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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, September 14, 2017

THE PARK SYSTEM FILLS OCTOBER WITH FAMILY FUN



*Have a “spooktacular” time during **Thompson Park Day**.*

MIDDLETOWN – From nature walks to **Thompson Park Day**, the Monmouth County Park System is the place for fall family fun this October. Here’s what is planned:

Mill Demonstration

Saturdays & Sundays, September 30 & October 1, 7 & 8, 14 & 15, 21 & 22 and 28 & 29
from 1-4 p.m.

Historic Walnford, Upper Freehold

See the 19th century gristmill in action. **FREE!**

Open Ceramics

Sunday, October 1 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.

Men's Open Gym Basketball

Sundays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 8-10 a.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

Shoot some hoops in the Rec Center's full court gym. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

Seabrook-Wilson House Tours

Sundays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 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!**

The Casual Birder

Thursday, October 5 at 9 a.m.

Hartshorne Woods Park, Rocky Point section in Highlands

Join a Park System Naturalist for this laid-back morning bird walk. We'll 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. **FREE!**

Co-Ed Open Basketball - 20 & Up

Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 8-10 p.m.

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

This basketball program is open ages 20 and over. Emphasis of this program is exercise and fun. The cost is \$5 per person per session; cash or check only.

Butterfly Walk

Friday, October 6 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Manasquan Reservoir, Howell - Meet at the Environmental Center

With a Park System Naturalist, identify butterflies found in the fields. Walk may be a mile or more. Open to ages 7 and up, under 18 with adult. **FREE!**

Cookstove Demonstration

Sunday, October 8 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

Visit the out kitchen and see what's cooking on the woodstove. **FREE!**

School's Out Drop-In Days

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

Fort Monmouth Recreation Center, Tinton Falls

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

7 Prez SK8 Jam

Saturday, October 14 from 12-3:30 p.m.

Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park, Long Branch

Held at the Skateplex, this amateur skateboarding contest also features local skateboard and food vendors. The cost to compete is \$15 per person; cash or check only. Event admission and parking are free.

Thompson Park Day

Sunday, October 15 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, kids races, entertainment and so much more! Some activities have a fee. Admission and parking are free.

Roving Naturalist

Saturday, October 21 at 9 a.m.

Hominy Hill Golf Course, Colts Neck - Meet in the Matthews Road parking lot.

Join our Roving Naturalist for a walk and discuss seasonal points of interest, search for signs of wildlife, and identify a bird or two. This is an 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!**

Accordion Melodies of the 1890s

Saturday, October 21 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

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

Climb Time

Sunday, October 22 from 1-5 p.m.

Freneau Woods Park, Aberdeen

Try the Park System's 25' portable climbing wall. This is a great opportunity to experience the sport of rock climbing close to home. Climbers must be 42" or taller and age 8 or older (under 18 with adult). **FREE!**

Nature Lecture Series: The Real Story of the Jersey Devil

Thursday, October 26 from 7-8 p.m.

Bayshore Waterfront Park Activity Center, Port Monmouth

Discover the many possible origins and stories of the Jersey Devil legend during this talk led by a Park System Naturalist. **FREE!**

19th Century Woodworking Demonstration

Saturday, October 28 from 1-3 p.m.

Historic Longstreet Farm, Holmdel

See the farm staff use 19th century woodworking tools. **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.