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## 11th ANNUAL LOVE YOUR PARK WEEK RETURNS MAY 8-16, 2021

*Features Nine Days of In-Person and Virtual Events, Including Volunteer Cleanups  
In Philly Parks and First-Ever Neighborhood Park Scavenger Hunt*

**April 22, 2021 (PHILADELPHIA, PA)**—Following the Love Your Park Solo cleanups and Love Your Park @ Home virtual programming of 2020, **Love Your Park Week returns with a terrific mix of volunteer service and celebration of Philadelphia's parks, both in-person and virtual, from Saturday, May 8 through Sunday, May 16, 2021.**

Coordinated by Fairmount Park Conservancy and Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, Love Your Park Week will take place in communities throughout Philadelphia. This year, nearly 90 neighborhood parks across the city are hosting volunteer cleanups throughout the week and need help tending gardens and flower beds, caring for trees, and cleaning up Philadelphia's parks after a long winter.



"After the past year, it's never been more clear how important Philadelphia's parks are to this city," says **Kathryn Ott Lovell**, Commissioner of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation. "We cannot wait to welcome Philadelphians out to join us in showing some love to all our neighborhood parks and green spaces during Love Your Park Week."

***All cleanup events will be capped at 25 total participants and will follow COVID-19 health protocols per Philadelphia's Department of Public Health. All participants are required to wear masks. Advance registration is strongly encouraged. To register to volunteer, visit: [loveyourpark.org](https://loveyourpark.org).***

Along with volunteer cleanups, a range of events will encourage Philadelphians of all ages to explore the city's great public spaces and become engaged park champions, from a neighborhood scavenger hunt to a pedestrian advocacy webinar.



"As we reflect back on how much parks have nourished us through this difficult year, we are excited to offer new and engaging ways to safely explore and support Philadelphia's treasured neighborhood parks during Love Your Park Week," says **Maura McCarthy, Ph.D.**, Executive Director of Fairmount Park Conservancy.

**Love Your Park Week highlights include:**

**Love Your Park Scavenger Hunt:** For the first time ever, discover the fascinating facts and stories behind Philadelphia's neighborhood parks by participating in a free Love Your Park Scavenger Hunt, launching May 8 and running until May 31. Scavenger hunters can participate by downloading the free GooseChase app to their smartphone and completing each mission at their own pace in various parks across the city (search for "Love Your Park Scavenger Hunt"). Participants who complete all missions during Love Your Park Week will receive prizes, including a Fairmount Park Conservancy membership and merchandise. Learn more at [myphillypark.org/lyp-scamengerhunt](http://myphillypark.org/lyp-scamengerhunt).

**Free community engagement webinars:** Along with in-person volunteer cleanups, Philadelphians are encouraged to learn more about all the ways to support the city's public spaces during Love Your Park Week with free webinars hosted by Fairmount Park Conservancy, Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, and partners:

- **Tuesday, May 11 at 12pm:** Find ways to get involved in local parks from the Conservancy and PPR stewardship staff during the [Volunteering 101 Webinar](#). From tending a community garden to protecting the city's meadows, forests, and waterways, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. Register for free [via Zoom](#).
- **Thursday, May 13 at 12pm:** Join [Walk Talk: Resources for Pedestrians in Philly](#), a webinar from Feet First Philly to learn how to advocate for safer streets and sidewalks for pedestrians in Philadelphia's public spaces. Register for free [via Zoom](#).

**New Love Your Park merchandise:** While Love Your Park volunteers will receive a free T-shirt at their park while supplies last, fans can also show their love for the city's parks year-round with new Love Your Park merchandise, from sweatshirts to face masks. A portion of the proceeds will support the Love Your Park program. Visit the shop here:

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/fairmount-park-conservancy/>

**Discounts for Love Your Park volunteers:** Volunteers will receive discounts to plant sales and other merchandise once they register to volunteer for Love Your Park Week.

- **Bartram's Garden Plant Sale:** For all Love Your Park registered volunteers, Bartram's Garden is offering a 10% discount [on all plants](#) from April 12 to May 10. Nursery sale proceeds support the care of Bartram's Garden, continued propagation, and the many free community programs offered.
- **Trash grabbers:** Volunteers who want their own pair of trash grabbers to keep Philly parks clean year-round can use discount code PHILLY15 to receive 15% off their purchase at



Garbo Grabbers. A portion of your purchase will support the Love Your Park program. [Shop here.](#)

Love Your Park is a collaborative program managed by the non-profit Fairmount Park Conservancy and the City of Philadelphia's Department of Parks & Recreation. It is made possible with support from the Knight Foundation, TD Bank, and PECO.

**Download high-resolution images here:** <http://bit.ly/ConservancyPressKit>.

**Fairmount Park Conservancy** exists to champion Philadelphia's parks. We lead capital projects and historic preservation efforts, foster neighborhood park stewardship, attract and leverage investments, and develop innovative programs throughout the 10,200 acres that include Fairmount Park and more than 100 neighborhood parks around the city. For more information, please visit [myphillypark.org](http://myphillypark.org), join us at [facebook.com/fairmountparkconservancy](https://facebook.com/fairmountparkconservancy), and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @myphillypark. ### Photos courtesy of Fairmount Park Conservancy.

**Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR)** advances the prosperity of the city and the progress of her people through intentional and sustained stewardship of nearly 10,200 acres of public land and waterways as well as through hundreds of safe, stimulating recreation, environmental and cultural centers. PPR promotes the well-being and growth of the city's residents by connecting them to the natural world around them, to each other and to fun, physical and social opportunities. PPR is responsible for the upkeep of historically significant Philadelphia events and specialty venues, and works collaboratively with communities and organizations in leading capital projects and the introduction of inventive programming. To learn more about Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, visit us at [www.phila.gov/parksandrec](http://www.phila.gov/parksandrec), and follow @philaparkandrec on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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*Photo by Albert Yee for Fairmount Park Conservancy.*