

2019 Calendar of Events

Fort Frederick State Park Complex

APRIL

Youth Fishing Rodeo

April 6

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 the 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. Park entrance fees apply.

18th Century Market Fair

April 25-28

Now in its 25th year, 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

Western Maryland Rail Trail Guided Bike Tour

May 4

Brilliant spring wildflowers brighten the journey during this ranger led bike tour on the Western Maryland Rail Trail. This guided bike ride is approximately 20 miles long, roundtrip, and is taken at a leisurely pace. Join us at the C&O Bicycle Shop in Hancock at 10 a.m.

"for the Defence of this Province": Artillery and Musketry

May 11-12

Come and 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, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

Blue Moon, Astronomy Program

May 18

Come join a park ranger and the Tri-State Astronomers for a night of stargazing and sky navigation. You will learn the basics of sky navigation and telescope use while looking through our reflecting telescopes. You are welcome to bring your own viewing devices as well. In case of clouds or rain, an indoor astronomy education program will be offered. Park entrance fees apply.

Discovery Weekend

May 25-27

Bring your family and friends to explore the natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources of Fort Frederick State Park. This event features outdoor and historical activities for all interest levels and ages. Activities run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Saturday will feature a special evening program starting at 8 p.m. Contact the Park for details. Park entrance fees apply.

JUNE

Dark Skies, Astronomy Program

June 1

Come join a park ranger and the Tri-State Astronomers for a night of stargazing and sky navigation. You will learn the basics of sky navigation and telescope use while looking through our reflecting telescopes. You are welcome to bring your own viewing devices as well. In case of clouds or rain, an indoor astronomy education program will be offered. Park entrance fees apply.

"for the Defence of this Province": Artillery and Musketry

June 1-2

Come and 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, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

Junior Rangers and Park Pals

June 12

Please join us for the start of our 2019 Junior Rangers and Park Pals summer youth programs. Junior Rangers (8-14 years) and Park Pals (5-7 years) are our nature based outdoor education programs designed to: get kids out into nature; help them gain an understanding and appreciation for our natural resources and public lands; give them a chance to meet new friends; and get some exercise all while having some fun in the great outdoors. This program will be held over six weekly sessions. Sessions are two hours once-a-week for seven weeks with ample make-up sessions available (no class the week of Independence Day). There is a \$20 per child fee and advanced registration is required and limited.

Orientation and First Session: Wednesday June 12; 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Visitor Center. Graduation is July 24

Colonial Children's Day: an Officer and a Gentleman

June 15

Children ages 8-12 will be transported back in time as they take part in a day of hands-on 18th century activities. They will experience the life of an officer stationed at Fort Frederick during the French and Indian War. Activities will include receiving a commission, mastering the military arts, an officer's meal, gentleman's leisure activities and more. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch is included. There is a \$20 per child fee and advanced registration is required and limited.

JULY

"The Fort is pretty full": The Fort and the American Revolution

July 1-7

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 weeklong 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. Park entrance fees apply.

Dark Skies, Astronomy Program

July 6

Come join a park ranger and the Tri-State Astronomers for a night of stargazing and sky navigation. You will learn the basics of sky navigation and telescope use while looking through our reflecting telescopes. You are welcome to bring your own viewing devices as well. In case of clouds or rain, an indoor astronomy education program will be offered. Park entrance fees apply.

"for the Defence of this Province": Artillery and Musketry

July 20-21

Come and 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, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

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AUGUST

The American Soldier through the Ages

Aug. 3-4

The military history of Fort Frederick spans the 18th and 19th centuries. Building upon that legacy, the park will be hosting a "Soldier through the Centuries" program. With hands-on displays of weapons, uniforms and military gear from the 1600's colonial militia, Revolutionary War, Civil War and World War II. Historical interpreters from the fort will be describing how soldiering changed over time while maintaining certain common elements. You will be given a rare opportunity to come in close contact with our military past. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

French and Indian War Muster

Aug. 24-25

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. Park entrance fees apply.

SEPTEMBER

Nature Exploration Weekend

Aug. 31 - Sept. 2

Bring your family and friends to explore the natural side of Fort Frederick State Park. This event includes outdoor activities for all interest levels and ages. Activities run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Saturday will feature a special night program starting at 8 p.m. Park entrance fees apply. Call the Park for event details.

Woodmont Lodge Open House and Guided Hike

Sept. 8

Showcasing the picturesque and historic Woodmont Lodge, the annual open house invites you to explore memories of the early days of conservation in Maryland. This event includes a guided hike at 1 p.m. (meet at the Wildlife & Heritage Trail). Open house hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Directional signs will be placed on Woodmont Road.

Provincial Muster

Sept. 14-15

Come out and learn about the role Fort Frederick and regional colonial troops played during the Forbes Campaign of 1758; that resulted in the capture of French Fort Duquesne. Reenactors portraying Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia Provincial Troops will portray the men and women in this campaign. Highlights of the event include cannon firing demonstrations, musket firing presentations, military and children's drill. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

Militia Muster

Sept. 28-29

Come and join the Frederick County Militia for its annual muster. You can join up and engage in militia drills and learn about the roles of the militia and life during the French and Indian War. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

OCTOBER

Western Maryland Rail Trail Guided Hike

Oct. 12

Enjoy vivid fall colors as you explore the new four mile extension of the Western Maryland Rail Trail. The recently completed section of the trail has brought new recreational opportunities and new territory to explore. This leisurely hike will be approximately 1-2 miles round trip. Meet at the western terminus of the trail at the Little Orleans parking lot at 10 a.m. The western terminus can be accessed via exit 68 off of US I-68.

"for the Defence of this Province": Artillery and Musketry

Oct. 12-13

Come and 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, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

NOVEMBER

One Fort: Three Wars

Nov. 9-10

To honor our Nation's Veterans, discover the part Fort Frederick played during three American conflicts the French and Indian War, American Revolution and Civil War. 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. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Park entrance fees apply.

Fort Frederick State Park
11100 Fort Frederick Rd.
Big Pool, MD 21711
301-842-2155



Larry Hogan, Governor
Mark Belton, Secretary