



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
National Historical Park

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C&O Canal National Historical Park News Release

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C&O Canal introduces new family program during National Park Week

Hagerstown, MD - To celebrate National Park Week and the Centennial of the National Park Service the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park is introducing a new family program for park visitors starting Saturday, April 23rd. Co-designed by teachers and park rangers, the program offers youth and their families an opportunity to explore nature and history in the park using pre-made backpack kits filled with activities and tools. Each backpack contains various activities geared for ages 3 and up. Backpacks can be checked out at the park's three main visitor centers: Great Falls (located in Potomac, MD/Montgomery County), Williamsport (located in Williamsport, MD/Washington County) and Cumberland (located in Cumberland, MD/Allegany County). This self-guided program is free, and families can check out a backpack for up to 4 hours.

"We are excited to introduce a new program that will empower families and youth to get outside and explore their local national park," stated C&O Canal Superintendent Kevin Brandt.

For more information on the backpack program please contact your local C&O Canal Visitor Center and ask about details. Park visitor center locations and contact information can be found at www.nps.gov/choh.

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ABOUT THE C&O Canal: The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park preserves and interprets the historical, natural and recreational resources of the C&O Canal. Over 5,000,000 visitors a year enjoy the opportunities for recreation and understanding that the Park has to offer. For more information, visit the Park's website at www.nps.gov/choh.

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