

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**'TIS THE SEASON FOR LIGHTS, HOLIDAY TRADITIONS, AND FESTIVITIES
IN ST. CHARLES COUNTY PARKS**

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – St. Charles County Parks offers numerous ways to celebrate the holiday season. See the lights on a Christmas Candlelight Walk at the Boone Home near Defiance, visit with Santa at the Youth Activity Park in Dardenne Prairie, and marvel over the Holiday Toy Train Display at the Heritage Museum near St. Charles. Get an extra dose of holiday cheer while making family memories at the following park events:

Christmas Candlelight Walk:

Held at 6, 7 and 8 p.m., on Dec. 1-2 and 8-9 at The Historic Daniel Boone Home, 1868 Highway F near Defiance.

Experience a night of warmth and beauty this holiday season at the Boone Home. Step back in time to observe Christmas traditions of the past, while strolling through the enchanting village illuminated with thousands of candles. Along the way, visit with Daniel Boone as he reminisces about winters past, and enjoy hot chocolate, apple cider, and traditional carols. This year's musical performances will be held inside the Old Peace Chapel and include selections by Duchesne High School, Timberland High School, Holt High School, the Greenleaf Singers, the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Choir, St. Peter's Choral Society, and the Nicole Jonas group. Tickets are limited; admission is \$10 in advance and \$15 at the park. Call or visit us online to pre-register.

Santa Party:

From 9:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Youth Activity Park, 7801 Highway N in Dardenne Prairie. Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus is coming to the Youth Activity Park to visit with all the good little boys and girls! Children ages 4-11 can visit with Santa at our fun-filled **Santa Party**. Don't forget to bring a Christmas wish list

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NEWS RELEASE

Park Holiday Happenings, continued

and a camera to capture this special time with Santa. Each child will receive a unique elf name, play holiday-themed games, create a snowman craft and candy sleigh, and decorate their very own cupcake. Each will take home a candy-filled YAP water bottle and enough memories to make visions of sugarplums dance in their heads. Cost is \$12 per child. Register early; space is limited! For more information or to reserve your spot, call the Youth Activity Park at 636-561-4964 or register online at <http://bit.ly/2A2p7td>.

Holiday Toy Train Display:

Open Saturday, Dec. 9 through Wednesday, Jan. 31 at the Heritage Museum, 1630 Heritage Landing near St. Charles.

The popular Holiday Toy Train Display at the Heritage Museum near St. Charles is back this year and will run through next year! The museum is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday and noon –5 p.m., Sunday. Admission is free! The entire family will enjoy our three holiday themed model trains: the Gingerbread Village, Frosty's Winter Wonderland and Polar Express. While you're visiting, explore the museum's current exhibit, "Our Sporting Heritage," which features the Marksman Training Simulator. The interactive digital hunting simulator has the largest video shooting surface in the world and is one of only three of its kind in the United States. Experience the thrill of hunting duck, deer, bear, and boar, as well as clay targets. Call the museum at 636-255-6000 for more information.

For more information about St. Charles County Parks holiday happenings, call 636-949-7535 or visit www.stccparks.org.

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About St. Charles County Parks & Recreation

The St. Charles County Parks & Recreation Department offers unique parks, diverse facilities and a broad range of programs and special events for all ages. The County currently operates 12 parks, including a Youth Activity Park and the recently acquired Historic Daniel Boone Home. Plans for a new park at Kisker Road and Highway 94 are underway.

For more information and specifics about each park, visit www.stccparks.org.

About St. Charles County

Founded in 1812, St. Charles County is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, and the state's third largest county in both population and economic share. St. Charles County consistently ranks one of the healthiest places to live in Missouri in the County Health Rankings report published by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. It is home to 12 scenic county parks encompassing more than 2,800 acres with additional land under development and more in reserve for future development.

With a population of 385,840, St Charles County is home to large employers including Citi, MasterCard Worldwide, Boeing and General Motors. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County employs nearly 1,100 in more than 30 departments and offices, who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop.

For more information, please visit www.sccmo.org.