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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

WELCOME SPRING IN A PARK



*Head over to the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell, for a free **Nature Walk** at 10am on Saturday & Sunday, March 8 & 9.*

LINCROFT — From **Drop-In Surprise StoryTime** at Deep Cut Gardens to **Kite Making** at Historic Longstreet Farm, the Monmouth County Park System has filled March with fun, family-friendly activities. Here's what is planned:

Drop-In Surprise StoryTime

Saturday, March 1 from 11-11:45am

Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown

It's storytime! If the weather is nice, look for the clue at our entrance that leads to the secret spot in the gardens. If it's rainy or cold, head inside the Horticultural Center.

FREE!

E. Murray Todd Half-Marathon

Sunday, March 2 at 9am start

Brookdale Community College, Lincroft

This 13.1 mile course loops through the residential sections of Lincroft, Holmdel and Colts Neck. Race day registration is \$40 per runner and will be accepted from 7:15am-8:30am.

Open Ceramics

Sunday, March 2 from 12:30-4:30pm

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.

Book Swap

Sunday, March 2 from 1-3pm

Thursday, March 6 from 6-8pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Bring an unwanted book(s) and swap it for something new. Don't have a book to swap? We have extras. Light refreshments served. FREE!

Music Man Rich Marzec

Sunday, March 2 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Enjoy piano music from the 1890s. FREE!

Camp Options for Children with Special Needs

Tuesday, March 4 from 6:30-8pm

Thompson Park Visitor Center, Lincroft

Meet with Park System camp directors to discover which camps best fit your child's needs and interests. Learn about available support and how our inclusion process works. FREE!

Wildlife Wednesdays

Wednesday, March 5 from 3-3:45pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Explore new ways to enjoy nature during this program designed for ages 5 and up (with adult). The cost is \$5 per person; cash or check only.

Adult Open Ceramics

Friday, March 7 from 6:30-9:30pm

Thompson Park Creative Arts Center, Lincroft

Leave the kids at home and enjoy some time with friends. Choose from a large selection of bisque fired pottery pieces to give your own personal style. The cost is \$6 per hour plus price of bisque ware; cash or check only. Pieces will be fired in about a week.

Open Shoot Archery

Saturday, March 8 from 10am-1pm

Thompson Park Activity Barn, 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. There is limited instruction during this program open to ages 8 and up (under 18 with adult). Cost is \$7 per person; cash or check only.

Rug Hooking and Braiding Demonstration

Saturday, March 8 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

Roving Park System Naturalist

**Saturday, March 8 at 9am along Hominy Hill Path, Hominy Hill Golf Course,
Colts Neck**

Meet in the Matthew Road parking lot.

Saturday, March 22 at 8am at Dorbrook Recreation Area, Colts Neck

Meet in the parking lot by the soccer fields.

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

Nature Walk

Saturday & Sunday, March 8 & 9 at 10am

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Join a Park System Naturalist for this short nature walk. FREE!

Blacksmith Demonstration

Sunday, March 9 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

Family Gym Time

Mondays & Wednesdays, March 10-31 from 12:30-2:30pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Enjoy tunnels, gym mats, trampolines, scooters and other play equipment. No instruction provided. Parent supervision is required. The cost is \$10 per family; cash or check only.

Drop-In Tuesdays at the Rec Center

Tuesdays, March 11-25 from 4-5:30pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Join our staff for after-school games and activities! Open to ages 6-10. Each week we'll switch up an extra activity. FREE!

Family Game Night

Fridays, March 14 & 28 from 6-8:30pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Bring the family and come ready to play. We'll have board games, table games, and gym games available for some good old family interaction. The cost is \$15 per family (2-4 people); \$5 additional person. Cash or check only.

Osprey Observation

Saturday & Sunday, March 15 & 16 at 11am

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Head outside with a Park System Naturalist and look for this "fish hawk". FREE!

Read All About It

Saturday & Sunday, March 15 & 16 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

See newspapers and magazines from the 1800s saved by the Walns. FREE!

Monday Night Open Teen Basketball

Mondays, March 17-31 from 7-8:30pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Teens age 13-18 are invited to drop-in and enjoy our courts. The cost is \$5 per night; cash or check only.

19th Century Woodworking Demonstration

Saturday, March 22 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See how handtools were used in the 19th century. FREE!

Snake Meet & Greet

Saturday & Sunday, March 22 & 23 at 10:30am

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Meet one of our snakes and learn about the ones that live in the wild. FREE!

From Pink Brandywine to Stowell's Evergreen

Sunday, March 23 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Look through seed catalogs and garden plans from the past. FREE!

Kite Making

Saturday, March 29 from 12:30-2:30pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Let's hope for a windy day as we make old-fashioned kites. 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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