

# Cromwell Valley Park

## Spring 2022 Newsletter

[www.cromwellvalleypark.org](http://www.cromwellvalleypark.org)

410-887-2503

[info@cromwellvalleypark.org](mailto:info@cromwellvalleypark.org)

2002 Cromwell Bridge Road, Parkville, MD 21234



**Educational Programs – Seasonal Programs – Community Service Projects – Bird Watching  
Habitat Restoration – Hiking Trails – Summer Day Camp**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

2021 was an exciting year at Cromwell Valley Park, and we're gearing up for 2022 to be just as eventful. If you enjoy the park for peace and quiet, though, there's still plenty of that to be found.

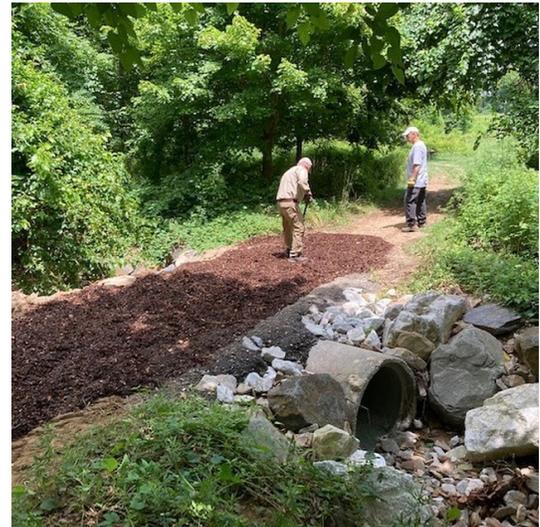
Last year, with generous in-memoriam donations from several families, we were able to create a new frog pond on the Willow Grove side of the park and restore the gazebo near the Sherwood House. At the end of the year, we launched our campaign to raise funds for a new riding mower for grounds maintenance by our devoted and hardworking volunteers on the trail crew. We're excited to announce that we've already achieved our goal and will be purchasing the new mower soon!

Our shift from the Fall Harvest Festival held in past years to the more pandemic-friendly Migration Celebration was very successful, thanks in large part to very diligent planning and preparation by several CVPC Board Members and the Park Staff. We will be exploring exactly what that event will look like this year, with the hope of merging the new concept with some of the favorite aspects of the FHF. Please share your thoughts with us and let us know if you'd like to get involved.

While the volume of traffic we saw in 2020 has subsided, we recognize that the Willow Grove entrance road and parking areas still present several challenges. Baltimore County Department of Rec & Parks has earmarked funding to perform several capital improvements at the park that should address these issues, and we expect to learn more details about them soon.



Crafts and Activities at the Migration Celebration



The CVP Trails Committee hard at work in summer 2021

I recently learned about the Maryland Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights which was released in 2009. It states that every child in Maryland shall have the opportunity to: discover & connect with their natural world, play & learn outdoors, splash & swim in the water, camp under the stars, follow a trail, catch a fish, watch wildlife, explore wild places close to home, celebrate their culture & heritage, and share nature with a great mentor or teacher. The concepts embodied in this are truly the driving force behind everything we do. No wonder we all love Cromwell Valley Park so much...it brings out the inner child in all of us!

If it's too cold or snowy outside for you to visit the park, we welcome you to engage with us and the CVP community on social media. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up with events, programs, and some amazing wildlife photography. If you take some great pictures that you'd like to share, please remember to tag us and use #cromwellvalleypark. And if you get a chance, please leave us a review on Google. Finally, there have been some reports of one of the wild turkeys taking a liking to cars in the Willow Grove parking lot, so please keep an eye out for them.

**Abe Yoffe, President, Cromwell Valley Park Council**  
[president@cromwellvalleypark.org](mailto:president@cromwellvalleypark.org)

## OUR APPLE ORCHARD RESTORATION PROJECT

Apple tarts, Apple crisps, Apple pies...Oh My!

It's spring! The birds are chirping, bees are buzzing, and animals are waking up from a long winter's nap. Frog egg masses are showing up in our ponds and snakes are basking near our streams. Daffodils are emerging near our forests and our newly planted apple trees are starting to bud in our apple orchard.

Did you know Cromwell Valley Park had an Apple Orchard? It's true—before CVP became CVP it was a working farm with animals, crops, and orchards. Apples from the orchards were picked, sorted, and polished and sold to a little-known farm just down the street you may have heard of called Weber's Cider Mill Farm.



Cub Pack 124 and the Lutherville Garden Club partnered to rebuild the old apple orchard behind Sherwood House

Here at Cromwell Valley Park, we like to incorporate a lot of the old farming and harvesting techniques in many of our programs. Weekend programs in the fall like, "How 'bout them Apples!" and "Apple Press & Prints" where you can actually use an apple press that's over 100 years old! We have even cooked apple tarts, apple crisps, and apple pies in our Earth Oven. Not to mention we plan a yearly Fall Harvest Festival around the sights and smells of the fall. That festival that includes making homemade apple butter over a fire pit in a large copper pot and apple cider from our apple press!

We really do love apples around here! So much so that this past November, Cub Scouts Pack #124 and the Lutherville Garden Club started to rebuild the old Apple Orchard behind the Sherwood House. They planted 10 apple trees different varieties, including Gala, Honey Crisp, Cortland, Fuji, and more! Many hours went into this project—almost 2 years to be exact! Plans for this project started in 2019 and because of COVID-19, were put on hold until November 2021.



One of our older legacy apple trees from the Sherwood Orchard

So, the next time you are here at Cromwell Valley Park be sure to check out our newly planted apple orchard behind the Sherwood House.

We are so thankful for Cub Scout Pack #124 and the Lutherville Garden Club for all their hard work and dedication to replanting the old orchard. We look forward to watching these apple trees grow this year and many more to come!

**Laura Page, Activity Coordinator/Naturalist,  
Cromwell Valley Park**

**FIND THE FULL CVP EVENTS CALENDAR AT:**

[https://cromwellvalleypark.org/event\\_calendar/](https://cromwellvalleypark.org/event_calendar/)

Register online via Camp Brain at:

<https://cromwellvalleypark.campbrainregistration.com>

**TO ACCESS THE FULL PARK  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**



**JOIN US AT BENJAMIN BANNEKER  
HISTORICAL PARK AND MUSEUM**

**JUNETEENTH**

at Benjamin Banneker Historical  
Park and Museum



Food, music, performers, vendors, crafts and a whole lot of family fun to be had! From 10am-3pm! This event is free of charge!

300 OELLA AVE., CATONSVILLE, MD 21228



# Primitive Technology Weekend!

**Saturday, May 7 at 10 AM to 4 PM  
and Sunday, May 8 at 10 AM to 1 PM**

**FREE!!**

Join us as we share knowledge and hands-on experience in the replication of items composed of stone, bone, wood, and natural fibers.



## **Cromwell Valley Park**

2002 Cromwell Bridge Road  
Parkville, MD 21234

*Willow Grove Farm Entrance*

410-887-3014

For more information:

[www.cromwellvalleypark.org](http://www.cromwellvalleypark.org)

410-887-2503



**MASKS MUST BE WORN INSIDE ALL OF OUR BUILDINGS**



Should you require special accommodations (i.e. language interpreter, large print, etc.) please give as much notice as possible by calling the recreation office or the Therapeutic Office at 410-887-5370/TTD: 410-887-5319

**Cromwell Valley Park**  
**2002 Cromwell Bridge Rd.**  
**Baltimore, MD 21234**



DEPARTMENT OF  
RECREATION AND PARKS

Pre-Sorted Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Baltimore, MD  
Permit #7639

Registration for spring  
programs begins Tuesday,  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am.

Please join us!



**Park hours:**  
**Sunrise to sunset**

Cromwell Valley Park Newsletter Staff

Editor: *Sya Buryn Kedzior*

Communications Committee: *Mia Walsh,  
Pat Novak, Kim Shapiro and Sya Buryn Kedzior*

Contributors: *Abe Yoffe, Laura Page,  
and Mia Walsh*