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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2019**

### **SPEND MAY IN A COUNTY PARK**



*Enjoy Naturalist-led nature walks in your county parks.*

LINCROFT — Spring is in bloom! There's no better place to enjoy it than in a county park. During May, the Monmouth County Park System offers fun, family-friendly activities for residents to enjoy. Here's what is planned:

#### **Wildflower Hike**

**Wednesday, May 1 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown - Meet in the parking lot.**

**Wednesday, May 8 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Clayton Park, Upper Freehold - Meet in the Emley's Hill Road parking lot.**

Search for wildflowers with a Park System Naturalist. Ages 12 and up are welcome; under 18 with adult. Please wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Weather permitting.

**FREE!**

### **Great Spring Perennial Plant Swap**

**Saturday, May 4 from 8:30-11:30 a.m.**

**Tatum Park, Middletown**

Bring plants in one-quart, one-gallon or two-gallon containers and take home the same size and number of plants. Please label all plants. Plant intake from 8:30-10 a.m. Plant selection from 10-11:30 a.m. **FREE!**

### **Creative Arts & Music Festival**

**Saturday, May 4 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

See the works of fine artists from all mediums including pottery, jewelry, photography and painting. Admission and parking are free.

### **Vintage Base Ball Monmouth Furnace Base Ball Club**

**Saturday, May 4 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Holmdel Park, Holmdel**

Spend the afternoon watching one of America's favorite pastimes played using rules from the 19th century. **FREE!**

### **Quilting Demonstration**

**Saturday, May 4 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

View a traditional hand quilting demonstration in the farmhouse. **FREE!**

### **Roving Naturalist**

**Saturday, May 4 at 9 a.m.**

**Big Brook Park, Marlboro - Meet in the Route 520 parking lot.**

**Saturday, May 18 at 9 a.m.**

**Freneau Woods Park, Aberdeen - Meet in the Activity Center parking lot.**

Join our Roving Naturalist for a walk and discuss seasonal points of interest, search for signs of wildlife, and identify a bird or two. This is a 1.5-2 hour program, but feel free to join in or drop out at any point. Dress for the weather as light rain is not a deterrent. **FREE!**

### **Spring Cleaning**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 4 & 5 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Experience life in the 19th century by trying some happily forgotten chores - beating a rug, scrubbing laundry with a washboard, dusting with feathers, and more. **FREE!**

### **Mill Demonstrations**

**Saturdays & Sundays, May 4 & 5, 11 & 12, 18 & 19, and 25 & 26 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

See the 19th century gristmill in action. Demonstrations run through November. **FREE!**

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

**Saturdays & Sundays, May 4 & 5, 11 & 12, 18 & 19, and 25 & 26 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Monday, May 27 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m. & 5 p.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir, Howell - All tours leave from the Visitor Center.**

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. Life-jackets required. Tickets can be purchased on day of tour only.

### **Climb Time**

**Sunday, May 5 from 12-4 p.m.**

**Freneau Woods Park, Aberdeen**

**Saturday, May 18 from 12-4 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

Try the Park System's 25' portable climbing wall. You must be 42" or taller to climb. Open to ages 8 and up; under 18 with adult. The cost is \$2 for three attempts or climbs; cash or check only.

### **Open Ceramics**

**Sunday, May 5 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. Children age 12 and under are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. The cost is \$6 per hour plus price of bisque ware; cash or check only. Pieces will be fired in about a week.

### **Seabrook-Wilson House Open**

**Sundays, May 5, 12, 19 & 26 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!**

### **Splendid Spring Stroll**

**Wednesday, May 8 from 3-4:30 p.m.**

**Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown - Meet in the parking lot.**

**Wednesday, May 29 from 3-4:30 p.m.**

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

Welcome spring by joining a Park System Naturalist on a peaceful trail walk through the park. **FREE!**

### **The Casual Birder**

**Thursday, May 9 at 9 a.m.**

**Hartshorne Woods Park, Middletown - Meet in the Rocky Point parking lot.**

**Thursday, May 23 at 9 a.m.**

**Manasquan Reservoir, Howell - Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot.**

**Thursday, May 30 at 9 a.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft - Meet in the Marlu Lake parking lot.**

Join a Park System Naturalist for this laid-back morning bird walk and meander for about 1.5 hours and see what birds we can find. 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. **FREE!**

### **19th Century Woodworking Demonstration**

**Saturday, May 11 from 12-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

See how 19th century woodworking tools were used to create various items. **FREE!**

### **Cookstove Demonstration**

**Saturdays, May 11 & 25 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

See what the farm staff is cooking on the wood-fired stove. Discover how recipes, cooking techniques and kitchens have changed since the 1890s. **FREE!**

### **Find Your Path in Volunteering**

**Wednesday, May 15 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Thompson Park Visitor Center, Lincroft**

Learn about the many unique opportunities the *Volunteer In Parks* program has to offer.

Open to ages 14 & up.

### **Nature Lecture Series: Horseshoe Crabs Trying to Survive in the Modern World**

**Thursday, May 16 from 7-8 p.m.**

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

Join a Park System Naturalist for this discussion on why the population of horseshoe crabs is declining, work being done to protect the crab, and what you can do to help. **FREE!**

### **Roving Golfzilla**

**Saturday, May 18 from 12-3 p.m.**

**Hartshorne Woods Park, Highlands - Rocky Point section**

See if you can hit golf balls through the hands, feet or mouth of Golfzilla. All are welcome. This is a non-instructional offering; however, if needed we will teach you the very basics of the golf swing. All equipment is provided. **FREE!**

### **Accordion Melodies of the 1890s**

**Saturday, May 18 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Hear music from yesteryear played on an accordion. **FREE!**

### **Open Shoot Archery**

**Sunday, May 19 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Thompson Park Activity Barn, Lincroft**

This non-instructional clinic is designed for those already familiar with archery techniques. All equipment provided; no outside equipment permitted. Open to ages 10 and up; under 18 with adult. The cost is \$10 per person; cash or check only.

### **Walnford Day**

**Sunday, May 19 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

This annual celebration includes milling demonstrations, hands-on activities, games, exhibits and displays. **FREE!**

### **Seashell Sunday**

**Sunday, May 19 from 1-2 p.m.**

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

Learn how to collect seashells without harming the environment and see an assortment of live mollusks, crustaceans, and cool beach finds and artifacts. Feel free to bring your own finds for us to identify. **FREE!**

### **#inviteHER Women's Golf Meet and Greet**

**Thursday, May 23 from 6-8 p.m.**

**Hominy Hill Golf Course, Colts Neck**

Women interested in trying or returning to golf are invited to join LPGA Professional Kathy Ricci for this meet and greet that includes a driving range session. **FREE!**

### **Thompson Park Canoe Rentals**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 25 & 26 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. All rentals must be returned by 3 p.m. The cost is \$15 per boat for 1-3 people for two hours; cash or check only.

## **Decoration Day Celebration**

**Monday, May 27 from 12-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

Join in the celebration as the staff enjoys an old-fashioned Decoration Day. ***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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