september parks news

To explore the dozens of events coming to your local parks this month, read below. Click here to explore our events calendar.
explore insects during the upcoming *first friday nature walk* and *hike with a naturalist*

Join naturalist educators for our upcoming *First Friday Nature Walk* and *Hike with a Naturalist*. Insects are the themes for these September hikes. During naturalist educator Stephen Bucklin's *Hike with a Naturalist*, you'll learn about the variety of ways in which insects use visual and auditory signals to communicate with each other, and begin to identify the instruments within the insect orchestra performing near you.

Register here for the First Friday Nature Walk →
Register here for the next Hike with a Naturalist →
summer at the square continues with free fitness classes, live music, and new to the square: public happy hours

Summer at the Square, presented by Citizens Bank, is introducing two happy hours to its end-of-the-season programming. Join Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy staff in Mellon Square on Thursday, September 12 and Thursday, September 26 from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. for food trucks, drinks from local breweries, live music, and more.

Click here for more information →
join us at shadyside nursery for a pop-up yoga event benefitting the parks conservancy

Shadyside Nursery is hosting a series of pay-what-you-want pop-up yoga classes. These all-level classes will take place on-site, outdoors, at the nursery. Afterward, participants are invited to purchase plants from the nursery at a discounted price. Proceeds from these events benefit the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy.

Register for this pay-what-you-want event here →
the parks conservancy and citiparks rangers have partnered to lead a full-moon hike and star party in frick park

September’s full moon, the Harvest Moon, is a marker of many celebrations as Summer comes to an end and the seasons change. Visit the Frick Environmental Center to learn more about all that’s happening in the night sky. There will be a Star Party at the fountain, as well as guided hikes through the woods.

Register for this free event here →
help your little ones explore their surroundings and plant seeds for spring during the next nature play date

During our September Nature Play Date event, little ones will get to test their balances on logs, enjoy the nature around them in our Nature Play Area, and create seed balls that we'll toss into the meadows surrounding the Frick Environmental Center to help sprout seeds next Spring.

Click here to register for this free event →
improve your flow with free weekly outdoor yoga at allegheny commons park

Practice some mid-week self-care by joining us at Allegheny Commons Park every Wednesday evening for 90 minutes of all-levels outdoor yoga. Simply bring your yoga mat or a towel, a water bottle, and prepare to relax! These events are free and open to all.

Click here to register for these free events →
chastity bey, community nature educator, makes headlines for her commitment to sustainability

Chastity Bey, Community Nature Educator at the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, was named one of the "13 People Making Pittsburgh Cleaner, Greener, and More Energy Efficient" by The Incline. Along with her full-time role at the Conservancy, Chastity serves as a member of the Pittsburgh Black Environmental Collective. She helps the Parks Conservancy increase diversity in its programs and works as the writer and manager of the “African American in the Environmental Field” blog.

Click here to read the full article from The Incline →

Park Champions Application

interested in being an advocate for pittsburgh's parks? apply below!

Park Champions are connectors. As a trusted source of information on your social networks and for your neighbors, you have the power to inspire others to care about our parks, and to connect with those who can effect change, such as local officials and politicians. Park Champions will engage their social networks to
raise awareness of the benefits and needs of our park system, and the dedication and hard work required to improve such an excellent resource. You can apply to be a Park Champion here.

**recent blog posts**

"PPC Staff Returns from Educational Trip to Top-Ranking Park System" | Keeley Teslik
"A Conversation on Hays Woods" | Meg Baltes
"Discovering Pittsburgh's Parks: Then and Now" | Troy Gavazzi
"Program Spotlight: Healthy, Active, and Green" | Meg Baltes

**upcoming events**

**Meet Me at the Fountain**
Join National Aviary Ornithologist, Bob Mulvihill, on a leisurely walk from the recently restored Northeast Fountain in Allegheny Commons to the National Aviary. Pittsburgh’s oldest park is home to some of the city’s oldest trees, and these provide stopover habitat for a wide variety of migratory birds like Scarlet Tanagers, Yellow Warblers, Wood Thrushes, and Red-eyed Vireos. Glimpse Andean Condors and other birds that call the National Aviary’s outdoor Condor Court habitat home. Registration is available here.

**Let's Go Fishing End of Summer Fishing Skills Event**
Hosted by Let's Go Fishing at Lake Carnegie in Highland Park, the End of Summer Fishing Skills Event is free to all youth. Volunteers will provide youth with fishing instructions, equipment and bait, and lunch. Largemouth bass, channel catfish, and bluegill will be the fish of choice. Registration for this free event is available here.

**Yoga and Tai Chi in Schenley Plaza**
Join us in Schenley Plaza on Saturdays and Mondays for free yoga sessions. Tai chi sessions take place in the Plaza every Sunday. These outdoors classes are free and open to the public. Bring a friend! For more information and to register for an upcoming class, visit this link and select your preferred date.

**Thrival Music Festival**
For the first time in Thrival’s history, the music festival will be free and open to all. Join us in Schenley Plaza for the seventh annual Thrival Music Festival, which will bring together vendors, makers, and artists, featuring a cross-genre lineup that showcases a variety of acts. Thrival Music aims to provide a platform for people to enjoy all that Pittsburgh has to offer, while supporting local businesses and economic development. Learn more here.

**parks in the news**

Meg Cheever: Pittsburgh Parks are at a Crossroads | Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
City Would Benefit from Special Parks Tax | Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Give it Up for PA's Park and Recreation Professionals | Keystone Edge
Did you know that many employers match their employees' charitable contributions? Click here to see if your donation can be matched!

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