

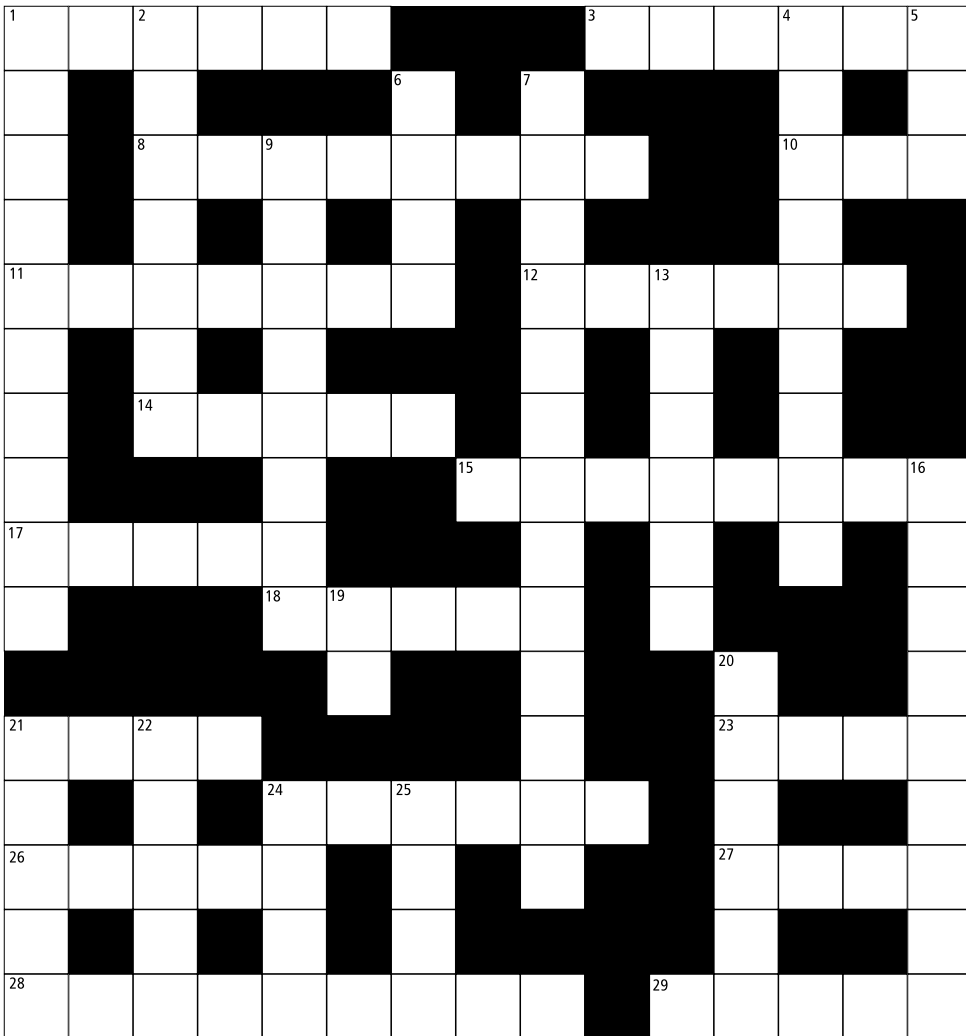
THE METRO PARKS HOLIDAY CROSSWORD 2024

It's a little bit Metro Parks and a little bit nature, with a sprinkling of holiday trivia and a dash of Tolkien and fantasy to add some Hobbit-like head scratching to the game.

Send us your completed crossword and you could **win a prize.**

Open this file in Adobe Acrobat Reader to fill in your solutions to our questions. *[Use Caps Lock when you fill it in.]* Then send your completed **CROSSWORD** to us at info@metroparks.net.

Most of all, have fun doing it!



ACROSS

1. Two of the Metro Parks have this river in their name. (6)
3. The name given to the Lord of the Rings. (6)
8. These pantaloan-like flowers looked like the garb of this guy, a _____ (8)
10. Take one of these in a river or a lake to cool down. (3)
11. He rubs the magic lamp. (7)
12. Nature does this in spring and we do it every day. (6)
14. The fruit of the oak. (5)
15. Bird song, fruits, even Christmas deals, all have their own candidate to be called this. (8)
17. The "blue" of this species is the largest creature on Earth. (5)
18. You can throw an atlatl at some Metro Parks programs, which is a kind of _____. (5)
21. It can be worn at ceremonies. (4)
23. These creatures were corrupted elves and served Melkor and the Lord of the Rings. (4)
24. Gotta have it in the morning. (6)
26. It's bald and has wings. (5)
27. A long extinct bird. (4)
28. We have one of these at one of our parks and it's high. (4,5)
29. A reptilian means of transportation, and babies do it too. (5)

DOWN

1. Watch out for this Father Christmas – he could rip you to shreds. (5,5)
2. Rare bats found in the parks, and with a state in their name. (7)
4. This head-banging bird has a scarlet noggin, according to the first part of its name. (9)
5. For a quick forty winks, take one of these. (3)
6. If not now, then ____? (4)
7. This northern songbird says 'Eh!' (6,7)
9. They are frog wannabes. (8)
13. It lasts for about four weeks and ends on Christmas Day. (6)
16. A mushroom, of the kind some amphibians were said to sit under. (9)
19. Add one letter and it could become edible, but in this form it will help you calculate the size of your baked goods. (2)
20. The land where the Lord of the Rings lived. (6)
21. Continents have them, and unwanted Christmas toys are left on them at the shop. (5)
22. A type of maple tree. (5)
24. One hundred of each in a dollar. (7)
25. Rivers do this. (4)