

# Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

## Parks, Trails, Garden and Nature Centers

Montgomery County, Maryland ('the County') cannot guarantee the relevance, completeness, accuracy, or timeliness of the information provided on the non-County links. The County does not endorse any non-County organizations' products, services, or viewpoints. The County is not responsible for any materials stored on other non-County web sites, nor is it liable for any inaccurate, defamatory, offensive or illegal materials found on other Web sites, and that the risk of injury or damage from viewing, hearing, downloading or storing such materials rests entirely with the user. Alternative formats of this document are available upon request.

This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: [MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov), 240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711.

See Also [Recreation and Sports](#)

### Maryland State Park Passes - Golden Age Pass and Universal Disability Pass

Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Maryland Park Service  
580 Taylor Avenue, E-3  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

1-877-620-8367 (Toll Free)

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/goldenage.aspx>  
<http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/udpfaq.aspx>

The **Golden Age Pass** is a free, lifetime pass for certain State Park services and facilities. To be eligible, you must be 62 years of age or older. The Golden Age Pass is good for free entry (cardholders only) into all State Parks that have service charges to enter. The boat launch fee at Maryland State Parks is eliminated for seniors who possess a Golden Age Pass. This pass is valid for half price camping, Sunday through Thursday (excluding holidays), but cannot be used for rentals or other facility use service charges that may apply. The **Universal Disability Pass** entitles free lifetime entry to State Parks for individuals with disabilities. The pass permits the holder and one other person free entrance to day-use facilities at Maryland State Parks and Forests, where there are service fees associated with entrance.

### Montgomery Parks

E-mail: [info@montgomeryparks.org](mailto:info@montgomeryparks.org)  
[www.montgomeryparks.org](http://www.montgomeryparks.org)

301-495-2595 (V)

**Parks:** [www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-trails/parks/](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-trails/parks/)

**Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm

Saturdays in April to August to 8am to 5pm

**Trails:** [www.montgomeryparks.org/activities/park-trails/](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/activities/park-trails/)

Live Chat available on website

**Gardens & Nature Centers:** [www.montgomeryparks.org/visit-nature/](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/visit-nature/)

during office hours

Montgomery Parks is rich in resources for education, leisure activities, and family fun. Park system includes 424 parks across 37,072 acres, 4 lakes, 490 miles of streams, 276 playgrounds, 269.6 miles of paved and nature surface trails, 134 picnic areas, 111 historic structures, 102 campsites, and 28 park activity buildings. Year-round fishing is allowed in all their streams, ponds, and lakes, unless otherwise noted by signs. The nature centers, gardens, arborist programs and community gardens hold annual festivals and events, along with seasonal programming. Nature centers offer quality public programs for all ages and provide a natural sanctuary from the hustle and bustle of city life. In addition, there are miniature trains, indoor tennis facilities, boat rental facilities, indoor ice rinks, event centers, public gardens, and more.

### OPERATION: CAMPOUT! – Maryland Park Service

Christina Holden, Contact

410-260-8155 (V)

E-mail: [cholden@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:cholden@dnr.state.md.us)

[http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Documents/operation\\_campout.pdf](http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Documents/operation_campout.pdf)

The Maryland Park Service, in partnership with The North Face: Explore Your Parks, offers OPERATION: CAMPOUT! at selected state parks throughout the summer. This program is designed specifically for active duty military, veterans and their families who are new to camping or experienced campers. This is an opportunity for families to reconnect with each other and the great outdoors in a comfortable, safe and relaxing setting. Choose from five Maryland State Parks including Patapsco Valley State Park, Pocomoke River State Park, Rocky Gap State Park, New Germany State Park or Swallow Falls State Park. MPS will lend you gear free of charge including a tent, chairs, stove, lantern and more. Campsites have picnic tables and campfire rings. Bathrooms and hot showers are within walking distance.

### Seneca Landing Special Park – Montgomery Parks

16316 Old River Road  
Poolesville, MD 20837

301-495-2595 (V)

E-mail: [info@montgomeryparks.org](mailto:info@montgomeryparks.org)

[www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/seneca-landing-special-park/](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/seneca-landing-special-park/)

The site, located in Poolesville, is one of the busiest access points to the Potomac River and adjoins the National Park Service's popular C&O Canal. Features a fully accessible floating launch for non-motorized boats improving safety for kayakers, canoeists and paddle boarders. Montgomery Parks also installed an accessible drop-off area and walkway, three accessible parking spaces and a fully accessible picnic area with tables and grills. There are no fees to enter the park or to put in.

### Warrior Expeditions

Sean Gobin, Founder and Executive Director

E-mail: [info@warriorhike.org](mailto:info@warriorhike.org)

<https://warriorexpeditions.org>

Walk Off The War program is designed to support veterans transitioning from their military service by thru-hiking America's National Scenic Trails. Veterans participating in the "Walk Off The War" Program receive various forms of support during and after their thru-hike. First, veterans receive the necessary equipment and supplies required to complete a thru-hike of a National Scenic Trail. Next, Warrior Hike coordinates trail town support with the numerous veteran organizations and local communities that are located along the National Scenic Trails. Trail town support includes transportation, food, and lodging in addition to providing the opportunity to socialize with veterans from past wars and local community groups. Lastly, Warrior Hike assists veterans with future employment opportunities offered by the numerous supporters of the "Walk Off The War" Program and by partnered veteran job placement companies and veteran hiring services. Any veteran who has served in a combat zone and who has been honorably discharged is eligible to submit an application to Warrior Expeditions.

### Woodend Nature Sanctuary – Audubon Naturalist Society

8940 Jones Mill Road  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

301-652-9188 (V)

E-mail: [contact@anshome.org](mailto:contact@anshome.org)

<https://anshome.org/visit/>

Woodend Nature Sanctuary is a peaceful 40-acre oasis for experienced nature lovers and new explorers. Enjoy the serenity of their wildflower meadows, walk their meandering woodland trails, visit their native plant gardens, and explore the aquatic life of their pond. The sanctuary is free and open to the public every day of the year from dawn to dusk. Also offer educational programs for adults and parents, an Audubon Nature Preschool, school programs, and summer camps. The Audubon Naturalist Society partners with the UMD Extension to offer [Maryland Master Naturalist](#) training. This program engages students as stewards of Maryland's ecosystems through science-based education and volunteer service. ANS's top-notch instructors will provide: 52 hours of training in the ecology, flora, and fauna of Maryland; 8 hours of hands-on field work; and a focus on the natural history of Maryland's Piedmont region. Master Naturalist graduates commit 40 hours of volunteer service annually to support our education programs, stewardship of Woodend habitats, and conservation outreach. For questions, contact [Volunteer@ANShome.org](mailto:Volunteer@ANShome.org).