



October 2012 Special Programs this Month at Fire Island National Seashore

For More Information:

www.nps.gov/fiis

631-687-4750

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Weekends (thru Oct. 8)

Sunken Forest Tour 11:30 am - 1 pm – Sailors Haven Visitor Center

Saturdays (thru Oct. 8)

Watch Hill Salt Marsh and the Maritimes Walk 11 am – 12:30 pm – Watch Hill Visitor Center

Saturday

October 6:

10 am – Noon

Wildflowers of Autumn - William Floyd Estate

Free program; call for directions: 631-399-2030

Fall is peak time for a variety of wildflowers to bloom. The fields are washed in a pretty array of colors. Native grasses also add color to the landscape. This 2-hour program will look at the blooms in the Old Mastic Fields. Wear tick repellent!

Sunday

October 7:

2 – 3:30 pm

Step Back in Time – Fire Island Lighthouse

Free program; call for information: 631-687-4780

Explore the history of the Fire Island Light Station on this ranger-led walking tour of its grounds and outer buildings. Discover the importance of the light and its keepers, and the U. S. Life Saving Service in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Saturday

October 13:

10 am - 2 pm

Educators' Workshop: Beach Dynamics 101 – Wilderness Visitor Center

Free program; Reservations required; 631-687-4780 or FIIS_ Interpretation@nps.gov

Explore the wind, waves and sand; use Fire Island National Seashore as your outdoor classroom. Discover the forces that shape the barrier island. Hands-on workshop addresses NY State Learning Standards for middle and high school grades. Activities include beach profiling, mineral identification, and wind and wave studies. Certificate awarded upon completion.

Saturday

October 13:

6 - 8 pm

Fire Island Lighthouse Lantern Light Tour – Meet at Robert Moses State Park Field #5

\$10/person; reservations required; call: 631-661-4876

Enjoy an escorted lantern light walk along the beach & through the swale as stationed interpreters unfold the stories of the United States Life Saving Service & Fire Island Light Station. Tours leave at 15-minute intervals. Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight for your walk back to the parking field. Sunset is at 7:15 pm. Tower open until 9 pm at regular fees.

Sunday

October 14:

2 – 3 pm

Telling History: An Afternoon of Storytelling – Fire Island Lighthouse Fresnel Lens Building

Free program; call for information: 631-687-4766

Are you a long-time resident or visitor to Fire Island? Do you have photos to show or stories to tell? Join us and share your reflections on the nature and culture or family stories of this very special place.

Sunday

October 21:

10 am – Noon

Bird Migration Walk – Meet at Robert Moses State Park Field #5

Free program; call for information: 631-687-4780

Join a park ranger for this slow meander ending at the Fire Island Lighthouse. Visit maritime woods, beach swale and bay-shore habitats in search of migrating birds and discover why Fire Island is such a hotspot for birds and birdwatching. Bring binoculars, dress for the weather, and be ready for a 1½-mile walk.

Saturday

October 20:

10 – 11:30 am

Old Mastic House: A Simple Architectural Tour – William Floyd Estate

Free program; reservations required: call 631-399-2030

See examples of Colonial, Victorian and Greek Revival architecture among the many styles represented at the Old Mastic House over the past 250 years. 18th Century doors, post and beam framing, 12 over 12 windows are among the details.

Saturday

October 27:

10 am

Documents in Stone - William Floyd Estate

Free program; reservations required: call 631-399-2030

Unique introduction to genealogical research. Discover a variety of ways to learn about grave markers from the materials they were made of to foot stones to kinship to burial characteristics. Learn about the origins of the "Deaths Head" and take home a grave stone rubbing.

Saturday

October 27:

7 pm

Ghost Stories & Legends of Fire Island – Fire Island Lighthouse

Free program; call for information/directions: 631-661-4876

Join us on the Lighthouse terrace to listen to tales of eerie happenings along the Barrier Beach. Dress warmly, bring blankets and flashlights. Tower tours will be available from 4-6 pm at the regular fee. Arrive early for a **Special Nature Walk/The Magic of Autumn** from 5 – 6 pm

Friday

October TBA:

7 - 9 pm

Star Watch: A Night of Astronomy – Wilderness Visitor Center

Free program; call for information: 631-281-3010 or 631-687-4780

Bring the family and join special guest astronomer Tom Carey for this free star gazing program. After an indoor Presentation, view the fall night sky and the stars over Fire Island. Telescopes will be provided. Dress for the weather.

Fire Island National Seashore Facilities open during October 2012

Ferry Service to Watch Hill - 631-475-1665 and Sailors Haven - 631-597-8980

Weekend/Holiday service only September 8 – October 8

Talisman/Barrett Beach – restrooms open through October 8

Sailors Haven Visitor Center - 631-597-6183

Open weekends only (11 am – 2:30 pm) through Columbus Day, October 8

Sailors Haven Marina - 631-597-6171

Open through October 28. Weekday special of \$1/foot, Monday –Thursday (except holidays)

Sailors Haven Snack Bar

Open 11 am –2:30 pm daily through October 8

Watch Hill Visitor Center - 631-597-6455

Open weekends only (11 am – 4 pm) through Columbus Day, October 8

Watch Hill Snack Bar

Open 11 am – 3:30 pm daily through October 8

Watch Hill Marina - 631-597-3109

Open through October 14. Shoulder season special of \$1/foot, Sunday –Thursday (after September 3)

Watch Hill Campground - 631-567-6664

Open through October 21. (Patchogue-Watch Hill Ferry service only available on weekends through October 8)

The Pier at Watch Hill Restaurant - 631-597-9060

Closed for the season.

Fire Island Lighthouse - 631-661-4876

Open Sept. 4- November 3, 9:30 am –5 pm; Nov. 4 – mid-Dec., 9:30 – 4 pm;

mid-Dec. – March open weekends Noon – 4 pm & weekdays 10 am – 4 pm

Closed on Thanksgiving & Christmas days. Last tower tour 1 hour before closing.

*Tower restoration work is expected to begin this fall: **No Tower Tours during construction.***

Wilderness Visitor Center- 631-281-3010

Open September 4 – December 31, 9 am –4 pm daily. Closed on Thanksgiving & Christmas days.

Sportsman's Recreational Driving Permits on sale after September 1, for use September 15 – December 31.

William Floyd Estate - 631-399-2030

Open through November 12: Friday – Sunday and Holidays, 9 am – 5 pm

Guided Old Mastic House Tours 10 am – 4 pm on the half-hour when grounds are open

Park Headquarters in Patchogue - 631-687-4750

Open all year, Monday - Friday, 9:30 – 4 pm Closed on federal holidays

Patchogue-Watch Hill Ferry Terminal

Open September 8—October 7, weekends, 10am –5 pm; Oct. 8 Noon – 5 pm.

Closed from October 9 until May 2013, but watch for special programs!