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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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***Thompson Park, Lincroft***

LINCROFT— Dust off your golf clubs and grab your fishing poles, it’s time to head outside! Spring is officially here and there’s no better place to enjoy its warm days than in the Monmouth County Park System. With its great parks, golf courses, family campground, and exciting programs, the Park System is sure to fill the season with fun.

“Spring is a time of rebirth and renewal and that is most evident in our beautiful County parks,” said Freeholder Lillian G. Burry, liaison to the Park System. “As the trees begin to bud and the grass

turns green, it's a great time to get outside, try something new and enjoy the new season. The County parks are the perfect place to be this spring.”

Those looking to spot signs of the season can pick up a Safari Backpack at Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown; Huber Woods Environmental Center, Middletown; or the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Howell. Available on a first come, first served basis, these backpacks contain everything needed for a self-guided nature walk. Use of the backpacks is free, but please be ready to show a valid driver's license.

For many people, one of the first signs of spring is the start of a new golf season. Officially underway, the Park System's 2015 golf season offers great rates at great courses. Golfers can tee off at Bel-Aire in Wall, Charleston Springs in Millstone, Hominy Hill in Colts Neck, Howell Park in Farmingdale, Pine Brook in Manalapan or Shark River in Neptune.

Another way to experience spring in the park is to spend the night at the family campground in Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold. Open April 1 through November 15, the campground features tent and trailer sites as well as two primitive cabins. Per night campsite rates are \$36 for county residents and \$40 for non-residents. County residents can rent a cabin for \$62 a night while non-residents pay \$72 per night.

Still need a little help getting the most of the season? Pick up a copy of the Park System's spring issue of its *Program Directory* 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.