



CONTACT: Karen Livingstone or
Communications
732-842-4000, ext. 4256
klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com

Patti Conroy
Visitor Services
732-542-1642, ext. 24
pconroy@monmouthcountyparks.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, September 15, 2014

**THE PARK SYSTEM WELCOMES FALL WITH A VARIETY OF
OCTOBER ACTIVITIES**



Thompson Park Day

MIDDLETOWN - Ready to celebrate fall? This October the Monmouth County Park System has plenty to offer the entire family to enjoy. From exploring the parks with our Roving Park System Naturalist to swapping your old Halloween costumes for new-to-you ensembles, this October is packed with all sorts of fun and excitement.

Here's some of what the Park System has to offer you and your family this October:

Roving Park System Naturalist

Friday, October 3 at 3 p.m.

Big Brook Park, Marlboro - meet in the parking lot off Rt. 520

Tuesday, October 21 at 3 p.m.

Fisherman's Cove Conservation Area, Manasquan - meet in the main parking lot

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

Women's Open Gym - Fitness

Saturdays, October 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 7:30-9 a.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Drop in for this self-guided, self-paced fitness circuit which includes stability balls, hand weights, resistance bands and more. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

Parent/Child Morning Chores at Longstreet Farm

Saturday, October 4 at 8 a.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Come help the staff with morning chores. You and your child (age 4 & up) can milk a cow, collect eggs and feed the animals. The cost is \$15 per pair; \$5 per additional person; cash or check only. .

Open Shoot Archery

Saturday, October 4 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

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 \$8 per person; cash or check only.

Drop-In Surprise StoryTime

Saturday, October 4 from 11-11:45 a.m.

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, we'll be inside the Horticultural Center. FREE!

Harness Racing History

Sunday, October 5 from 1-4 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Meet trainers, owners and drivers that have made the standardbred horse an important part of New Jersey's past, present and future. FREE!

Mill Demonstration

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

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

See the 19th century mill in action. FREE!

Boat Tours of the Manasquan Reservoir

Saturdays & Sundays, October 4 & 5 and 11 & 12 at 2, 3, 4 & 5 p.m.

Monday, October 13 at 2, 3, 4 & 5 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 adults: \$6; children 12 & under: \$3.75. Please call to confirm schedule as tours are both weather and water level dependent.

Eco-Kayak Drop-In Tour

Saturday, October 4 from 2-3:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 19 from 2-3:30 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell

Novice paddlers are welcome for this paddle. We provide all the equipment; single and tandem kayaks are available on a first come, first served basis. Program is limited to 12 participants. Please wear clothing that can get wet. Cost is \$20 per person per session; cash or check only.

Men's Open Gym Basketball

Sundays, October 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 9-11 a.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Shoot some hoops on our full court gym. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

Open Ceramics

Sunday, October 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. The cost is \$6 per hour plus price of bisque ware; cash or check only. Pieces will be fired in about a week.

Historic Seabrook-Wilson House Open for Tours

Sundays, October 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!

Eek-O-Fabulous Costume Drop-Off Dates

Monday-Friday, October 6-10 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, October 11 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Dorbrook Recreation Area Visitor Center, Colts Neck

Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell

Thompson Park Visitor Center, Lincroft

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Upcycle your gently used adults', kids', and even pet costumes for a spooktakular new-to-you ensemble. For each costume you bring you will receive a token entitling you to a "new" costume on swap day, held Sunday, October 12 from 12-3 p.m at the Thompson Park Visitor Center, Lincroft.

Teen Open Gym Basketball

Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

This is just for teens age 13-18! Shoot some hoops on our full court gym. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

Teen Open Gym Fitness

Tuesdays, October 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Teens age 13-18 are invited to try our informal fitness circuit. We'll have stability balls, hand weights, resistance bands and more. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

Bike Maintenance Drop-In

Sunday, October 12 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell – Windeler Road parking lot

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

Climb Time

Sunday, October 12 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell – Windeler Road parking lot

Saturday, October 25 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Join us for a chance to try our 25 foot rock climbing wall. Climbers must be 42 inches or taller. FREE!

Blacksmith Demonstration

Sunday, October 12 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

Family Gym Time

Wednesdays, October 15, 22 & 29 from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

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

Games Galore Family Drop-In

Thursday, October 16 from 6-8 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Spend some family time together enjoying fun board games including Clue, Trivial Pursuit, Connect Four and more! Snacks and fun music are provided. Cost is \$15 per family; cash or check only please.

Thompson Park Day

Sunday, October 19 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Thompson Park, Lincroft

From the scarecrow contest to doggie costume contest, Thompson Park Day offers everything a fall festival should - pumpkin painting, wagon rides, arts & crafts, kids races, entertainment and so much more! Some activities require a fee.

The Standardbred Horse

Sunday, October 19 from 1-4 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

Meet Independent Act, a retired horse trotter, and learn about the beauty, conformation and intelligence of the standardbred horse. FREE!

Book Swap

Sunday, October 19 from 1-3 p.m.

Thursday, October 23 from 6-8 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Bring an unwanted book(s) and swap it for something new. Accepted books are adult fiction, young adult fiction, and children's books. Don't have a book to swap? We have extras. FREE!

Frightful Family Fun Drop-In

Monday, October 20 from 4-6 p.m.

Saturday, October 25 from 1-3 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Visit our haunted classroom with your little ghouls! Create some spooky decorations using the whole family's skills. Cost is \$20 per family per session; cash or check only please.

Nature Lecture Series: Tropical Fish Swim in Sandy Hook Bay

Saturday, October 25 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth

Discover some of the tropical fish that call our local waters home. FREE!

Music Man Rich Marzec

Sunday, October 26 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Enjoy piano music from the 1890s. 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.

#

#