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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WELCOME SPRING IN A COUNTY PARK



Shark River Golf Course, Neptune

LINCROFT— The golf courses are open, the campground is ready, and the gardens are starting to bloom! It's springtime in the parks and, perhaps, the loveliest time of year. The Monmouth County Park System wants you to enjoy every minute of the season by visiting its parks, playgrounds, historic sites, and trails.

Swing into season by teeing off at Hominy Hill Golf Course in Colts Neck! Often rated among New Jersey's top public courses, Hominy Hill offers some of the best golfing around. The Park

System's other golf courses – Bel-Aire in Wall, Charleston Springs in Millstone, Howell Park in Farmingdale, Pine Brook in Manalapan and Shark River in Neptune – allow golfers of all levels to enjoy a challenging round. Those just getting started or looking to improve their game can sign up for any of the Park System's golf lessons listed in the *Program Directory*.

A great way to experience spring in the park is to spend the night at the campground in Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold. From fishing in the lake to telling stories around the campfire, campers will be busy from morning to night. Open through November 15, the campground features tent and trailer sites as well as two primitive cabins. Per night campsite rates are \$35 for county residents and \$39 for non-residents. County residents can rent a cabin for \$60 a night while non-residents pay \$70 per night.

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 in bloom. 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, freshly planted fields, and the vegetable garden starting to grow. Staff dressed in period clothes tend this living history farm. The Park System's other historic site, Historic Walnford in Upper Freehold, is once again holding weekend mill demonstrations. Take advantage of all the site has to offer by bringing fishing gear and trying to catch catfish and shad that lurk in Crosswicks Creek.

Crosswicks Creek isn't the only place in the Park System to go fishing. Fisherman's Cove in Manasquan, Thompson Park in Lincroft, and Shark River Park in Neptune are some of the other places anglers can drop a line. Please be aware that a NJ State fishing license is required for all freshwater fishing for ages 16-69. Visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com for more information and a complete list of locations.

Some things are just too much fun to be limited to one or two parks. Trails, playgrounds, picnic areas, and boat launches can be found in parks throughout the county. To learn more

about the Park System's offerings, visit 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.

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