woods Park, Highlands – Use Rocky Point parking lot.**

Tour the restored Historic Battery Lewis and learn about the history of this important former coastal defense site. **FREE!**

**Cookstove Demonstrations**

**Saturdays, July 6 & 20 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

See what's cooking on the woodstove and discover how recipes, cooking techniques, and kitchens have changed since the 1890s. **FREE!**

**Milling Demonstrations**

**Saturdays & Sundays, July 6 & 7, 13 & 14, 20 & 21 and 27 & 28 at 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

See the 19th century gristmill grind corn into meal. Each demonstration lasts approximately 15 minutes. **FREE!**

## Casual Birder

**Tuesday, July 9 at 9 a.m.**

**Crosswicks Creek Park, Upper Freehold - Meet in the Province Line Road parking lot in Allentown.**

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. Participants should expect to be walking a few miles (2-4) on sometimes uneven or muddy terrain. No need to be an expert at identifying birds to enjoy. A limited number of binoculars will be available to borrow if needed. **FREE!**

## Under the Summer Stars

**Tuesday, July 9 from 10-11 p.m.**

**Dorbrook Recreation Area, Colts Neck - Use the soccer field parking lot.**

Join our guide and look for key objects and constellations in the night sky. Bring a camp chair to rest on as we star search and a flashlight to light your way in the dark. Program may be cancelled due to overcast skies or inclement weather. Open to all ages; under 18 with adult. **FREE!**

## Tidal Tuesdays - Seine the Cove

**Tuesdays, July 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area, Manasquan**

Discover a variety of fish, crabs and other sea creatures that may be found along the cove during this Park System Naturalist-led seining program. Closed-toe shoes are required. Parents or guardians are required to stay with and supervise their children. No swimming during the event. Weather permitting. **FREE!**

## Enviro-Quest

**Thursday, July 11 at 11 a.m.**

**Perrineville Lake Park, Millstone - Meet in the Agress Road parking lot.**

**Thursday, July 18 at 11 a.m.**

**Clayton Park, Upper Freehold - Meet in the trail head parking lot.**

**Thursday, July 25 at 11 a.m.**

**Crosswicks Creek Park, Upper Freehold - Meet in the Province Line Road parking lot.**

Follow the Enviro-Quest signs to where the Park System Naturalist is waiting. Once you are there you can join a mini nature lesson, activity, or walk for 30–60 minutes of nature-based fun. Activities

may include meeting a live animal, finding hidden treasures, or discovering animal knickknacks.

**FREE!**

### **Open Shoot Archery**

**Saturday, July 13 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**Thompson Park Activity Barn, Lincroft**

All equipment is provided for this open shoot. No outside equipment permitted. This is not an instructional clinic and NOT designed for beginners. If you are new to archery, register for one of our instructional classes prior to attending. Open to ages 10 and up; under 18 with adult. The cost is \$10 per person; cash or check only.

### **Climb Time**

**Sunday, July 14 from 12-3 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

Try the Park System's 25' portable climbing wall. You must be 42" or taller to climb. Open to ages 8 and up; under 18 with adult. **FREE!**

### **Concert in the Park: JoBonanno & The Godsons of Soul Performance**

**Friday, July 19 from 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

Dance the night away as this rock and soul band takes the stage with their amazing horns, keys, guitar and drums. Bring chairs or blankets, food and soft drinks. The concert is outdoors. If the weather is inclement, the concert will be moved indoors in the Theater Barn. **FREE!**

### **Basket Weaving Demonstration**

**Saturday, July 20 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Visit the Penn/Jersey Basket Weaving Guild as they weave baskets in the Cow Barn. **FREE!**

### **Accordion Melodies of the 1890s**

**Saturday, July 20 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Hear melodies of the 1890s played on the accordion during your visit. **FREE!**

### **Story Time at Walnford**

**Sunday, July 21 from 11-11:45 a.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Join us for story time beside the picturesque Crosswicks Creek. Children are welcome to bring a snack and a mat, blanket or towel to sit on. During inclement weather, story time will take place in the Cow Barn. **FREE!**

### **Victorian Laundry Demonstration**

**Sunday, July 21 from 12-2:30 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

From lighting the wood stove to ironing the aprons, experience a late-Victorian laundry day as we cover loads of material during this demonstration. **FREE!**

### **Bluegrass and Old-Time Music**

**Sunday, July 21 from 12-5 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft – Outside of the Theater Barn**

The Bluegrass and Old-Time Music Association will meet for a jam session under the trees. Bring your own bass, banjo, fiddle, mandolin or guitar to join in, or just stop by and enjoy an afternoon of music. **FREE!**

### **Nature Lecture: Sea Stars, Sand Dollars and Other Sea Urchins**

**Wednesday, July 24 from 7-8 p.m.**

**Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth**

Learn about some of the most common sea urchins found along the Jersey Shore during this talk by a Park System Naturalist. **FREE!**

### **Monmouth County Fair**

**Wednesday-Friday, July 24-26 from 4-11 p.m.**

**Saturday, July 27 from 11 a.m.-11 p.m.**

**Sunday, July 28 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.**

**East Freehold Showgrounds, Freehold**

This annual tradition includes 4-H shows and exhibits, amusement rides, entertainment, home and garden competitions, opening night fireworks (weather permitting), and more. Admission is \$10 per person; children 12 and under are free. Veterans and active military with ID also enter for free. On

Sunday, seniors 65 and older and students with ID are free. Half price admission the first two hours each day (4-6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday & Sunday.)

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.

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