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MONMOUTH COUNTY FAIR DATES ARE JULY 23-27



FREEHOLD – Get ready to celebrate! The Monmouth County Fair is marking its 50th anniversary with opening night hot air balloon rides and a spectacular firework display (both are weather permitting). Held at East Freehold Showgrounds, Kozloski Road, Freehold, this year's event runs Wednesday-Sunday, July 23-27. Hours are 4-11 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, July 23-25; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. on Saturday, July 26; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday, July 27.

"On behalf of the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, I'm thrilled to invite everyone to join us in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the **Monmouth County Fair**," said Commissioner Director Thomas A. Arnone. "There will be special attractions to mark the occasion and also to launch the countdown to America's 250th anniversary with historical performances and entertainment for all ages! You don't want to miss this exciting event!"

Packed with excitement, the **Monmouth County Fair** features live entertainment, 4-H shows & exhibits, the Park System's exhibit **Nature Through a Lens**, and more. Acts include **Wonderzone Dinosaur Zoo**, **DAWG Pro Wrestling presents DAWG Days of Summer**, **Andrew's Big Show**, **Bwana Jim's Wildlife Show**, **Hilby the Skinny German Juggle Boy**, **Mutts Gone Nuts**, **Tommie Turvey's Stunt Horses & Dogs**, and more.

The Fair also features live music, rides and games. Main stage entertainment includes performances by **Yasgur's Farm** on Wednesday night; **Mission Dance Band** on Thursday night; **Nicole Atkins** on Friday night; **Yellow Brick Road - A Tribute to Elton John** on Saturday night; and **Rock It Academy** and **Jackson Pines** on Sunday.

Those looking for thrills should be sure to check out the rides provided by **Reithoffer Shows**. Ride wristbands will be available daily and allow fairgoers the chance to enjoy unlimited rides during their visit. The cost for each wristband is \$30 on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday; and \$35 on Friday and Saturday. Please note that rides are weather permitting.

At the heart of the **Monmouth County Fair** is the **Home & Garden Competition**. Categories include crafts, needlework, art, photography, vegetables, flowers, and baked goods. Details for individual categories are listed in the **Home & Garden Brochure**, available online at www.MonmouthCountyFair.com. This year's competition features Black Jar Honey and on-site native plant flower arranging competitions. After judging, entries will remain on display in the Home & Garden Tent.

"The **Monmouth County Fair** is a fantastic opportunity for both residents and visitors to experience the award-winning Park System and celebrate Monmouth County's proud agricultural heritage," said Commissioner Ross F. Licitra, liaison to the Monmouth County Park System. "With live entertainment, the **Home & Garden Competition**, and a wide variety of vendors, the **Monmouth County Fair** truly has something for everyone to enjoy."

General admission to the **Monmouth County Fair** is \$10 per adult; children 12 and under are admitted free. Half price admission will be offered during the first two hours of each day; 4-6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday & Sunday. Veterans and active military with ID also enter for free. On Sunday, seniors 65 and older and students with ID are free. Be sure to follow the Monmouth County Park System on social media. Upcoming Fair contests will be announced on its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages,

offering an opportunity to win admission tickets and more.

The **Monmouth County Fair** is presented by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners in cooperation with the Monmouth County Park System and the Monmouth County 4-H. For the most current information about the **Monmouth County Fair**, visit www.MonmouthCountyFair.com or call 732-842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the TTY/TDD number is 711.

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