

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
NEWS RELEASE**

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**TRASH CANS RESTORED TO
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARKS**

SILVER SPRING, MD -- The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) has restored trash cans to Montgomery County parks, reversing the “Carry-In, Carry-Out” program for trash management.

Even though the trash cans have been restored, the Commission encourages park users to practice the three R’s: **reduce** wasteful habits by purchasing reusable products, avoiding individually wrapped products and using fewer paper products; **reuse** resources by selecting washable and refillable items and containers; **recycle** items made of plastic, glass, paper and metal.

In December 2003 and January 2004, all trash cans were removed from neighborhood, local, stream valley and conservation parks. In May 2005 the County Council unanimously approved a funding increase in the fiscal year 2006 budget to restore trash cans in most parks and to improve maintenance response time.

“The program was an experiment designed to save money and to promote environmental stewardship for the parks,” said M-NCPPC Chairman Derick P. Berlage. “In some parks, it worked. However, in our most heavily used parks, especially in the densely populated down-county areas, it did not work.”

For more information about parks, go to www.montgomeryparks.org.

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