



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



INFORMATION RELEASE

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March 15, 2023
IR-032

Earth Day Fairfax Returns to Sully Historic Site

Fairfax County's largest Earth Day celebration is returning to Sully Historic Site on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Celebrate "Healthy People – Healthy Planet" with a day filled with fun, family-friendly games, activities, entertainment, food and more!

Only at Earth Day Fairfax will you be able to meet farm animals from Frying Pan Farm Park, participate in a tree clinic, touch-a-truck, enjoy live performances, challenge yourself on the obstacle course, take a historic hike on the new Wayside Walk trail, and 'ice skate' outside all in the same day. That's just for starters as the list of activities continues to grow! With so much to do, learn and experience, keep up-to-date on the latest event details at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/earth-day-festival.

Activities will take place all day long from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. There is a parking fee of \$10 per vehicle. Attendees can prepay to reserve their parking space online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/earth-day-festival. Volunteers and exhibitors are also welcome to sign up on the website.

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for a 'Spring-tacular' celebration!

Sully Historic Site is located at 3650 Historic Sully Way, in Chantilly, Virginia. For more information, please contact the Public Information Office at 703-246-5092.

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Franconia District Park Renamed Grove Point Park

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board has approved the name change of Franconia District Park to Grove Point Park. The name change serves to distinguish the park from the recently renamed Franconia Park and to connect the new name of the park with surrounding neighborhoods. The 62-acre Grove Point Park includes diamond and rectangular playing fields, garden plots, trails, forested areas and parking.

In 2022, Lee District was renamed Franconia District by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. On Dec. 7, 2022, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board decided that 'Franconia Park' was the most appropriate name for the former Lee District Park given the park's proximity to the also renamed Franconia Rec Center. To eliminate any confusion between the new Franconia Park and the previously existing Franconia District Park, Park Authority staff initiated a review of potential new names for Franconia District Park at that time.

The Park Authority is in the process of changing all references in documentation, signage and on the Park Authority website where appropriate. Changes are expected to be completed this spring.

Grove Point Park is located at 6432 Bowie Drive in Springfield. For more information, please contact the Public Information Office at 703-246-5092.

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IR-034

Apply Online for Summer Rec-PAC Scholarship Assistance

The Fairfax County Park Authority is now accepting online applications for Summer Rec-PAC scholarships!

Rec-PAC is an affordable, structured six-week summer program for children in grades 1-6 featuring a different theme each week. The program runs from June 26 through Aug. 3. Fees are based on household income, with \$120 the maximum amount charged per week. Scholarships are available to qualifying households receiving one or more of the following forms of public assistance: Medicaid, Free/Reduced School Lunch, Snap, TANF, WIC, Head Start and FAMIS.

In order to apply for summer Rec-PAC at the reduced scholarship rates, qualified applicants must be approved prior to registering. Scholarship applications are currently being accepted online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/scholarships.

Eligible households are encouraged to apply today to be ready to sign up for Summer Rec-PAC when general registration opens on April 18. Applicants must complete the online scholarship form and upload a signed verification letter from the agency providing assistance with the eligibility date and name of the child who will receive the scholarship. Once a scholarship application has been approved, applicants will receive instructions for registering for their desired camp beginning on April 18.

Submissions will also be accepted by U.S. Mail and fax. Scholarship forms are included in English and in Spanish in the 2023 Rec-PAC Registration packet with instructions for mailing and faxing submissions. The packet is available online at <https://bit.ly/fcpa-rec-pac-brochure>.

For more information about Summer Rec-PAC scholarships, contact the Park Authority at 703-222-4664. Additional information regarding Rec-PAC is also available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec-pac.

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March 15, 2023
IR-035

Performance Opportunities for Musicians, Singers at Farmers Markets

The Fairfax County Farmers Markets are seeking musicians to perform at local farmers markets. Musicians and singers are invited to apply online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/music-at-market.

The FCPA Farmers Market program provides residents access to locally grown products and creates market opportunities for area farmers and food producers. Live performances help create a fun and relaxing atmosphere for customers, vendors and volunteers. Farmers markets are open Wednesdays through Sundays from April until December each year. Musicians are welcome to apply throughout the entire season.

For more information about farmers markets including music, programs and volunteer opportunities, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets, email FCPAFarmMarkets@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-642-0128. The Fairfax County Park Authority operates 10 farmers markets across the county at the following locations:

Wednesdays

- **McCutcheon/Mount Vernon**
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria
April 19 to Dec. 20, from 8 a.m. to Noon
- **Oak Marr**
3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton
May 3 to Nov. 8, from 8 a.m. to Noon
- **Wakefield**
8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
May 3 to Oct. 25, from 2 to 6 p.m.

Thursdays

- **Annandale**
6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale
May 4 to Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. to Noon
- **Herndon**
700 Block of Lynn Street (by the red Caboose)
May 4 to Nov. 9, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Fridays

- **McLean**
1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean
May 5 to Nov. 17, from 8 a.m. to Noon
- **Kingstowne**
5870 Kingstowne Center, Alexandria
May 5 to Oct. 27, from 3 to 7 p.m.

Saturdays

- **Burke**
5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke
April 22 to Dec. 16, from 8 a.m. to Noon
- **Reston**
1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston
April 29 to Dec. 2, from 8 a.m. to Noon

Sundays

- **Lorton**
8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton
May 7 to Nov. 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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IR-039

Youth On Course Partnership Removes Barriers for Junior Golfers

The Fairfax County Park Authority's Burke Lake and Oak Marr Golf Centers are proud to partner with Youth on Course and the Virginia State Golf Association to provide juniors ages 6 to 18 with access to life-changing opportunities through golf.

Fairfax County and Youth On Course strive to create inviting, inclusive and accessible golf to help to create the next generation of lifelong players and lovers of the game. The partnership eliminates common barriers for young golfers such as cost and accessibility.

Through this partnership program, the Burke Lake and Oak Marr Golf Centers are now offering Youth On Course members a round of golf for \$5, Monday-Thursday after 12 p.m. and Friday-Sunday after 2 p.m. One round of golf consists of nine holes at Oak Marr Golf Center and either nine or 18 holes at Burke Lake Golf Center.

"Junior golfers represent the future of the game," said Ryan Carmen, Director of Golf Operations for the Park Authority. "We're proud to partner with Youth On Course to welcome young players and promote a life-long love of the game at two of Virginia's best golf centers."

Youth on Course is a 501(c)3 non-profit, beyond affordable golf, they provide opportunities for young people to get the support they need to succeed through our career prep, leadership and scholarship programs.

To learn more about Burke and Oak Marr's offerings and Youth on Course membership, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/juniors.

Burke Lake Golf Center is located at 6915 Ox Road, in Fairfax Station, Virginia. More information about the center can be found online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake.

Oak Marr Golf Center is located at 3136 Jermantown Road, in Oakton, Virginia. More information about the center can be found online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/oak-marr.

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PSA-040

April Showers Bring May Flowers and Master Gardeners Provide the Gardening Tips

Mother Nature brings the showers, let Green Spring Gardens help with your flowers! With spring right around the corner, now is the perfect time to start preparing for spring planting. Horticulturists and master gardeners at Green Springs Gardens are ready to share tips, tricks, and creative new ideas for your gardens this year. Here's a small sample of what is available:

- **Garden Talk - Spring Cleaning in the Garden**
Friday, April 7, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
There is plenty of seasonal maintenance to do before summer arrives! Learn from Extension Master Gardener docents what you need to do to ensure that your plants are ready for the summer ahead, what needs pruning, what needs transplanting, and what needs mulch. Enrollment is \$12 per person.
- **Plant Swap - Houseplants, Cuttings and Containers**
Saturday, April 8, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Join us for our annual Plant Swap! Bring your unwanted houseplants, cuttings and containers to swap with others or simply give away. A lecture and Master Gardener Help Desk will be included. Leave with new plants, containers, garden friends and expert advice. Enrollment is \$15 per person.
- **Hidden Gems of Green Spring**
Saturday, April 8, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Join Green Spring Gardens staff on a walk that highlights interesting and seldom seen parts of the gardens. Get the inside scoop on the dazzling plants that bloom in the quiet corners of Green Spring. Program takes place outside, please dress for the weather. Enrollment is \$19 per person.
- **Garden Talk - Small-Space Veggie Gardening**
Saturday, April 22, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Don't have a large yard? With a little creativity, even the smallest patio, deck or townhouse yard can be turned into a successful vegetable garden! Let Extension Master Gardener docents show you how to grow vegetables in a small space. Whatever your space constraints, you too can grow delicious and nutritious fruits and vegetables! Enrollment is \$12 per person.

Register for these programs through Parktakes at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

Green Spring Gardens is located at 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria. For more information on these and other gardening program offerings, please call 703-642-5173 or visit Green Spring Gardens at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/green-spring.

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PSA-041

Hit the Bullseye with Spring Archery in the Parks

Have you ever wanted to be an archer? If so, consider participating in the Fairfax County Park Authority's spring archery classes at Burke Lake and Lake Fairfax Parks. Choose from among a variety of beginner and intermediate courses. There are also classes to support progress towards merit badge requirements for local scouts.

Class participants will learn the 11 Steps of Archery, part of the USA National Training Program. They will learn how to stand, keep your bow up, how to draw, anchor, and much more. It's great way to develop a new talent and sharpening existing skills!

Registration is now open for multiple sessions available this spring at Burke Lake Park and Lake Fairfax Park. Course details and online registration is available through Parktakes at www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/parktakes.

Burke Lake Park: https://fairfax.usdirect.com/FairfaxFCPAWeb/ACTIVITIES/Search.aspx?place_id=7788&search_text=archery

Lake Fairfax Park: https://fairfax.usdirect.com/FairfaxFCPAWeb/ACTIVITIES/Search.aspx?place_id=7931&search_text=archery

Burke Lake Park is located 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA. For more information, please call 703-323-6600 or visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake>.

Lake Fairfax Park is located at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston, VA. For more information, please call 703-471-5414 or visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax>.

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