



Staten Island Visitor Programs

Summer 2008

June

Astronomy Night

Great Kills Park
Model Airplane Field
Saturday, June 7 at dusk
Join the Amateur Astronomers Association for a tour of the evening sky. Telescopes will be available or you can bring your own. Weather permitting.

National Trails Day

Great Kills Park
Blue Dot Trailhead
Saturday, June 7, 10 a.m.
Volunteer to improve a trail during this nationwide effort. The National Park Service joins the American Hiking Association and the Unilever National Parks program in this sponsored event. Clear a meadow of encroaching woody vegetation and help beautify your local national park. Dress for field work, equipment provided.

HOOP It Up With the National Park Service

Miller Field Basketball Courts
Saturdays, June 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 9 a.m.
Come HOOP It UP with the National Park Service rangers for a day of 5-on-5 basketball. Teams only. Reservations required.
June 7, Ages 7-9 only.
June 14, Ages 10-12 only.
June 21, Ages 13-14 only.
June 28, Ages 15-16 only.



Wild Roses bloom at Great Kills Park.

In The Good Old Days

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Sunday, June 8 at 1 p.m.
Children ages 7 and up are invited to join National Park Service volunteers in historic Battery Weed, as they spin tales and music from the Victorian period. Complete the visit by making a craft from the past to take home. (Rain or shine) Reservations required.

Lantern Tour of Fort Wadsworth

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Thursdays, June 12 and 26 at 8 p.m.
Our most popular tour explores the historic sites of the fort by night. Bring a flashlight. Reservations required.

America's Boating Course

Great Kills Park
Education Field Station
Saturdays, June 14 and 21, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
This course is offered by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary flotilla 1402 and is a National Association of State Boating Law Administrator's approved course. To receive credit it is required to attend both days. Please call (718) 966-4496 or (718) 448-6879 for reservations.

View from the Top: A Father's Day Special

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Sunday, June 15 at 1 p.m.
Enjoy a tour of Battery Weed and its top tier (weather permitting) for a special view of New York Harbor. Visitors will also be able to see the restored turn-of-the-century lighthouse. (Note: minimum height requirement for children is 48 inches.) Reservations required.

Horseshoe Crab Walk

Great Kills Park
Education Field Station
Wednesday, June 18 at 7 p.m.
Search Crooke's Point for the mysterious horseshoe crab as this ancient species comes ashore to spawn.

Mont Sec House Programs

112A Mont Sec Avenue
Fort Wadsworth

Visit Mont Sec House and learn about life circa 1890.

Tours:

Saturday, July 12 & 26
Sunday, August 3 & 10
at 1 p.m.

Quilling:

Learn the age old art of Quilling.

Saturday, July 19 at 1p.m.

(Note: parking is in the Visitor Center parking lot, handicapped parking is available)

**Gateway NRA
Staten Island Unit
210 New York Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10305**

**Fort Wadsworth
(718) 354 – 4500**

The visitor center is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ranger-led tours of the fortifications are conducted Wednesday through Sunday at 2:30 pm.

**Great Kills Park
(718) 987 – 6790**

The ranger station is open Friday through Monday from 9 am to 4:30 p.m.

**Miller Field
(718) 351– 6970**

The ranger station is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 pm.

Permits

Fishing and Bird Watching/Nature Study Parking permits are available for the 2008 season at Fort Wadsworth, Miller Field and Great Kills Park.

Boat Launch Permits are issued at Great Kills Park only.

For information on programs at other units of Gateway NRA, contact:

**Jamaica Bay Unit, New York
(718) 338 - 3338, extension 224**

**Sandy Hook Unit, New Jersey
(732) 872 - 5970**

www.nps.gov/gate

**Gateway NRA
Office of Communications and
Public Affairs
(718) 354 - 4606**

Programs are subject to change due to weather or other concerns. Please call the park before attending.

Junior Rangers At Great Kills Park

**Monday: July 7, August 4
Thursday: July 10, August 7
9:30 a.m. to noon**

The four day program will cover varying topics in nature study. Participants, ages 7-12, will earn a Junior Ranger badge and patch, awarded on the last day of the program.

Participants are welcome to attend as many programs as they can.

Children should dress for the weather and wear appropriate shoes for the outdoors. Please bring water. Reservations required.

Call 718-987-6790.

Tour of Fort Wadsworth in Russian

**Fort Wadsworth
Visitor Center**

Sunday, June 29 at 1 p.m.

National Park Service volunteers Lucy Fedtova & Taris Galitsin will lead a tour of historic Fort Wadsworth in Russian.

July

Astronomy Night

**Great Kills Park
Model Airplane Field
Saturday, July 5 at dusk**

Join the Amateur Astronomers Association for a tour of the evening sky. Telescopes will be available or you can bring your own. Weather permitting.

Seine and Search

**Great Kills Park Beach Center
Sunday, July 6 at 11 a.m.**

Join a park ranger and learn the Native American technique of seining while discovering the animals of the shore. All equipment will be provided.

Staten Island Out LOUD: Declaration of Independence, Emancipation Proclamation

**Fort Wadsworth Overlook
(Rain or shine)**

Sunday, July 6 at 3 p.m.

Staten Island Out LOUD will host a participatory reading of the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and some short fiction. All ages are welcome. Please bring a lawn chair.

Junior Rangers

**Monday, July 7 and
Thursday, July 10**

9:30 a.m. to noon

(See special program listing)

Sandcastle Lighthouse Arts & Crafts Activity

**Miller Field Ranger Station
Saturday, July 12 at 1 p.m.**

Join a National Park Service ranger for an afternoon of arts & crafts. All supplies will be provided. All ages welcome. Dress comfortably. Reservations required.

America's Boating Course

**Education Field Station
Saturdays, July 12 and 19,
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

This course is offered by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary flotilla 1402 and is a National Association of State Boating Law Administrator's approved course. To receive credit it is required to attend both days. Please call (718) 966-4496 or (718) 448-6879 for reservations.

Battery Weed Open House

**Fort Wadsworth
Battery Weed
Sunday, July 13 from 1p.m. to
4p.m.**

Explore the courtyard, lower casemates and cannon of Battery Weed with a National Park Service ranger. Enjoy this unique structure while learning about the history of Battery Weed and its importance to the security of New York Harbor. Children will learn about and play Civil War games on the lawn.

A La Carte

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Sundays, July 13 and 27
Ongoing activities from
noon to 2 p.m.

Come explore the National Park Service portable discovery station to learn about native plants and animals.

Quilling

Fort Wadsworth
Mont Sec House

Saturday, July 19 at 10 a.m.

Come learn a popular craft from the 18th and 19th century in historic Mont Sec House. Quilling or paper filigree as it was called is an age-old art that creates flowers and other designs from long, thin strips of paper. This program is best suited for adults. Reservations required.

Kites

Miller Field Ranger Station
Saturday, July 19 at 1:00 p.m.

National Park Service rangers will build kites with adults and families then launch them from the historic airfield. All materials will be provided. Reservations required.

Kite's Eye View

Fort Wadsworth
Fort Tompkins Glacis (hillside)
Friday, July 25, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Explore the grounds and fortifications at Fort Wadsworth by taking aerial photographs using a kite. Program to repeat on August 26.

Staten Island Out LOUD Sixth Annual Melville Festival

Fort Wadsworth's Overlook
(Rain or shine)

Saturday, July 26 at 6:30 p.m.

A majestic view of New York Harbor will be the backdrop as Staten Island Out LOUD reads selections from Moby Dick and plays music from the era. All ages are welcome. Please bring a lawn chair.

Make and Break Codes

Fort Wadsworth
Battery Weed
Sunday, July 27 at 1 p.m.

Learn how the military communicated during the Civil War in secret and over long distances. Create your own tool so you can make and break codes at home with your friends. This program is for children ages 8-12 and a parent or guardian is required to accompany the child. Reservations required.

August

A La Carte

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Sunday, August 3 (See July listing)

Junior Rangers

Great Kills Field Station
Mondays, August 4 and 7

9:30 a.m. to noon
(See special programs listing)

Lantern Tour of Fort Wadsworth

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Thursdays, August 7 and 28
at 8 p.m.

Our most popular tour explores the historic sites of the fort by night. Bring a flashlight. (Note: space is limited - reserve early) Reservations required.

Astronomy Night

Great Kills Model Airplane Field
Saturday, August 9 at Dusk

Join the Amateur Astronomers Association for a tour of the evening sky. Telescopes will be available or you can bring your own. Weather permitting.

A La Carte

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Sunday, August 10

Ongoing activities noon to 2 p.m.
Come explore the National Park Service portable discovery station to learn about native plants and animals.

Battery Weed Open House

Fort Wadsworth
Battery Weed

Sunday, August 17
from 1p.m. to 4 p.m.

Children can join a National Park Service ranger to explore historic Battery Weed and learn about its role in the defense of New York City. Play Civil War era games on the lawn, within the unique setting of the battery.

Model Airplane Show

Great Kills Park
Model Airplane Field

Sunday, August 17
(Rain date: August 24)

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Enjoy the annual show that features displays and demonstrations of remote control model planes. Bring a chair.

Kite' Eye View

Fort Wadsworth, Fort Tompkins
Glacis (Hillside)

Tuesday, August 19, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

(See description for July 26)

View from the Top

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Sunday, August 24 at 1 p.m.

Enjoy a tour of Battery Weed and its top tier (weather Permitting) for a special view of New York Harbor. Visitors will also be able to see the restored turn-of-the-century lighthouse. (Note: minimum height requirement for children is 48 inches.) Reservations required.

Founder's Day Campfire

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Monday, August 25 at 7 p.m.

Enjoy a relaxing evening on the beach listening to the ocean, a crackling fire and campfire songs. Bring something to sit on.



Ariel View of Great Kills Park



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Gateway National Recreation Area
Office of Interpretation and Education
210 New York Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10305

Standard Mail
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Visitor Programs

Staten Island Unit

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Gateway National Recreation Area **Staten Island Unit, New York**

General Superintendent

Barry T. Sullivan

Superintendent **Staten Island Unit**

Dave Avrin

Assistant Superintendent **Staten Island Unit**

Dave Taft

United States Park Police **24-Hour** **Emergency Number:**

(718) 338-3988

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

