

Spring 2022 FOHOS Trail Walks in Holmdel

The Friends of Holmdel Open Space (FOHOS) is a nonprofit organization that has been active with the Township in preserving, developing and maintaining open space in Holmdel. We have helped with the acquisitions of the Chase Tract (now the Ramanessin Section of Holmdel Park), the Neil Waackaack Preserve (adjacent to Allocco Park), and the Callan Farm. We have supported the maintenance of the Harding House, the barns, and the trails at Bayonet Farm. We as a group and as individuals and with assistance from Eagle Scout candidates, Scout groups, and citizen volunteers have been instrumental in developing and maintaining walking/hiking trails throughout Holmdel.

FOHOS in addition to our mission of supporting the preservation and maintenance of open space in Holmdel, sponsors trail walks/hikes so that Holmdel residents may become better acquainted with Holmdel Parks and Trails. Now that the Covid pandemic seems to be receding we are pleased to again offer some walks. This message includes our schedule of walks for spring 2022. Additional walks and a fossil hunt may be scheduled later in the year. All FOHOS walks are free and open to the public and are "Show and Go"; that is, there is no need to register. Severe weather may result in a cancellation.

Just show up at the meeting time and place. **In this Covid pandemic era, we kindly request that only fully vaccinated folks participate.** If you will need shuttle transportation or have any questions call Ralph Blumenthal at 732-264-8482. The pace will be moderate and most walks will be for just a few hours. All are welcome: couples, singles, families, seniors, dogs on leashes, ...

Daffodil Walk



Saturday, April 9, 1 pm- 3 pm: Meet at 1:00 pm at Bayonet Farm (41 Middletown Road) at the Red Trail trailhead (by the kiosk) for this 2.5-mile walk to see a host of golden daffodils. First, visit the Daffodil Memorial Beds planted by volunteers at our Town's Bayonet Farm. Then, wander into the Ramanessin Section of Holmdel Park and see other early wildflowers (trout lilies, spring beauties, violets...) and the extensive daffodils planted over 60 years ago along the brook's edge. Return to Bayonet Farm.

Join the Earth Day Celebration at Bayonet Farm

Sunday, May 1, 10 am – 12 noon: Springtime is here at last, and everyone is ready to welcome warmer days and enjoy the annual celebration of Earth Day. All are invited to join family, friends, and neighbors at the 23rd Annual Holmdel Greenway Walk & Bayonet Farm Festival! The celebration will begin with the traditional **Earth Day Greenway Walk** through the Ramanessin Section of Holmdel Park for about 2.5-3 miles, beginning at **10:00 am** and continuing to Bayonet Farm arriving about noon in time for the festivities. Suitable for walkers of all ages, the hike will follow the scenic bridle paths and old farm roads of the former Chase Tract. Meet at the small parking lot on Roberts Road across from the Holmdel Park Arboretum. This is a one-way hike, so please plan on walking back or arranging car transportation/shuttle with a family member or friend.

The **Festival** will take place at **Bayonet Farm** on Middletown Road in Holmdel from **12:00 to 5:00 p.m.** As in past years, there will be a variety of activities and presentations planned for young and old alike, including nature crafts, music, refreshments, and sales of homemade baked goods. Many local community groups will be present, offering useful and important information on recycling, composting, backyard gardening, conservation and tours of the Harding house.

For those who can't take part in the morning greenway walk, there may be shorter walks around the Bayonet Farm woods and fields during the Earth Day Festival.

National Trails Day -- Ramanessin Brook Greenway Hike



Saturday, June 4, 10:00am to 2pm: Celebrate National Trails Day with us and hike a portion of the Ramanessin Brook Greenway. Meet at 10:00 am in the Holmdel High School Parking Lot near the Duncan Smith Theatre. Walk along sections of the Ramanessin Brook Greenway to Village School. We will be using the new Bell Works-Bayonet Farm connector trail! Bring day-pack with lunch and rain gear. The overall distance will be about 4-5 miles and we'll go at a moderate pace. Shuttles will be used so that this can be a one-way hike. *Please note: You can help us plan the shuttles by registering for this hike (not mandatory). Please call Ralph, one of the trip leaders, at: 732-264-8482.

FOHOS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that raises money for preserving open space in Holmdel, maintains Holmdel's greenway trails, and promotes the public's enjoyment of Holmdel's parks and open spaces by sponsoring seasonal greenway walks and outdoor activities.

Tax deductible donations are greatly appreciated and can be made by check and mailed to: FOHOS c/o Janet Jackel, President, 31 Stoney Brook Road, Holmdel, NJ 07733.

FOHOS is managed by a volunteer Board of Trustees. We are actively seeking volunteers to help maintain/improve the trails and new Board members. If you are interested in assisting FOHOS in accomplishing its missions and/or by joining the FOHOS Board, please contact Janet Jackel, President, janet.jackel@north-c.com , 732-888-0419.