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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, April 4, 2013**

**LOCAL AUTHOR AT  
MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM'S  
EARTH DAY EVENT ON APRIL 20TH**

HOWELL— Hear local author John Morano read an excerpt from one of his books during the Monmouth County Park System's *Water is Wonderful Earth Day Extravaganza* on Saturday, April 20. Held from 11am-5pm at the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell, this family-friendly event also features crafts, games, exhibitors, and more.

One of the day's highlights will be Morano's reading at 1pm in the auditorium. His eco-adventure series includes *A Wing and A Prayer*; *Makoona*; *Out There, Somewhere*; and *Flocks of One*. In addition to penning this series, Morano is also a Professor of Journalism at Monmouth University.

Other fun activities include ongoing eco-boat tours (weather permitting). Led by a Park System Naturalist, these tours look for the egrets, eagles and other wildlife that call the Reservoir home. Complete the day with a walk on the 5-mile perimeter trail and a visit to the playground. Admission and parking are free.

The *Water is Wonderful Earth Day Extravaganza* is just one of the Park System's events honoring Earth Day throughout the weekend. Here's what is planned from 11am-5pm on Sunday, April 21:

## **Celebrate the Shore**

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

Discover cool coastal animals like whales, dolphins, crabs and even tiny plankton during this interactive show-and-tell program. Tours will also be given of the historic Seabrook-Wilson House, which dates back to the early 1700s.

## **Spring Plant Walks**

### **Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown**

The flowers are back in bloom! Discover the park's floral beauty, hidden places and native plants. Find out how to become an earth-friendly gardener and ways to compost.

## **Eco-Fashion Fun!**

### **Thompson Park, Lincroft**

Look fabulous this spring by creating eco-friendly fashion jewelry and accessories from recycled materials.

## **Snakes & Reptiles**

### **Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown**

This family-oriented show features snakes and reptiles found in New Jersey. There will also be freshwater pond creatures on view and a chance to identify animal scat.

## **Nature Walks**

### **Holmdel Park, Holmdel**

Returning birds, emergent buds and blooming wildflowers are just some of the sights to enjoy while wandering with the Park System's Roving Naturalist. Binoculars provided.

For more information about any of these events, please visit [www.monmouthcountyparks.com](http://www.monmouthcountyparks.com) or call (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the 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.



Enjoy crafts made from recycled materials at the Manasquan Reservoir's ***Water is Wonderful Earth Day Extravaganza.***