



# Sandy Hook Visitor Programs

## Fall 2007

### September

#### Lenape Nature Walk

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, September 8 at 2 p.m.

Native Americans used plants, animals and other Sandy Hook resources to survive. Discover how they made use of nature's gifts on this ranger led walk.

#### Tribute in Light

North Beach Observation Deck  
Tuesday, September 11  
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

View the annual tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001

#### Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters Art Exhibit

Daily in September and October  
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Plein Air Painters of the Jersey Coast will again be exhibiting their beautiful paintings of Sandy Hook and the surrounding area, and this return visit is highly anticipated. The Plein Air Painters are often seen painting on Sandy Hook, and their interpretation of the natural landscape that Sandy Hook has to offer is truly impressive. Once you've viewed an exhibit of the Plein Air Painters of the Jersey Coast you will begin to appreciate, with more vivid detail, the treasures that we call Sandy Hook and Fort Hancock.

Visit Gateway NRA on the web at:  
[www.nps.gov/gate](http://www.nps.gov/gate)

#### Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Features exhibits, a bookstore and visit planning information. The Visitor Center is the historic Spermaceti Cove Life-Saving Station.

#### Sandy Hook Lighthouse & Keepers Quarters

In September & October. Daily 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (noon to 5 p.m. on weekends)  
Saturday evenings, September 22 & 29, October 6 & 13, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
In November. Weekends, noon to 4:30 p.m.

Lighthouse tours throughout the afternoon. You must be 48 inches tall to climb the tower. The Keepers Quarters has exhibits on NJ Lighthouses. The adjacent Lighthouse Keepers Barn is always open with a video on the Sandy Hook Lighthouse.

#### Fort Hancock Museum

Weekends, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The museum is in the former post guardhouse and has a bookstore and exhibits on Fort Hancock.

#### History House

Weekends, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

This 1898 lieutenant's residence along "Officers Row" is furnished to the 1940's when Fort Hancock was at its busiest.

#### Sandy Hook Bird Observatory

Building 20, Fort Hancock's Officers Row

Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The New Jersey Audubon Society field center with a bookshop and displays.  
Call 732-872-2500.

#### Battery Potter

Weekends in September and October, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Explore Sandy Hook's oldest gun battery on tours given through the afternoon.

#### Nike Missile Radar Site

Parking Area L at Horseshoe Cove

Saturdays, September 15 & 29 and October, 6 & 20, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Sundays, September 9 & 23 and October 14 & 28, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Sandy Hook Nike missile site was part of the air defenses around New York City from the 1950s through the 1970s. Tour the radar site where the supersonic Nike missiles were controlled and guided.

### **Families Investigate Science Hands-On (FISH)**

NJ Marine Sciences Consortium, Building 22, Fort Hancock  
Hands-on learning is integrated into each of these 3-hour activities. Reservations required for these fee programs. Call 732-872-1300, ext. 30 or on the web: [www.njmssc.org](http://www.njmssc.org)

### **On Sandy Shores**

Saturday, September 15 at 1 p.m.

### **Terrific Terrapins**

Saturday, September 22 at 1:30 p.m.  
Sunday, October 7 at 11 a.m.

### **Salt Marsh Investigation**

Sunday, September 23 at 11 a.m.  
Sunday, October 7 at 1:30 p.m.

### **Incredible Crustaceans**

Saturday, September 29 at 11 a.m.

### **Lenape and the Jersey Shore**

Saturday, September 29 at 1:30 p.m.

### **Hallow-Marine**

Saturday, October 27. Tours start at 5 p.m.

### **ALS Coastal Art Series: Nature Photography**

Fort Hancock, Building 18  
Tuesday, September 11 at 9 a.m.  
Bring your camera and join an expert photographer from the American Littoral Society in a beautiful Sandy Hook setting for a lesson on capturing the natural world. We provide expertise and a nice lunch. Call 732 - 291-0055 to reserve a spot on this fee program.

### **Seining in Sandy Hook Bay**

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, September 15 at 2 p.m.  
This hands-on program explores the creatures in the bay. Free, but reservations required. 732-872-5970.

### **Junior Rangers**

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Sunday, September 16 at 2 p.m.  
A program for kids ages 7 to 12. Walk a beach trail with a ranger and learn about the environment and our responsibility to maintain it. Free, but reservations required. 732-872-5970.

### **Holly Forest Ramble**

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, September 22 at 2 p.m.  
A walk through Sandy Hook's 64-acre maritime holly forest with a ranger.

### **NJAS Birding for Beginners**

Meet at Sandy Hook Visitor Center Parking Lot  
Sunday September 23 at 10 a.m.  
Join a naturalist from the New Jersey Audubon Society in search of migratory birds that use the Hook as a "rest stop." This is the peak time for flycatchers, vireos, warblers, and other species that winter in the tropics.

### **Battery Gunnison Preserved**

Sunday, September 23  
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
The Army Ground Forces Association is a volunteer group who works on the restoration and interpretation of Battery Gunnison and its 6-inch guns. Visitors are invited to stop by on this work day to chat and learn more.

### **ALS Fall Equinox Shore Walk**

Guardian Park at Fort Hancock  
Sunday, September 23 at 7 p.m.  
Join a guide from the American Littoral Society for an evening walk to explore part of Sandy Hook on this first day of fall. Free, but call as we need a head count. 732-291-0055.

### **Cold War Day**

Parking Lot L at Horseshoe Cove  
Sunday, September 23  
noon to 4 p.m.  
Visit a Nike Missile radar site restored to the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis. See Cold War era military displays. Veterans of Fort Hancock welcome.

### **Monarch Butterfly Walk**

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, September 29 at 2 p.m.  
This remarkable insect whose migration route ends in Mexico is featured on a ranger led tour.

### **Going Bunkers**

Fort Hancock Museum  
Sunday, September 30 at 2 p.m.  
A 2-hour ranger led tour of fortifications that once defended New York Harbor. Bring a flashlight. Free but reservations needed. 732-872-5970.

## **October**

### **NJAS Birding 101**

Meet at Sandy Hook Visitor Center Parking Lot  
Saturday October 6 at 10 a.m.  
Bring your binoculars and join a seasoned naturalist from the NJ Audubon Society in search of hawks, shorebirds, and songbirds at one of New Jersey's best birding locations. Early fall offers a wide array of species and perhaps monarch butterfly migration if conditions are favorable.

### **Harbor Lights**

Twin Lights State Historic Site  
Highlands, New Jersey  
Sunday, October 7 at 2 p.m.  
Discover the lighthouses, lightships and buoys that help guide ships into New York Harbor. Bring binoculars. Free, but need reservations. Call 732-872-1814 or e-mail: [Twin-lights@monmouth.com](mailto:Twin-lights@monmouth.com).

### **Monmouth County Audubon Bird Walk**

Meet at Sandy Hook Visitor Center Parking Lot  
Saturday, October 13 at 9 a.m.  
Join MCAS for a fall bird walk when "the Hook" is at its best - dressed in spectacular fall colors.

## Monarch Butterfly Walk

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, October 13 at 2 p.m.  
This remarkable insect whose migration route ends in Mexico is featured on a ranger led tour.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clean Ocean Action Fall Beach Sweep

Beach Area E

Saturday, October 20 at 9 a.m.

A morning spent cleaning some of Sandy Hook's beaches. Bring gloves and dress for the weather. Event is rain or shine. Individuals, families and organized groups all welcome. Groups please register in advance.

For more information call the COA at 732-872-0111 or visit [www.CleanOceanAction.org](http://www.CleanOceanAction.org)

## New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge Weekend, 2007

Sandy Hook Lighthouse  
Saturday October 20, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday October 21, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Sandy Hook Light is one of 11 New Jersey Lighthouses along the Atlantic coast and Delaware Bay open for tours this weekend at this annual event sponsored by the NJ Lighthouse Society. For more information visit the web:

<http://www.njlhs.org/challenge/challenge.html>

## Junior Rangers

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Sunday, October 21 at 2 p.m.

A program for kids ages 7 to 12. Walk a beach trail with a ranger and learn about the environment and our responsibility to maintain it. Free. Reservations required. Call 732-872-5970.

## Night Prowl

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, October 27 at 7 p.m.

Bring a flashlight on this night walk. Free. Reservations required. Call 732-872-5970.

## Battery Gunnison in World War II

Saturday & Sunday  
October 27 & 28, noon to 4 p.m.  
Volunteer living historians from the Army Ground Forces Association will be uniformed as World War II era coast artillery soldiers and demonstrate how the guns of Battery Gunnison were aimed and fired.

## Fort Hancock Day

Sunday, October 28  
noon to 4 p.m.

Events mark the 1895 establishment of Fort Hancock. Tours through buildings not normally open to the public will be offered. Talk with living history re-enactors who will have military items on display.



## Fort Hancock Walking Tour

Meet at the Flag Pole on Pershing Field, opposite the Fort Hancock Museum

Sunday, November 11 at 2 p.m.

A Veterans Day walking tour of Fort Hancock.

## ALS Coastal Art Series: Keeping a Personal Field Journal

Fort Hancock, Building 18  
Thursday, November 8 at 9 a.m.

Join the American Littoral Society to learn to record your outdoor experiences in a personal field journal. Reviewing past notes is one of the best ways to relive an experience and often better than pictures.

We'll provide a journal.

Call the ALS at 732-291-0055 to reserve a spot on this fee program.

## November

### Salt Marsh Walk

Horseshoe Cove Parking Area  
Saturday, November 3 at 2 p.m.

Explore a wetland salt marsh along Sandy Hook Bay

### NJAS Fall Bird Walk

Meet at Sandy Hook Visitor Center Parking Lot

Sunday November 4 at 10 a.m.

Late fall is when sparrows, waterfowl, hawks and other birds arrive at Sandy Hook for the winter. Bring binoculars and join a NJ Audubon Society naturalist for a guided walk in search of some of the species found at the Hook.

### Cold War Defenses on Sandy Hook

Meet at the Nike Ajax Missile, ¼ mile north of the Ranger Station

Sunday, November 4 at 2 p.m.

Car caravan to Sandy Hook's Nike missile sites built as part of the Cold War harbor defenses in the 1950s.

### Battery Gunnison Preserved

Sunday, November 18, 1 to 4 p.m.

The Army Ground Forces Association is a volunteer group who works on the restoration and interpretation of Battery Gunnison and its 6-inch guns. Visitors are invited to stop by on this work day to chat and learn more.

### Holly Forest Ramble

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, November 24 at 2 p.m.

A ranger- led walk through Sandy Hook's 64-acre maritime holly forest.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Gateway National Recreation Area  
Office of Communications and Public Affairs  
210 New York Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10305

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## Visitor Programs Sandy Hook Unit Fall 2007



### Gateway National Recreation Area Sandy Hook Unit

**General Superintendent**  
Gateway National Recreation Area  
Barry T. Sullivan

**Superintendent**  
Sandy Hook Unit  
Richard Wells

**Assistant Superintendent**  
Sandy Hook Unit  
Bill Nelligan

**Chief of Interpretation**  
Sandy Hook Unit  
Lou Venuto

**Sandy Hook 24 - Hour  
Emergency Number**  
732- 872- 5900

**Sandy Hook  
Visitor Center**  
732- 872- 5970

**[www.nps.gov/gate](http://www.nps.gov/gate)**

### Sandy Hook Cooperators

The National Park Service's partners in education and research at Sandy Hook are:

**American Littoral Society**  
732-291-0055  
[www.littoralsociety.org](http://www.littoralsociety.org)

**Brookdale Community College**  
732-224-2435  
[www.brookdalecc.edu/staff/sandyhook/index.html](http://www.brookdalecc.edu/staff/sandyhook/index.html)

**Clean Ocean Action**  
732-872-0111  
[www.cleanoceanaction.org](http://www.cleanoceanaction.org)

**National Oceanic & Atmospheric  
Administration, Northeast Fisheries  
Center, Sandy Hook Laboratory**  
732-872-3000  
<http://sh.nefsc.noaa.gov>

**James J Howard Marine Laboratory**  
732-872-1762

**Marine Academy  
of Science and Technology.**  
732-291-0995  
[www.mast.mcvsd.org](http://www.mast.mcvsd.org)

**New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium**  
732-872-1300  
[www.njmsc.org](http://www.njmsc.org)

**Rutgers University, Institute of  
Marine & Coastal Sciences**  
<http://marine.rutgers.edu>

**Sandy Hook Bird Observatory**  
732-872-2500  
[www.njaudubon.org](http://www.njaudubon.org)

**Sandy Hook Child Care Center**  
732-291-2368

**Sandy Hook Foundation**  
732-291-7733  
[www.sandyhookfoundationnj.org](http://www.sandyhookfoundationnj.org)

**Sandy Hook Partners**  
732-708-9010  
[www.thefortatsandyhook.net](http://www.thefortatsandyhook.net)

### New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail

Sandy Hook is a site on the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail. The purpose of the Trail is to provide for public appreciation, education, understanding, and enjoyment of significant natural and cultural sites in the coastal area of New Jersey. For more information call 856-447-0103 or visit: [www.nps.gov/neje](http://www.nps.gov/neje)