



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



INFORMATION RELEASE

Judy Pedersen, PIO
E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov
Inquiries: 703-324-8662

October 12, 2022
IR-135

Construction Begins on Turner Farm Equestrian Parking Area

The Fairfax County Park Authority will begin construction of the equestrian parking at Turner Farm Park, located at 927 Springvale Road, Great Falls, Virginia. Contractor mobilization will begin the week of Oct. 17, 2022. The project scope includes installation of stormwater and drainage features, a new driveway entrance and a gravel parking lot. Weather permitting, we anticipate project completion by the end of December 2022.

On weekdays, work hours will be limited to 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. However, should we encounter unfavorable weather conditions, the contractor may be permitted to work on Saturdays to avoid project delays.

Construction access to the site will be from Springvale Road.

If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact Project Manager Som Govender at Somanathan.Govender@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-2464.

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October 11, 2022
PSA-162

Learn More About Park Access and Inclusion

Did you know that the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) has an amazing adapted recreation program for kids, teens and adults with disabilities? In a new Parks Plus video, you can learn how these inclusive programs are making a difference and providing life-changing experiences for individuals with disabilities of all ages and ability levels and their families. Whether you want to learn new leisure skills or become proficient in existing interests, come join us.

You can view the video and learn more about FCPA Access and Inclusion opportunities on the FCPA YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/Tf6rf7CuJcA>.

To register for an adapted class, please visit Parktakes online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

For additional information, please visit the Recreation Services for Customers with Disabilities website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ada-inclusion or call 703-324-8565.

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Judy Pedersen, PIO
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Inquiries: 703-281-6501

October 12, 2022
PSA-163

Haunted Mini Golf Comes to Oak Marr Rec Center

If you are in search for Halloween fun, don't miss the many Fairfax County Park Authority offerings just right for children and families. Here's an annual favorite: Come in your favorite costume to Oak Marr Rec Center and play some Haunted Mini Golf.

There will be spooky treats, face painting, Halloween games and food trucks with delicious offerings. This event takes place on Saturday, Oct. 29 and Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022 from 5 to 7 p.m. Slots are still available but don't wait too long. You can scan the QR code to register online. Cost \$12.



Oak Marr Rec Center is located at 3200 Jermantown Road in Oakton, Virginia. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/reccenter/oak-marr or call 703-281-6501.



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October 12, 2022
PSA-164

Learn to Make an Adorable Felted Bear

Outside, the bears are going to sleep, but you can make your own personality-filled felted toy bear. Spend two evenings at Colvin Run Mill learning needle felting basics. Practice the skills to make felted animals and apply them to creating your choice of a bear you can take home.

This two-session class will be Thursday, Nov. 10, and Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022, from 7 until 8:30 p.m. Participants ages 16 and older are welcome. The \$47 fee includes supply costs. Registration is required. Register at Parktakes online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site is located at 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, Virginia. For more information, visit Colvin Run Mill at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill> or call 703-759-2771.

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October 12, 2022
PSA-165

Fear-less Fest Returns to Hidden Oaks Nature Center

One night a year, the forest creatures, and even some plants, come alive at Hidden Oaks Nature Center. Their goal is to explain the misunderstandings many people have about nocturnal creatures and scruffy-looking trees. Families and scout groups have enjoyed hearing the animal side of the story for the last 15 years along the 1/3-mile woodland path by the nature center.

Costumed characters greet all children gently, with no fear factor included, in their brief presentations. Visitors will meet a raccoon, deer, owl and other nature-centric characters, who explain why they have undeserved scary reputations. Participants are invited to come in costume. Children must be accompanied by an adult who is also registered in the class. This guided trail walk and the indoor activities take approximately 75 minutes to complete. Start times are staggered to maximize your experience with each character.

Parking will be at the Packard Center located at 4020 Hummer Road, which is connected to Hidden Oaks by a paved trail. Parking for people with disabilities is available at the nature center.

The fee is \$8 per person. The program is open to children age 3 and older with preregistrations. Join us for this wonderful event on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022 with start times at 5:30, 6:15 or 7 p.m. Register for Fear-less Fest through Parktakes online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

Hidden Oaks is at 7701 Royce St., Annandale, Virginia. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks or call 703-941-1065.

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October 12, 2022
PSA-166

Lake Accotink Park Hosts Youth Fishing Derby

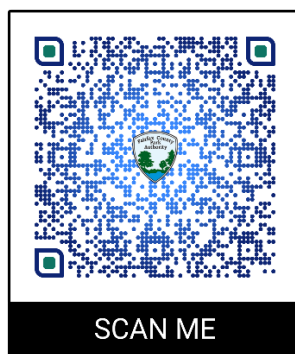
On Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, a free Youth Fishing Derby for youngsters ages 15 and below will take place at Lake Accotink Park Marina located at 7500 Accotink Park Road in Springfield, Virginia.

This event promises a morning filled with fun, fishing and prizes. Anglers can check in/register at 9 a.m. Fishing will take place from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and prizes will be presented at 11:30 a.m.

For safety, the derby is limited to just 30 participants. Some rods will be available for free at check-in. Worms will be provided, but bring your own rod and tackle if possible. Register early!

Adults can assist any youth in removing fish from hooks and can assist all youth 7 and under with baiting the hook and casting. All fish caught must be brought to the measure site to be counted toward a participant's total and then released immediately.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners for total inches caught in both boys' and girls' categories. Age categories include 7 and under, 8 to 11, and 12 to 15. To register visit <https://bit.ly/TYOFishing-Derby> or scan the QR code below.



This fishing derby is supported by the 2021 Virginia Wildlife Grant Program, through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources and the Wildlife Foundation of Virginia. Other supporters include Trails for Youth and the Fairfax County Park Authority.

To find out more about fishing in the parks, visit the Park Authority's Fishing website at www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/fishing.

Lake Accotink Park is located at 7500 Accotink Park Road in Springfield, Virginia. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink or call 703-569-3464.



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October 12, 2022
PSA-167

McLean Gears Up for Dark Sky Celebration

Dark skies are the natural state of nature. Over time, humans have increased the amount of light shining into the sky all night long. This excessive light has robbed us of the glimpse of our stars and endangered the natural world around us. We can have dark skies again if we learn to control light pollution with responsible outdoor lighting practices.

The Fairfax County Park Authority is partnering with the McLean Citizens Association, Dark Sky Friends and the Analemma Society to host a celebration of the importance of dark skies.

Come to the historic house in Lewinsville Park on Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022 to learn about the importance of dark skies in your community. The free event will have hands-on activities and educational opportunities about how to protect the night sky. Learn about night time wildlife and constellations. Come experience the night with us and enjoy a small campfire and cocoa. The event runs from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m.

There is no cost to the “Dark Sky Celebration” program, and registration is not required but is encouraged. You can register through Parktakes online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes. By signing up, we can notify you in case of inclement weather. The rain date is the following day on Sunday, Nov. 13, 2022.

To learn more about the importance of dark skies, visit the Dark Skies webpage at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/topics/dark-skies.

Lewinsville Park is located at 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lewinsville-historic-house or call 703-324-8671.

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October 11, 2022
PSA-168

Join the Fun and Celebrate Harvest Time at Colvin Run Mill

Just in case you have not signed up yet, you can still spend a day in the 1800s and explore how local crops were turned into food. Once the farmers harvested their crops, they sold their grain to the miller.

You can run the sheller and help remove the corn from the cobs. Then, watch as the 20-foot water wheel powers the historic Colvin Run Mill, grinding corn into grits and cornmeal. See the Colvin Run still and learn how corn was also made into whiskey. Sample a muffin made from Colvin Run Mill grains and taste fresh cider. Play historic games and make a toy from corn husks. Visit the Miller's House and shop in the General Store. This is a terrific, family-friendly event, perfect on a fall afternoon.

Harvest Day is Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, from noon until 3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill Historic Site. The fee is \$10 per person and is open to participants ages 4 and above. Register through Parktakes online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes.

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site is located at 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, Virginia. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill or call 703-759-2771.

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