

## PlungeFest to feature 'Jersey Shore' personality, kids carnival activities

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PlungeFest — the free winter festival surrounding the MSP Polar Bear Plunge — has something for everyone in 2011, offering six different zones of frigid fun that allow festival-goers to choose their Plunge Day experience from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at Sandy Point State Park.

The MSP Polar Bear Plunge has raised more than \$16 million for Special Olympics Maryland in its 14-year history, and nearly 60,000 people have braved the bitter waters of the Chesapeake Bay. This year marks the 15-year anniversary of this celebrated event, and organizers expect as many as 12,000 men, women and children to once again grin and

“bear” it for the athletes of Special Olympics Maryland.

Highlights of this expanded festival include an appearance by DJ Pauly D of MTV’s “Jersey Shore,” who will be headlining the Rams Head Ice Lodge, which is returning for its second year; the new Chesapeake Bayhawks Arctic Lacrosse Zone, featuring autograph sessions and demos; Mickey Harris’ Monster Garage, where airbrush artist Mickey Harris will transform a HD Street Glide into a masterpiece, and even a Spa by the Bay thanks to the Robert Andrew Tuscan Spa Retreat.

The Carnival FunFest tent is a kids’ area with boardwalk-style carnival games, animals on display by the Maryland Zoo in

Baltimore, a variety of food vendors, crafters and other displays.

Admission to all PlungeFest activities is free to Plunge participants and spectators alike. Polar Express shuttle buses are also available at no cost, traveling to and from Sandy Point State Park from the Naval Academy Stadium, Anne Arundel Community College and Kent Island High School on the Eastern Shore.

Those wishing to participate in the plunge can do so at either 1 or 3 p.m. and need only contribute \$50 in pledges. For that donation, all participants will receive a commemorative event sweatshirt and photo gift. Online registration is available at [plungemd.com](http://plungemd.com).

