



## MONTGOMERY PARKS

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

2425 Reedie Drive | Wheaton, MD 20902

# Montgomery Parks Updates- April 2025

[www.montgomeryparks.org](http://www.montgomeryparks.org)

## Montgomery County Council Public Hearings

We thank everyone who signed up to testify and submitted written statements. Your dedication and efforts in advocating for Parks are genuinely appreciated. Special thanks to those who testified in person, including Yolanda Goettsch and Robin Sparer, for their written statements. Your support is more crucial this year than ever as you share your stories with the County Council during their deliberations on the County Executive's proposed FY26 budget. Thank you for your unwavering support of Montgomery Parks!

## Wheaton Carousel Opening

On Saturday, April 5, 2025, Montgomery Parks celebrated its opening of a new carousel at Wheaton Regional Park by offering half-price rides on opening day.

- The new carousel features colorful, hand-painted, fiberglass horses and zebras and two bench-like chariots. One of the chariots is ADA-accessible. The new carousel is located near the Shorefield Road entrance to Wheaton Regional Park, next to the miniature train station.
- The carousel will be open weekends through October, with expanded operating hours on holidays and during Montgomery County Public Schools' spring and summer breaks. The carousel and miniature train webpage provide full details on the operating hours.



## New Art Installation at Gene Lynch Urban Park

Montgomery Parks has announced a new permanent art installation titled "Synesthesia" in downtown Silver Spring, located at Gene Lynch Urban Park. Created by Baltimore-based artist Becky Borlan, this sculpture features a series of stainless-steel frames holding glass panels that display a graphic film, producing a kaleidoscopic effect in vibrant colors. The panels extend from the park's central pergola structure and are illuminated by LED lights, creating a captivating presence at night.



Synesthesia was chosen as the winning entry for the park art installation from over 100 submissions. An artist selection panel narrowed the submissions to four finalists. The winner was determined through a public voting process.



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### Montgomery Parks Unveils Accessible Viewing Platform at Brookside Gardens

Montgomery Parks is excited to announce a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate opening a new inclusive and accessible viewing platform. This event will take place on April 15, 2025, at 10 a.m.; everyone is welcome to attend. The new platform, located at Brookside Gardens and overlooking the Gude Garden, will provide an accessible way for guests of all abilities to enjoy close-up views of the large pond and the stunning gardens surrounding the Japanese Tea House. This enhancement was made possible through a generous gift from a long-time friend and supporter of the gardens, the late Joan O'Rourke.



### Upcoming Events

- Sunday Serenade - [Sunday Serenade - April 13 - Montgomery Parks](#)
  - Date: April 13
  - Time: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
  - Location: Cabin John Regional Park
- Earth Day Family Celebration - [Earth Month Family Celebration - Montgomery Parks](#)
  - Date: April 26, 2025
  - Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
  - Location: Brookside Gardens
- Sligo Creek Fest - [Sligo Creek Fest - Montgomery Parks](#)
  - Date: May 3, 2025
  - Time: 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
  - Location: Sligo-Dennis Avenue Local Park
- The Butterfly Experience - [The Butterfly Experience at Brookside Gardens - Montgomery Parks](#)
  - Date(s): April 10, 2025, to September 21, 2025
  - Time(s): 10 am to 4 pm daily
  - July 1 – August 31, 2025: 10 am to 1 pm weekdays, 10 am to 4 pm weekends
  - September 1–21, 2025: 10 am to 4pm daily

<https://montgomeryparks.org/special-events-festivals/>