

County of York, Pennsylvania Department of Parks and Recreation

News for Immediate Release

Parks to present 38th edition of popular Christmas Magic

Over 600,000 Christmas lights will illuminate Rocky Ridge County Park during the 38th annual "Christmas Magic – A Festival of Lights" at Rocky Ridge County Park. Come see our amazing displays. Look for your old favorites and new decorations. Take time to enjoy hot chocolate and photo opportunities with family and friends. Once again, pre-purchased, timed-entry tickets will be required every night.

When: Nov. 26 through Dec. 30 (closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31)

Where: Rocky Ridge County Park is located east of York, 1.5 miles north of U.S. Route 30, off Mount Zion Road (PA Route 24). Park address: 3699 Deininger Road, York, PA.

Times: Monday through Thursday, 6-9 p.m.; Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 5-9 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$10; Ages 6-14, \$5; 5 & under, Free;

Ticketing: Purchase tickets for your time of arrival from Nov. 15 until the night of attendance, while supplies last, at <u>ChristmasMagicYork.com</u>. Admission to Christmas Magic will be by timed-entry tickets only. Reservations will be required for each night, walk-ins will not be permitted. Timed admission limits the number of people attending Christmas Magic, providing a better visiting experience and less waiting in traffic and lines.

For those without Internet access, timed tickets will also be able to be purchased in person or by phone at John Rudy Park Administrative Headquarters during regular business hours Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm, closed 12:30-1:00pm daily. To purchase by phone, please dial (717) 840-7440 and choose option 2. **Who:** Sponsored by the York County Department of Parks and Recreation. For information, call 717-840-7440 and press 4, then 2 or visit <u>ChristmasMagicYork.com</u>. For weather related updates, you can also follow us on Twitter via @yorkcountyparks or find us on Instagram and Facebook.

What: Christmas Magic is a 0.5-mile walking trail (accessible to anyone) that meanders along a wooded hilltop through over 600,000 Christmas lights, holiday scenes and five enclosed, heated pavilions. The spirit of the holiday is displayed by using animation, displays, food, and a train display.

Weather: The trail may be closed due to inclement weather. The Park Staff makes a decision on any cancellation as early as possible. To find out the status of the trail, people may call the Christmas Magic hotline. Hotline number: Dial 717-840-7440 and press 4, then 2. Conditions will also be posted on Twitter or Facebook @yorkcountyparks.

History: Christmas Magic is in its 38th year. It began in 1984, the product of the "energy crunch," when fewer homes were decorating yet there was still a desire to see Christmas lights locally. In 1984, a small budget allowed for 10,000 lights and props, most produced by the Parks Department. Today, the props are produced commercially and in-house. It takes about 6 months to set up, run, and disassemble Christmas Magic. To date, this is the largest program presented by the York County Department of Parks and Recreation each year. In 2017 the event set a record high with attendance of 44,615 visitors.

Toys for Tots Nights: For the 12th year, the York County Parks is partnering with Toys for Tots. Anyone bringing a new toy still in the box or container for donation to the Toys for Tots will receive a voucher for a free food item or drink at the Park's Food Stand located in White Oak Pavilion. Dates are November 26th and 27th.

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