

Cape Cod National Seashore Activities for April 1 - 30, 2013

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.nps.gov/caco



SALT POND VISITOR CENTER

OPEN DAILY 9 TO 4:30 PM, OFF ROUTE 6, EASTHAM. 508 - 255 - 3421

This visitor center offers magnificent views of Salt Pond, Nauset Marsh, and the Atlantic; an outstanding museum; and thematic films in the theater. Staff are on duty to help with trip planning. There is a well-stocked store offering books, maps, puzzles, games, apparel and other interpretive items for sale. Restrooms are available in the parking area. The Nauset Marsh and Buttonbush trails, and the Nauset Bicycle Trail are nearby.

Outdoor programs may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Indoor programs may be offered instead under these circumstances. Some program sites do not have restrooms. Call the Salt Pond Visitor Center at 508 - 255 - 3421, for current information. All programs are free.



General Programming

Tuesdays

WALK: ARCHEOLOGY ON THE OUTER CAPE - 10:30 AM. 1 hour, 1/2 mile.

Free. Learn about the various discoveries archeology has uncovered at Cape Cod National Seashore. The program will highlight the Carn's Archeological Site discovered in the fall of 1990. Meet at Coast Guard Beach parking area, Eastham. Accessible with assistance, if Salt Pond Visitor Center is notified in advance 508-255-3421, ext. 0.

Saturdays

WALK: NAUSET MARSH TRAIL DISCOVERY - 2:30 PM. 1 hour, 1 mile. Free. Take this easy one hour walk to discover some of the intriguing stories and features of this scenic and both naturally and culturally significant area within the national seashore. Meet at the terrace of the Salt Pond Visitor Center. Eastham.

TOUR: CAPTAIN EDWARD PENNIMAN HOUSE: A WHALING FAMILY'S STORY - 11 AM, 1 hour. Free. Learn about the Penniman family through a tour of their home and stories of their travels. Examine some of the hardships, adventures, and lifestyle of a whaling family. **By reservation only.** Call Salt Pond Visitor Center, 508-255-3421, ext 0. Meet at the Penniman House at Fort Hill, Eastham. *April 13, 20, and 27 only.*



Sundays

WALK: SHORELINE STROLL - 10:30 AM. 1 hour, 1 mile. Free. Explore the various habitats of forest, marsh, dunes, and bay, while discovering how they all work together to create a dynamic coastal barrier system known as the Great Island 'gut.' Meet at the Great Island parking area, Wellfleet

WALK: LIGHTHOUSE TOUR of the THREE SISTERS - 3 PM. 1 hour, 1/2 mile. Free. These 19th-century lighthouses once provided a beacon for sailors off the shore of Nauset Light Beach. Come and learn of their history and importance. Meet at Nauset Light Beach parking area, Eastham. *April 14, 21, and 28 only.* 



Special Programming

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

TALK: OCEAN FUTURES: CAPE COD, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE - 1:30 PM. 1 hour. Free.

Join Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies Marine Education Director Jesse Mechling, for this last program in the *Ocean Futures Series*. Discover what makes the Cape's marine ecosystem one of the most fertile in the world. Learn how our marine environment helped shape our community and how it has changed over the years. From dolphin strandings to seals and great whites, investigate recent changes and topics in the news and learn what the future may bring to our local waters. Salt Pond Visitor Center auditorium, Eastham. 



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Special Programming *continued*

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

WHALING AND LIFESAVING - 11 AM. 1 hour, 1/4 mile. Free. The northernmost tip of Cape Cod is a wonderful vantage point for spotting migrating right whales. We will look from shore, and discuss the natural history of whales as well as the historic whaling industry. Then we will try the view from the Old Harbor Life-Saving Station, and learn about the day to day life of the surfmen who lived there.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

HIKE: AN "ISLAND" SETTLEMENT: THE HISTORY OF BOUND BROOK - 9:30 AM. 2 hours, 2 miles. Free.

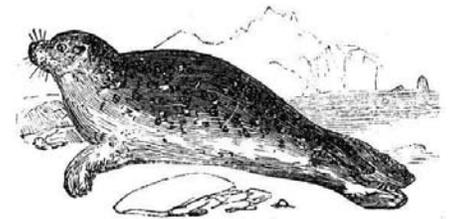
Explore this northernmost of the so-called "islands" of Wellfleet which flank the shore of Cape Cod Bay. Bounded also by the Herring River to the east and Bound Brook to the north, Bound Brook Island is the only one of this group with homes still standing from this earliest period of English settlement in Wellfleet. **Reservations are required.** Call Salt Pond Visitor Center at 508-255-3421, ext. 0, to reserve and for meeting location. Dress appropriately for the weather. Sturdy walking shoes are recommended.

Family Activities



Monday, April 15, Wednesday, April 17, and Friday, April 19

ON THE LOOKOUT! – 10 AM to 12 noon, and 1 to 3 PM. Visit Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, any time during the times noted, and find the ranger "on the lookout" for items of interest including life along the shore or in the ocean. Whales, seals, seabirds, and other sea life are among the possibilities.



JUNIOR RANGER DAY

Wednesday, April 17, 12 noon - 2:30 PM. Free. Kids can participate in a weather balloon launch countdown with park rangers at a special atmospheric observation station located in the park. Fun weather activities will be offered before and after the balloon launch. Activities will include: *Observing the Water Cycle, Name that Cloud, Temperature Matters, It's Leafing Out: Observing Plants*, and more. Meet at the Highlands Center parking area, end of Dewline Road, North Truro.



INTERNATIONAL MARCONI DAY

Saturday, April 20, 10 AM - 3 PM. Free.

In 1903, Guglielmo Marconi made history when he sent and received the first two-way wireless transatlantic message from the United States to Europe from his Wellfleet station. Families are invited to join licensed radio operators from the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club as they make two way contacts with other operators around the world to honor the birthday of Marconi, on the Saturday closest to his birth date, April 25, 1874. Kids can practice Morse code on a "key," use signal flags, and learn about other signaling techniques used prior to the invention of wireless. Takes place at the Coast Guard Station, Coast Guard Beach, Eastham. *Limited parking.*



Become a Junior Ranger

What is a Junior Ranger? A Junior Ranger is: ...a Caretaker ...an Adventurer ...a Learner ...a Seeker ... a Discoverer... *A Junior Ranger could be... YOU!* If you are between the ages of 5 and 12, you can start the Junior Ranger journey. Just pick up the small Junior Ranger booklet at the visitor center, talk to one of the Rangers at the visitor center desk, and you're ready to explore Cape Cod National Seashore!

Kids, have you been on the Buttonbush Trail yet this year?

Pick up one of the trail folders, from the visitor center or the trailhead, and head out to find some activity stations. Have fun dip netting, building a mouse house, or just exploring! ♿

Visit Cape Cod National Seashore's website at www.nps.gov/caco