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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, June 23, 2025

SEE WHAT THE PARK SYSTEM HAS PLANNED THIS JULY!



Climbing Wall

MIDDLETOWN — July is Parks & Recreation month and a great time to head out to your county parks! Even better, the Monmouth County Park System fills the month with family-fun offerings. Here's what is planned:

Tidal Tuesday - Seining at Fisherman's Cove

Tuesdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area, Manasquan

Seine for a variety of fish, crabs and other sea creatures along the cove during this Park System Naturalist-led 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!**

Seining Along Sandy Hook Bay

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, July 2-30 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth – Meet on the beach near the parking lot.

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. 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!**

Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir

Wednesdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. & 4 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, July 4-6 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Friday, July 11 at 6 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Saturdays & Sundays, July 12 & 13, 19 & 20, and 26 & 27 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell – Tours leave from the Visitor Center.

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. Children must be at least one-year or older to attend and be able to sit independently during the duration of the tour. Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent. Lifejackets required. Tickets can be purchased on day of tour only.

Life in a Freshwater Pond

Thursdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

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

Explore a freshwater pond with Park System Naturalists. 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!**

Independence Day Celebration

Friday, July 4 from 12-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Join the staff as they celebrate the holiday with games and contests. **FREE!**

Cookstove Demonstration

Saturday, July 5 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!**

Thompson Park Canoe Rentals

Saturdays & Sundays, July 5 & 6 and 19 & 20 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. The cost is \$15 per boat for 1-3 people for two hours; cash or check only.

Milling Demonstrations

Saturdays & Sundays, July 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 20 and 26 & 27 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!**

Victorian Laundry Demonstration

Sunday, July 6 from 1-2:30 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

From lighting the wood stove to ironing the aprons, experience a late-Victorian laundry day during this demonstration. **FREE!**

Basket Weaving Demonstration

Saturday, July 12 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

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

Open Shoot Archery

Saturday, July 12 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.

19th Century Woodworking Demonstration

Saturday, July 12 from 12-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See how a woodworker studies his materials, plies his tools, and crafts beautiful and functional items. **FREE!**

Rigging 101

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

Tuesday, July 15 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell - Meet at the West Dock/Ramp.

If you are an experienced sailor but do not have a sailing certification or would like to refresh your skills, attend this session and learn how to rig our 15' American sailboats. Sailors showing proficiency will have an opportunity to obtain a Monmouth County Park System sailing card, which will allow them to rent these boats during our drop-in sailboat rental times. **FREE!**

Music on the Porch

Sunday, July 13 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Let the toe tapping tunes of an acoustic duo enliven your visit. **FREE!**

Moths of the Night

Friday, July 18 from 9-10:30 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth

Learn about some of the 1,500+ species of moths that have been documented in New Jersey and see which ones we can attract. **FREE!**

Concert in the Park: Country Night with Austin City Nights

Friday, July 18 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Thompson Park Theater Barn, Lincroft - Concert is outdoors but will move inside if weather is inclement.

Led by vocal dynamo Lee Cancela and his talented sidekick Kat Maranino, Austin City Nights isn't your typical country cover band! Putting their own takes on songs, this band goes modern country with a classic rock twist. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, food, and soft drinks. **FREE!**

Accordion Melodies of the 1890s

Saturday, July 19 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

Bluegrass and Old-Time Music

Sunday, July 20 from 1-3 p.m.

Thompson Park Theater Barn, Lincroft – Meets outside.

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

Open Mic Poetry - Comedy & Tragedy

Sunday, July 20 from 3-4:30 p.m.

Thompson Park Theater Barn, 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 and available by calling 732-542-1642, ext. 4648. **FREE!**

Monmouth County Fair

Wednesday-Friday, July 23-25 from 4-11 p.m.

Saturday, July 26 from 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Sunday, July 27 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

East Freehold Showgrounds, Freehold

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, 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 will be offered the first two hours each day (4-6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday & Sunday.)

Piano Ballads from the Turn-of-the-Century

Saturday, July 26 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Hear popular turn-of-the-19th-century ballads played in the farmhouse. **FREE!**

Nature Lecture: Woodpeckers of Monmouth County

Sunday, July 27 from 3-4 p.m.

Freneau Woods Park Visitor Center, Aberdeen

Learn about the woodpeckers that call Monmouth County home during this talk by a Park System Naturalist. **FREE!**

Casual Birder

Tuesday, July 29 at 9 a.m.

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

Join a Park System Naturalist for a laid-back morning bird walk and meander 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!**

The Park System has a number of sites listed on the National Registers of Historic Places that open for free tours during the warmer months including:

Historic Battery Lewis

Saturdays & Sundays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; tours offered through October 13.

Hartshorne Woods Park - Use Rocky Point entrance in Highlands.

Historic Holmes-Hendrickson House

Friday-Sunday from 12-3 p.m. starting every half hour; tours offered through October 5.

Holmdel Park, Holmdel

Historic Portland Place

Wednesday-Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.; tours offered through November 16.

Hartshorne Woods Park, Locust section of Middletown

Historic Racing Stable

Fridays from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturdays & Sundays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; tours offered through October 19.

Thompson Park, Lincroft

Historic Seabrook-Wilson House

Mondays, Thursdays & Sundays from 1-4 p.m.; tours offered through October 30.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth

Please note that these historic sites may close due inclement weather and on county holidays.

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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