



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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*For Immediate Release*

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## *A Touch of Japan for Cherry Blossom Time*

# Explore Aspects of Traditional Japanese Culture at Sully: Tea, Sweets, Fans and Fun

Discover several varieties of green tea and sample Japanese sweets at Sully Historic Site on Sunday April 12, 2015 from 3 to 5 p.m. Taste the difference between three types of green tea, Sencha, Hojicha, and Genmaicha. Contrast the flavors with Japanese sweet treats such as mochi and Japanese cookies. Explore the processes used to create the different flavors of these teas, how they're cultivated and learn a little tea history. Sully joins sites all over the Washington D.C. area to celebrate the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

See a special exhibit of items such as a netsuke collection, colorful Japanese fans and a yukata. Netsukes are miniature Japanese sculptures, originally used for utilitarian purposes. Today, they are created as beautiful works of art showing great craftsmanship. A yukata is a casual, light, summer kimono worn by both men and women to outside events such as fireworks or festivals. Learn about Japanese 19th century influences on the U.S. At our craft table, take the opportunity to decorate your own paper fan to keep as a remembrance of Japanese culture.

The cost of this program is \$27 per person. To register for this program, visit online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/) or call 703-222-4664. (Use Parktakes Code: 3812016301) An optional house tour of Sully, the 1794 home of northern Virginia's first congressman, Richard Bland Lee, at 2 p.m. is included in the cost.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2015 Festival, held March 20 through April 12, includes three spectacular weeks and four weekends of events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Visit [www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org) for more information.

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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.