

2023 Calendar of Events

Fort Frederick State Park • Sideling Hill Creek State Park • Western Maryland Rail Trail • Woodmont NRMA

Fort Frederick State Park

February 25 - *Freezing on the Frontier: Winter Fort Garrison*

Come and see how soldiers lived at Fort Frederick during the winter months from 1756-1759. Program runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

March 18 - *“tho’ not provided for....seems Necessary: Women at Fort Frederick*

Come and learn about the role of women of Fort Frederick during the French and Indian War through a multimedia presentation. Program starts at 1 p.m. at the Visitor Center.

April 1 - *Youth Fishing Rodeo*

Bring your budding angler to catch stocked trout and other fish species at Fort Frederick’s Beaver Pond. The event is open to children ages 15 and under. Pre-registration is appreciated but not required. Meet at the gravel parking lot after railroad tracks. All children must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18. Bring your own gear and bait. There will be a limited number of rods provided “on-loan”. Staff will be available to assist. Open 8 a.m. to noon.

April 27-30 - *18th Century Market Fair*

The Market Fair features the best artisans, craftspeople, and sutlers together with an 18th century encampment. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. This event is sponsored by the Friends of Fort Frederick State Park. Admission Fee \$5 for adults, \$2 ages 6 to 12, and 5 and under free.

May 27 - *One Fort: Three Centuries*

To honor our Nation’s military heritage, discover the part Fort Frederick played during three centuries of American History including the French and Indian War, American Revolution, Civil War and Great Depression. Visitors will be able to experience the lives of those men and women through living history demonstrations. Highlights include military drill, musket firing demonstrations, and more. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

June 17 - *“for the Defence of this Province”: Artillery and Musketry*

Experience military life during the French and Indian War with the men and women of the Maryland Provincial Companies of Foot. Highlights of the event include cannon firing demonstrations, musket firing presentations, hearth cooking, military drills, and children’s drill. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

JULY 1-4 - *“for the Reception of Prisoners”: The Fort in the American Revolution*

Join park staff in celebrating America’s birthday by learning about Fort Frederick’s role as a Prisoner of War Camp during the American Revolution. Highlights of the event include programs on the fort in the Revolution, musket firing demonstrations, soldier’s cooking demonstrations, uniform and clothing programs, interactive military drills, and more. Programs will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July 15 - *Stream Waders*

Join park staff to collect macroinvertebrates (stream bugs and crayfish) and determine the health of the Potomac River here in the park area. We will meet at the Potomac River trail near the entrance of the campground at 11:00 a.m. **Shoes and clothing for getting wet recommended.**

August 19 - *Beaver Pond Trail Hike*

Take a hike on the newly expanded Beaver Pond trail with a Park Ranger to learn about beavers and observe other wildlife. This hike will be approximately 2 miles round trip over easy terrain on the gravel surfaced path. Meet at the Beaver Pond Trailhead at 11:00 a.m. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

August 26-27 - *French and Indian War Muster*

French, British and American Indian reenactors assemble for two days of 18th century living history demonstrations and battle reenactments. Period crafts and a food vendor will also be available. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

September 16 - *SP#1: The Civilian Conservation Corps*

Join park staff and volunteers as they demonstrate life at Fort Frederick in the 1930’s for the “boy’s” of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Learn about the role the CCC played in the creation of today’s park. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

October 14 - *“Old Fort Frederick”: Civil War Living History*

Experience military life during the American Civil War with the men and women of the Blue and the Gray. Highlights of the event include cannon firing demonstrations, musket firing presentations, hearth cooking, military drills, and children’s drill. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Sideling Hill Creek State Park

June 24 - Park History Hike

Join a Park Ranger to discover the stories that took place on the land that now makes up Sideling Hill Creek State Park. Starting at 10 am the hike will cover approximately 2 ½ miles and last for 2 hours. This is a moderately strenuous hike that includes a 9.5% grade climb. Please bring water. Hikers should meet in the main parking lot.

August 12 - Dark Skies Program – Perseid Meteor Shower

Join Park staff to witness the Perseid Meteor Shower. Bring chairs or blanket as well as water and any refreshments you may require. No alcohol is allowed. **Limited to 25 vehicles. Please call 240-707-8864 to reserve a space.** 8 pm – 10 pm - participants must arrive no later than 8 pm and must exit the park at 10 pm.

Contact Information:

Sideling Hill Creek State Park
11110 Ziegler Road
Hancock, MD 21750
Office: 301-842-2155
Duty Ranger: 240-707-8864

Woodmont Natural Resources Management Area

September 10 - Woodmont Lodge Open House

Showcasing the picturesque and historic Woodmont Lodge, the annual open house invites you to explore memories of the early days of conservation in Maryland. Open house hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Directional signs will be placed on Woodmont Road.

Contact Information:

Woodmont NRMA
11100 Fort Frederick Road
Big Pool, MD 21711
Office: 301-842-2155
Duty Ranger: 443-805-1759

Western Maryland Rail Trail

May 13 - Western Maryland Rail Trail Guided Bike Tour

Journey to the old Round Top Cement works and learn about its history during this ranger led bike tour on the Western Maryland Rail Trail. This guided bike ride is approximately 8 miles long, roundtrip, and is taken at a leisurely pace. Join us at the Park and Ride lot at 273 East Main St. in Hancock at 10 a.m.

June 4 - Western Maryland Railroad History Display

Come to the store area across from the fort to talk to a ranger and see a full display on railroad history from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Western MD railroad was built in phases and in operation from 1852 – 1983. We will have cool artifacts and photos to show. *Takes place at Fort Frederick State Park.*

September 2 - Indigo Tunnel Hike

Have you ever wondered why the Western Maryland Rail Trail doesn't pass through the Indio Tunnel? This hike will answer that question and much more about the history of the Western Maryland Railroad between Little Orleans, MD and the tunnel. Starting at 10 am the hike will travel along the flat paved Western Maryland Rail Trail and cover approximately 2 miles. Please bring water because the hike may last up to 2 hours. Meet at the Little Orleans Parking Lot for the Western Maryland Rail Trail.

October 15 - Western Maryland Rail Trail Guided Bike Tour

Journey to the old Round Top Cement works and learn about its history during this ranger led bike tour on the Western Maryland Rail Trail. This guided bike ride is approximately 8 miles long, roundtrip, and is taken at a leisurely pace. Join us at the Park and Ride lot at 273 East Main St. in Hancock at 10 a.m.

Contact Information:

Western Maryland Rail Trail
11100 Fort Frederick Road
Big Pool, MD 21711
Office: 301-842-2155
Duty Ranger: 443-805-1759



Wes Moore, Governor | Josh Kurtz, Acting Secretary



Maryland Park Service
580 Taylor Avenue, E-3
Annapolis, MD 21401
HEADQUARTERS 800-830-3974
dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands
customerservice.dnr@maryland.gov