



CONTACT: Karen Livingstone or  
Public Information  
(732) 842-4000 ext. 4256  
[klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com](mailto:klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com)

Jim Foligno  
Visitor Services  
(732) 842-4000 ext 4242  
[jfoligno@monmouthcountyparks.com](mailto:jfoligno@monmouthcountyparks.com)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### WELCOME MAY IN A COUNTY PARK

HOWELL — Spring is in full bloom! There's no better place to enjoy it than in a county park. The Monmouth County Park System has been busy planning a full month of activities for residents to enjoy. The schedule is as follows:

#### Open Ceramics

**Sundays, May 1, 8, 15 & 22 from 12:30-4:30pm**

**Thompson Park Creative Arts Center, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft**

Drop in for an hour or two and choose from a large selection of bisque-fired pieces to glaze and make your own. Leave your piece to be fired and pick up in a week or so. The cost is \$6 per person per hour plus cost of bisque-ware. All ages welcome, children 12 and under with an adult.

#### Brook Trout Send-Off

**Sunday, May 1 from 1-3pm**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell**

Enjoy fishy crafts and movies then help us feed the trout one last time before they are released.

#### How Wild is Your Garden?

**Saturday & Sunday, May 7 & 8 at 11am**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell**

Discover how to fill your garden with beauty while providing food and shelter for local critters.

### **Embroidery Demonstration**

**Saturday, May 7 from 1-3pm**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel**

Step back in time and see this delicate craft in action.

### **Blacksmith Demonstration**

**Sunday, May 8 from 1-3pm**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel**

See what the blacksmith is making in his workshop.

### **Spinning and Weaving**

**Sunday, May 8 from 1-4pm**

**Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold**

Watch and learn how women in the past created textiles as we honor the work of many generations of mothers today.

### **It's a "Shore" Thing**

**Thursday, May 12 from 6-8pm**

**Tatum Park Red Hill Activity Center, Red Hill Road, Middletown**

Enjoy the low country groove of the musical duo *The Billies* in a coffee house type setting. Light refreshments will be served. The cost is \$10 per person.

### **Quilting Demonstration**

**Saturday, May 14 from 1-3pm**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel**

See how quilting was done during the Victorian era.

### **Turtles of the Manasquan Reservoir**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15 at 1pm**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell**

Learn about our native turtles. A naturalist will have one of our turtles ready to meet visitors.

**Outdoor Adventure Expo**

**Sunday, May 15 from 11am-5pm**

**Turkey Swamp Park, Georgia Road, Freehold**

Activities during this expo for the outdoors person (or those wishing to become one) include rock climbing, nature walks and hands-on demonstrations. Try your hand at paddling a canoe or kayak, compete in the children's fishing derby and check out the latest outdoors equipment.

**Music Man Rich Marzec**

**Sunday, May 15 from 1-3pm**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel**

Hear history come alive through music as Rich Marzec plays tunes from the turn-of-the-century.

**Fiddler on the Porch**

**Sunday, May 15 from 1-3pm**

**Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold**

Enjoy the music of fiddler Pete Brady while visiting Historic Walnford.

**Story Time**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 21 & 22 at 2pm**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell**

Join us for a children's story about baby animals.

**What's in the Garden**

**Sunday, May 22 from 1-4pm**

**Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold**

Discover what produce was historically grown in gardens and learn about the renewed interest in preserving and propagating heirloom plant varieties.

**Bug in a Spoon**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 28 & 29 at 2pm**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell**

Discover how scientists look at the diversity of macro-invertebrates to assess water quality. Meet by the picnic tables outside the Environmental Center for this fun and education program.

**Decoration Day**

**Monday, May 30 from 12noon-3pm**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel**

Join the farm staff as they celebrate an old-fashioned Decoration Day. This family holiday originated soon after the Civil War when women decorated the graves of fallen soldiers and is now called Memorial Day.

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 Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

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PICTURED – Paddleboating is one of the many activities offered during the Park System’s Outdoor Adventure Expo held on Sunday, May 15 from 11am-5pm at Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold.