**Entrance Fee Increase at Thomas Edison National Historical Park**

**Beginning July 4, 2015**

WEST ORANGE, NJ –Starting on July 4, 2015 Thomas Edison NHP will increase entrance fees for visitors in order to fund important maintenance and improvement projects within the park. Regular adult admission will increase from $ 7.00 to $10.00. Entrance fees are not charged to persons under 16 years of age or to holders of the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Senior, Access or Military Passes.

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| **Type of Fee** | **Past fee** | **New fee** |
| Entrance Fee | $ 7.00 | $ 10.00 |
| Park Annual Pass | $ 30.00 | $ 40.00 |
| Expanded Amenity Fee –Audio Tour | $ 5.00 | $ 5.00 |

This past January, the park offered open forums and public presentations called***Your Fee Dollars at Work*** to get community feedback about the proposal for the fee increase. During the public comment period, the park received many supportive comments: "I vote for the increase, the visit and exhibits are well worth the fees," "These are not high fees, it costs $10.00 up for a movie ticket."

"This modest increase in fees will allow us to continue to protect, preserve and share special places here at Thomas Edison NHP with current visitors and future generations," said Superintendent Thomas E. Ross. "After carefully considering the impact of a fee increase on visitors and community members, we came to the conclusion that this is the right course of action to improve facilities and services important to visitors."

Entrance fees have supported a wide range of projects that improve the park and visitor experiences, including installation of LED lighting in exhibit cabinets, new automatic door openers to improve accessibility for visitors using wheelchairs or with mobility impairments and treatment of the historic machines in the precision machine shop to ensure long term preservation.

Thomas Edison National Historical Park is a strong economic engine for the surrounding area.In 2014, more than 51,000 park visitors contributed $2.9 million to the local economy and supported 38jobs in the local area.

*Thomas Edison NHP is a National Park Service site dedicated to promoting an international understanding and appreciation of the life and extraordinary achievements of Thomas Alva Edison by preserving, protecting, and interpreting the Park's extensive historic artifact and archive collections at the Edison Laboratory Complex and Glenmont, the Edison family estate.The Visitor Center is located at 211 Main Street in West Orange, New Jersey.Summer hours at the Laboratory Complex are Wednesday through Sunday from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.For more information or directions please call 973-736-0550 ext. 11 or visit our website at* [*www.nps.gov/edis*](http://www.nps.gov/edis)*.*

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