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UPDATES

As part of precautions against the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) Delaware State Parks is implementing safeguards consistent with guidance from state and federal health agencies. We appreciate your support of our Parks and thank you for your understanding during this unprecedented time. We ask that you please adhere to recommended precautions.

1. The Park will remain open however social distancing requirements may limit the number of visitors allowed
2. The beaches are closed except for surf fishing (with restrictions), exercise, dog walking (no surfing allowed)
3. The Division has closed all Park Offices, Nature Centers, Pavilions, campgrounds, bathhouse, basketball courts, playgrounds, bathrooms, Observation Tower and gathering facilities to the public
4. All interpretive programming, events and group volunteer activities are canceled
5. No public gathering of more than 10 persons, including Friends

PARK NEWS

A design for a new 6 mile trail has been finalized for CHSP with a trailhead off Wolfe Neck Road. The new loop will double the length of the existing 6 mile Junction-and-Breakwater Trail linking Lewes and Rehoboth Beach. The design includes converting 400 acres of farmland to reforested woodlands, returning the land to a natural state and providing public access to parts of CHSP that have been closed for two decades.

Due to the current pandemic the May 9 TRAILS DAY is cancelled

WHO WE ARE

The FOCHSP conducts a number of ongoing activities and events, including our very popular Osprey Cam and our borrow-a-bike program, which provides free loaner bikes to Park visitors; the monthly Trails Day maintenance and cleanup of Park trails; and a series of well-attended fundraising events including our annual Flea Market; Wine, Beer and Cheese Tasting; Youth Fishing Tournament; and Chocolate Tasting. Recent Park investments by FOCHSP include the children's playground (along with its annual maintenance), sponsorship of the main beach lifeguard stands, Mobi-Mats at several dune crossings, beach wheelchairs, and purchase of and support for Vos, the K-9 recently added to Park enforcement staff. FOCHSP also provides scholarships to Title I schools to offset the cost of travel and Park entrance fees so children can participate in a number of Nature Center educational programs throughout the year.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues, fundraisers, and donations allow FOCHSP to support projects and provide investments to address needs identified by Park management.

We welcome new members and volunteers who can help us support and maintain the Park we all love. For more information and/or to become a member, please contact the Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park via our website (www.friendsofcapehenlopen.org), by email (FOCHSP@gmail.com), or by phone (302-858-6127).

Getting to know our FOCHSP Members: Edna Lemiska



Edna has been a member of Friends for 15 years, serving 13 of them on the Board and 6 as President. She is involved in all fund raisers and has been the chairperson of the Flea Market, Christmas Boutique and Chocolate Tasting. One of the projects that is closest to her heart was spearheading the installation of the Playground. Her husband Stanley also served on the Board until his passing in 2014. He was instrumental in designing the bike barn and was one of the lead builders on the project. Edna loves the family friendly aspects of Cape Henlopen State Park as it has so much to offer from the beach to hiking to camping. Being a member of Friends provides the opportunity to help the Park, her community and meeting new volunteers who share her passion and love for the Park.

Getting to know our Park employees: Ben Thompson



As Manager of Volunteers, Ben oversees all volunteer activity at both Cape Henlopen State Park (CHSP) and Delaware Seashore State Park. He works with our Friends group and also the Friends of Fort Miles Historical Association, Delaware Seashore Preservation Foundation, and Friends of Holt's Landing State Park. Before coming to CHSP Ben was a seasonal naturalist at Killens Pond State Park and a Park Patrol Officer. Ben is passionate about the conservation of our public lands, and having the opportunity to get others involved is very special to him. Ben loves the variety of both recreational opportunities and habitat at CHSP. Ben notes that the combination of beach, salt marsh, and large forests is spectacularly beautiful, and it's a great place to spot all sorts of wildlife. He says having a place with miles of trails for hiking and biking, educational opportunities, an awesome campground, and a great beach to relax on makes CHSP unique! (See photo of Ben on his trip to Iceland).

The Friends sponsored Osprey camera is working with great sound and looks fantastic. Be sure to take a look. A pair of Osprey has a big nest and at least two eggs! You can hear them and watch them as they prepare for the hatchlings in about a month.

<https://www.friendsofcapehenlopen.org/ospreycam.html>



The Friends of Cape Henlopen State Park (FOCHSP) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization that works with the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation, and staff, to support and advocate for one of the county's most unique public parks. Join now!