

Make Your Holidays Merry in Parks!

A sleigh-full of happy memories awaits you this holiday season in Fairfax County parks. From family-friendly events to holiday crafts, day trips and shopping, you'll find lots of ways to make your holidays merry.



Lakefront Festivities

Take a spin on the Caroler's Carousel, hop on the Snowman's Wagon Ride, play Gingerbread Golf and climb aboard the Holiday Express for a memorable train ride through Burke Lake Park's Winter Wonderland. Stop by Lake Fairfax Park to see its transformation into a magical holiday light show as the Starlight Express holiday hayride takes you on a journey through a festive, holiday light display. Make your pet the star attraction at Lake Accotink Park for Visits with Santa Claws. Visit all three lakefront parks this holiday season and triple your fun!



Merry Marionettes and More

Children are always enchanted by puppets, and this year you can treat them to two professional, holiday-themed performances. Charming marionettes perform incredible feats of skill that will leave you laughing at Frying Pan Farm Park. Professional puppeteers at Green Spring Gardens will amaze you with a festive, holiday puppet show while the Friends of Green Spring treat you to a holiday open house.



Historic Holiday Happenings

Travel back to simpler times for a glimpse at holiday traditions of yesteryear. Step into the 18th century with a candlelight tour of Sully Historic Site and enjoy holiday treats, games and holiday decorations that highlighted holiday revelry of the time. Then spring forward to the 19th century for Ellanor C. Lawrence Park's Holidays at Walney Farm. Learn about treasured gifts and foods of the era, create your own historic ornament and enjoy hot apple cider and treats around a campfire.



Holidays

Holiday Crafts and Critters

Deck the halls in vintage style with your own family wreath. Learn about the holiday decorations at Sully Historic Site and create your own wreath to take home. Or, head to Hidden Pond Nature Center to create a family wreath and meet Santa and his merry band of critters! The jolly old elf, his workshop elves and their animal friends will delight one and all.



Children's Holiday Shopping

Most children love surprises, and your children get to orchestrate their own secret gift-giving strategy with Children's Holiday Shopping at Frying Pan Farm Park. Volunteers help little ones select from a wide selection of unusual gifts priced for a child-sized budget while parents wait at the Old Floris Schoolhouse next door. Gifts are wrapped before children are reunited with their parents to assure no holiday surprise is spoiled before gift-giving time.

For more details and to register for these festive activities and many others in parks, visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes. Search by keyword - Holiday. To register by phone, call (703) 222-4664.

Park Authority Gift Cards



Still can't decide what to get? No problem! You can pick up Park Authority gift cards at all nature centers, RECenters and gift shops. Or, for the golf lover in your group, pick up a Golf Fairfax gift card at any of our seven golf course pro shops.



Gift-Giving Made Easy!

Skip the long lines at the mall and choose from many unique gifts in the unhurried atmosphere of Park Authority shops. Gifts for nature lovers, gardeners, history buffs and children on your list can be found at Green Spring Gardens, Frying Pan Farm Park and Sully Historic Site gift shops. Toys, books, CDs and DVDs are among the offerings as well as history-themed gifts for all ages. You can also find one-of-a-kind, handmade gifts at artisan craft shows at Spring Hill RECenter and at Audrey Moore RECenter. See the events section for details.