



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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For Immediate Release

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Explore Old Colchester’s History at a Free Open House

The public is invited for a day of archaeology and history at Old Colchester Park and Preserve. An open house is slated for Saturday, May 3, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the culturally significant site in Lorton, Va. Visitors will see recent excavations by the Colchester Archaeological Research Team (CART) and tour the park. This is a free event.

Exhibits will showcase Native American cultures, the Colonial port town of Colchester, historic architecture, and systems for archaeological research. Archaeological tours of the Town of Colchester will be given at 10 a.m. and noon. For adventurous visitors, an approximately hour-long hiking tour highlighting the history and nature of the park will begin at 1 p.m.

Old Colchester Park and Preserve is located at 10605 Furnace Road in Lorton, Va. Parking is available at Mason Neck West Park, which is located at 10418 Old Colchester Road in Lorton. A shuttle bus will transport visitors from the park to the open house.

The open house is sponsored by The Friends of Fairfax Archaeology and Cultural Resources, a non-profit organization that supports the Park Authority’s Cultural Resource Management and Protection Branch.

CART has been researching the archaeological and architectural history of the Old Colchester Park and Preserve since 2010. People have been leaving their mark on this parcel of land for at least 10,000 years, and CART’s work is revealing their secrets.

For more information, call Senior Archaeologist Christopher Sperling at 703-534-3881, or visit CART’s blog at www.cartarchaeology.wordpress.com.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.