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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Tuesday, June 14, 2016**

**HAVE A BLAST WITH THE PARK SYSTEM  
THIS JULY!**



*Monmouth County Fair*

MIDDLETOWN — July is Parks and Recreation month! The Monmouth County Park System has filled the month with activities for county residents to enjoy. Here's what is planned for July:

**Seining Along Sandy Hook Bay**

**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, July 1-29 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth**

**Tuesday & Thursday, July 19 & 21 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Popamora Point section of the Henry Hudson Trail, Highlands**

Join us for this hands-on nature program. Discover a variety of fish, crabs and other sea creatures as we pull a seine net through the calm waters of Sandy Hook Bay. Closed-toe shoes are required. Meet on the beach near the park entrance. Parents or guardians are required to stay with and supervise their children. No swimming during the event. Weather permitting. **FREE!**

### **Enviro-Quest**

**Friday, July 1 at 11 a.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell**

**Thursday, July 7 at 2 p.m.**

**Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown**

**Monday, July 11 at 11 a.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft – Meet in the Old Orchard parking lot.**

**Friday, July 22 at 2 p.m.**

**Shark River Park, Wall**

**Wednesday, July 27 at 11 a.m.**

**Tatum Park, Middletown – Meet in the Red Hill Activity Center parking lot.**

Start in the parking lot and 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!**

### **Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir**

**Friday, July 1 at 6:30 & 7:30 p.m.**

**Saturdays & Sundays, July 2 & 3, 9 & 10, 16 & 17, 23 & 24 and 30 & 31 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Monday, July 4 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. & 4 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 age 12 and under. Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent. All tours leave from the Visitor Center.

### **Drop-In Surprise Story Time**

**Saturday, July 2 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.

Recommended for ages 3-7. **FREE!**

### **Thompson Park Weekend Canoe Rentals**

**Saturday & Sunday, July 2 & 3, 16 & 17 and 30 & 31 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.

### **You Can Sail**

**Saturday, July 2, Sunday, July 10 & Friday, July 22 at 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. & 2:30 p.m**

**Manasquan Reservoir, Howell**

See if sailing is for you during this on-the-water class where we provide the captain, you provide the crew. Limited number of boats available; maximum three people per boat. Sailors age 8 and up welcome with an adult. The cost is \$40 per boat; cash or check only.

### **Celebrate the 4th of July**

**Saturday-Monday, July 2-4 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Read a copy of the Declaration of Independence, don a tricorne hat or delicate muslin cap, and dip a quill in an ink well. **FREE!**

### **Gristmill Demonstrations**

**Saturdays & Sundays, July 2 & 3, 9 & 10, 16 & 17, 23 & 24 and 30 & 31 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

See the 19th century gristmill in action. ***FREE!***

**Music Man Rich Marzec**

**Sunday, July 3 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Enjoy music from the 1890s. ***FREE!***

**Seabrook-Wilson House Tours**

**Sundays, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 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!***

**Independence Day Celebration**

**Monday, July 4 from 12-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Join the farm staff as they celebrate the holiday with games and contests. ***FREE!***

**Tidal Tuesdays at Fisherman's Cove**

**Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 11 a.m.**

**Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area, 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. For details on the activity for the week, please call 732-751-9453. ***FREE!***

**Co-Ed Open Basketball - 20 & Up**

**Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 6-8 p.m.**

**Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls**

Open to men and women age 20 and over, this program emphasizes exercise and fun.

The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

## **The Casual Birder**

**Thursday, July 7 at 9 a.m.**

**Charleston Springs Golf Course, Millstone - Meet in parking lot on Stagecoach Road.**

**Thursday, July 21 at 9 a.m.**

**Weltz Park, Oakhurst - Meet in the main parking lot.**

Meander with a Park System Naturalist for about an hour looking for birds. No need to be an expert at identifying birds to enjoy this walk. A limited number of binoculars will be available to borrow if needed. Open to ages 8 and up. **FREE!**

## **Ask a Naturalist**

**Friday, July 8 at 8 a.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell**

**Friday, July 22 at 9 a.m.**

**Perrineville Lake Park, Millstone - Meet in the Agress Road parking lot.**

Bring your questions and explore the trails with our Park System Naturalist. **FREE!**

## **Roving Naturalist**

**Saturday, July 9 at 9 a.m.**

**Crosswicks Creek Park - Meet in the Province Line Road parking lot.**

**Saturday, July 30 at 9 a.m.**

**Holmdel Park - Meet in the Ramanessin Trail parking lot.**

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

## **Climb Time**

**Saturday, July 9 from 12-4 p.m.**

**Holmdel Park, Holmdel**

Try the sport of rock climbing close to home on the Park System's 25' climbing wall. Climbers must be 42" or taller and age 8 or older (under 18 with adult). **FREE!**

## **Threshing Demonstration**

**Saturday & Sunday, July 9 & 10 from 12-2 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Take a step back in time and watch an antique threshing machine in action. **FREE!**

### **Blacksmith Demonstration**

**Sunday, July 10 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

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

### **Hula Hoop Fitness Group**

**Sundays, July 10, 17, 24 & 31 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls**

Twirl and dance your way into toning muscles, improving balance and flexibility, and strengthening your core during this class. Exercise hoops can be provided. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

### **Drop-In Kayak Tour at Hartshorne Woods Park**

**Saturday, July 16 from 6-7:30 p.m.**

**Hartshorne Woods Park - Meet at the Claypit Creek section.**

Novice paddlers welcome. All equipment is provided - single and tandem kayaks are available. Program limited to available kayaks; first come, first served. Wear appropriate clothing that can get wet. Open to ages 12 and up, under 18 with an adult. The cost is \$20 per person; cash or check only. Note: The kayak launch area is off a bulkhead. Participants will need to bend down and rotate their body to get in and out of a kayak. Weight limits for kayaks are 250 lbs. for a single and 400 lbs. for a double. Inclement weather will cancel a tour.

### **Discover Disc Golf**

**Saturday & Sunday, July 16 & 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

See how many throws it takes for you to hear the “ching” of the disc hitting the goal on this mini-course. Sign in at the Visitor Center and receive the course map and use of discs. **FREE!**

## **Happy 200th, Sallie Waln**

**Saturday, July 16 from 5-7 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Enjoy a slice of cake during this celebration of this notable Waln family member.

***FREE!***

## **Butterfly Walks**

**Saturday, July 16 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

**Thursday, July 21 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown**

Look for and identify butterflies with a Park System Naturalist during this walk through the park. Walk may be a mile or longer. Open to ages 8 and up, under 18 with adult. ***FREE!***

## **Golf Fore Fun!**

**Sunday, July 17 from 4-7 p.m.**

**Bel-Aire Golf Course, Wall**

Try a variety of nontraditional golf games. Open to all ages. ***FREE!***

## **Drop-in Kayak Tour of the Swimming River**

**Saturday, July 23 from 1-2:30 p.m.**

**Swimming River Park, Middletown**

Join a Park System Naturalist for a guided kayak tour. Open to ages 12 and up, under 18 with adult. Novice paddlers are welcome; all equipment is provided. Both single and tandem kayaks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost is \$20 per person; cash or check only.

## **Open Shoot Archery**

**Saturday, July 23 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Thompson Park Activity Barn, Lincroft**

Join us for this open shoot. All equipment is provided. No outside equipment permitted. This offering is designed for experienced archers. Open to ages 10 and up, under 18 with adult. The cost is \$10 per person; cash or check only.

### **Turtle Time**

**Saturday & Sunday, July 23 & 24 at 12 p.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell**

Meet some of our favorite residents turtles. ***FREE!***

### **Monmouth County Fair**

**Wednesday-Sunday, July 27-31**

**East Freehold Showgrounds, Freehold**

Hours for this timeless tradition are 5-11 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday; 3-11 p.m. on Saturday; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday. Highlights include rides, home and garden competitions, 4-H displays and performances, live music, and opening night fireworks. Admission is \$8 per person; children age 12 and under enter free.

### **Make a Fun Fish Print**

**Thursday, July 28 at 3 p.m.**

**Bayshore Waterfront Park, 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. Program begins inside the Bay House and is approximately 45 minutes long. Cost is \$5 per person; cash or check only.

### **Nature Lecture Series: Sharks and Shark Bites of Monmouth County**

**Thursday, July 28 from 7-8 p.m.**

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

Mark the 100th anniversary of the famous 1916 shark attack in Matawan Creek that inspired the movie “Jaws” by learning about the history and ecology of sharks and why it’s important to protect them. ***FREE!***

### **Seashell Painting**

**Friday, July 29 at 3 p.m.**

**Bayshore Waterfront Park, Port Monmouth**

Bring your own shells or use ours for this craft as we paint them and add a magnet.

Program begins inside the Bay House and is approximately 45 minutes long. Open to ages 5 and up, under 18 with adult. Cost is \$5 per person; cash or check only.

**Fantastic Frogs**

**Saturday & Sunday, July 30 & 31 at 1 p.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell**

Learn about frogs that live in our area. **FREE!**

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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