
Press Release

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

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NEW & IMPROVED PENNINGTON PARK TO REOPEN DECEMBER 1ST

Upgrades Include A Fitness Course, More Trails, Dog Parks and Creek Overlooks

Visitors to the County's Pennington Park on Creek Road in Delanco will be able to enjoy a host of new recreational opportunities and spectacular views of the Rancocas Creek and its tidal marshes starting December 1st, when the 140-acre park reopens with a wide array of Phase II improvements.

Enhancements include the County Park System's first fenced dog parks (slated to open in Summer of 2011), a fitness course, extended trails with boardwalks to the creek, a pedestrian bridge and overlooks, and an expanded playground with soft surfacing.

"With three-quarters of a mile of creek frontage, Pennington Park is one of the gems of the County's park system and is a special resource that should be enjoyed by every resident in the County," Freeholder Director Bruce D. Garganio said during rededication ceremonies today.

"The new park amenities open up recreational opportunities to new user groups, such as dog owners, and make the park more enjoyable for people of all ages and interests," Garganio added.

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The long list of improvements includes more picnic pavilions, grills that can be adjusted to the wind, tables and benches, as well as extensive landscaping with native trees, shrubs and lawn areas.

Residents also will have access to community gardens that will be available for rent in the spring to groups or individuals. Some garden plots have raised beds for seniors, while others have wheelchair access points to accommodate physically-challenged gardeners.

The gardens will be similar to the popular community vegetable gardens at the Burlington County Agricultural Center in Moorestown.

When the fenced dog parks open later in 2011, they will include off-leash play areas for large and small dogs. Expanded walking trails, shade tree plantings, songbird meadow restoration and other details were addressed in the makeover.

“If you look down at the boardwalks, some of the creatures’ footprints you can observe on site have been artfully etched into the deck boards,” said Scott Taylor, the park’s designer from Taylor Design Group in Mount Laurel.

The extended trails now total three miles, which can be used for hiking, biking and roller blading. In winter, they can be used for cross country skiing or snow shoeing.

Pennington Park was purchased by the County in 1999, protecting it from the development of more than 100 homes. In 2004, Phase I was completed and the park opened to the public. It has been a popular venue for both local and county events.

PHOTO FOLLOWS



Participants in the ribbon cutting ceremony to reopen Pennington Park included Freeholder Director Bruce Garganio, Doug Mayerski with contractor Command Company of Medford, Delanco Mayor Kate Fitzpatrick, Engineer Scott Taylor, and Freeholder Mary Anne Reinhart