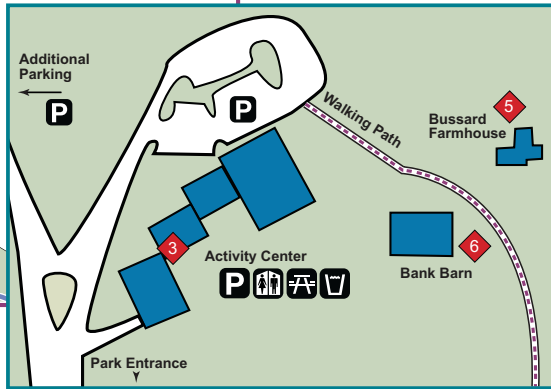


- Legend**
- 1 Horse Trailer Parking
  - 2 Newmantown Historic Area
  - 3 Activity Center
  - 4 Historic Area
  - 5 Bussard Farmhouse
  - 6 Bank Barn

- Hiker/Equestrian Trail
- Trail Connector
- Natural Surface Trail
- Trail Connector
- Hiker Only
- Trail Connector
- Parklands & Topography
- Streams & Ponds



- ⚠ Use extreme caution crossing road
- ⚡ Steep Slope
- P Parking
- ♿ Bathrooms
- 🚰 Drinking Water
- 🏕 Picnic Area

Bathrooms & Phones are only available when Agricultural History Farm Park Activity Center is open (M-F 8:30am to 4:30pm)

**AGRICULTURAL HISTORY FARM PARK**

18400 Muncaster Road  
Derwood, Maryland 20855

**Park Hours**

Agricultural History Farm Park is open year round, sunrise to sunset. The Activity Center is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

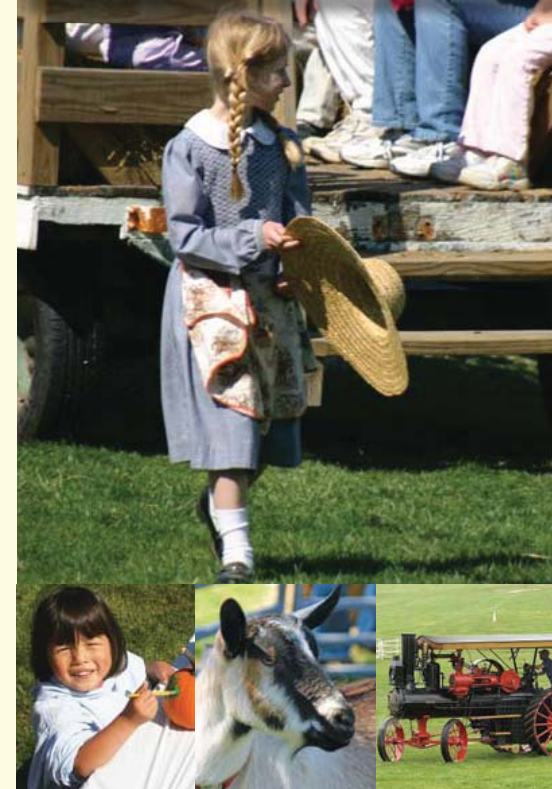
**Directions**

**From I-270**  
Take I-370 exit toward Metro station. Proceed approximately 2 miles, exit onto Shady Grove Rd. east. Go 1.4 miles, turn right onto Muncaster Mill Rd. Turn left onto Muncaster Rd. at the first light, there is a 7-11 on the corner. Follow Muncaster Rd. 1.3 miles to park entrance on the left at stone columns.

**From I-70**

From the Frederick area and points west, travel east on I-70 to Rt. 27, exit south. Travel to Damascus and turn left/east onto Rt. 108. Follow Rt. 108 into Laytonsville, from the flashing fire house/school light continue 2.3 miles to a right onto Muncaster Rd. The park entrance is 2.2 miles on the right at stone columns.

# Agricultural History Farm Park



## Agricultural History Farm Park

See the past, the present, and the future of Montgomery County farming at the Agricultural History Farm Park! Situated along Rock Creek in Derwood, Maryland, the Agricultural History Farm Park is a 455 acre complex with an historic farm site and a modern farming activity center. The Park offers visitors a unique perspective on the County's rich farming heritage.

The historic area takes visitors back to a typical early 20th century Montgomery County farm. This area includes the original farmhouse, bank barn and several outbuildings.

Today's Montgomery County farming is supported by several agencies from the federal, state and county governments that are housed in the Activity Center. These agencies assist the County's extensive farming community to increase agricultural production and conservation of farmland for coming generations.

## Montgomery Parks, M-NCPPC

The Montgomery County Department of Parks provides residents and visitors with access to more than 33,000 acres of parkland. Our park system includes a variety of recreational facilities, such as ice rinks, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, athletic fields, event centers, campgrounds, nature centers, and public gardens. We are stewards to more than 10% of the County's land and work hard to preserve a number of beautiful natural areas for walking and viewing the local wildlife. We also offer a wide range of classes and programs for all ages and interests. Whatever you're looking for, *it's all right here!*

[MontgomeryParks.org](http://MontgomeryParks.org)



## Bussard Farmhouse

The Bussard Farmhouse is a fascinating view into early 20th century farm life. The house was the heart of the farm and the center of family life. The birth of children, the washing of laundry, the preparation of food and many other activities of daily life all took place here. Several additions to the house show how it expanded as the family grew. The Farmhouse is open seasonally for house tours.



## Saw Mill

A 1946 portable Frick saw mill is located at the park and is operated at many of the annual events. The Farm's mill is powered by a 1915 Peerless steam tractor or at other times by a stationary engine. Sawmills were an important part of the County's building industry; a mill like the Frick cut the lumber that was used to build the farm's bank barn.

## Bank Barn

The Park's original bank barn, constructed in 1895, is typical of barns found in Montgomery County at the turn of the century. The barn was the most valuable asset on the farm. The dairy cattle were milked and draft animals were housed in the basement. Hay was stored and grain threshed on the barn's main floor. The barn is open year-round; it is accessible on the upper level only.



## Newmantown

The Park includes a 39-acre parcel on the western edge of the farm that was once home to a kin-based African American community begun in 1879. Albert and Mary Newman purchased a part of the "Cook's Inheritance" and built a house and several outbuildings. Two of their sons built houses on the property as well, Morton in 1885, and Fenton in 1914. None of the houses or outbuildings survives today.

## Orchard

Orchards were typical of many turn-of-the-century farms. Fruits were picked, canned, and consumed throughout the year by the farm family, and the fruit was sold at markets for additional income. In 2006, 24 apple trees were planted at the Farm, and five different species of apples now grow successfully.



## Historic Outbuildings

Visitors can visit each of the historic outbuildings, including a granary, a maintenance shed, an equipment shed, a water tank house, a corn crib, a woodshed, a smoke house, a chicken coop, a broody house, a carriage shed, a hay barracks, and of course, the privy. Each of these buildings played an important role in the operation of the turn of the century farm.

## Historic Fencing

The Farm's split rail fences were reconstructed in the early 1990s using American chestnut rails, just like Maryland farmers did throughout history. The 100' tall chestnuts were of straight grain and resisted insects, making them ideal for all construction on the farm.

## Animals on the Farm

The Farm is home to many farm animals, including goats, chickens and ducks. Larger livestock are also on site for many of the Farm's annual events.



## Trails

Enjoy over 4 miles of natural surface hiking and equestrian trails throughout the park. Horse trailer parking is provided. Bicycles are prohibited on all trails at this time. For a downloadable trail map, go to [MontgomeryTrails.org](http://MontgomeryTrails.org).



## Programs and Annual Events

Popular interpretive and historic programs and events take place at the farm throughout the year. These include:

- Springtime on the Farm (March-April)
- Arbor Day Celebration (April)
- Gas and Steam Engine Show (April)
- Montgomery County Heritage Days (June)
- Bluegrass on the Farm (September)
- Harvest Festival (October)
- Blacksmith's and Friend's Show (November)
- Christmas on the Farm (December)

For more information and schedules, visit [AgHistoryFarm.org](http://AgHistoryFarm.org).

## Activity Center

The building houses federal, state, and county government agencies as well as a meeting space available for public use. To reserve this space, contact the Park Permit Office at (301)-495-2525 or visit [ParkPermits.org](http://ParkPermits.org).

## Farm Partners

Several groups play an integral role in the maintenance and programming of the Agricultural History Farm Park:

- **The Friends of AHFP** offer programs and provide demonstrations on historical farm life and agriculture. To volunteer or join the Friends, please call 301-670-4661.
- **Back in Time 4-H** provides and cares for the farm's animals and offers programs on farm animals, farm life, and agriculture.
- **MCE Master Gardeners** offer a variety of plant-related programs and maintain a demonstration garden. For more information, call 301-590-9638.

## AGRICULTURAL HISTORY FARM PARK

### IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Park Police – Emergency	301-949-3010
Fire and Rescue Emergency	911
Park Manager's Office	301-948-5053
Farm Maintenance Office	301-721-0312
Park Naturalist Office	301-924-4141
Park Permit Office	301-495-2525
Friends of the AHFP	301-670-4661
Park Information Line	301-495-2595
Park Permit Office (Silver Spring)	301-495-2525
(Germantown)	301-495-2480
Volunteer Services Office	301-495-2504
Accessibility Information	301-650-2867
TTY	301-495-2575

### PARK REGULATIONS

- Park in designated areas only
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited
- Pets must be kept on a leash
- No motorized vehicles on trails
- For a complete list of park regulations, contact the Park Permit office or visit [ParkPermits.org](http://ParkPermits.org)

### HANDICAPPED ACCESS

Many of the Park's historic buildings, such as the Bank Barn and the Saw Mill, are only partially accessible. The Activity Center and the Bussard Farmhouse are fully accessible.

### PROGRAM AND CLASS REGISTRATION

Choose from a wide selection of classes, camps and programs offered throughout the park system. There's something for every age, every interest and every season: It's all right here!

[ParkPASS.org](http://ParkPASS.org) | 301-495-2580 (Help Desk M-F 10am-2pm)  
301-962-1477 (Automated phone registration)

