



# NEWS

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### Contact:

John Corcoran, Director of Communications

610-278-3061 [jcorcora@montcopa.org](mailto:jcorcora@montcopa.org)

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## Montco Celebrates PARK(ing) Day in Norristown

**Norristown, PA (Sept. 17, 2019)** – The Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC), the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, the Municipality of Norristown, and the PA Department of Environmental Protection, will celebrate PARK(ing) Day 2019 on Friday, September 20. Everyone is invited to come see how an ordinary metered 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, a popular global event that began in 2005, 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 be temporarily transforming 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 (MCPC) will create two spaces with the themes of residential agriculture and recycling. Those visiting these fun, interactive parklets can check out an observation hive, a mason bee nest, and worm composting station. They can pose for a whimsical photo and create a starter windowsill herb garden. Representatives from the Montgomery County Beekeepers' Association of Pennsylvania will share information on beekeeping and plants that support bees. MCPC will share information on its newest guidebook on residential agriculture, upcoming public events, and recycling.
- The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will provide supplies for participants to create their own Kindness Rock. The philosophy of Kindness Rocks is that a kind message at the right moment can change someone's day, outlook, or life. Stop by to make one for yourself or spread

joy by giving it to someone else.

- Norristown's Recreation Department will create a space around the theme of "Come and Visit our Nest." The space will represent both the Norristown Eagles and Philadelphia Eagles with colors, jerseys, and candy, along with upcoming programming and Norristown Recreation Center updates.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Southeast Regional Office (SERO DEP) will offer a breath of fresh air in its air quality-themed oasis space. Those visiting the space can relax while they learn about the Air Quality Index, Air Quality Forecast, and Air Quality Flags and then have some fun with an air quality-themed seek-and-find poster. A gently used mountain bike will be raffled for anyone who signs up for Air Quality Alerts (generously donated by a SERO DEP employee).

Come hang out in 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 at [rmckelve@montcopa.org](mailto:rmckelve@montcopa.org).