



## October 2012 Special Programs this Month at Fire Island National Seashore

For More Information:

[www.nps.gov/fiis](http://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 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 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. 18<sup>th</sup> 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:

3 – 4:30 pm

**Exploring the Lighthouse Nature Trail** – Fire Island Lighthouse

*Free program; call for information: 631-661-4876 or 631-687-4780*

Bundle up and discover the diverse barrier island habitats that surround the Fire Island Lighthouse, constructed on the western end of Fire Island in 1857.

### 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. **Evening Tower Tours** will be available from **4-6 pm** at the regular fee.

**Arrive early** for a **Beach Apparatus Drill** at 4:30 pm. Enjoy a little **Strolling Light Magic** from **6-7 pm**

## 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!*