## Cook, Kevin

From:

Fortino, Carolyn

Sent:

Thursday, June 30, 2022 11:57 AM

To:

Fortino, Carolyn

Subject:

WESTCHESTER COUNTY WAIVES BEACH FEES



# News Release

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

Date: June 30, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WESTCHESTER COUNTY WAIVES BEACH FEES

The waiving of beach fees is the latest measure by the Latimer Administration to ease inflation costs for Westchester County residents

(Ardsley, NY) – Beginning Tuesday, July 5, Glen Island Beach fees will be waived, Monday through Thursday, through Thursday, September 1. The latest move to ease inflation costs for residents will be at Glen Island Beach in New Rochelle and also at the County's pools, Saxon Woods Pool in White Plains and Sprain Ridge and The Brook at Tibbetts in Yonkers. Croton Point Beach in Croton-on-Hudson is open weekends only, and Willson's Woods in Mount Vernon is currently free daily.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: "As costs continue to rise, the County is taking measures to ease the burden facing residents. Visiting pools and beaches during the summer should be a stress-fee experience, and I look forward to families coming out this summer to enjoy their time together."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Kathy O'Connor said: "Our pools and beaches are a local destination our residents look forward to visiting each summer. I'm happy we are able to take these steps to ensure our residents don't miss out this year."

The beaches and pools are accessible by the Bee-Line Bus, which is free to ride this summer, through Labor Day, Monday, September 5.

Earlier this week Latimer announced other measures taken by the County to ease the burden facing County residents' wallets.

#### These actions include:

- Funding for Feeding Westchester: Increasing funding to Feeding Westchester by \$700,000, which doubles what is included in the 2022 budget and covers the increased cost of food and fuel.
  - o Feeding Westchester has experienced an increase this year to \$0.71 per pound across the foods they provide, compared to \$0.60 per pound last year. Overall, they are seeing an 18% year over year increase in food costs. The additional \$700,000 for Feeding Westchester will enable them to support 883,838 people. In addition, the average food package provided by a food pantry has a value of approximately \$60 saving a family \$240/month.
- Free Commuter Parking: Westchester County will be providing free parking at the North White Plains Commuter Lot, and the County Center parking lot from July 1 August 31.
- Sales Tax: Westchester County has the ability to lower/eliminate the sales tax on residential energy on a quarterly basis. The County needs to adopt a local law and notify NYS Tax and Finance 90 days ahead of implementation. The County is proposing eliminating the sales tax for the quarter beginning December 1. This time period would cover the start of the heating season. The sales tax elimination covers home heating oil, propane, natural gas, electric, coal and wood for residential heating purposes. It covers homeowners as well as rental units. Renters or landlords would be eligible depending on the structure of the unit's heat and electric use.
- Civil Service Exams: The County will waive the fees for civil service exams through December 31.

All four pools and Glen Island Beach are open daily, 11 a.m. through 6:30 p.m.; last admission at 6 p.m.; proof of residency is required. Croton Point Beach is open weekends only and Mondays, July 4 and Labor Day, Sept. 5. Parking fees at Glen Island and The Brook at Tibbetts still apply during the time admission fees are waived. For additional information, visit parks.westchestergov.com or call: 914-864-PARK.

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#### Kind regards,

### **Carolyn Fortino**

(she/her/hers)

**Deputy Communications Director** 

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### **About Westchester County**

Westchester County, located in the heart of the historic Hudson Valley, covers 500 square miles and has a population of just over one million. Originally home to Native Americans, who were members of the Lenape tribe, it is today a rich mix of many cultures and landscapes. The County is a blend of bustling cities, quaint villages and picturesque towns as well as open spaces and a network of beautiful parks. Westchester is made up

of 6 cities, 19 towns and 20 villages. Westchester County is known for top-notch public schools, and a high quality of life. The County is also an intellectual capital, boasting a highly educated workforce, competitive colleges and universities, Fortune 500 companies, world changing non-profits, and cutting-edge research centers. Westchester is led by County Executive George Latimer, who took office in January 2018 as the ninth County Executive. Using inclusion and openness as a foreground, Latimer is fighting to make Westchester a destination for all people to live, work and enjoy. Learn more about Westchester County by visiting www.westchestergov.com

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