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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, March 15, 2013



Budding scientists will enjoy hands-on activities during the Park System's *Earth Day Celebration*, held on Saturday, April 20 at the Manasquan Reservoir.

LINCROFT— This April the Monmouth County Park System is showering residents with fun, family-friendly activities. From *Earth Day* events to *Play Dates in the Park*, there's never been a better time to enjoy all the parks have to offer. The schedule is as follows:

Parent/Child Morning Chores at Longstreet Farm

Saturday, April 6 at 8am

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Rise and shine! Come help the farm staff with morning chores. Ages 4 & up are invited to milk a cow, collect eggs, and feed the animals. The cost is \$15 per pair; \$5 per additional person. Cash or check only.

Drop-In Surprise Story Time

Saturdays, April 6 & 20 from 11-11:45am

Deep Cut Gardens, Red Hill Road, Middletown

It's story time in the gardens! Look for the clue at the Horticultural Center entrance that leads to the secret meeting spot. If it's rainy or cold, story time will be inside the Horticultural Center. FREE!

Rug Hooking and Braiding Demonstration

Saturday, April 6 from 1 - 3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

See experienced rug hookers in action during this demonstration. FREE!

Guided Nature Walk

Saturday & Sunday, April 6 & 7 at 10am

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell

Join a Park System Naturalist for a stroll along the trail and learn about the animals who call the park home. FREE!

Roving Park System Naturalist

Saturday, April 6 at 3pm

Charleston Springs Golf Course, Millstone – meet in the Stagecoach Rd. parking lot

Sunday, April 20 at 3pm

Big Brook Park, Marlboro- meet in the main parking lot

Join our Roving Park System Naturalist for a walk and learn about seasonal points of interest. FREE!

Hearth Cooking

Sunday, April 7 from 12noon-3pm

Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold

Food historian Clarissa Dillon will be in the kitchen sharing her expertise. FREE!

Walnford's Mill Opens for the Season

Sunday, April 7 from 12noon-4pm

Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold

The repairs are done and the gristmill is back in action. Demonstrations will be held from 12noon-4pm on weekends through November. FREE!

Open Ceramics

Sunday, April 7 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.

Krafty Kids Drop-In

Wednesday, April 10 from 4-5:30pm

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

Thursday, April 11 from 4-5:30pm

Thompson Park Visitor Center, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Ages 4 & up, under 18 with adult, are invited to stop in and create a "Drip, Drip, Drip" craft to take home. The cost is \$5 per person.

Open Shoot Archery

Saturday, April 13 from 10am-1pm

Thompson Park Activity Barn, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

If you are looking to try your hand at archery, join us for this open shoot! All equipment is provided. No outside equipment permitted. This is a non-instructional program open to ages 8 and up (under 18 with adult). Cost is \$7 per person; cash or check only.

Play Dates in the Park – Jumbo Basketball

Saturday, April 13 from 10am-12noon

Tatum Park, Red Hill Road, Middletown

Saturday, April 13 from 1:30-3:30pm

Holmdel Park, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

This popular game is played with a 10-foot blow up basketball goal! Ages 5 and up, with adult. No experience necessary. FREE!

Celebrating Blue, A Bluebell Festival

Sunday, April 14 from 11am-5pm

Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold

This festival features family-friendly activities include crafts, storytelling, music, games and more! Free admission and parking.

Music Man Rich Marzec

Sunday, April 14 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Hear tunes from yesteryear. FREE!

Climb Time

Sunday, April 14 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold

Saturday, April 27 from 1-4pm

Thompson Park, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Enjoy the chance to try a 25-foot rock climbing wall. All equipment is provided.

Climbers must be 42 inches or taller. FREE!

Natural Horsemanship Demonstrations

Fridays, April 19 & 26 from 3-4pm

Sunnyside Equestrian Center, Middletown-Lincroft Road, Lincroft

Curious to find out what Natural Horsemanship is all about? Come to the Sunnyside Equestrian Center, Lincroft, and watch staff play with the therapy horses on the ground and in the saddle. Q&A time will be provided. FREE!

Earth Day Celebration at Manasquan Reservoir

Saturday, April 20 from 11am-5pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell

It's a *Water is Wonderful Earth Day Extravaganza* with fun for the whole family.

Activities include eco-boat tours, kids games, crafts and special Earth Day exhibitors.

Admission and parking are free.

Earth Day - Snakes & Reptiles Show

Sunday, April 21 from 11am-5pm

Huber Woods Environmental Center, Brown's Dock Road, Middletown

Enjoy a family-friendly "Snakes & Reptiles" show. There will also be freshwater pond creatures on view and a chance to identify animal scat. FREE!

Earth Day - Nature Walks

Sunday, April 21 from 11am-5pm

Holdmel Park, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Head outside on Earth Day during these nature walks held throughout the day. Meet at Shelter Building. FREE!

Earth Day - Celebrate the Shore

Sunday, April 21 from 11am-5pm

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

"Celebrate the Shore" on Earth Day during this interactive show and tell program.

Visitors will also enjoy tours of the house. FREE!

Earth Day - Spring Plant Walks

Sunday, April 21 from 11am-5pm

Deep Cut Gardens, Red Hill Road, Middletown

Go on "Spring Plant Walks" and enjoy nature's beauty this Earth Day. FREE!

Earth Day - Eco-Fashion Fun!

Sunday, April 21 from 11am-5pm

Thompson Park Visitor Center, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Create eco-friendly fashion jewelry and accessories from recycled materials. FREE!

Great Spring Perennial Plant Swap

Saturday, April 27 from 10am-2pm

Deep Cut Gardens, Red Hill Road, Middletown

Bring plants in one-quart, one-gallon or two-gallon containers and take home the same size and number of plants. FREE!

Spring Craft Show

Saturday, April 27 from 9am-2pm

Tatum Park, Red Hill Road, Middletown

Stop by on your way to or from Deep Cut Garden's Plant Swap and pick up the perfect item for your garden or home.

Working with Wood

Saturday, April 27 from 12noon-4pm

Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold

See skilled craftsmen use simple hand tools and historical techniques to make everyday objects. FREE!

Turtles of Monmouth County

Saturday & Sunday, April 27 & 28 at 1pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell

Visit with our turtles and learn about these creatures. FREE!

Historic Seabrook-Wilson House Tours

Sunday, April 28 from 1-4pm

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth Road, Port Monmouth

Visit this house, which dates back to the early 1700s, and see displays on the ecology of the bay and local history. FREE!

These programs do not require registration. Visitors can just show up and enjoy at their leisure. 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 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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