



# NEWS

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### Montgomery County Celebrates PARK(ing) Day in Norristown

**Norristown, PA (Sept. 18, 2018)** – The Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC) and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, along with the Municipality of Norristown, Keep Norristown Beautiful, and the PA Department of Environmental Protection, will celebrate PARK(ing) Day 2018 on Friday, September 21. The public is invited to see how an ordinary parking spot can be transformed into a great public space. The event will take place, weather permitting, in front of the county courthouse on Swede Street from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PARK(ing) Day is a popular global event that began in 2005 and challenges people to rethink the way streets are used and reinforces the need for broad-based changes to urban infrastructure. Around the world, artists, activists, and citizens will temporarily transform metered parking spaces into public parks and other social spaces.

In Norristown, four parking spots will be transformed into fun, educational spaces (parklets) for citizens to visit and enjoy. Check out the spaces below:

- The Montgomery County Planning Commission will be creating a mini farmland scene, complete with hay bales for seating. MCPC will share information on the county's local food initiative; its newest guidebook on residential agriculture; the newly adopted *Bike Montco* plan, which envisions a future on-road bicycle network throughout Montgomery County; and upcoming public events. Visitors will have an opportunity to have fun with two themed photo boards and just sit and relax while enjoying conversation. They can also take a free chance on several donated raffle prizes!
- The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will provide a fun, interactive space where visitors can sit in their choice of alternative, dynamic seating. All visitors are invited to play a fun fitness game, relax, bring their lunch, and maybe even win a prize! The fitness focus ties into the mission of the department to foster, support, and enhance the health and well-being of Montgomery County residents.

- Norristown Municipality's Recreation Department's space will be themed "Gone fishing." The space will offer visitors an opportunity to relax and reflect. They will be sharing information on upcoming recreation programs, events, and the new recreation center.
- Keep Norristown Beautiful and the PA Department of Environmental Protection have partnered to present a space entitled, "Our Legacy – Litter and Sustainability in Norristown." Featuring a local sculpture called Consumasurus Rex, a dinosaur composed of litter, the space is intended to raise awareness of the extremely harmful environment impact of humanity's collective throwaway consumption patterns and to offer creative uses for recyclable materials.

Stop by to see these recreated spaces, learn some interesting facts, and have fun with various activities. For more information, please contact Rita McKelvey at 610-278-3753 or via email at [rmckelve@montcopa.org](mailto:rmckelve@montcopa.org).

**Cutline:**

**PARK(ing) Day 2017:** Image from PARK(ing) Day 2017 in Norristown, PA.