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2024

WASHINGTON COUNTY *Parks & Recreation* PROGRAM GUIDE



724-228-6867 

**100 West Beau Street Suite
705 Washington, PA 15301**



[HTTPS://WWW.WASHINGTONCOPA.GOV/PARKS-AND-RECREATION](https://www.washingtoncopa.gov/parks-and-recreation)



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ABOUT US

2024 Registration Details



- **ADVANCE REGISTRATION:** MOST PROGRAMS CAN BE REGISTERED FOR NO MORE THAN 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE. SOME PROGRAMS HAVE LIMITED SPACE RESTRICTIONS.
- **ONLINE REGISTRATION:** REGISTRATION FOR OUR PROGRAMS ARE ONLINE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE. YOU MUST CREATE AN ACCOUNT TO REGISTER.
- **REGISTRATION** IS REQUIRED FOR OUR PROGRAMS. IF THERE IS A FEE, IT IS DUE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION. MANY OF OUR PROGRAMS ARE FREE. OTHER PROGRAMS MAY HAVE A MINIMUM MATERIAL FEE.
- **AGE:** PLEASE ABIDE TO THE AGE REGISTRATIONS NOTED IN PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS.
- **DAY CAMP REGISTRATION:** PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. ACCEPTING REGISTRATION BEGINNING APRIL 3 AT 9:00 A.M. ONLINE ONLY. REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO ONE FAMILY PER REGISTRANT WITH A MAXIMUM OF 2 DAY CAMPS PER CHILD. CHILDREN UNDER OR OVER THE RECOMMENDED AGES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

AN ADDED NOTE:

PICNIC SHELTER RESERVATIONS

SHELTER RESERVATIONS FOR MINGO CREEK, CROSS CREEK & TEN MILE CREEK COUNTY PARKS ARE AVAILABLE BEGINNING THE SECOND MONDAY OF JANUARY EACH YEAR. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY TO ENSURE YOUR FAVORITE PICNIC SPOT.

PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK

AGES 3-5



Super Heroes in Nature

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Become part of the next super squad of heroes at Mingo Creek Park while learning all about the superpowers of nature. You will get to craft your very own hero mask, then we'll venture out into the park to take part in a super villain scavenger hunt. Please dress for the weather and moderate hiking.

Salamander Tales

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Preschoolers will slosh along with the Park Staff in search of salamanders that call the tributaries of Mingo Creek home. You'll need water shoes or rubber boots, quick hands, and a keen eye as we search for these four legged amphibians. A change of clothes is recommended.

Creek Stompers

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Nets ready preschoolers? Be prepared to get a bit wet as we search Mingo Creek for aquatic insects, crayfish, and small fish.

PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK

AGES 3-5



Bonkers for Bugs

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

1:00 p.m.

FEE: \$1.00

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Come join us as we search for invertebrates living in the leaf litter at Mingo Creek Park. We will learn to safely capture and identify some of these creepy crawlers. All equipment is supplied. After our search is complete, we will enjoy our annual picnic. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided.

Butterfly Roundup

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Shelter 1

Mingo Creek Park

With nets in hand, we will flutter our way across fields in search of butterflies. Preschoolers will learn about the life cycle of a butterfly, as well as the proper way to collect and observe these beautiful, flying insects. Nets and containers will be provided.

Hey! It's a Wagon Ride

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

FEE: \$1.00 Per Person

Shelter 1

Mingo Creek Park

The leaves are changing colors and the air is crisp, what a great time for a wagon ride in Mingo Creek Park. Come dressed for the weather and join us on a wagon ride through the park. After the ride, we'll warm up with a cup of warm cider.

PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK

AGES 3-5



Christmas Pajama Party

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

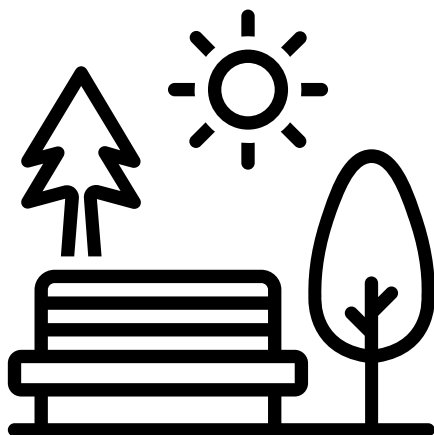
10:00 a.m.

FEE: \$3.00 Per Person

Park Office

Mingo Creek Park

Join us for our sixth annual Holiday party! Come in your best PJ's! We will share stories, enjoy a Christmas themed snack, and complete a winter-themed craft on this special day.



HOMESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

AGES 5-11



Setting Up the Sugarbush

Friday, March 8, 2024

Shelter 6

11:00 a.m.

Mingo Creek Park

NO FEE

Get a behind the scenes peek as prepare for tomorrow's Sugar Bush Tours & Breakfast. Help us set the Sugarbush. We'll be tapping maple trees, setting spiles, running sap lines and placing collection containers. No breakfast served.

Arbor Day Celebration

Friday, April 26, 2024

Shelter 1

1:00 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

NO FEE

Come join park staff as we celebrate this national holiday! Participants will learn the importance of trees in our environment and how to calculate their age by counting their rings.

Magnified Mingo

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Shelter 1

1:00 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

NO FEE

Have you ever looked at a centipede up close? Come join park staff as we look at Mingo's creatures through a magnifying glass! Participants will learn how to use an aspirator to safely view and collect their macroinvertebrate creatures.

HOMESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

AGES 5-11



Reptile or Amphibian

Thursday, June 6, 2024

Shelter 4

1:00 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

NO FEE

Reptiles and Amphibians share similar traits but what makes them different from one another? Participants will learn how to safely collect, view, and identify these creatures. Participants are encouraged to wear boots. A change of clothes is recommended.

Macroinvertebrate Creek Hike

Thursday, July 18, 2024

Shelter 5

1:00 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

NO FEE

What macroinvertebrates Mingo Creek their home? Join Park Staff as we set out to catch and identify these aquatic critters. Wear clothing and footwear for creek hiking.

Magical Monarch Migration

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Shelter 1

1:00 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

NO FEE

From Dot to squiggle to chrysalis to butterfly, learn about the incredible life cycles and migration of these amazing butterflies. We will take a short hike to visit some habitats where these incredible creatures exist. We may even be lucky to see some various parts of their life cycles.

HOMESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



AGES 5-11

Hibernate or Migrate?

Thursday, September 12, 2024

1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Join Park staff to find out who hibernates, migrates, or treks through the bitter cold months in Mingo Creek Park. Participants will play a matching game and learn about the traits that help some of these animals survive winter.

Leopards & Bears

Thursday, October 16, 2024

1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Join us in search of Great Leopard & Woolly Bear Caterpillars as these insect larvae begin searching for a warm cozy location to spend the winter. We'll share some I.D. tips and wives tales associated with these caterpillars.

Sticky Seeds

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

1:00 p.m.

NO FEE

Log Cabin

Mingo Creek Park

Hike through the fields & forests of Mingo Creek Park in search of sticky seeds. We'll gear up in our "dress white" socks in hopes collecting hitchhikers during our travels. This is an outdoor event, dress for the weather and walking.



SUMMER DAY CAMPS



Back to Nature Day Camp

Monday, June 17, 2024 -

Thursday, June 20, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FEE: \$25.00/camper

Shelter 3

Mingo Creek Park

(Ages 6-10)

Children ages 6 through 10 will be getting “back to nature” as they discover some of the favorite traditional activities Washington County provides during their day camps. A variety of educational activities will be offered and will include the exploration of invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, wilderness survival skills, and much more. Campers should dress for the weather and light hiking. Bring a lunch and water bottle each day. Closed toe shoes are required.

Pioneer Living Day Camp

Monday, June 24, 2024 -

Friday, June 28, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FEE: \$30.00/camper

Shelter 7

Mingo Creek Park

(Ages 7-11)

Children ages 7 to 11 are invited to take a step back in time to see how the pioneer children lived, played, and worked. An array of pioneer activities, such as cooking over the fire pit and panning for gold, will be shared. Native American living, games, crafts, and stories will also be included. Campers should dress for the weather and light hiking, and bring a lunch and a water bottle each day. Closed toe shoes are required.



SUMMER DAY CAMPS



Reptiles and Amphibians Day Camp

Monday, July 8, 2024 -

Friday, July 12, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FEE: \$30.00/camper

Shelter 3

Mingo Creek Park

(Ages 7-11)

Children ages 7-11 are invited to spend a toad-ally cool week at Mingo Creek Park. Children will participate in hikes to Salamander City and a natural spring. Building toadally cool houses and camouflage are just a few of the fun activities that will be offered. We will also be collecting, observing, and releasing reptiles and amphibians right in Mingo Creek Park. Campers should dress for the weather and light hiking. Bring a lunch and water bottle each day. Closed toe shoes are required.

Wilderness Survival Day Camp

Monday, July 22, 2024 -

Friday, July 26, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FEE: \$30.00/camper

Shelter 3

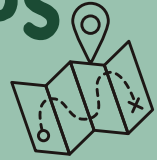
Mingo Creek Park

(Ages 8-12)

Campers will learn basic survival skills including primitive fire building, cooking over a fire, camouflage and much more. Campers should dress for the weather and light hiking. Bring a lunch and a water bottle each day. Closed toe shoes are required.



SUMMER DAY CAMPS



Escape into the Wild Day Camp

Monday, August 5, 2024 -

Friday, August 9, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FEE:\$30.00/camper

Shelter I

Mingo Creek Park

(Ages 10-14)

Turn off the T.V., put away your phone, set the video game controller down, and come out to Mingo Creek Park to escape into Nature. Campers will get their hearts racing with many outdoor and sport related activities. We will also trek through the woods on a wilderness hike to find hidden waterfalls, and splash through the creek to find critters that live in the waters of Mingo Creek Park. Campers should dress for the weather and moderate activity. Bring a lunch and a water bottle each day. Closed toe shoes are required.

Registration Information:

Pre-registration is required. Accepting registration beginning Wednesday, April 3, at 9:00 a.m. online only.

Registration is limited to one family per registrant with a maximum of 2 day camps per child. Children under or over the recommended ages will not be accepted.

STAR PARTY



Come view the moon, planets, and deep space objects in 2024 at the Mingo Creek Observatory. Scheduled public Star Parties are provided by the Amateur Astronomers of Pittsburgh. Star Parties begin at dusk with safe solar viewing beginning approximately two hours before sunset. Night sky observing will take place as long as there is a partly clear sky. All public star parties have a listed end time of 11 p.m. For more information about the Mingo Creek Park Observatory visit www.3ap.org.

Online pre-registration NOT required.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024
SPECIAL SHOWING:
SOLAR ECLIPSE 1:00 P.M. START

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2024

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2024

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2024

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024



YOGA IN THE PARK

6:00 P.M.



Join us for an evening of relaxation and rejuvenation as we enjoy yoga in the park. This is an introductory class, but we welcome all skill levels to participate. The class will be led by a certified yoga instructor, Susan Volkar. Bring along a yoga mat or beach towel.

Pre-registration required; registration not more than 30 days in advance. Payment due at time of registration.
FEE: \$5.00

**LOCATION: MINGO CREEK PARK:
CAMPING AREA NEAR OBSERVATORY**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2024

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2024

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024



MORNINGS IN MINGO

10:00 A.M.

Come join us in Mingo Creek Park and enjoy your Morning in Mingo! We will do a variety of group activities, including a craft or a guest speaker. Coffee, tea, snacks, and materials provided. All ages are welcome.



FEE VARIES



Location: Please see registration for details

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024

WAGON RIDES



Ride into fall on one of parks wagons. Wagon rides are approximately 35 minutes in length. Groups can enjoy the fall splendor as they travel through Mingo Creek County Park or Cross Creek County Park on the tractor towed wagon. The use of a picnic shelter and a fire circle two (2) hours before or after the scheduled wagon ride is included.

Registration anytime, payment in full at time of registration.
MUST call to register. No online registration accepted.
FEE \$50.00 per wagon ride

Location: Mingo Creek Park

Group size is limited to 25 people per wagon.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024	5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024	6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024	5 :00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024	1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024	5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024	1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Location: Cross Creek Park

Group size is limited to 20 people per wagon.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024	5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024	5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Please call 724-228-6867 to register.



HIKING SERIES: DISCOVER MINGO CREEK PARK

TIME: 6:00 P.M. LOCATION: MINGO CREEK PARK

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Shelter 1

This month we will be hiking a portion of the orange trail and looping back around on the paved walking path. This will be around 3 miles in length with rough hilly terrain. Dress appropriately for the weather and vigorous hiking. Water bottle recommended.

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Shelter 4

This month we will be hiking a portion of the orange trail and looping back around on the paved walking path. This will be around 2 miles in length with rough hilly terrain. Dress appropriately for the weather and vigorous hiking. Water bottle recommended.

Tuesday, July 30, 2024

Hemlock Trail Gazebo

This month we will be hiking through the Hemlock trail to the blue trail intersection and looping back around on the paved walking path. This will be around 2 miles in length with rough hilly terrain. Dress appropriately for the weather and vigorous hiking. Water bottle recommended.

Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Shelter 10

This month we will be hiking a portion of the orange trail. This will be around 2 miles in length with rough hilly terrain. Dress appropriately for the weather and vigorous hiking. Water bottle recommended.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Maple Sugaring: Sugar Bush Tour & Breakfast

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Shelter 6 & Park Office

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

\$3.00 per person

Join us for a tasty tour of Mingo Creek Park's Sugar Bush. Discover how to turn maple tree sap into pure maple syrup. Historical demonstrations and modern-day sap collecting, and evaporation methods will be shared. Following the tour, a pancake breakfast will be served. Tours begin every 30 minutes and depart from Shelter 6. Group size is limited to 25 per group. Following the tour, breakfast is served at the Mingo Creek Park Office.

Easter Egg Geocaching

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Park Office

6:30 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

Join us for a fun evening of Easter egg hunting “geocaching” style. Learn the basics of using a handheld Global Positioning Device (GPS) then we will geocache to certain locations throughout the park in search of eggs. At the end, participants will receive special Easter treats. Dress for the weather and a moderate hike. We will have a limited number of GPS units to utilize. This is a family activity. Children ages 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

No Tweet Bird Watching 101–Late Winter/Early Spring Birds

Thursday, April 4, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 6

Mingo Creek Park

Tired of technology? Leave your phone at home and discover birds and bird watching in Mingo Creek Park. The No Tweet Bird Watching events are designed introduce newbies to the hobby of bird watching. We have a limited supply of binoculars. Walking is required. Dress for the weather.

This evening we'll search for birds that are beginning to arrive for the upcoming nesting season as well as some resident winter birds.

No Tweet Bird Watching 101 - Evenings in April

Thursday, April 18, 2024

7:30 p.m.

Log Cabin

Mingo Creek Park

Tired of technology? Leave your phone at home and discover birds and bird watching in Mingo Creek Park. The No Tweet Bird Watching events are designed introduce newbies to the hobby of bird watching. We have a limited supply of binoculars. Walking is required. Dress for the weather.

Take in the sights and sounds of an April evening as day turns to night. We'll the calling of nearby birds as they prepare to roost for the evening as well as the callings of local nocturnal feathered friends.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Great PA Clean Up

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10:00 a.m. Mingo Creek Park - Shelter 4

10:00 a.m. Cross Creek Park – Shelter 3

Individuals, families, and organized groups are invited to join us on Earth Day for the Great PA Clean Up at Mingo Creek and Cross Creek Parks. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. Grilled hot dogs and a bottle of water will be provided.

Pre-registration required. Organized groups welcome.

Hunting Morel Mushrooms

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Lace up a sturdy pair of hiking shoes, grab a collecting bag and a walking stick as we strike off in search of morel mushrooms. Learn where to search for these tasty spring mushrooms. Boots, long pants and long-sleeved shirts are recommended.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Hunting Morel Mushrooms

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

6:30 p.m.

**Parking Area across from the
previous Red Rooster Restaurant on 844
Cross Creek Park**

Lace up a sturdy pair of hiking shoes, grab a collecting bag and a walking stick as we strike off in search of morel mushrooms in Cross Creek Park. Learn where to search for these tasty spring mushrooms. Boots, long pants and long-sleeved shirts are recommended.

Mindfulness Hike

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

7:00 p.m.

**Hemlock Trail
Mingo Creek Park**

Indulge your senses and ease your mind on this unique Mingo Creek experience. Join Summer Voelker as she guides us to sloooooow down to enjoy the beauty and gifts of the forest. The group will engage in various methods of mindfulness including breath works, aspects of shinrin yoku and light guided meditation. We'll return feeling grounded and having a closer connection with the natural world. This program is for adults and mature minors accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather and light hiking.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

No Tweet Bird Watching 101 – May Migrants

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Tired of technology? Leave your phone at home and discover birds and bird watching in Mingo Creek Park. The No Tweet Bird Watching events are designed introduce newbies to the hobby of bird watching. We have a limited supply of binoculars. Walking is required. Dress for the weather.

May is a busy time in the bird world. We can expect to see and hear a wide variety of colorful songbirds on this evening.

Evening Paddle

Thursday, May 16, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Lynn Portal Rd. Parking Area

Cross Creek Park

Discover flat water kayaking on Cross Creek Lake with the Parks & Recreation Staff. Join us for evening of outdoor recreation that is sure to be fun, invigorating and relaxing, all while enjoying the outdoors in Washington County.

Nature Family Trivia Night

Thursday, May 23, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Join Park staff as test our general nature knowledge! Families will compete against each other in a friendly trivia nature-based game. Snacks and light refreshments are provided.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Blastin' Balloons Archery

Thursday, May 30, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Ready for a fun twist on our regular archery? Join NASP instructors, for an evening of archery in Mingo Creek Park. Participants will learn the basics of archery, including parts of the bow, shooting techniques, and safety on the range. After a brief introduction, participants will be able to shoot and pop some balloons. Participants of all levels are welcome. Must be at least 10 years of age to participate.

National Trail Day

Saturday, June 1, 2024

Mingo Creek Park, Cross Creek

Park, Ten Mile Creek Park & Panhandle Trail

It's National Trail Day! Hike, walk, bike, or paddle a nearby trail for some outdoor recreation. Organized events are scheduled along the Panhandle Trail in McDonald and Burgettstown Borough. Visit www.mcdonaldtrailstation.com or www.bacdc.co for details.

Campfire Jam Night

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Join the park staff around the campfire for an evening of acoustic music in Mingo Creek Park. Musicians who play an instrument are encouraged to share their talent. Don't play an instrument? No problem, we welcome listeners. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket. Light refreshments will be served.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Cross Creek Hike & Paddle

Thursday, June 6, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 3

Cross Creek Park

Come out for an evening of laid-back hiking and paddling in Cross Creek Park. Enjoy a leisurely 1.5 mile hike along the Lake Shore Trail from Shelter 3 to the Lynn Portal Rd Access Area. At Lynn Portal Rd. we'll gear up and kayak back to the County Park Rd Access Area.

Radical Reptiles

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

2:00 p.m.

Park Office

Mingo Creek Park

Join us at Mingo Creek Park Office to get up close and personal with some radical reptiles. Learn the difference between a reptile and amphibian and even get to see some critters that can be found at Mingo Creek Park.

Disc Golf for Beginners

Thursday, June 13, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Log Cabin

Mingo Creek Park

Interested in trying something new? Bring a Frisbee and give disc golf a try. We'll provide a brief introduction, discuss some of equipment and play the Mingo Disc Golf Course. A limited number of Discs will be available.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

No Tweet Bird Watching 101 – Creekside Stroll

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 1

Mingo Creek Park

Tired of technology? Leave your phone at home and discover birds and bird watching in Mingo Creek Park. The No Tweet Bird Watching events are designed to introduce newbies to the hobby of bird watching. We have a limited supply of binoculars. Walking is required. Dress for the weather. Take a leisurely stroll along Mingo Creek to observe birds commonly found near streams in Washington County.

Evening Paddle

Tuesday, July 2, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Lynn Portal Rd. Launch

Cross Creek Park

Discover flat water kayaking on Cross Creek Lake with the Parks & Recreation Staff. Join us for evening of outdoor recreation that is sure to be fun, invigorating and relaxing, all while enjoying the outdoors in Washington County.

Tree Id

Thursday, July 11, 2024

7:00 p.m.

\$4.00 per Tree Finder

Shelter 2

Mingo Creek Park

Learn to identify local trees using a dichotomous tree key. Learn to use leaf arrangements, complexities and margins to “key out” tree species. Tree Finders will be available for purchase at the conclusion of the program.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Sifting through Pond Stew

Thursday, July 18, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Shelter 3

Cross Creek Park

If you like getting wet and dirty, it gets no better. Join us for a closer inspection at the often-overlooked animals that make a home in the muck and mire we call the pond stew. We'll provide the nets and collecting containers. Appropriate footwear is required. A change of clothes is suggested.

Campfire Jam Night

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Join the park staff around the campfire for an evening of acoustic music in Mingo Creek Park. Musicians who play an instrument are encouraged to share their talent. Don't play an instrument? No problem, we welcome listeners. Bring lawn chair or a blanket. Light refreshments will be served.

Evening Paddle

Thursday August 15, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Park Office

Ten Mile Creek Park

Discover flat water kayaking on Ten Mile Creek with the Parks & Recreation Staff. Join us for evening of outdoor recreation that is sure to be fun, invigorating and relaxing, all while enjoying the outdoors in Washington County.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Back to School Paddle

Friday, August 16, 2024

12:00 p.m.

Park Office
Ten Mile Park

Discover flat water kayaking on Ten Mile Creek with the Parks & Recreation Staff. Join us before getting back to school for some outdoor recreation that is sure to be fun, invigorating and relaxing, all while enjoying the outdoors in Washington County. Must be at least 10 years of age and under 18.

Investigating Invasive Plants

Thursday, August 22, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Shelter 3
Mingo Creek Park

Invasive plants are everywhere. These unwanted plants are growing in our lawns, along field edges, on creek banks and in nearby woodlots. Roger Shaw of the PA Naturalist Program will identify some of the more common invasive plants and noxious plants found in Washington County. Identification and control handouts will be available.

Family Campout: Mingo Creek Park

Friday, August 23, 2024

Mingo Creek Park - Camping Area

Set up may begin as early as 4:00 p.m.

FEE: \$3.00 Per Person

Spend an evening in Mingo Creek Park camping under the star-filled skies. As night falls, we'll be cooking hot dogs, roasting marshmallows, and spending time around the campfire. Bring your own tent and camping supplies. For newbies, the park staff will be available to help set up tents.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Wake Up Paddle

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Lynn Portal Rd.

Cross Creek Park

Discover flat water kayaking on Cross Creek Lake with the Parks & Recreation Staff. Enjoy the morning views on the lake. This paddle is sure to be fun, invigorating and relaxing, all while enjoying the outdoors in Washington County. Must be at least 10 years of age.

Invertebrate Micro- Safari

Thursday, August 29, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Get some soil under your fingernails as we sift through leaf litter sand decaying plant material on this micro-adventure. We'll learn to use bulb aspirators and makeshift Berlese traps to discover common tiny invertebrates in Mingo Creek Park.

Brownie Badge: Bugs

Thursday, September 5, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Brownies are invited to Mingo Creek Park to fulfill many of the requirements to earn their Bug Badge. We'll discuss common characteristics of insects, observe common insects found in Washington County and conclude the activity with an insect round-up. Nets and collecting jars will be provided. Wear comfortable outdoor clothing and shoes. This is an outdoor activity.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Covered Bridge Festival

Saturday, September 21, 2024

Mingo Creek Park

Sunday, September 22, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Covered Bridge Festival is held at ten (10) covered bridges in Washington & Greene Counties the third weekend of September each year. Crafts, music and food are available at each site. In Mingo Creek Park, sites are located at both the Henry and Ebenezer Bridges.

Questions? Please contact the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency at 724-225-3010.

Mindfulness Hike

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Hemlock Trail

6:30 p.m.

Mingo Creek Park

Indulge your senses and ease your mind on this unique Mingo Creek experience. Join Summer Voelker as she guides us to sloooooow down to enjoy the beauty and gifts of the forest. The group will engage in various methods of mindfulness including breath works, aspects of shinrin yoku and light guided meditation. We'll return feeling grounded and having a closer connection with the natural world. This program is for adults and mature minors accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather and light hiking.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Fall Fun Day

Saturday, October 5, 2024

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Shelter 6

Mingo Creek Park

Join the park staff for a filled day of pumpkin carving, scarecrow stuffing and hayrides.

Pre-registration required. Call our office at 724 - 228-6867

FEES:

Wagon Rides \$2.00 per person

Pumpkins \$4.00 per pumpkin

Scarecrow Stuffing Free – bring your own clothes

Pumpkins in the Park

Monday, October 7, 2024

6:00 p.m.

FEE: \$4.00

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Light up your front porch for the fall season with a carved pumpkin! Create your own design or use one of ours. A pumpkin, all carving supplies and a no hassle cleanup are provided. After, we will enjoy a fall snack.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Trick or Treat Geocaching

Thursday, October 10, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Join us for a fun evening of trick or treating “geocaching” style. Learn the basics of using a handheld Global Positioning Device (GPS) then we will geocache to certain locations throughout the park. Dress for the weather and a moderate hike. We will have a limited number of GPS units to utilize. This is a family activity. Children ages 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Ghouls & Goblins Archery

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

5:00 p.m.

FEE: \$2.00

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Ready for a spooooooky night of archery? Join NASP instructors, for an evening of archery in Mingo Creek Park. Participants will learn the basics of archery, including parts of the bow, shooting techniques, and safety on the range. After a brief introduction, participants will be able to shoot at “goblins and ghouls.” Participants of all levels are welcome. Must be at least 10 years of age to participate.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Halloween Night Walk

Friday, October 18, 2024

7:00 p.m.

McDonald Trail Station

Panhandle Trail

Bring your young ghosts and goblins decked out in their Halloween costumes for a luminary lit walk on the Panhandle Trail in McDonald Borough. Trick or Treats will be provided along the trail to children ages 11 and under.

Senior Fall Foliage Wagon Ride

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

1:00 p.m.

Shelter I

Mingo Creek Park

Join us for a guided wagon ride through Mingo Creek Park to view the beautiful fall foliage. We'll make a few pit stops along the way to take in some of the seasonal sights, smells and sounds of autumn.

Gobble Gobble Geocaching

Thursday, November 7, 2024

4:00 p.m.

Shelter 10

Mingo Creek Park

Gobble Gobble! Calling all adventurers to Mingo Creek Park! Learn the basics of using a handheld Global Positioning Device (GPS) then we will geocache to certain locations throughout the park to try and find all the turkeys in time for Thanksgiving! Dress for the weather and a moderate hike. We will have a limited number of GPS units to utilize. This is a family activity. Children ages 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Owl Prowl

Friday, November 15, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Shelter 6

Mingo Creek Park

Just the prowl this year. Take a night hike in Mingo Creek Park to listen for the vocalizations of resident owls. Screech Owls and Barred may be heard during this program. This is a fun-filled family outing. Dress for the weather and moderate hiking. This is a weather permitting event. The Owl Prowl will be cancelled if its raining or too windy.

Jr. Girl Scouts: Animal Habitats Badge

Sunday, November 17, 2024

1:00 p.m.

Shelter 4

Mingo Creek Park

Bring your Jr. Girl Scouts to Mingo Creek Park to complete many of the requirements necessary to earn their Animal Habitats Badge. We'll visit an overgrown field, a stand of conifers and maintained parkland to search for evidence the animals that call these places home. Badge not provided. Dress for the weather moderate hiking.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Misunderstood Mammals

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

5:00 p.m.

Park Office

Mingo Creek Park

Are oposums big rats? Are fisher cats, cat that eat fish? Join us for a fun and interactive lecture on some of our least understood mammal friends that can be found in Mingo Creek Park.

Gingerbread House Decorating

Thursday, December 5, 2024

4:00 p.m.

FEE: \$2.00 per person

Park Office

Mingo Creek Park

Come show off your decorating skills and celebrate the holiday season with park staff as we decorate gingerbread houses in Mingo Creek Park. While decorating we will enjoy cookies and hot cocoa.

Candy Cane Hunt

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

4:00 p.m.

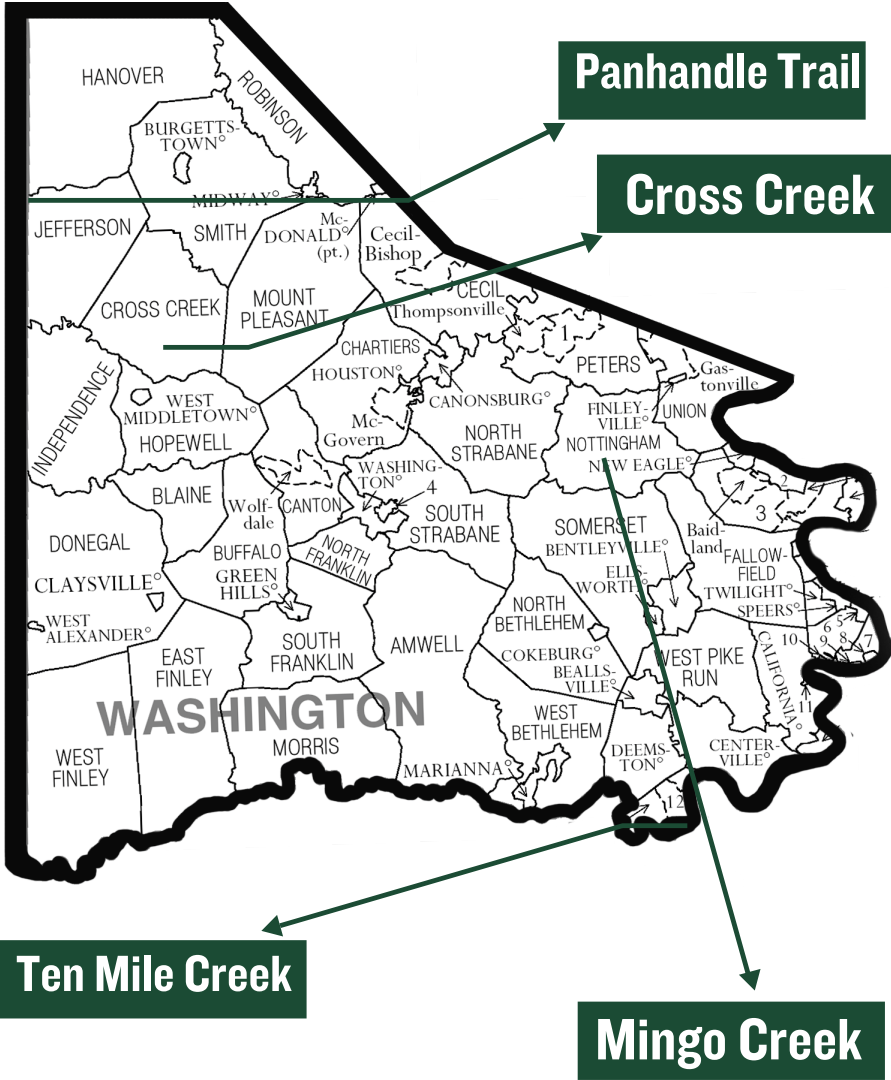
FEE: \$2.00

Shelter I

Mingo Creek Park

Join Washington County Parks and Recreation as we hide candy canes along the Old Spring Trail in Mingo Creek Park. Bring your flashlight and help us find them! After collecting treats, we will enjoy cookies and hot cocoa.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS LOCATION MAP



2024 EVENTS REFERENCE GUIDE

MARCH

MARCH 9 - MAPLE SUGARING
MARCH 26- EASTER EGG GEOCACHING
MARCH 27- MORNINGS IN MINGO

APRIL

APRIL 4- NO TWEET BIRD WATCHING
APRIL 8- STAR PARTY
(SPECIAL 1PM SOLAR VIEWING)
APRIL 9- PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK
APRIL 11- GOONIES GEOCACHING
APRIL 18- NO TWEET BIRD WATCHING
APRIL 23- HUNTING MOREL MUSHROOMS (MINGO)
APRIL 24- MORNINGS IN MINGO
APRIL 26- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
APRIL 30- HUNTING MOREL MUSHROOMS
(CROSS CREEK)

MAY

MAY 1- YOGA IN THE PARK
MAY 3- STAR PARTY
MAY 4- STAR PARTY
MAY 7- PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK
MAY 7- MINDFULNESS HIKE
MAY 9- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
MAY 14- NO TWEET BIRD WATCHING
MAY 15- YOGA IN THE PARK
MAY 16- EVENING PADDLE (CROSS CREEK)
MAY 21- HIKING SERIES
MAY 22- MORNINGS IN MINGO
MAY 23- NATURE FAMILY NIGHT
MAY 29- YOGA IN THE PARK
MAY 30- BLASTIN BALLOONS ARCHERY

JUNE

JUNE 1- NATIONAL TRAIL DAY
JUNE 4- PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK
JUNE 5- CAMPFIRE JAM NIGHT (MINGO)
JUNE 6- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
JUNE 6- CROSS CREEK HIKE & PADDLE
JUNE 7- STAR PARTY
JUNE 8- STAR PARTY
JUNE 11- HIKING SERIES
JUNE 12- MORNINGS IN MINGO
JUNE 12- RADICAL REPTILES
JUNE 12- YOGA IN THE PARK
JUNE 13- DISC GOLF FOR BEGINNERS
JUNE 17-20- BACK TO NATURE DAY CAMP
JUNE 18- NO TWEET BIRD WATCHING
JUNE 24-28-PIONEER LIVING DAY CAMP
JUNE 26- YOGA IN THE PARK

JULY

JULY 2- EVENING PADDLE (CROSS CREEK)
JULY 8-12- REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS DAY CAMP
JULY 10- YOGA IN THE PARK
JULY 11- TREE ID
JULY 12- STAR PARTY
JULY 13- STAR PARTY
JULY 16- PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK
JULY 17- MORNINGS IN MINGO
JULY 18- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
JULY 18- SIFTING THROUGH POND STEW
JULY 22-26- WILDERNESS SURVIVAL DAY CAMP
JULY 24- YOGA IN THE PARK
JULY 30-HIKING SERIES

2024 EVENTS REFERENCE GUIDE

AUGUST

AUGUST 5-9-ESCAPE INTO THE WILD DAY CAMP
AUGUST 6-CAMPFIRE JAM NIGHT
AUGUST 7- YOGA IN THE PARK
AUGUST 9- STAR PARTY
AUGUST 10-STAR PARTY
AUGUST 13-PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK
AUGUST 14-HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
AUGUST 15- EVENING PADDLE (TEN MILE)
AUGUST 16-BACK TO SCHOOL PADDLE (TEN MILE)
AUGUST 20 - HIKING SERIES
AUGUST 21- MORNINGS IN MINGO
AUGUST 21- YOGA IN THE PARK
AUGUST 22- INVESTIGATING INVASIVE PLANTS
AUGUST 23- FAMILY CAMPOUT: MINGO
AUGUST 27- WAKE UP PADDLE (CROSS CREEK)
AUGUST 29- INVERTEBRATE MICRO-SAFARI

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 4- STAR PARTY
OCTOBER 5- STAR PARTY
OCTOBER 5- FALL FUN DAY
OCTOBER 7- PUMPKINS IN THE PARK
OCTOBER 8- PRESCHOOL
OCTOBER 10- TRICK OR TREAT GEOCACHING
OCTOBER 15- GHOULS & GOBLINS ARCHERY
OCTOBER 16- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
OCTOBER 18- HALLOWEEN NIGHT WALK
(MCDONALD PANHANDLE TRAIL)
OCTOBER 22- SENIOR FALL FOLIAGE
OCTOBER 23- MORNINGS IN MINGO

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 2- STAR PARTY
NOVEMBER 5- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
NOVEMBER 7- GOBBLE GOBBLE GEOCACHING
NOVEMBER 15- OWL PROWL
NOVEMBER 17- JR GIRL SCOUTS BADGE
NOVEMBER 20-MORNINGS IN MINGO

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 5- BROWNIE BADGE
SEPTEMBER 6- STAR PARTY
SEPTEMBER 7- STAR PARTY
SEPTEMBER 11- YOGA IN THE PARK
SEPTEMBER 12- HOMESCHOOL/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
SEPTEMBER 25- MORNINGS IN MINGO
SEPTEMBER 25- YOGA IN THE PARK
SEPTEMBER 26- MINDFULNESS HIKE

DECEMBER

DECEMBER 5- GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING
DECEMBER 10- PRESCHOOL IN THE PARK
DECEMBER 10- CANDY CANE HUNT

PROVIDED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**NICK SHERMAN, CHAIRMAN
ELECTRA JANIS, VICE CHAIR
LARRY MAGGI
2024**



**WASHINGTON COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION
100 WEST BEAU STREET, SUITE 705
WASHINGTON, PA 15301**

