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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SOAK UP SUMMER IN THE PARKS



Join the Monmouth County Park System for *Tidal Tuesdays* at Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area, Manasquan.

MIDDLETOWN — From storybooks in the garden to informal nature walks, the Monmouth County Park System fills August with fun. Be sure to take advantage of everything planned and soak up every last bit of summertime fun before the season ends. Here's what is planned:

Drop-In Surprise Story Time

Saturday, August 1 from 11-11:45 a.m.

Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown

Join us for story time. If the weather is nice, look for the clue at the Horticultural Center's entrance that leads to the secret spot. If it's rainy, we'll be inside. **FREE!**

You Can Sail

Saturday, August 1

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell

See if sailing is for you during this on-the-water class where we provide the captain, you provide the crew. A limited number of boats are available; maximum three people per boat. Sailors age 8 and up welcome with an adult. Sailboats leave dock by the Visitor Center at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. & 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per boat; cash or check only.

Meet the Pine Snake

Saturday & Sunday, August 1 & 2 at 1 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Learn about the fascinating pine snake. FREE!

Penny Rug Demonstration

Saturday, August 1 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See the art of penny rug making in action. FREE!

Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir

Saturdays & Sundays, August 1 & 2, 8 & 9, 15 & 16, 22 & 23 and 29 & 30 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Wednesdays, August 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. & 4 p.m.

Friday, August 7 at 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell

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, 12 and under. Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent. All tours leave from the Visitor Center.

Family Gym Time

Sundays, August 2-30 from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Play hoops or enjoy our other sports equipment in our climate controlled gymnasium. We will bring out tunnels, gym mats, scooters and more play equipment for your entertainment. This is an open play format with no instruction provided; adult supervision is required for those under 17 years old. The cost is \$10 per family per day; cash or check only.

Summer Sundays Open Basketball

Sundays, August 2-30 from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Looking for a place to play or practice? Drop by the Fort's climate controlled gym and play half court hoops. Use our basketball or bring your own. Open to ages 14 and up; under 18 with adult. The cost is \$5 per person per day; cash or check only.

Open Ceramics

Sunday, August 2 from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Thompson Park Creative Arts Center, Lincroft

Choose from a large selection of bisque fired pottery pieces to glaze and make your own. The cost is \$6 per hour plus price of bisque ware; cash or check only. Pieces will be fired in about a week.

Smocking Demonstration

Sunday, August 2 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See the art of smocking demonstrated. FREE!

Open House of the Historic Seabrook-Wilson House

Sundays, August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 1-4 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, 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!

Music Man Rich Marzec

Sunday, August 2 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Enjoy piano music from the 1890s. FREE!

Climb Time

Sunday, August 2 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth

Saturday, August 15 from 1-4 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Tuesday, August 18 from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Thompson Park, Lincroft

Saturday, August 22 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Try our 25' portable climbing wall. This is a great opportunity to experience the sport of rock climbing close to home. Climbers must be 42" or taller and age 8 or older (under 18 with adult). FREE!

We All Scream for Ice Cream

Sunday, August 2 from 3-4 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Sit beside the ice house and help crank and then sample ice cream prepared from historical recipes. FREE!

Eco-Kayak Drop-In Tour of the Navesink River

Monday, August 3 from 9:30-11 a.m.

Monday, August 17 from 9:30-11 a.m.

Hartshorne Woods Park, Middletown - Claypit Creek section

Novice paddlers welcome. All equipment is provided - single and tandem kayaks are available. Program limited to 16 participants; first come, first served. Wear appropriate clothing that can get wet. Open to ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$20 per person; cash or check only. Note: The kayak launch system is off a bulkhead. Participants must be physically fit and able to easily bend down and rotate their body to get in and out of the kayak. Weight limits

for kayaks are 250 lbs. for a single and 400 lbs. for a double. Inclement weather will cancel a tour.

Free Summer Seining

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, August 3-21 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth

Discover what's living in the bay during this hands-on nature program. After identifying the creatures, we'll release them back into the water. Meet on the beach.

Weather permitting. FREE!

Tidal Tuesdays

Tuesdays, August 4-25 at 11 a.m.

Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area Activity Center, Manasquan

Join a Park System Naturalist to discover exciting things about nature and our coastal habitats. Each week take part in a different activity such as meeting creatures living in the water that we find in our seine net or creating crafts from natural materials found along the shore. Programs run for about 30-60 minutes. FREE!

Teen Open Gym Basketball

Wednesdays, August 5-26 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Teens age 13-18 are invited to play or practice on our courts. Cost is \$5 per person per day. Cash or check only. Under 17 must have a parent present.

Thompson Park Canoe Rentals

Wednesdays, August 5 & 19 from 3-6 p.m.

Saturdays & Sundays, August 8 & 9 and 22 & 23 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 ages 3 and up, under 18 with adult. Fee is \$15 per boat for 1-3 people for two hours. Cash or check only.

Enviro-Quest

Thursday, August 6 at 11 a.m.

Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold - Start in the parking lot nearest to the Shelter Building.

Monday, August 10 at 11 a.m.

Dorbrook Recreation Area, Colts Neck - Start in the parking lot near the basketball courts.

Thursday, August 20 at 2 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth - Start in the parking lot.

Wednesday, August 26 at 11 a.m.

Charleston Springs Golf Course, Millstone - Start in the Stonebridge Trail parking area off of Stagecoach Road.

Monday, August 31 at 2 p.m.

Holmdel Park, Holmdel - Start in the Forest Edge parking lot.

Follow the Enviro-Quest signs to where the Park System Naturalist is waiting. Once there, join in nature-related activities, crafts or games for 30–60 minutes of nature fun. FREE!

Citizen Scientist Presentation

Saturday & Sunday, August 8 & 9 at 11 a.m.

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Discover current citizen scientist projects during this presentation. FREE!

Happy Birthday Dorbrook Recreation Area!

Saturday, August 8 from 1-5 p.m.

Dorbrook Recreation Area, Colts Neck

Free family fun activities include a scavenger hunt, sports related games, crafts, Junior Ranger program, toddler programs and much more. FREE!

Potato Harvest

Saturday & Sunday, August 8 & 9 from 12-2 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Help the staff bring in the crop and dig some potatoes to take home for your own family. FREE!

Nature Lecture Series: Sharks & Shark Bites

Saturday, August 8 from 7-8 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth

Led by a Park System Naturalist, this talk will discuss the history and ecology of local sharks and why they are important to protect. FREE!

Blacksmith Demonstration

Sunday, August 9 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Come see what the Blacksmith is making in his workshop. FREE!

Seashell Painting

Mondays, August 10 & 24 from 3-3:45 p.m.

Thursday, August 27 from 3-3:45 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth

Bring your own shells or use ours for this craft. Open to ages 5 and up, under 18 with adult. Cost is \$5 per person; cash or check only.

Butterfly Walk

Wednesday, August 12 at 10 a.m.

Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown

Join a Park System Naturalist and head outside to identify butterflies. Walk may be a mile or more. Open to ages 12 and up, under 18 with adult. FREE!

Make a Fun Fish Print

Wednesday, August 12 & 26 from 3-3:45 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth

Make a colorful fish print of a rubber sea star, flounder, skate and more. Open to ages 5 and up, under 18 with adult. Cost is \$5 per person; cash or check only.

Eco-Kayak Drop-In Tour of the Manasquan Reservoir

Saturday, August 15 from 9:30-11 a.m.

Sunday, August 30 from 9:30-11 a.m.

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Open to ages 14 and up, under 18 with adult. Novice paddlers welcome. Just show up, we'll provide all the equipment! Single and tandem kayaks are available on a first come basis. All tours depart on time. Program is limited to 12 participants. Wear clothing that can get wet. Weight limits for kayaks are 250 lbs. for single and 400 lbs. for a double. Inclement weather will cancel the tour. The cost is \$20 per person, cash or check only.

19th Century Woodworking Demonstration

Saturday, August 15 from 12-4 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See the staff use 19th century woodworking tools. FREE!

Sweet Corn Festival

Saturday, August 15 from 1-4 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

This family fun event celebrates corn with crafts, activities and music. Admission and parking are free!

Building Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center

Saturday & Sunday, August 15 & 16 at 2 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Go on a guided tour of the facility. FREE!

Eco-Elephant Family Flea Market

Dorbrook Recreation Area, Colts Neck

Saturday, August 22 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Browse vendors at this outdoor market for the one-of-a-kind item you did not even think you needed. Admission and parking are free.

Box Turtles Nature Program

Saturday & Sunday, August 29 & 30 at 2 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Meet some of the box turtles who live in the Environmental Center. FREE!

Roving Park System Naturalist

Sunday, August 30 at 2 p.m.

Perrineville Lake Park, Millstone

Join our Roving Park System Naturalist for a walk and learn about seasonal points of interest. Meet in the parking lot. FREE!

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

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