

Media Advisory

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Press Contact: Reid Okoniewski

703-435-6800 x2101

reid.okoniewski@herndon-va.gov

Town of Herndon Parks & Recreation Department Unveils New Community Initiative: The Herndon Torch

The Town of Herndon Parks & Recreation Department is thrilled to announce the launch of a new community initiative, "The Herndon Torch." This innovative program will bring the spirit of the Olympic Games to the Town of Herndon, fostering unity, connection, and pride among residents. The Herndon Torch will tour the town from July 1, 2024, to August 9, 2024, coinciding with the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris, France.

The Herndon Torch, a striking 8-foot-tall metal sculpture, will journey through various locations in Herndon, offering residents a chance to engage in a shared experience. Much like the Olympic Torch, it symbolizes Herndon's commitment to shared values, diversity, and healthy living. "The Herndon Torch is more than just an event; it's a celebration of what makes our community unique and strong," said Kate Keifer, Recreation Supervisor for the Town of Herndon Parks & Recreation Department. "We are excited to bring this initiative to life and watch as it brings our residents closer together."

The initiative aims to:

- **Promote Unity:** By engaging residents from all backgrounds in a communal event, the Herndon Torch promotes a sense of belonging and togetherness.
- **Foster Connection:** It offers an opportunity for people to meet, interact, and build stronger community bonds.
- **Celebrate Diversity:** The Herndon Torch highlights the multicultural fabric of our town, celebrating the rich diversity within our community.
- **Encourage Participation:** Through active involvement, it promotes a healthy and vibrant lifestyle.
- **Inspire Community Pride:** Aligning with the global tradition of the Olympic torch relay, it instills pride in our local community and its connection to international ideals of peace, unity, and friendship.

Bob Williams, Director of Town of Herndon Parks & Recreation, added, "This project is a wonderful opportunity for everyone in Herndon to participate in something special. It's a chance to explore different parts of our town, meet new people, and create lasting memories together."

Get Involved

Everyone is encouraged to visit the Herndon Torch at its various stops, take selfies, and engage with fellow community members. The tour schedule and display locations will be promoted throughout the summer, ensuring everyone has the chance to participate.

The Town of Herndon Parks & Recreation Department will host a free, family friendly Olympic trivia event on July 25, the day before the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympic Games. This event will bring the community together, enjoy activities, and celebrate the spirit of the Herndon Torch. The evening will include prizes, food, and more. More information on the event will be announced on a later date.

For more information on the Herndon Torch and to stay updated on the tour schedule, visit the Herndon Parks & Recreation Department's website at <https://www.herndon-va.gov/departments/recreation/special-events/herndon-torch> and social media channels.

The Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department is a four-time National Gold Medal Award winner for excellence in park and recreation management presented by [the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration](#). The Town of Herndon, located in western Fairfax County, is the third largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens. For more information, visit the Town's website at herndon-va.gov, town services, parks and recreation, or call 703-787-7300.

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