IT’S TIME TO HIT THE TRAIL

Birds are chirping, daffodils are peeking out from their winter slumber and trees are beginning to bloom. While we’re certain to have more cool days ahead, our thoughts are turning to spring. It’s time to get outdoors and enjoy all that Cobb County P.A.R.K.S. has to offer.

Did you know that the county has more than 20 trails available for hiking, jogging, cycling and enjoying nature? The trails range in length, so there are options for every fitness level. The shortest are at Bells Ferry Park and Rhyne Park with paths of two tenths of a mile.

Price Park has several natural surface trails totaling one mile through the meadow and woods and along Allatoona creek.

For the more adventurous hiker or biker, the Silver Comet Trail stretches 61.5 miles from Smyrna to Alabama. The section in Cobb County is 12.8 miles. There are multiple access points to the trail, including many with parking, restrooms and picnic areas. For more information visit silvercometga.com.

Located in the northwest portion of the county, the Lake Allatoona Corps property has 14 miles of natural surface trails with options for beginners, intermediate and expert only.

The property consists of 1,450 acres leased from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Large open fields give way to forest as the property connects to Lake Allatoona. Two creeks, Little Allatoona and Big Allatoona, merge as you near the lake. The property is home to a vast array of wildlife as ground nesting birds, birds of prey, deer, fox, bobcat and other mammals as well as reptiles residing on site. The land is managed to accommodate all species of wildlife with archery hunting for deer allowed during season. The park is open for public use except during hunting season.

Among these 1450 acres are several wetland areas. These wetland areas are of vital importance to the diverse fauna and flora that call this property home.

If you are free from noon to 2 p.m., Saturday, March 11, Keep Cobb Beautiful invites you to join them at a tree planting event to beautify the Noonday Creek trailhead at Bells Ferry Road.

Families, friends and business can plant a tree in memory of a loved one or to honor an organization. Engraved plaques will be available for purchase. For more information visit keepcobbbeautiful.org or call 770-528-1135.

There’s so much to explore. To find a list of parks and their amenities, visit cobbcounty.org/trailmaps. Then put on your pedometer and get moving.
Countdown to opening day

The public/private partnership of Cobb County and the Atlanta Braves is about to come to fruition. The first pitch in SunTrust Park on April 14 is right around the corner. To stay up-to-date on project visit BravesUpdate.com.

For visual updates on its progress, head to http://atlanta.braves.mlb.com/atl/ballpark/suntrust-park/live-webcam/ for a look at the live webcam.

The Cobb County Police Department, in collaboration with the Cobb County Department of Transportation and other partners, has developed a traffic management plan for events at SunTrust Park. For more information on the TMP visit http://bit.ly/2jCRM2E.

Cobb’s flood maps have been updated

New flood hazard maps for Cobb County are ready for public review. The preliminary maps are the result of a multi-year project to develop accurate and detailed digital flood maps for the Etowah Watershed based on data from the latest mapping and modeling technologies. The new maps reflect current flooding risks, replacing maps that are based on dated studies. Revisions to these maps include residents and business owners in areas of unincorporated Cobb, Acworth, Kennesaw, Marietta and Smyrna.

Residents and business owners should be aware of how the maps changed and how the changes may affect new construction and rebuilding decisions, as well as requirements for flood insurance. The maps are available at www.GeorgiaDFIRM.com.

Summer camp registration

It’s time to register for summer camps and P.A.R.K.S. has some great opportunities. From golf to nature to tennis there’s sure to be something to make your little camper happy. For more information visit cobbcounty.org/parks.

Dementia caregiver workshop

Cobb Senior Services is partnering with Due West United Methodist Church for “A Day with Teepa Snow: Today’s Voice for Dementia”. This free event is for family caregivers and professional caregivers.

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday, March 31, Due West United Methodist Church, Family Life Center - Building B, 3956 Due West Road, Marietta, 30064.

For questions call Cobb Senior Services 770-528-5355.

2017 Encore Series

Get your tickets now for the exciting 2017 Encore Series at Jennie T. Anderson Theatre at the Cobb County Civic Center 548 South Marietta Pkwy. SE, Marietta, 30060. The lineup will include:

March 16-19: Damn Yankees (presented by Pebblebrook High School)
April 29: Shadows of the 60s
May 13: Tommy Roe

For more information call the box office at 770-528-8490.

Cobb County Library book sale

The Spring 2017 Cobb County Library book sale will be held March 10-12 at the Jim R. Miller Park in Marietta.

The book sale features donated hardback and paperback books, CDs, DVDs, audiocassettes and videocassettes. Sales categories include novels, picture books, travel, cookbooks, science, travel, biography and other topics for all ages and reading levels.

Prices vary from ten cents to $4.

For more information call 770-528-2332.

Summer camp registration

It’s time to register for summer camps and P.A.R.K.S. has some great opportunities. From golf to nature to tennis there’s sure to be something to make your little camper happy. For more information visit cobbcounty.org/parks.