



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hopewell Culture
National Historical Park

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Hopewell Culture News Release

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Summer Solstice Celebration

Celebrate the longest day of the year at one of the oldest archaeological sites in Ohio!

The summer solstice plays an important role in many cultures and has been celebrated since ancient times. Numerous monuments around the world have been built with alignments to the summer solstice sunset including several earthworks created by the Hopewell Culture. Among these astronomically aligned earthworks is Hopewell Culture National Historical Park's own Mound City Group site.

To bring light to the Hopewell Culture's amazing knowledge of astronomy and skill in engineering, the park is hosting a "Summer Solstice Celebration" on Sunday, June 21, 2009. Visitors of all ages are invited to join park rangers at the Mound City Group Visitor Center starting at 7:30 pm. Evening activities include a program at 8 pm highlighting the different solar and lunar alignments of Hopewell earthworks and a ranger-led tour of Mound City Group. The event will end as visitors watch the summer solstice sun set across the northwest corner of the earthwork's square earthen wall. Each visit to the Hopewell earthworks holds a new experience. Take advantage of this great after hours opportunity and make some connections of your own!

Hopewell Culture National Historical Park is located at 16062 State Route 104, Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601. If you have any questions or would like more information please call (740) 774-1126 or visit www.nps.gov/hocu.