



Acadia Paw Press

The National Parks: America's Best Idea

The much-anticipated new film by Ken Burns and writer-producer Dayton Duncan about America's national parks, which was filmed over the course of more than six years at some of our country's most spectacular sites, comes out in September. *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* is a captivating story of people from every conceivable background who were willing to devote themselves to saving some piece of the land they loved. The telling of their stories is set against the stunning scenery of our nation's most beautiful landscapes.

The series tells the story of the National Park System, which began in 1872 with the formation of Yellowstone National Park. The system now includes 58 parks and 333 national monuments and historic sites. The 12-hour series will be shown starting September 27 on public television, including the Maine Public Broadcasting Network. The program includes more than 50 interviews and is comprised of six episodes that feature such parks as Yosemite, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Everglades, Gates of the Arctic, and, of course, Acadia.

Both Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan were in Bar Harbor in early August for a sneak preview of the film, which was screened to a sold-out crowd at the Criterion Theater, and featured two segments on Acadia National Park. In his introductory remarks, Mr. Burns described the extensive outreach efforts to schools that will accompany the release of his film. According to the film's website, the educator resources that will be available in September include printed and online educational materials that will provide teachers with lesson plans

and hands-on learning activities that can be used by a broad range of grades and disciplines. The focus of the materials will be on finding and telling the "untold" stories of one's own community and the creation of student-generated digital media projects incorporating the ideals of the film and the national parks.

See www.pbs.org/nationalparks for more information about the film, to share your story about national parks, or to access the educator resources, and be sure to mark the date on your calendar!



America's Best Idea explores the stories behind the founding of our national parks.

National Park Service Websites

www.nps.gov/acad

The official website of Acadia National Park. Includes information on park resources, trip planning, and more.

www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers

The home of Acadia National Park's education program. Offers links to teacher, parent, and student resources; the Junior Ranger program; online activities for kids; and more.

www.nps.gov/learn

National Park Service curriculum-based learning tools, teaching resources, and online activities.

www.efieldtrips.org

Includes interactive virtual national park visits, trip journal worksheets, "ask an expert," and live web chats.

www.nps.gov/webangers

The online Junior Ranger program for kids of all ages



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Acadia National Park protects more than 47,000 acres of granite-domed mountains, woodlands, lakes and ponds, and ocean shoreline, creating striking scenery and diverse habitats. This diverse environment combines with a rich cultural history to create unparalleled scientific, educational, and recreational opportunities in a spectacular setting.

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Staff News

JENNIFER SEPANARA will join the education staff as an intern this fall after spending her summer as a field conservation intern for a land trust on Martha's Vineyard. Jennifer is from Massachusetts and graduated from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, with a degree in environmental studies and a minor in biology. Her work experiences include teaching about sustainable agriculture at an educational farm, working on an organic farm, and leading interpretive kayak tours.

JULIE SWANTON is our other education intern this fall. Julie is also from Massachusetts but spent her summer right here in Acadia helping to lead interpretive programs as one of the park's Student Conservation Association interns (SCAs). She recently graduated from Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, with a degree in environmental studies and has volunteered at the EcoTarium in the wildlife department doing presentations for children and leading tree canopy walks.

Park Ranger **GRETCHEN GEBHARDT** returned to Acadia this summer from her home in Oregon for a second season with the Education District. During the summer she led the Mountain Mysteries hike on South Bubble Mountain, developed a new program on Cadillac Mountain called *Without a Trace*, and was

the interpretive ranger working with the park's patrol horse Max during public programs. She also put her training in geology to good use while leading the Great Head Geology hike and presenting the children's program *Acadia Rocks*. She will continue with the Education District this fall as our seasonal education ranger.

SEA Director **KATE PETRIE** will be busy this fall directing the Schoodic Education Adventure program at the Schoodic Education and Research Center. This summer she coordinated and taught several teacher institutes at the Schoodic campus. She also was responsible for planning and overseeing National Junior Ranger Day, Family Fun Day, and the Artist-In-Residence program.

This spring, Lead Education Ranger **MICHAEL MARION** presented two well-attended teacher workshops on using and teaching with GPS units. During the summer, he led the Gorham Mountain Hike and narrated the Frenchman Bay Cruise. He also developed and led a new program for summer visitors called

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Fall Program Confirmations Now By e-Mail!

In an effort to make the reservation process easier for everyone, you will notice the following changes this fall season:

- Program confirmation documents will be sent by e-mail.
- Look for an e-mail message from Acadia's Education Office with the subject line "Program Confirmation."
- The message will tell you the day, date, time, and place for your program.
- One attachment will have all the documents you need for a successful program. Please print for easy reference.
- The attachment includes a Welcome Letter, Trip Planner, Program Alignment with Maine State Learning Results, Chaperone Responsibilities, and Photo Release forms. See below for ways to make the most of these.

Confirmation e-mail document list:

- Welcome Letter – This includes logistics and the core information you need to know for your program.
- Trip Planner – Details are key! Here's your one-stop place to attend to all your trip details. A timetable leading up to your day in the park is included.
- Program Alignment with Maine State Learning Results – This matrix aligns our curriculum-based school programs with the newer Maine State Learning Results and can be a tool in justifying your school's program.
- Chaperone Responsibilities – You are welcome to photocopy this and give it to those wonderful people who volunteer their time to help make the program successful.
- Photo Release Forms – These are important. Please copy and have each child return a signed release. Note: The release is good for the entire school year. If you bring them in the fall, you won't need them again in the spring.
- Bonus!!! – It's now easier to explore online resources. Just click the links in your Welcome Letter or Trip Planner, and you are there!



Staff, Cont.

Waypoint Acadia, teaching students and families to become familiar with navigating the park using the Education District's ten new GPS units. He will pilot the new program for middle school classes this fall as well as coordinate and teach school programs on Mount Desert Island.

Park Ranger **DONNA HEALY** developed two new programs for summer visitors this year: one focusing on dragonflies and damselflies and the other examining a small square of Acadia for hidden treasures. She also continued to oversee the Carroll Homestead Open House, present her popular program on frogs, and give the Islesford Historical Cruise, as well as maintain the Education District's teacher database. She looks forward to continuing with her ninth year at Acadia National Park.

Education Coordinator **CYNTHIA OCEL** presented her Owl Moon program this summer during full moon evenings to wide acclaim. She also led participants in Acadia's Stream Team in monitoring the macroinvertebrate diversity in one of Acadia's protected watersheds. She attended an education workshop at Cape Cod National Seashore and has been kept busy in the office managing Acadia's education program.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 12, 7 p.m.

Conversations on Acadia's Geology

Join Bill Clark, retired park ranger, to explore the geology of Acadia National Park. This talk is part of the "Second Saturday" series of monthly talks at the Moore Auditorium at Acadia's Schoodic Education and Research Center (SERC), near Winter Harbor, Maine. The series features topics of community interest and normally takes place on the second Saturday of each month at SERC. Free.

Saturday, October 3, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Project Learning Tree

Explore forest ecology and environmental topics while making connections to the PLT curriculum, Maine Learning Results, and your year-long teaching and learning goals. This workshop, held at the Kidney Pond Library at Baxter State Park, is for teachers, resource professionals, and informal educators. Receive a certificate for six hours of professional training. Dress for both indoor and outdoor activities and bring a lunch. Fee: \$30/person (includes the PreK-8 PLT Activity guide, a Maine Forests Forever CD-Rom, refreshments, and resource materials). Register before September 25; send checks, made out to the Maine TREE Foundation with workshop date noted, to 153 Hospital Street, Augusta, Maine 04330. Call Patricia Maloney at 207-626-7990 for more information.

Acadia Junior Ranger Backpacks Still Available

Acadia distributed Junior Ranger backpacks to many third-grade students throughout the Maine last fall based upon requests received from school administrators and teachers. We still have some backpacks left, so if your third-grade class didn't receive any, and you would like to distribute the backpacks to your students, please contact the Education Office.

Find the Acadia EarthCache—GPS Units Provided!

The Education Office has ten GPS units available to loan at no charge to educators wishing to come to Acadia to complete the Acadia EarthCache program with their classes. This is a great way to learn about local geology while working as a team and becoming familiar with GPS technology.

The Acadia EarthCache program is accessible by road from April 15 to December 1 (weather permitting). Some parts of the EarthCache route require hiking, and each site along the way provides clues to the next. A ranger-led tutorial in the use of the GPS units is available by prior arrangement. More information about the Acadia EarthCache is available at www.nps.gov/acad/earthcache.htm. To sign out the GPS units or arrange for teacher or class instruction in their use, contact the Education Office.



Has Your School e-Mail Changed?

We are updating our teacher and school database to include changes that came with recent school consolidations. Please be sure to give us your new e-mail address and RSU if there have been changes in your district. There are two ways you can do this:

- If you are requesting a fall program, just include your new e-mail address and a note that it has changed on the Program Reservation Form.
- Send an email to the Education Office at acad_education_office@nps.gov.

Lecture Series and New Book About Wabanaki History on Mount Desert Island

Anthropologists Bunny McBride and Harald E. L. Prins will present a trilogy of lectures about Wabanaki history in the area. The presentations are drawn from their new book, entitled *Indians in Eden: Wabanakis and Rusticators on Maine's Mt. Desert Island, 1840s – 1920s*. The programs are sponsored by the Penobscot Indian Nation, Friends of Acadia, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Abbe Museum, and Acadia National Park.



Friday, September 18, 6–8 p.m. *Researching Indians in Eden: A Stroll into Wabanaki Camps at Mt. Desert Island*

Join the authors for a short presentation detailing how they discovered and pieced together archival information about the Indian encampments where Penobscot and Passamaquoddy (and smaller numbers of Maliseets and Mik'maq) lived during the summer months, who they were, what they did, and what the tents and camps looked like. Nick Sapiel, Jr., Conference Room, Penobscot Indian Nation reservation, Indian Island, Maine (Indian Island is accessible by bridge from Route 43 in Old Town). For more information about the location, contact Maria Girouard at 207-817-7471 or maria.girouard@penobscotnation.org.



Saturday, September 19, 7:30 p.m. *Note the Vanishing Indians and Wilderness: Wabanaki Tribal Historians and Early Anthropologists at Mt. Desert Island*

Discover early research by Wabanaki tribal historians collaborating with visiting folklorists, linguists, and anthropologists who helped

document what many thought would be a “vanishing wilderness” with its “vanishing Indians.” Information gathered by these early researchers about Wabanaki night-sky legends will tie in with the Acadia Night Sky Festival. Maren Auditorium, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Salsbury Cove. Part of the Acadia Science Seminar Series. Contact Rebecca Cole-Will at 207-288-8728 or rebecca_cole-will@nps.gov.

Sunday, September 20, 2:30–4 p.m. *“Birch and Canvas Canoes to Let”: Chief Big Thunder and Other Wabanaki Indian Guides in Bar Harbor*

This final presentation takes its title from a painted sign by Penobscot Indian guide and showman Frank Loring, known also by his stage name “Big Thunder.” The talk focuses on Indian canoe-making and guiding in Frenchman Bay and is a preview for an exhibit curated by the authors that will open at the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor in February 2010. The presentation follows a canoe-making program by Penobscot Patrick Almenas from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact Raney Bench at the Abbe Museum at 207-288-3519 or educator@abbemuseum.org.

The International Year of Astronomy

Two small slivers of glass—nestled in a tube the length of a person’s arm—changed the way we see the universe. This year marks the 400th anniversary of Galileo’s use of a telescope to investigate the starry skies. In 1609, aided by a simple telescope, Galileo recorded his observations as sepia-toned sketches depicting vast lunar seas, Saturn’s faint rings, and Jupiter’s moons.

To commemorate this and many more discoveries, the International Year of Astronomy (IYA2009) involves a worldwide effort to celebrate all things celestial and encourage everyone to rediscover the wonders of the night. A major goal of this year’s astronomy-themed events is to help foster

awareness and protection of a precious resource—dark nights filled only with starlight. Poorly directed lighting produces sky glow that obstructs our view of the stars, planets, and other galaxies. Although densely populated urban areas within a day’s drive of Acadia have already lost sight of the Milky Way, the park still offers inky nights awash in brilliant star light.

Like Acadia’s own varied landscape, the starry reaches of our Milky Way galaxy offer mountains, valleys, and rivers of dust and gas to explore. Instead of a hiking stick, water, and map, the only tools you’ll need to discover what the heavens hold is a pair of binoculars, star map, and your own imagination.

To learn a few tricks of the trade, join a park ranger on a celestial-themed program. In addition to the star talk, Stars Over Sand Beach, or the sensory hike, Knowing the Night, you are invited to look up at the universe just as Galileo did 400 years ago—through a telescope. Join park staff at the Night Sky Scoping program to take a closer look at faint stars, the moon, or distant galaxies. Thanks to the support of park partners and the National Park Service Astronomy Volunteer-in-Parks program, telescope viewing sessions will be offered every Saturday and Sunday evening from September 5 to 20; reservations are required. For details, see the park newspaper (www.nps.gov/acad/parknews/newspaper.htm).

Night Sky Festival - Park Events



From September 17 to 21, the Acadia Night Sky Festival will celebrate the night sky. Find the full calendar of community events at www.nightskyfestival.org. Park-sponsored events include:

Thursday, September 17

8 p.m. – Stars Over Sand Beach

Discover the wonders of Acadia’s night sky. 1½-hour talk, Sand Beach

Friday, September 18

6:30 p.m. – Knowing the Night

Explore the mystery and intrigue of the night world. For adults and children 8 and older. Fee. Call 288-3338, ext. 0, for reservations. 2-hour walk

7:30 p.m. – National Parks in the Sky

If there were national parks beyond Earth, where would they be? Come find out! 1-hour talk, Blackwoods Campground

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Night Sky, Cont. Teacher-Ranger-Teachers

Saturday, September 19

2 & 3 p.m. – Understanding Our Universe

Discover how simple observations on Earth offer clues to the greater mysteries of our planet, solar system, and beyond. 30-minute talk, Sieur de Monts Nature Center

8–10 p.m. – Night Sky Scoping

Join a ranger for a telescope-viewing sessions. Cadillac Mtn.

Sunday, September 20

2 & 3 p.m. – Understanding Our Universe

Discover how simple observations on Earth offer clues to the greater mysteries of our planet, solar system, and beyond. 30-minute talk, Sieur de Monts Nature Center

6:30 p.m. – Knowing the Night

Explore the mystery and intrigue of the night world. For adults and children 8 and older. Fee. Call 288-3338, ext. 0, for reservations. 2-hour walk

8–10 p.m. – Night Sky Scoping

Join a ranger for a telescope-viewing sessions. Seawall Picnic Area

Monday, September 21

5:30–7 a.m. – Sunrise on Cadillac Mountain

Join a ranger to witness the daily ritual of starlight giving way to the sun. Dress warmly.

For more information, inquire at the visitor center or visit www.nps.gov/acad/parknews/newspaper.htm.

Following a successful year for the Teacher-Ranger-Teacher (TRT) program in 2008, Acadia had three more teacher-rangers in the summer of 2009. Our 2009 teacher-rangers represented Maine, New Hampshire, and New York. Maggie Harnois teaches social studies at a small rural school in southwest New Hampshire; Sharon Kozura teaches seventh-grade science, math, and social studies in a small school in Aroostook County; and Nena Shaheed is a science teacher from New York City. These three TRTs packed an awful lot into their summer at Acadia to make it as rich an experience as possible.

They helped the resource management staff with a variety of projects such as collecting water samples to check for bacteria and to monitor the pH, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity of the lakes; assisting a graduate student by counting birds and people to see how they impact the intertidal region; and gathering seeds from a rare plant, which will be frozen to assure its survival, on Cadillac Mountain. They took advantage of the opportunity to attend numerous ranger programs to become familiar with the park's resources and then assisted with some programs including presenting a "Ranger's Choice" program for the public on a topic of their choice. Training sessions during the summer included a Leave No Trace workshop, a

teacher's workshop on integrating field research activities into classroom curricula, and weekly "resource sessions" on everything from botany to astronomy to Wabanaki culture.

Acadia's teacher-rangers documented their experiences in a blog on the park website. Learn more about their adventures in the park at www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers/trtblog.htm. The blog will be updated through the school year as the teachers use their experiences in the park to enhance their classroom activities.

For more information and photos about Acadia's Teacher-Ranger-Teacher program, visit www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers/teacher-ranger-teacher.htm. Applications for the 2010 TRT program will be posted online by the end of December. It's a great way to spend your summer!



TRT Nena helps out at Peregrine Watch.

Schoodic Education and Research Center

Fungi Blitz

Have you ever wondered the name of a beautiful mushroom that emerged near your house? Did you know that mushrooms are neither plants nor animals but have their own kingdom? Did you know that some mushrooms glow in the dark? You can learn the answers to these questions and more at a public session of the 2009 Fungi BioBlitz.

This year's BioBlitz will take place at Acadia's Schoodic Education and Research Center campus near Winter Harbor on the weekend of September 11, 12, and 13. You may still be able to register to help the mushroom scientists (mycologists) during the collecting part of the weekend if you're especially interested, or you can sit in on the public session on Sunday, September 13, from 9 a.m. to noon, when you can join the mushroom experts for an informative talk followed by a short trip outdoors to help collect mushroom specimens.

Space is limited; please register by contacting June Devisfruto at june_devisfruto@nps.gov or 207-288-1316. The public workshop is free and open to the public.



Teacher Institute

Acadia National Park is offering a two-day teacher institute at the Schoodic Education and Research Center in Winter Harbor, Maine. To find out more about our teacher institutes and scholarships, visit our website at www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers/professionaldevelopment.htm or send an e-mail to kate_petrie@nps.gov.

October 13–14, 2009

Integrating Field Research Activities into Classroom Curricula

Integrate field research activities into your classroom curricula with the Schoodic Education Adventure program. Join us for this two-day workshop to collect field data, apply it to classroom lessons, and connect it to real-world applications in America's national parks. Participants will:

- Create schoolyard investigation kits for their classrooms
- Be introduced to field-based activities that can be reproduced in a number of field settings
- Learn classroom-based activities relating to science, social studies, technology, math, language arts, small group communication, public speaking, art, health, and citizenship
- Use GPS units and computers to create digital maps of study sites
- Study forest community structure, marine biodiversity, geology, soil development, and New England history
- Qualify for student scholarships and transportation assistance for the SEA program (optional)
- Earn 1.2CEUs

The cost is \$225; scholarships are available. Fee covers meals, lodging, and supplies.



Acadia National Park - 2009 Fall Programs



THIRD GRADE

Carriage Road Explorers

Who built Acadia's historic carriage road system? Why were these stone roads and bridges built and how? Why and how does the National Park Service preserve them? Travel by horse-drawn carriage or on foot as you hear about the people who played a part in developing this unique park resource.

The park will provide classroom copies of *Exploring the Carriage Roads*.

Walk: Free. Available September 14 - October 30.

Ride: \$10 per student, cash or check made payable to Wildwood Stables. Limited to one adult per ten students. Available September 14, 18, 23, 25 and October 2, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23.

*First 240 students to sign up for the carriage ride are FREE, courtesy of Acadia National Park!



FOURTH GRADE

Animals of Acadia

"Food, water, shelter, space. Habitat is a wonderful place." Explore two very different habitats at Acadia National Park. Discover how the state-endangered peregrine falcon and the widespread beaver have adapted to survive in the wild. Available September 14 - October 30.



FIFTH GRADE

Island Life

Embark on a sea voyage to the Islesford Historical Museum on Little Cranberry Island. On the island, students will learn about the lives of residents during the early part of our country's history. Cost: \$14 per person (cash or check made payable to Downeast Windjammer Cruises).

Limited to 1 adult per 10 students. Available September 14 - October 9. *First 200 students to sign up are FREE, courtesy of Acadia National Park!



SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE

Fire and Ice

While hiking around Great Head, we will read the landscape and share the story of Acadia's geologic past. See evidence of the local rock cycle, glacial features, and plate tectonics. This program works best as a review of basic geologic terms and processes studied in the classroom.

Warning: The hiking trail has fairly strenuous sections! Available September 14 - October 30.

The reservation deadline is September 8!



Acadia National Park - Program Reservation Form

Please return by Tuesday, September 8, 2009
 Return in one of three ways:

- E-mail as an attachment to
 acad_education_office@nps.gov
- Fax to 288-8831
- Mail to Education Office - Acadia National Park
 P.O. Box 177
 Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Teacher Name(s) _____

School _____

School Phone # _____ # of Students _____

E-mail Address _____

*****Please make a separate copy of this form for each program you request!*****

Please check one

	Third Grade - Carriage Road Explorers (WALK) Park provides <i>Exploring the Carriage Roads</i> booklets. <i>Available dates: September 14 – October 30</i>	Time: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
	Third Grade -Carriage Road Explorers (BY CARRIAGE) Park provides <i>Exploring the Carriage Roads</i> booklets. Charge: \$10 per student, paid for by Acadia National Park (first 240 students) <i>Available dates: September 14,18,23,25 and October 2,6,8,9,14,15,21,22,23</i>	Time: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
	Fourth Grade - Animals of Acadia <i>Available dates: September 14 – October 30</i>	Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
	Fifth Grade - Island Life Charge: \$14 per passenger, paid for by Acadia National Park (first 200 students) <i>Available dates: September 14 – October 9</i>	Time: 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.
	Sixth - Eighth Grades - Fire and Ice Please circle the grade level participating: 6 7 8 <i>Available dates: September 14 – October 30</i> *Contact our office if you need a copy of the <i>Geology of MDI: A Visitor's Guide</i> .	Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
First Choice Date		
Second Choice Date		
Third Choice Date		

Note: Let us know in advance if you have any conflicts with the scheduled program times.

What pre-visit activities will you be doing with your students?

Note below any special requests or needs, including accessibility or medical issues.

An e-mail confirming the dates of your program will be sent within one week of processing your program request. If your program is scheduled for the week of September 14 or if there is a conflict with dates, you will be contacted by phone.

Office Use Only:	Confirmation sent:	Program date:
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