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Enjoy 19th Annual James River Parade of Lights at Henricus Historical Park

Enjoy a Colonial Christmas and Holiday Patron Reception

CHESTER, Va., Nov. 21, 2011 – The 19th Annual James River Parade of Lights, sponsored by the regional James River Advisory Council, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10. A treasured holiday tradition, the parade features boats decorated with holiday lights and attracts thousands of Richmond-area residents each year. In conjunction with the parade, the historic Citie will come alive with a Colonial Christmas presented by living history interpreters, and a holiday reception will take place for Henricus Foundation Patrons.

The Parade of Lights begins in Richmond and travels along the James River through Henrico and Chesterfield counties. The boats will be judged in a number of categories, including boater-chosen theme, originality, appearance and charm. Judges include community leaders and local celebrities. Henricus is the final venue on the parade route with the viewing scheduled from 7:30-8 p.m.

Prior to the parade, the public is encouraged to experience a Colonial Christmas at Henricus Historical Park. Visitors may tour the re-created English settlement and speak with settlers about their lives and holidays in the 17th century. Holiday colonial activities will take place during special hours from 1 until 9 p.m. Park admission and parking fees will be waived on Dec. 10.

Henricus Foundation Patrons are invited to a complimentary holiday reception in Mount Malady from 5 until 8 p.m. on Dec. 10. Current Patrons should make a reservation by Dec. 2 via email to furnishs@chesterfield.gov (include name, address and phone number). Information about becoming a new Patron may be found at www.henricus.org/gift-club. Please direct any questions to Linda Dalch Jones at 804-514-1098.

The museum store at Henricus is currently stocked with holiday gifts for people of all ages. Products include handmade Virginia Indian and colonial crafts, jewelry, historical literature, T-shirts and a variety of items for children. Prices range from budget-friendly to high-end. Gift certificates and Henricus Foundation Patron memberships also make unique holiday presents.

Henricus Historical Park is located on 32 acres along the scenic and historic James River and is surrounded by the 810-acre Dutch Gap Conservation Area. Only 20 minutes from Richmond, the park is located at 251 Henricus Park Road, Chester, Virginia 23836.

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More about Henricus Historical Park:

Founded in 1611 by Sir Thomas Dale, the Citie of Henricus is the second successful English settlement in North America and commemorated its 400th anniversary in September 2011. Henricus Historical Park is a living history museum located within the Dutch Gap Conservation Area with Pre-K–12 and adult education programs, including indoor and outdoor meeting and special event space available for rental. Henricus Historical Park is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which operates in partnership with the Henricus Foundation and the counties of Chesterfield and Henrico. For more information about Henricus Historical Park visit www.henricus.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).