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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WELCOME SPRING IN A COUNTY PARK**



*Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown*

LINCROFT— Spring is officially here and brings with it countless opportunities to enjoy your county parks. So head outside and enjoy the trails, playgrounds, golf courses and family campground offered by the Monmouth County Park System.

“One of Monmouth County’s greatest resources is its parks,” Freeholder Director Lillian G. Burry said. “We are so fortunate to have such a wealth of beautiful locations where families can gather and enjoy the activities and sights available to them and take advantage of any number of exciting and enriching programs and experiences the Park System has to offer. I cannot say enough how proud I am of the wonderful offerings our County Parks provide for residents and visitors alike, and

I hope that everyone can find the time to usher in the warmer weather and sunshine at any of our locations.”

One of the best places to welcome spring is on a golf course. Golfers can swing into season by teeing off at one of the Park System’s golf courses - Bel-Aire in Wall, Charleston Springs in Millstone, Hominy Hill in Colts Neck, Howell Park in Farmingdale, Pine Brook in Manalapan, and Shark River in Neptune. The Park System offers great courses at great rates for golfers of all levels to enjoy.

Another way to experience spring in the park is to spend the night at the family campground in Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold. Open through November 15, the campground features tent and trailer sites as well as several primitive cabins. The rates are as follows: a tent site per night is \$30 for county residents and \$34 for non-residents; a recreational vehicle/trailer site per night is \$36 for county residents and \$40 for non-residents; and a cabin per night is \$65 for county residents and \$75 for non-residents. Cabin rentals require a two-night stay.

Although Turkey Swamp Park is beautiful this time of year, there’s nowhere as delightful as Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown. Gardeners and non-gardeners alike will enjoy wandering the paths of this breathtaking site and seeing spring as it blooms. Another not-to-miss spot is the arboretum in Holmdel Park, Holmdel with its crabapple and cherry trees.

While at Holmdel Park, stop by Historic Longstreet Farm and see newborn lambs and freshly planted fields. Staff dressed in period clothes tend this living history farm. The Park System’s other historic site, Historic Walnford in Upper Freehold, is holding gristmill demonstrations from 1-4 p.m. on weekends through November.

Still need a little help getting the most of the season? Pick up a copy of the Park System’s spring issue of its ***Parks and Programs Guide*** and discover upcoming hikes, gardening workshops, drawing classes and more. To learn more about the Park System’s offerings, visit [www.MonmouthCountyParks.com](http://www.MonmouthCountyParks.com) or call 732-842-4000. The TTY/TDD number for persons with hearing impairment 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.