



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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*For Immediate Release*

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## New Audio Tour Benefits Parks, History and ADA

The Fairfax County Park Authority has completed a pilot project that produces benefits for park and history buffs, and that also supports the Americans with Disabilities Act of 2010. The agency has installed its first audio recording that makes interpretive signage at a park more accessible to users with visual disabilities. The recording is now active at Freedom Hill Fort Park, not far from Tysons.

The project complies with ADA guidelines for interpretation. Using a solar-powered device called the Tour-Mate Solar Eco-Post that is designed to withstand severe weather, the Park Authority provides audio information about the interpretive sign at the Freedom Hill Redoubt. Park visitors with visual disabilities will be able to hear the information, both scripts and photo descriptions that are on the park's sign. Future signage produced by the Park Authority will be considered for similar audio recordings.

Freedom Hill is home to a Civil War redoubt, one of the small, earthen batteries built as an outpost for the fortifications established around Washington, D.C., to protect the capital city during the Civil War.

Like the agency's audio tour for Ox Hill Battlefield Park, this audio recording was produced in-house by Park Authority personnel and volunteers. Proffer funds were used for the interpretive project.

Freedom Hill Fort Park is located 8531 Old Courthouse Road near the intersection of Old Court House Road and Rt. 123 in the Westbriar area of Tysons.

For more information, call the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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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.