



MONTGOMERY PARKS

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

2425 Reedie Drive | Wheaton, MD 20902

Montgomery Parks Updates- October 2025

www.montgomeryparks.org

Fall Semi-Annual Presentation

On September 17, 2025, Planning Board Chair Artie Harris, Montgomery Parks Director Miti Figueredo, and Montgomery County Planning Director Jason Sartori presented the Fall 2025 Semiannual Report to the Montgomery County Council, highlighting behind-the-scenes efforts and key projects across the department.

Cherry Trees at Brookside

A new Kwanzan cherry grove was planted at Brookside Gardens with help from volunteers from Warner Bros Discovery. The trees, sourced from Stadler Nursery in Laytonsville, MD, are located near the Shorefield gate in the Gude Garden.

Active Aging Week

Active Aging Week featured two major events: On October 1, 2025, 113 walkers aged 55+ participated in “Walk Maryland Day,” supported by sponsors including The Law Office of Brian Gornley, LLC, The Eleff Law Group, and the Juanita C. Grant Foundation. On October 6, over 300 attendees joined the “Go, Grow, and Get Active” event at the North Potomac Community Recreation Center, which included Nature on Wheels (NOW) and a historical presentation on Freedom Seekers by Woodlawn Manor Cultural Park.

On Monday, October 6, Montgomery County agencies came together for a signature event, “Go, Grow, and Get Active,” held at the North Potomac Community Recreation Center. Over 300 people attended the event, which featured Nature on Wheels (NOW) and a historical account of the Freedom Seekers in Montgomery County, presented by Woodlawn Manor Cultural Park.

Banned Book Week

Banned Book Week was observed from October 5 to 11, with read-ins hosted at Josiah Henson Museum and Park (October 11, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) and Oakley Cabin African American Museum and Park (October 11, 1 to 4 p.m.), featuring Story Tapestries presentations. The observance, launched in 1982, highlights the ongoing challenges to books in libraries, schools, and bookstores.



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Urban Tree Summit

The 14th Annual Urban Tree Summit was held on September 17, 2025, at the Silver Spring Civic Center, organized by Montgomery Parks and Casey Trees. The event featured speakers from urban forestry, conservation, and environmental justice sectors. Field sessions included a digital media and tree storytelling workshop on September 19 and a champion tree tour on September 26.

Glenmont PAB Mural Winner

The Glenmont PAB mural contest drew over 2,500 public votes, leading to a September runoff and the selection of “Rooted and Radiant” by Red Swan studio. Announced on September 18, the design celebrates Glenmont’s diversity with plants and animals from Maryland, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico. The mural will be unveiled in November.

Parks Fall Festival

The Montgomery Parks Fall Festival brought energy and excitement to Black Hill Regional Park on Tuesday, September 30, 2025. With over 550 employees in attendance, the event was a vibrant celebration of our Parks community, featuring engaging educational showcases from each division. The afternoon was bursting with delicious food, playful games, and a fantastic chance to reconnect and celebrate our staff’s hard work and accomplishments. It was a joyful tribute to our dedicated employees.

Harvest Festival 2025

On October 4, 2025, the park welcomed approximately 1,700 attendees—arriving in 540 cars—for the annual Harvest Festival. The event featured hands-on farm activities such as candle dipping, tin-smithing, pumpkin painting, and scarecrow building, along with live music, farm animals, sheep herding demonstrations, and search and rescue presentations by the Park Police mounted patrol and K9 units.

Porky Refresher at Cabin John Regional Park

Historic Porky the Pig was recently restored after a constituent brought the project to our attention—an excellent example of a successful park refresher initiative. Montgomery Parks received \$100,000 from the County Council in FY26 to support park refreshers like this one. Special thanks go to our carpenters, electricians, plumbers, painters, and masons, whose expertise was essential to completing this challenging restoration.



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Upcoming Events

History Hour: Crafting History| October 18 | 4:00 –5:00 p.m. |Josiah Henson Museum and Park, 11410 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda: [History Hour: Crafting History - African Fabric - Montgomery Parks](#)

This lecture series features local historians and educators sharing insights into regional history. In this session, textile artist Tisha Thorne—founder of Tisha’s Sewing Studio and co-founder of Sew Creative Lounge—will explore African fabrics, their symbolism, production, and cultural significance. Sew Creative Lounge will offer fabric for purchase. Doors open at 3 p.m. for a self-guided museum tour, with light refreshments provided. Recommended for ages 12 and up. Admission is \$5 per person, with tickets available online and onsite. Parking is located at Wall Local Park, 5900 Executive Blvd.

Acoustics and Ales – October 25 from 5 to 7:30 pm | Black Hill Regional Park | 20930 Lake Ridge Drive, Boyd, MD: [Acoustics & Ales - October 25 - Montgomery Parks](#)

Celebrate Halloween at Black Hill Regional Park with a festive evening combining Acoustics & Ales and Witchy Paddle. Enjoy live music, tasty brews, and spooky lake views from the shore—or register to paddle in costume and join the spectacle on the water. Witchy Paddle begins at 4:30 p.m., followed by campfire fun and land-based festivities. Bring your own paddlecraft and safety gear to participate.

Visit our website to explore more Parks programs and events. [Park Activities - Montgomery Parks](#)