

March 2010



Special Programs this Month at Fire Island National Seashore

For More Information:

www.nps.gov/fiis
631-687-4750

Saturday

March 6:
9 - 11 am

Winter Birding at the Lighthouse - Fire Island Lighthouse

(Free program. For more information call 631-661-4876)

Come along on this winter birding program to identify and observe some of Fire Island's various bird species. Waterfowl, shorebirds, hawks and songbirds should all be found on this wonderful barrier island. Bring binoculars and dress warmly. Program will meet at the eastern end of Robert Moses State Park Field #5, then meander down to the Fire Island Lighthouse by 11 a.m.

Sunday

March 7:
10 - 11:30 am

Inside the Park's Collections – William Floyd Estate

(Free program. Reservations required; call 631-399-2030)

Take an inside look at Fire Island National Seashore's museum collections. More than 100,000 objects are catalogued and stored in the park's curatorial storage facility. See christening dresses, 19th century ceramics, indentures, cartes de visite, and much more. Limit of 6 people.

Friday

March 12:
7 pm

Star Watch: A Night of Astronomy – Wilderness Visitor Center

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-281-3010)

Led by a guest speaker, the whole family will enjoy a captivating slide show and a viewing of the night skies by telescope. Dress for the weather!:

Saturday

March 13:
9 - 11 am

Old Mastic Winter Bird Walk – William Floyd Estate

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-399-2030)

Search for both wintering and year-round avian species at the Old Mastic Estate. Dress for the weather and be prepared for a 2- to 3-mile roundtrip walk.

Saturday

March 13:
2 pm

Seaside Stories and Crafts: Spring Birds – Wilderness Visitor Center

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-281-3010)

Have fun while learning about the birds that migrate through Fire Island, then create a craft to take home. Geared for kids ages 5 - 7, but all are welcome!

Sunday

March 14:
10 - 11:30 am

Inside the Park's Collections – William Floyd Estate

(Free program. Reservations required; call 631-399-2030)

Take an inside look at Fire Island National Seashore's museum collections. More than 100,000 objects are catalogued and stored in the park's curatorial storage facility. See christening dresses, 19th century ceramics, indentures, cartes de visite, and much more. Limit of 6 people.

Saturday

March 20:
9 am – Noon

Fire Island Wilderness Spring Awakening Hike - Wilderness Visitor Center

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-281-3010)

Dress for the weather and join a ranger for a guided 3-mile round-trip hike on the beach and into New York's only federally designated wilderness area. Park at Smith Point County Park, meet at Wilderness Visitor Center.

Saturday

March 20:
1 pm

Pictorial History of Fire Island: - Fire Island Lighthouse

(Free Program; call for more information 631-661-4876)

Stony Brook University Professor Frank Turano will present a fascinating pictorial history of Fire Island, from 1850 – 1950. Meet at the Keepers Quarters inside the Fire Island Lighthouse.

Saturday

March 27:
10 - 11:30 am

In Honor of Trees – William Floyd Estate

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-399-2030)

Learn to identify local trees offseason without their leaves by observing bark, buds and seeds. Dress for the weather. Roundtrip walk is less than 2 miles.

Saturday

March 27:
Noon

Junior Ranger Workshop: Spring Migration – Wilderness Visitor Center

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-281-3010)

Discover the significance of the Atlantic Flyway and value of suitable habitat for migratory animals. Learn about piping plovers and other migratory birds. Dress for the weather and be prepared for an outdoor walk. Kids 8 - 12!

Saturday

March 27:
6 pm

Junior Ranger Workshop: Exploring the Night Sky – Wilderness Visitor Center

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-281-3010)

Discover the significance and value of a dark night sky. Learn about winter constellations and complete the Junior Ranger Night Explorer activity booklet. Dress for the weather and be prepared for outdoor viewing. Kids ages 8 - 12!

3/15/2010

(More)

Sunday
March 28:
9 – 11 am

The Old Mastic Way to the Bay – William Floyd Estate

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-399-2030)

Explore a fascinating cultural landscape and natural history. This ranger-guided walk from the Old Mastic House to the bay follows roads well used by the Floyd family from the mid-1700s to the 1970s. Along the way, discover signs of historic uses of the property. Pass through fields and woods, along mounds and ditches, cultural plantings, fresh water creeks, and the salt marsh on Moriches Bay. Dress for the weather. Be prepared for a 3-mile roundtrip walk.

Fire Island National Seashore Facilities open in March

Fire Island Lighthouse - 631-661-4876

Open mid-December – March 13, Weekdays, 9:30 am – 4 pm; Weekends, Noon – 4 pm

Open March 13 – 31, Weekdays, 9:30 am – 4 pm; Weekends, Noon - 5 pm

April through June—Daily, 9:30 am – 5 pm

Closed on Easter

Last tower tour 1 hour before closing

Wilderness Visitor Center - 631-281-3010

Open January 1 through June: Wednesday - Sunday, 9 am – 4 pm

Wilderness camping permits when office is open

Park Headquarters in Patchogue - 631-687-4750

Open all year, Monday - Friday, 9:30 – 4 pm

Closed on federal holidays

William Floyd Estate - 631-399-2030

Closed until May 2010, grounds open for special guided tours

Watch for special programs this winter and spring!

Sailors Haven and Watch Hill Facilities and *The Pier* at Watch Hill Restaurant

Closed until May 2010

Watch Hill Campground www.watchhillfi.com - 631-567-6664

Reservations for 2010 season accepted by mail after January 1