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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Friday, September 20, 2019**

### **THE PARK SYSTEM FILLS OCTOBER WITH FAMILY FUN**



MIDDLETOWN – From *Awesome Autumn Ambles* to *Historical Headstone Carving*, the Monmouth County Park System has filled October with family-friendly offerings. Here’s what is planned:

#### **Awesome Autumn Amble**

**Wednesday, October 2 from 10-11:30 a.m.**

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

**Wednesday, October 9 from 10-11:30 a.m.**

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

Explore the trails with a Park System Naturalist and discuss all manners of plant and animal phenomenon. Open to all ages; under 18 with adult. **FREE!**

### **The Casual Birder**

**Thursday, October 3 at 9 a.m.**

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

**Thursday, October 17 at 9 a.m.**

**Dorbrook Recreation Area, Colts Neck - Meet in the soccer field parking area.**

**Thursday, October 31 at 9 a.m.**

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

Join a Park System Naturalist for this laid-back morning bird walk and meander for about an hour 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. Open to ages 8 and up; under 16 with adult. **FREE!**

### **Historic Battery Lewis Tours**

**Fridays, October 4, 11 & 18 from 12-4 p.m.**

**Saturdays, October 5, 12 & 19 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Sundays, October 6, 13 & 20 from 12-4 p.m.**

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

Tour the newly restored Historic Battery Lewis and learn about the history of this important former coastal defense site. **FREE!**

### **Earthen Oven - Plein Air Baking**

**Saturday, October 5 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Enjoy an edible history lesson as we share basic information on the construction and demonstrate the use of our simple small Colonial American style oven this afternoon. **FREE!**

### **Roving Naturalist**

**Saturday, October 5 at 9 a.m.**

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

**Saturday, October 19 at 9 a.m.**

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

Join our Roving Naturalist for a leisurely walk on well-maintained trails 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!**

### **Mill Demonstrations**

**Saturdays & Sundays, October 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 20 and 26 & 27 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

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

### **Open Ceramics**

**Sunday, October 6 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 Tours**

**Sundays, October 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 9-11 a.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!**

### **Open Mic Poetry Night**

**Monday, October 7 from 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Thompson Park Theater Barn, Lincroft**

This fun event is open to all. Material must be appropriate for a family-oriented audience, should be no longer than three minutes for each presentation, and should be the presenter's own work. Presenters must be age 18 or older. **FREE!**

### **Open Shoot Archery**

**Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Thompson Park Activity Barn, Lincroft**

All equipment is provided for this open shoot. No outside equipment permitted. This is not an instructional clinic and NOT designed for beginners. Open to ages 10 and up; under 18 with adult. The cost is \$10 per person; cash or check only.

### **Cookstove Demonstration**

**Saturdays, October 12 & 26 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

See what's cooking on the woodstove and discover how recipes, cooking techniques and kitchens have changed since the 1890s. **FREE!**

### **Climb Time**

**Sunday, October 13 from 12-4 p.m.**

**Clayton Park, Upper Freehold**

Try our 25' portable climbing wall. Climbers must be 42" or taller and age 8 or older; under 18 with adult. **FREE!**

### **School's Out Drop-In Day**

**Monday, October 14 from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls**

Enjoy Science Exploration Stations, Take Home Kids Creations and Building Fun during this self-guided program open to ages 5-10 with adult. The cost is \$5 per child per day; cash or check only.

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

**Saturday, October 19 from 1-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

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

### **Thompson Park Day**

**Sunday, October 20 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**Thompson Park, Lincroft**

From start to finish, Thompson Park Day offers everything a fall festival should - pumpkin

painting, wagon rides, kids races, entertainment and so much more! Some activities have a fee. Admission and parking are free.

### **The Life History of Foxes in Monmouth County**

**Thursday, October 24 from 7-8 p.m.**

**Freneau Woods Park Visitor Center, Aberdeen**

Join a Park System Naturalist for a photographic presentation about foxes, both gray and red, of Monmouth County. Open to ages 10 and up; under 18 with adult. **FREE!**

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

**Saturday, October 26 from 12-3 p.m.**

**Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel**

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

### **Here Lies . . . Historical Headstone Carving**

**Saturday & Sunday, October 26 & 27 from 1-4 p.m.**

**Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold**

Watch skilled craftsman Tom Kelleher from Old Sturbridge Village as he carves a traditional slate headstone while sharing some early American social history on customs for passing from this life to the next. Add a side trip to one or more of the historic cemeteries in this area to view many early expressive headstones. **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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