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HAVE FUN WITH THE PARK SYSTEM THIS SUMMER

LINCROFT— Filling those long, lazy days of summer has never been easier (or more enjoyable) thanks to the Monmouth County Park System. From *Seining at the Bayshore* to the *Monmouth County Fair*, the Park System packs the season with activity. So apply sunscreen, bring your sense of adventure and join in the fun.

Head over to Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth, and join a Park System Naturalist in discovering the variety of fish, crabs and other critters found in Sandy Hook Bay during *Summer Seining*. Offered from 11am-12noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, June 27-August 26, this free program is designed for individuals and families. Ages 5 and up are welcome; please wear closed-toed shoes.

After seeing what lives in the bay, look for the turtles, egrets, herons, ospreys and other wildlife that can be found in the wetlands of the Manasquan Reservoir, Howell, during a boat tour. Offered on the hour from 1-4pm on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, the 45-minute tour is led by a Park System Naturalist and includes discussion of the site's history, use as a water source and wildlife habitat. Tours are also offered on Wednesdays at 2 & 4pm and the first Friday evening of each month. Please call the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center at (732) 751-9453 for departure location. The cost is \$5.50 for adults; \$3.50 for children 12 and under.

From 10-11am on Saturdays, June 18-August 27, the Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown, will host ***Creature Feature***. Discover fascinating facts about many of the critters that live in Monmouth County through live animals, taxidermy and other artifacts. This free program will meet in the picnic area, weather permitting. During inclement weather, it will meet inside the Environmental Center.

While at Huber Woods Park go on an adventure in the woods with a little help from a safari backpack! Choose from Pre-K, Forest, Meadow or Pond backpack themes and go on a self-guided nature walk. Use of the backpack is free but you must leave your valid NJ drivers license with the docent.

Of course, the highlight of the summer is the ***Monmouth County Fair***. Held at East Freehold Showgrounds in Freehold, Fair dates are Wednesday-Sunday, July 27-31. Enjoy 4-H events, animal shows, rides, entertainment, home and garden competitions and much more. Admission is \$7 per person; ages 12 and under free. Visit www.monmouthcountyfair.com for the latest Fair information.

While on the Park System website, be sure to check our calendar for dates for eco-kayak tours on the Navesink, canoe rentals in Thompson Park, sailboat rentals at the Manasquan Reservoir and much more. These drop-in programs are offered on selected dates throughout the summer. Fees are payable by cash or check only. Most are on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call the Park System at (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the 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 – Seining at Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth.