

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024

Founded in 1991, this 501(c)(3) non-profit organization facilitates sponsorship and hosts fundraising events and activities to raise money for special projects in the parks.

IN 2024, THIS INCLUDED:

Benches are vital not only to the aesthetics of a park and respite for a visitor but also to commemorate the memory of a loved one. This has become the number one fundraiser for the Friends. In 2024, we placed a total of twenty-six (26) new memorial park benches in the following parks: (2) Fisherman's Cove, (1) Hartshorne Woods Park, (4) Henry Hudson Trail, (5) Holmdel Park, (1) Perrineville Lake Park, (3) Historic Portland Place, (1) Shark River Park, (6) Swimming River Park, (1) Thompson Park, and (2) Turkey Swamp Park. – \$91,000



\$91,000

\$52,356.16

Thanks to the generous donation from a volunteer, the Friends was able to purchase a van for the gardening team volunteer corps to transport and store tools and equipment. The vehicle will be logo-wrapped in 2025. – \$52,356.16

Funding for historic site improvements and enhancements is vital to keeping history alive. The Friends have committed to renovating the Carriage House at Historic Portland Place. As part of this agreement, the Friends contracted an architectural firm to provide an assessment of the Carriage House for adaptive use. Additional funding was provided to Historic Longstreet Farm for plaster repairs and historic costumes. Plus, funding was provided to purchase artifacts and exhibit items for the Historic Racing Stable at Thompson Park. – \$31,366.26

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In partnership with the Lions Club of Colts Neck, the Friends funded half of the design and fabrication of Braille Trail wayside exhibit panels and audio soundtrack costs for the Perimeter Trail at the Manasquan Reservoir. This endeavor will be the first of its kind in Monmouth County and is scheduled to open in May 2025. - \$21,000

\$21,000

For additional information, please contact Maria Wojciechowski at Friends of the Parks, PO Box 686, Lincroft, New Jersey 07738
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Or visit us on the web at: friendsofmonmouthcountyparks.org

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2024 - CONTINUED

The Friends of the Parks continued providing recreation assistance funding for camp scholarships, after-school programs, and park excursions for the Urban Recreation Division and Community Recreation Division. - \$11,631.66



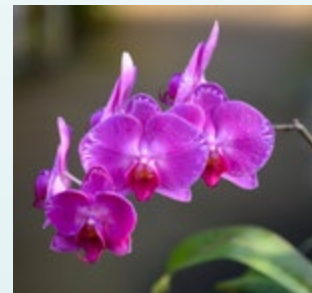
\$11,631.66

\$7,500

The Friends funded the research, editing, and publication of a booklet commemorating the legacy of late Monmouth County Park System Director James J. Truncer. - \$7,500

The Friends purchased rose bushes and orchids for Deep Cut Gardens. - \$2,052.21

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The Friends is also proud to provide support for advanced education, training seminars, travel expenses for Monmouth County Park System Staff plus hospitality costs for visiting accreditation teams. - \$4,517.54

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\$775.94

Additional funding was provided for tools and refreshments for the volunteer corps teams. - \$775.94

The Friends are proud to support a community spirit by sponsoring the Monmouth County Park System's team for the Birding All-Star competition each year. - \$400.00

\$400

These highlighted contributions to the Monmouth County Park System totaled:

\$222,599.77

- UPCOMING 2024 EVENTS:**
- May 2 – 40 Racing Stall Barn Opening, Thompson Park, Lincroft
 - May 9 – Braille Trail Ribbon Cutting, Manasquan Reservoir, Howell
 - June 7 – Pickleball Tournament at Dorbrook Recreation Area
 - July 23-27 – 50/50 Raffles at the Monmouth County Fair, East Freehold Showgrounds, Freehold Township
 - September 16 – Annual Golf Outing, Hominy Hill Golf Course, Colts Neck