

Explore Prince George's County

We live in a wonderful county with a wide variety of interesting places to visit and things to do. Few counties have the mix of natural beauty, recreational opportunities, historical sites and cultural programs that are available to us every day. Unfortunately, many of us who live in Prince George's County are so busy with our daily lives and routines that we fail to explore our county and learn about all it has to offer.

Below is a partial list of interesting, fun and educational things to do and see in our county. Review the list and put a check mark by these county resources you have taken advantage of. Then identify those you are most interested in and make plans now to explore those places with family and/or friends. Additional information on these and other things to do can be found at www.pgparcs.com.

Historical

- **Surrat House Museum (Clinton)**—Visit this interesting museum and get your game book so you can join “The Hunt for Abraham Lincoln” which is a search for the local sites with connection to our 16th President.
- **Darnall's Chance House Museum (Upper Marlboro)**—Built in 1742 by a wealthy Scottish merchant named James Wardrop. The Museum tours highlight the similarities and differences between Mr. Wardrop's wife, Lettice Lee, and the lives of other 18th century women.
- **Patuxent Rural Life Museums (Upper Marlboro)**—Has numerous exhibits including the Charles Duckett Log Cabin, a tobacco museum, a blacksmith shop and a 1923 Sears, Roebuck and Company simplex house.
- **College Park Aviation Museum (College Park)**—Tells the story of the College Park Airport which is the “World's Oldest Continuously Operating Airport.”
- **Dorsey Chapel (Glenn Dale)**—A small frame, meeting house stile church that was the focal point of the rural African-American community in Glenn Dale at the turn of the 20th Century.
- **Marietta House Museum (Glenn Dale)**—Built in 1813 by a U.S. Supreme Court Justice, this federal period brick home sits on 25 beautiful acres of land.
- **Abraham Hall (Beltsville)**—This structure, build in 1889, is the best example in the county of an African-American benevolent society lodge.
- **Montpelier Mansion (Laurel)**—Once a thriving plantation, this is one of the finest examples of 18th century Georgian architecture in Maryland.
- **Mount Calvert Historical and Archaeological Park (Upper Marlboro)**—This site interprets a broad range of Prince George's County history and includes an exhibit entitled “A Confluence of Three Cultures” which explores the history of American Indians, the colonial Town of Charles Town and the lives of enslaved African Americans.
- **Northampton Slave Quarters and Archaeological Park (Lake Arbor)**—This historic site features reconstructed foundations of two slave quarters from the Northampton Plantation (1673-1860).

Historical places I want to visit are: _____

Natural

- **Watkins Nature Center (Upper Marlboro)**—Features many exhibits that allow you to get close to nature including an indoor turtle pond, outdoor frog pond, live animal exhibits and six miles of easy to follow trails. It is also the home to the Old Maryland Farm which has livestock displays where you can feed the animals.
- **Bladensburg Waterfront Park (Bladensburg)**—This unique waterfront park features a paved riverside walk, a public fishing pier, free boat ramp and a playground. Canoes and kayaks are available as well as free boat tours.
- **Clearwater Nature Center (Clinton)**—Enjoy animal and reptile shows and displays as well as herb and butterfly gardens. There are also guided nature hikes and classes on basket weaving, jewelry making and rock cutting.
- **Cheltenham Natural Area (Cheltenham)**—This 200 acre park features a boardwalk through diverse habitats. Inhabitants of the area include deer, beavers, muskrats, bluebirds, hawks and frogs and it's a great location for an educational outdoor experience.
- **Mount Rainier Nature/Recreation Area (Mount Rainier)**—Prince George's County's only urban nature center has hands-on exhibits, live animals and the self-guided Mount Rainier Tree Trail.
- **Lake Artemesia Natural Area (Berwyn Heights)**—Features a 38 acre lake, an aquatic garden, fishing and miles of hiker/biker trails.
- **Patuxent river Park (Upper Marlboro)**—Comprised of more than seven thousand acres of natural area parklands along the eastern boundry of the county. It has lots of trails and open areas as well as boat ramps, fishing piers, camping, canoe and kayak rentals and river ecology boat tours.

Nature sites I would like to explore are: _____

Sports and Recreational

- **Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex (Landover)**—Includes an aquatic center, a field house, fitness center, gymnastic center and much more.
- **Prince George's Equestrian Center/The Show Place Arena (Upper Marlboro)**—A Victorian-style multipurpose facility that has horse shows nearly every weekend.
- **Fairland Sports and Aquatics Complex (Laurel)**—Has an aquatics center, gymnastics facility, indoor tennis courts as well as a fitness and dance studio and trampoline training room. Massage therapy services are also available.
- **Watkins Regional Park Miniature Golf Course (Upper Marlboro)**—An outdoor miniature golf course located in Watkins Regional Park.
- **Prince George's County Trap and Skeet Center (Glen Dale)**—A comprehensive clay target shooting facility that is open to the general public on a year-round basis.

- **Cosca Tennis Bubble (Clinton)**—Indoor courts under a bubble that are open from September to May. Adjacent outdoor courts are open year round.
- **Prince George’s Stadium (Bowie)**—Home of the Bowie Baysox, Class AA affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles
- **Tucker Road Ice Rink (Fort Washington)**—Open October to March and has general sessions for the public as well as less skating and ice hockey lessons.
- **Paint Branch Golf Complex (College Park)** —An executive length, 9-hole course, par 31. Also features a 40-station, lighted and heated driving range with practice putting greens.
- **Sugar Ray Leonard Amateur Boxing Center (Palmer Park)**—Boxing lessons as well as tournaments and shows for boxers of all skill levels.

Sports and recreational facilities I want to utilize are: _____

Cultural

- **Arts/Harmony Hall Regional Center (Fort Washington)**—Provides fine arts programs for children and adults. A wide array of performances, classes, workshops and arts exhibits are available on a regular basis.
- **Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at Maryland (College Park)**—Hosts classes and performances for different age and interest groups. This fall will host the 27th Annual Choreographers Showcase Auditions where residents can audition their compositions and be given a chance to present their works in concert.
- **Montpelier Arts Center (Laurel)**—A multi-faceted community-oriented complex offering a full curriculum of visual arts classes, concerts and technical workshops. Features a fall jazz series with numerous performances and also a classical recital series.
- **Publick Playhouse (Cheverly)**—Features dance and theatre performances year round for children and adults. Also has a monthly movie series for Senior Citizens 60 and above.
- **Huntington Community Center Art Gallery/Cyber Café (Cheverly)**—Has a wide variety of exhibits by local artists and also free internet access and coffee in a comfortable environment.
- **Café Groove (Chillum)**—Features original poetry and numerous other opportunities creative expressions participants. Has open mic evenings and visual arts contests with cash prizes.

Cultural facilities I want to visit are: _____
