



Hunterdon County Division of Parks & Recreation

# News Release

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## Hunterdon Freeholders Choose Experienced County Supervisor as Parks Director



*Supervising Ranger Craig Evans and new Division Head Dan Bush visit the Stanton Station Section of the South Branch Reservation*

The Hunterdon County Freeholders, fulfilling their goal of joining experience with vision in a new Parks Director, have named Holland Township's Dan Bush, a 23-year veteran of Hunterdon County service, including 13 years in Public Works' supervisory positions, as the County's new Parks Division Head.

Freeholder Director John E. Lanza stated, "Our over 8600 acres of parkland, owned or managed by Hunterdon County, are arguably the County's most prized and valuable asset, therefore, the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of the parks and parks programming are a priority for the Freeholder Board. That is why the selection of the right Parks Director is so significant. And Dan Bush is that right choice, as he brings together the two vital components necessary for successful parks management; experience and vision."

A lifelong resident of Hunterdon County and the present Mayor of Holland Township, Bush has "extensive land use, recreation and parks management experience from his tenure as a hands-on Mayor, and Township Committee and Planning Board member. He is also long experienced in maintenance management issues from his service in Public Works," according to Freeholder Lanza.

Prior to his promotion to Parks Director, Bush was the County Department of Public Works' General Supervisor for the South County Region. He holds a license as a certified Pesticide Applicator and was responsible for oversight of the pesticide-spraying program for 150 miles of County guardrail vegetation control. Bush also holds a certification as a Stormwater Management Administrator.

Bush's Holland Township experience includes negotiating the purchase of Bethany Ridge to develop a local park that adjoins the County park trail system, securing historic preservation grants for the Township, and liaison for Farmland Preservation, among other municipal assignments. He has served on the Holland Township Committee for eight years.

Active in the community, Bush is a past 4-H member, formerly a member of the Milford Fire Company, a Master Mason, Darcy Lodge, and the Chairman of the Hunterdon County Employees Appreciation Committee.

Following the retirement of long-time Parks Director Carol Bodder, the Parks Director position was publicly advertised. A selection committee that included Freeholder Suzanne Lagay recommended Dan Bush for the position, after conducting interviews with the several of the most qualified respondents.