

# Fire Island

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fire Island National Seashore  
Long Island, New York



## Visitor Programs and Events—October 2014

**Looking back on 50 years!** From September, 2014 through September, 2015, Fire Island National Seashore will celebrate its 50th birthday. During this year-long celebration, Fire Island National Seashore and its partners will host special events including a *Fifty Years of Fire Island* lecture series. October lectures include *Arts Afire*, Patchogue-Watch Hill ferry terminal, October 2 at 6:30 pm; *Saving Cold-Stunned Turtles*, Fire Island Lighthouse, October 12 at 2 pm; and *Storm Stories*, Fire Island Lighthouse, October 26 at 2 pm. For a full listing of 2014 Fall Lectures please visit: [www.nps.gov/fiis/planyourvisit/fire-island-50.htm](http://www.nps.gov/fiis/planyourvisit/fire-island-50.htm)

### William Floyd Estate

Call for information:

631-399-2030

Parking is available on site.

### Old Mastic House Tours

Friday–Sunday & Holidays

10 am–4 pm (every half-hour)

Tours are limited to 10 people.

Visit the historic home of William Floyd and be guided through multiple generations of change from the 1720s to the 1970s. The furnished 25-room Old Mastic House is only available by guided tour. Last tour leaves at 4 pm.

### The Artwork of Old Mastic

Saturday, October 4

11 am–12:30 pm

Reservations Required.

Floyd family members and guests painted or sketched life as they saw it on the Estate. Take a tour of the house; learn about these artists and view their art now on display providing glimpses into Mastic's and Long Island's past.

### Old Mastic House:

#### A Simple Architectural Tour

Saturday, October 18

10 am–11:30 am

See examples of Colonial, Victorian, and Greek Revival architecture among the many styles represented at Old Mastic House over the past 250 years. 18<sup>th</sup> century doors, post and beam framing, 12 over 12 windows, and other details will be explored.

### Documents in Stone

Sunday, October 26

10 am–11:30 am

This examination of the Estate's historic grave markers provides a unique introduction to genealogical research. Explore the materials they were made of, foot stones, kinship and burial characteristics. Learn about the origins of the "Deaths Head" and do a gravestone rubbing.

### Wilderness Visitor Center

Call for information:

631-281-3010

Parking is available at Smith Point County Park.

### Songs of Wilderness Exhibit

Wednesdays–Sundays,

through October 13

9 am–4 pm

The Fire Island Wilderness—its undulating dunes, back dune swale and dynamic breach has inspired mixed media artist David Adams' exhibit. The artist presents creative spin art superimposed on drift wood and other objects cast upon the shore, as well as sketches and paintings celebrating Fire Island's ever-changing landscape.

### Beach to Breach Hike

Sunday, October 12

10 am–1 pm

Fire Island is constantly changing; the landscape is shaped by each tide, season, and year. Come enjoy the fall

on Fire Island and explore the dynamic beach environment on this 3-mile round-trip hike to the breach at Old Inlet. Pack drinking water and a snack for this ranger-guided walk, and be prepared for walking on sand.

### The Secret Life of Night Flyers

Sunday, October 26

6 pm–8 pm

The mystery unfolds at dusk. Join a park ranger for a short indoor presentation about the bats of Fire Island followed by an outdoor walk in bat habitat. Dress for the outdoors.

### Watch Hill Visitor Center

Call for information:

631-687-4780

By Watch Hill Ferry, Patchogue

### Salt Marsh Meander

Saturdays–Sundays and

Holiday Mondays,

through October 13

11:30 am–1 pm

Take a boardwalk stroll from bay to beach, and visit with Fire Island National Seashore's largest contiguous salt marsh. Get up close, but without getting muddy, to the specialized plants and animals that thrive in this salty "sea of green" between land and sea. Let a park ranger be your guide as you explore this verdant and valuable habitat which is a nursery for marine life, a buffer against storms and pollution, and place for nature watching and contemplation.

## Sailors Haven Visitor Center

Call for information:

631-687-4780

By Sailors Haven Ferry, Sayville

## Sunken Forest Tours

Saturdays–Sundays and  
Holiday Mondays,  
through October 13

11:30 am–1 pm

Explore Fire Island's wilder side and its special blend of barrier island ecology during this guided tour of the Sunken Forest—300 year old globally rare holly maritime forest. Tour participants will find out how this unusual forest came to be, how the specialized plants and animals there interact, and how humans have influenced and are influenced by this unique place.

## Fire Island Lighthouse

Call for reservations and  
information: 631-661-4876

Parking is available at Robert  
Moses State Park, Field #5.

## Tower Tours

Weekdays, 1 pm–4 pm

Weekends, 10 am–4 pm

42" Height Requirement. Fee.

## Lantern Light Tour

Saturday, October 4

6 pm–8 pm

Meet at Field #5

Reservations Required. Fee.

Enjoy an escorted lantern light walk along the beach and through the swale as stationed interpreters unfold the stories of the United States Life Saving Service and Fire Island Light Station. Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight for the walk back to field #5.

## Fall Migration Bird Walk

Saturday, October 18

9 am–10:30 am

Meet at Field #5

Join a park ranger and catch fall migration in full swing. Be on the lookout for migrant ospreys, falcons,

swallows and warblers passing through on their southbound journey. Bring binoculars if you have them and dress for the weather.

## Hike through History

Sunday, October 19

1 pm–2:30 pm

Meet at Field #5

Step back in time and learn about the 1963 battle to protect Fire Island from development, leading up to the 1964 establishment of Fire Island National Seashore. Explore the natural world and learn about Fire Island's iconic lighthouse as you walk.

## Ghost Stories & Legends of Fire Island

Saturday, October 25

7 pm–8:30 pm

Listen to tales of eerie happenings along the barrier beach. Dress warmly; bring a flashlight and blanket. Tower tours will be available from 4 pm–6 pm at the regular fee.

## International Coastal Cleanup Sunday, October 26

11 am–2 pm

Roll up your sleeves and chip in! The International Coastal Cleanup is a global effort to remove manmade debris from our precious shorelines and help protect the health of the people and wildlife that rely on them. Dress for the weather and for walking on sand.



## For information and updates:

[twitter.com/FireIslandNPS](https://twitter.com/FireIslandNPS),  
[facebook.com/FireIslandNPS](https://facebook.com/FireIslandNPS),  
[www.nps.gov/fiis](http://www.nps.gov/fiis) or email:  
[fiis\\_information@nps.gov](mailto:fiis_information@nps.gov)

## Fire Island National Seashore Facilities Open October 2014

**Park Headquarters in Patchogue: 631-687-4750**

Open all year, Monday–Friday, 9 am–4 pm (Closed on federal holidays)

**Fire Island Lighthouse: 631-661-4876**

Open daily 9:30 am–5 pm

### Sailors Haven Facilities

Visitor Center: 631-597-6183

Saturdays, Sundays, & October 13 (Columbus Day) 11 am–3 pm

Sailors Haven Ferry Service: 631-589-8980

Fall Schedule through October 13

### Watch Hill Facilities

Visitor Center: 631-597-6455

Saturdays, Sundays, & October 13 (Columbus Day) 11 am–4 pm

Watch Hill Campground: 631-567-6664

Reservations Required: visit [www.watchhillfi.com](http://www.watchhillfi.com) for May–October 2014

Watch Hill Ferry Service: 631-475-1665

Fall Schedule through October 13

**Wilderness Visitor Center: 631-281-3010**

Wednesdays–Sundays 9 am–4 pm

**William Floyd Estate: 631-399-2030**

Grounds: through Nov 11: Open Fridays–Sundays, & Holidays, 9 am–5 pm

### Patchogue-Watch Hill Ferry Terminal

Weekends through October 4—but watch for special programs!

### Backcountry Camping

Reservations Required: visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

Access to east and west zones are from Watch Hill only while breach at Old

Inlet is open. There is no access from the Wilderness Visitor Center at this time.