



## MONTGOMERY PARKS

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

2425 Reedie Drive | Wheaton, MD 20902

# Montgomery Parks Updates- February 2025

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

## \$10,000 Montgomery Chapel Cemetery Grant

The Cultural Resources Stewardship Section was awarded \$10,000 to aid in the stewardship and preservation of the Montgomery Chapel in Little Bennet Park. The funds will be used to conduct a ground-penetrating radar survey to identify unmarked graves to ensure their protection during future cemetery management. Any remaining funds will go towards tombstone repair, preservation, or interpretive signage installation. The cemetery is one of the last remaining sites of the African American community that once existed in the area, and its continued presence is critical to understanding that local history.



## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Greenscapes Symposium – February 14, 2025

The ever-popular event offers presentations on the latest topics related to landscape sustainability and the environment. This virtual gathering includes various presentations on current challenges and innovations in these fields.

This year's presentations feature:

- Resilient Rainscapes: Designs that Thrive in Climate Extremes
- Species, Cultivars and Selections: Design Matrixes for Making Smarter Choices in your Landscapes
- Practicing New Naturalism: Site-Specific Plantings in Public and Private Places
- Responding to a Rapidly Changing Climate: The Case of Diversity & Plant Palette Expansion in Urban Landscape





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### Montgomery/PG Naturalist Combined Training

On January 13th, the HFEE Division of Montgomery Parks organized a joint training session with naturalists from Montgomery County and Prince George's County, which 55 staff members attended. The breakout sessions offered valuable opportunities to foster relationships and improve communication and collaboration among staff from both departments within the Commission. The training also included tours of Meadowside Nature Center and Brookside Nature Center.



### Black History Month Events

- **Soil: The Story of a Black Mother's Garden**
  - Wednesday February 5, 7:00-8:30 pm, Online
  - Author Camile Dungy discusses [her memoir](#) of gardening, motherhood and her seven-year odyssey to diversify her garden. This online presentation is sponsored by Brookside Gardens and Friends of Brookside Gardens. Free.
- **Black History Family Day at Woodlawn Manor Cultural Park**
  - Saturday, February 8, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
  - Families are invited to drop-in at Woodlawn Manor House to enjoy hands-on activities including compass making, mapping your family tree, and sharing what freedom means to you and more. Recommended for ages 6 to 17. There will be story times at 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Free. No advance registration required.
- **History Hour at Josiah Henson Museum and Park**
  - Thursday, February 20, 6:00-7:00 p.m.
  - Historian Ralph Buglass presents an illustrated talk on how civil rights attorney Thurgood Marshall delivered an early blow to segregation in Montgomery County. The little-known case is often seen as the first step in Marshall's drive to have segregated schools outlawed. Recommended for ages 12+. Admission is \$5. Tickets are available [online](#) and onsite. Guests may arrive early and tour the Josiah Henson Museum. Doors open at 5 p.m. Parking is available 1.5 blocks from the museum at Wall Park, 5900 Executive Blvd, North Bethesda.
- **Black History Month Family Day at Josiah Henson Museum and Park**
  - Saturday, February 22, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
  - Visit the Josiah Henson Museum and Park for educational, hands-on activities that demonstrate what a child's life was like in Dawn, the settlement Rev. Josiah Henson created after self-emancipating to Canada via the Underground Railroad. Henson was a life-long fighter for freedom and education. All ages. Free with paid admission to museum. \$5 for adults. \$4 for children and seniors. Tickets are available for purchase onsite. Parking is available 1.5 blocks away from the museum at Wall Park, 5900 Executive Blvd, North Bethesda.



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## Oakley Cabin Augmented Reality Experience

- Daily, Sunrise-Sunset
- Grab your smartphone and take a self-guided tour around Oakley Cabin African American Museum and Park. Visitors can scan eight QR codes located on kiosks around the property to learn more about the history and archaeology of the site using augmented reality modules. The augmented reality experience is available in seven languages and was recently named the best immersive local history experience by *Bethesda Magazine*. The park sits on land that was once the home of a thriving African American roadside community. Free. Note that the cabin is not open now. It will reopen for tours in April.

## Upcoming Events

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### February–March 2025 Events

 <p><b>Valentine's + Skate</b> Ridge Road Recreational Park Feb 8   11a-2p <a href="https://mocoparks.org/ValentinesSkate">MoCoParks.org/ValentinesSkate</a></p>	 <p><b>Black History Month Family Days</b> Woodlawn Manor: Feb 8   11a-3p Josiah Henson Museum and Park: Feb 22   10a-4p <a href="https://HistoryintheParks.org">HistoryintheParks.org</a></p>	 <p><b>GreenScapes Symposium</b> Brookside Gardens Feb 14   9a-4p <a href="https://BrooksideGreen.org">BrooksideGreen.org</a></p>
<p><b>Storytime at Maydale</b> Maydale Nature Classroom Feb 4, 11, 18; Mar 11   10-11a <a href="https://MaydaleNature.org">MaydaleNature.org</a></p>	<p><b>Josiah Henson Museum and Park</b> • Museum Open - Fri and Sat   10a-4pm; Sun   12-4p <b>Special Openings:</b> • President's Day - Feb 22   10a-4p <b>History Hour:</b> • Thurgood Marshall - Feb 20   6-7p • African Labor, Language and Lifeways in American Culture - Mar 20   6-7p <a href="https://JosiahHenson.org">JosiahHenson.org</a></p>	<p><b>Acoustics and Ales</b> North Four Corners Local Park March 8   11a-2p <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/AcousticsandAles">MoCoParks.org/AcousticsandAles</a></p>
<p><b>Little Explorers</b> Brookside Nature Center Feb 5, 19; Mar 9, 22   10:30-11:15a <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/LittleExplorers">MoCoParks.org/LittleExplorers</a></p>	<p><b>Black Hill Van Trips</b> Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge - Feb 26 <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/BHVanTrip">MoCoParks.org/BHVanTrip</a></p>	<p><b>Women of Woodlawn Walking Tour</b> Mar 29   1-1:45p or 3-3:45p <a href="https://WoodlawnManor.org">WoodlawnManor.org</a></p>
<p><b>55+ Programs</b> • Pressed Valentine's Flowers - Feb 7 • Winter Mixer - Feb 15 • Nature Book Club - Feb 18 • Hikes to Parks Unknown: Intermediate - Mar 14 • Hikes to Parks Unknown: Beginner - Mar 16 • 55+ The C&amp;O Canal by Bike - Mar 26 <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/55andBetter">MoCoParks.org/55andBetter</a></p>	<p><b>Public Ice Skating Sessions</b> View ice rink schedules for details <a href="https://CabinJohnice.org">CabinJohnice.org</a> and <a href="https://WheatonIce.org">WheatonIce.org</a></p>	<p><b>Sunday Serenade</b> Cabin John Regional Park Mar 30   10-11:30a <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/SundaySerenade">MoCoParks.org/SundaySerenade</a></p>
<p><b>2025 Summer Camp Registration Open</b> <a href="https://MontgomeryParks.org/Classes">MontgomeryParks.org/Classes</a></p>	<p><b>Golf &amp; Archery Classes</b> South Germantown Driving Range New sessions begin in March <a href="https://SGDrivingRange.org">SGDrivingRange.org</a></p>	<p><b>St. Patrick's Day Quest for the Gold</b> Meadowside Nature Center Mar 14   5-6p <a href="https://MeadowsideNature.org">MeadowsideNature.org</a></p>

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**Montgomery Parks Special Events**  
For a complete list of special events, scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit: [MoCoParks.org/Events](https://MoCoParks.org/Events)

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 <p><b>Acoustics and Ales</b> North Four Corners Local Park March 8   11a-2p <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/AcousticsandAles">MoCoParks.org/AcousticsandAles</a></p>	 <p><b>Women of Woodlawn Walking Tour</b> Mar 29   1-1:45p or 3-3:45p <a href="https://WoodlawnManor.org">WoodlawnManor.org</a></p>	 <p><b>Sunday Serenade</b> Cabin John Regional Park Mar 30   10-11:30a <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/SundaySerenade">MoCoParks.org/SundaySerenade</a></p>
<p><b>Park Academy Series</b> New sessions starting in March • Yoga for Strength and Vitality • Intro to Nordic Walking • Partner Dancing • Toddler and You Yoga • POUND Fitness <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/ParkAcademy">MoCoParks.org/ParkAcademy</a></p>	<p><b>My Dog &amp; Me Hike</b> Brookside Nature Center Mar 8   10-11a <a href="https://BrooksideNature.org">BrooksideNature.org</a></p>	<p><b>LGBTQIA+ Nature Hike</b> Locust Grove Nature Center Mar 22   11a-12p <a href="https://LocustGroveNature.org">LocustGroveNature.org</a></p>
<p><b>Upcycled Wedding Fair</b> Rockwood Manor Retreats &amp; Events March 9   11a-3p <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/UpcycledWeddingFair">MoCoParks.org/UpcycledWeddingFair</a></p>	<p><b>Adaptive Mountain Biking Clinic</b> Mar 22   10:30a-2p <a href="https://MoCoParks.org/AdaptiveMountainBiking">MoCoParks.org/AdaptiveMountainBiking</a></p>	<p><b>Teen Outdoor Adventure Challenge</b> Maydale Nature Classroom Mar 31   9a-3:30p <a href="https://MaydaleNature.org">MaydaleNature.org</a></p>
<p><b>HomeSchool History</b> Agricultural History Farm Park • Farm Park Friends - Mar 13   1-3p • Flavors of History - Mar 27   1-3p <a href="https://AgHistoryFarm.org">AgHistoryFarm.org</a></p>	<p><b>Herp Hunt at Rachel Carson</b> Rachel Carson Conservation Park Mar 31   3:30-5p <a href="https://BlackHillDiscovery.org">BlackHillDiscovery.org</a></p>	<p><b>Montgomery Parks' Classes and Programs</b> Registration dates: Ice/Tennis Winter Term II: Feb 14; Spring Programs: Feb 18 To view the complete Program Guide visit <a href="https://MontgomeryParks.org/Classes">MontgomeryParks.org/Classes</a></p>

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## Upcoming Program Registration Dates:

- February 7 – Spring Guide published online.
- February 14, 6:30 am – Winter Term II Ice/Tennis Registration Opens
- February 18, 6:30 am– Spring Guide Registration Opens