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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WELCOME MAY IN A COUNTY PARK



Outdoor Adventure Expo held on Sunday, May 18 from 11am-5pm at Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold.

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:

Evening Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir

Friday, May 2 at 6:30 & 7:30pm

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell

These 45-minute tours are narrated by Park System Naturalists and include opportunities to view local wildlife. The cost is \$5.61 for adults and \$3.50 for children

12 & under (tax not included). Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent.

Drop-In Surprise StoryTime

Saturday, May 3 from 11-11:45am

Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown

Join us for a reading from a nature- or garden-related book. 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, we'll be inside the Horticultural Center. FREE!

Embroidery Demonstration

Saturday, May 3 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See this delicate craft in action. FREE!

Mill Demonstration

Saturdays & Sundays, May 3-31 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Listen to the swoosh of corn sliding down spouts, hear the rumbling millstones, and feel the building come alive as this marvelous 19th century gristmill turns corn in to cornmeal during these demonstrations. FREE!

Spring Cleaning! Hands-on History

Saturday & Sunday, May 3 & 4 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Drop by and have some good clean fun by beating rugs, scrubbing clothes, and learning how elbow grease produced a clean house. FREE!

Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir

Saturdays & Sundays, May 3-31

Monday, May 26

Tours start at 2, 3, 4 & 5pm

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell

These 45-minute tours are narrated by Park System Naturalists and include opportunities to view local wildlife. The cost is \$5.61 for adults and \$3.50 for children 12 & under (tax not included). Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent.

Open Ceramics

Sunday, May 4 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, May 4 from 1-3pm

Thursday, May 8 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!

Historic Seabrook-Wilson House Tours

Sundays, May 4-25 from 1-4pm

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!

Roving Park System Naturalist

Sunday, May 4 at 3pm

Weltz Park, Oakhurst – Meet in the parking lot

Saturday, May 17 at 3pm

Hartshorne Woods Park - Meet at the Rocky Point Entrance, Portland Road, Highlands

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

Family Gym Time

Mondays & Wednesdays, May 5-28 from 12:30-2:30pm (Closed May 26)

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.

Monday Night Open Teen Basketball

Mondays, May 5 & 12 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.

Drop-In Tuesdays at the Rec Center

Tuesdays, May 6-27 from 4-5:30pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Join the Rec Center's staff for games and fun! Each week we'll switch up an extra activity. Open to ages 6-10. FREE!

Wildlife Wednesday

Wednesday, May 7 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.

Family Game Night

Fridays, May 9 & 23 from 6-8:30pm

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Enjoy some good old family interaction with our board, table and gym games. The cost is \$15 per family (2-4 people); \$5 additional person. Cash or check only.

Thompson Park Canoe Rental

Saturdays & Sundays, May 10 & 11; May 24 & 25 from 10am-3pm

Thompson Park, Lincroft

Canoes will be available for rent on Marlu Lake. All equipment provided; limited number of canoes available. Fee is \$15 per boat for 1-3 people for two hours. Cash or check only.

Quilting Demonstration

Saturday, May 10 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See how quilting was done during the 1890s. FREE!

Frogs of Monmouth County

Saturday & Sunday, May 10 & 11 at 1pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Meet some of the frogs that can be found in Monmouth County. FREE!

Threads of Time

Sunday, May 11 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Learn more about the fibers, tools and techniques used to produce household textiles and clothing in the 18th century. FREE!

Music Man Rich Marzec

Sunday, May 11 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Enjoy piano music from the 1890s. FREE!

Blacksmith Demonstration

Sunday, May 11 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

Walnford Day

Sunday, May 18 from 11am-5pm

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Our annual celebration of this fascinating site has moved to May. Enjoy fun, family-friendly activities. Admission and parking are free.

Outdoor Adventure Expo

Sunday, May 18 from 11am-5pm

Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold

Activities include rock climbing, canoeing, kayaking and other outdoor-related hands-on demonstrations. Admission and parking are free.

Native Plant Walk

Saturday & Sunday, May 24 & 25 at 11am

Monday, May 26 at 1pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Learn about some of our beautiful native plants during a guided nature walk. FREE!

Decoration Day Celebration

Monday, May 26 from 12noon-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

FREE!

Open Shoot Archery

Saturday, May 31 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.

Bike Maintenance Drop-In

Sunday, May 31 from 10am-2pm

Thompson Park, Lincroft

Stop by the Bike Maintenance Tent for an informative demonstration and advice on how to ride safely and comfortably in our parks. FREE!

During May, the Park System is celebrating *Armed Forces Week* with discounted or free programs at the Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls, for veterans and active service men and women. Here are the offerings:

Armed Forces “Thank You” Day

Saturday, May 17 from 9am-3pm

Create a thank you card for members of our armed forces. Make a patriotic sundae and join in a sing-along or other activities celebrating those who have served our country.

The cost is \$5 per person; cash or check only. Veterans attend for free.

Armed Forces Week: Family Gym Time

Sunday, May 18 from 11am-12:30pm

Thursday, May 22 from 1-2:30pm

Friday, May 23 from 1-2:30pm

Sunday, May 25 from 11am-12:30pm

Enjoy tunnels, gym mats, trampolines, scooters and other play equipment. No instruction provided. Parent supervision is required. The cost is \$5 per military family (with a valid military ID); \$10 per non-military family. Cash or check only.

Armed Forces Week: Adult Open Gym Basketball

Monday, May 19 from 7-8:30pm

Tuesday, May 20 from 1-2:30pm

Wednesday, May 21 from 8-9:30pm

Saturday, May 24 from 6:30-8:30pm

Shoot some hoops on our full court gym. The cost is \$5 per person. Veterans and active duty servicemen and women are free with a valid military ID. Cash or check only

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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