

**ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO ANNOUNCES PLANS
FOR ANNUAL ESSEX COUNTY HISTORIC HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR**
*15 Historic Homes, including Essex County Kip's Castle and Walther House
at Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, will be Decorated
for the Holidays and Open for the Public's Enjoyment*

Essex County, NJ – Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. invites the public to celebrate the holiday season and participate in the **Annual Essex County Historic Holiday House Tour**. This year, the tour includes 15 Essex County historic sites, which will be decorated for the holidays and open to the public for a weekend tour. The tour includes Essex County Kip's Castle and the Walther House at the Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens. The self-guided house tour will be held **Saturday, December 2nd and Sunday, December 3rd** at the following locations:

Essex County Kip's Castle Park

[22 Crestmont Road, Verona](#)

[973-433-7469](tel:973-433-7469); www.essexcountynj.org

Admission is free. Open 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Walther House at the Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens

[474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Upper Montclair](#)

[973-783-5974](tel:973-783-5974); www.presbyirisgardens.org

Admission is free. Open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Large groups should call to make a reservation.

Ballantine House at Newark Museum

[49 Washington Street, Newark](#)

[973-596-6648](tel:973-596-6648); www.newarkmuseum.org

Admission is \$15 for adults, \$8 for children, seniors and students with a valid ID, and free for Newark Museum members, Newark residents, active duty military, students attending colleges and universities in Newark, and children ages 2 and younger. Open 12 Noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Canfield-Morgan House and Museum

[903 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove](#)

[973-239-5414](tel:973-239-5414); www.cedargrovehistoricalsociety.org

Admission is free. Donations are accepted. Open 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart

[89 Ridge Street, Newark](#)

[973-484-4600](tel:973-484-4600); www.cathedralbasilica.org

Admission is free. Donations are accepted. Open year round.

Force Homestead and Museum

[366 South Livingston Avenue, Livingston](#)

[973-533-0211](tel:973-533-0211); www.livingstonnj.org/historicalsociety.htm

Admission is free. Donations are accepted. Open 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Glenmont at Thomas Edison National Historical Park

[211 Main Street, West Orange](#)

[973-736-0550, Ext. 11](tel:973-736-0550); www.nps.gov/edis

Admission is \$10 per person and free for children under 16. Tickets can be purchased at the Park's Visitor Center and include access to the Laboratory Complex. Open by tour only from 11:30 a.m. 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Greenwood Gardens

[274 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills](#)

[973-258-4026](tel:973-258-4026); www.greenwoodgardens.org

Admission is \$10 per person and free for children under 12. Open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Grover Cleveland Birthplace

[207 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell](#)
[973-226-0001; www.presidentcleveland.org](#)

Admission is free. Donations are accepted. Open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Kingsland Manor

[3 Kingsland Street, Nutley](#)
[973-235-1549; www.kingslandmanor.org](#)

Admission is free. Donations are accepted. Open 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Montclair History Center

[973-744-1796; www.montclairhistorical.org](#)

Suggested donation is \$5 per person and free for Montclair Historical Society members. Open 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Crane House and Historic YWCA
108 and [110 Orange Road, Montclair](#)

Charles Shultz House-Evergreens
[30 North Mountain Avenue, Montclair](#)

Salvatorian Fathers

[23 Crestmont Road, Verona](#)
[973-746-8770](#)

Admission by donation. Open 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Zenas Crane Homestead

[289 Westville Avenue, West Caldwell](#)
[973-364-0155](#)

Admission is free. Open 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

“The Holiday House Tour is a great example of organizations throughout the County pooling their resources to create a wonderful event for families to enjoy and to provide insight into how past holidays were celebrated,” DiVincenzo said. “Take a break from the hustle and bustle this December and visit local homes and landmarks that will have decked the halls in holiday extravagance for one spectacular weekend. Tour historic Essex County with your friends and delight in the spirit of the season,” DiVincenzo said.

The public can visit each site at their own pace. The houses will be exquisitely decorated for the holidays and be open for public viewing. Each site will offer something unique, including musical entertainment, refreshments or educational programs. There may be an admission fee at some locations. For more information, please call [973-433-7469](#) or visit [www.essexcountynj.org](#).

The Essex County Park System was created in 1895 and is the first county park system established in the United States. The Park System consists of more than 6,000 acres and has 23 parks, five reservations, an environmental center, a zoo, Treetop Adventure Course, ice skating rink, roller skating rink, three public golf courses, golf driving range, two miniature golf courses, three off-leash dog facilities, a castle and the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens.