



# Sandy Hook Visitor Programs

## Fall 2008

### September

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

September, Daily 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

##### Photography of Robert Hillmann

While stationed in the army in Hawaii, Bob became interested in photography. Since arriving at Sandy Hook he has continued to develop his passion. A ten year employee of the National Park Service, Bob also enjoys drawing and wood carving and he creates the hand carved plaques that are gifts to NPS Sandy Hook retirees.

October, Daily 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

##### Photography of Melissa Wuerthner

One of Melissa's biggest passions is nature photography, and she has been a location photographer for just over 10 years. During that time she has studied and practiced photography extensively. Her mission has always been to capture unique and sometimes rare moments in the world around us, while conveying a special feeling to share with others.

#### Plumming on Sandy Hook

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Saturday, September 6 at 2 p.m.

Collecting beach plums was an annual Lenape activity every fall. Car caravan and then walk with a ranger and discover why they are unique to the shore.

#### Tribute in Light

North Beach Observation Deck

Thursday, September 11,

7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

View the annual tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 from the vantage of North Beach.

#### 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

September & October. Daily 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Noon to 5 p.m. on weekends)

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

Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sundays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Closed on Mondays.

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 13 & October 18, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Sundays, September 21 & October 26, noon 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.

#### Visit Sandy Hook on the web

The National Park Service, Gateway NRA: [www.nps.gov/gate](http://www.nps.gov/gate)

The NPS Friends Group for Sandy Hook, the Sandy Hook Foundation:  
[www.nps.sandyhookfoundationnj.org](http://www.nps.sandyhookfoundationnj.org)

## **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)

**Happiness is a Horseshoe Crab**  
Saturday, September 13 at 11 a.m.

**On Sandy Shores**  
Saturday, September 13 at 1:30 p.m.  
Sunday, October 5 at 11 a.m.

**Terrific Terrapins**  
Saturday, September 20 at 11 a.m.  
Saturday, September 27 at 11 a.m.

**Salt Marsh Investigation**  
Saturday, September 20 at 1:30 p.m.

**Incredible Crustaceans**  
Sunday, September 21 at 11 a.m.  
Saturday, September 27 at 1:30 p.m.

**Lenape and the Jersey Shore**  
Sunday, September 21 at 1:30 p.m.  
Sunday, October 5 at 1:30 p.m.

**Hallow-Marine**  
Saturday, October 25, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Discover the spooky side of Sandy Hook. Includes true facts and tall tales.

## **Health and Fitness Seminar**

**Fort Hancock Post Theater**  
Friday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m.  
Join Sandy Hook Partners for a health and fitness seminar with Danskin spokeswoman, Sally Edwards, a former Master's World Record holder in the Ironman Triathlon, as well as a World Record Holder in the Iditashoe 100-Mile Snowshoe Race. She will be discussing fitness, health and wellness, and the affects on your heart. Reservations required for this fee program. Contact Sandy Hook Partners at 732-908-9013 or [Dfeingold@thefortatsandyhook.net](mailto:Dfeingold@thefortatsandyhook.net)

## **Wildflower Walk**

**Sandy Hook Visitor Center**  
Saturday, September 13 at 6 p.m.  
Discover, identify and enjoy the beauty of spring wildflowers on a nature walk at Sandy Hook.

## **Battery Gunnison Preserved**

**Saturday and Sunday, September 13 & 14, noon to 4 p.m.**  
The Army Ground Forces Association is a volunteer group in World War II coast artillery uniform who work 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.

## **Seining in Sandy Hook Bay**

**Sandy Hook Visitor Center**  
Sunday, September 14 at 2 p.m.  
This hands-on program explores the creatures in the bay. Free, but reservations needed. Call 732-872-5970.

## **ALS Walk on the Trees and Shrubs of Sandy Hook**

**American Littoral Society, Building 18**  
Sunday, September 14 at 10 a.m.  
Join this American Littoral Society walk down the Hook that discusses common and uncommon trees and shrubs and shows how to identify them. Find the two oak trees on Sandy Hook. Reservations are required for this fee program. Call 732-291-0055.

## **Lenape Nature Walk**

**Sandy Hook Visitor Center**  
Saturday September 20 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.

## **Cold War Day**

**Parking Lot L at Horseshoe Cove**  
Sunday, September 21  
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.

## **ALS Fall Equinox Shorewalk**

**Meet at Guardian Park**  
Monday, September 22 at 7 p.m.  
Join the American Littoral Society for this walk when there is equal daylight and darkness. We'll discuss the path of the sun and walk on the beach. Free, but call 732-291-0055 to reserve a spot.

## **Birding for Beginners**

**Sandy Hook Visitor Center**  
Saturday September 27 at 10 a.m.  
Join a naturalist from the NJ Audubon Society for a two-hour bird walk. September is a great time for warblers, orioles, tanagers, and other migrant species.

## **Monarch Butterfly Walk**

**Sandy Hook Visitor Center**  
Saturday, September 27 at 2 p.m.  
This remarkable insect, whose migration route ends in Mexico, is featured on a ranger-led tour.

## **"Hooked on Art"**

**Fort Hancock Post Chapel**  
Saturday, September 27  
Join Sandy Hook Partners for a morning talk and evening cocktail reception to benefit The Fort Foundation for Arts and Education & Beacon Fine Arts Gallery. Artist Steve Alpert will be discussing the realities of being a working professional artist. An evening cocktail reception will be held at the Post Chapel. Reservations required for this fee program. Contact Sandy Hook Partners at 732-908-9013 or [Dfeingold@thefortatsandyhook.net](mailto:Dfeingold@thefortatsandyhook.net)

## **Harbor Lights**

**Twin Lights State Historic Site**  
Highlands, New Jersey  
Sunday, September 28 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)

## **October**

### **NOAA Open House**

**Building 74 and Laboratory**  
Friday, October 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Saturday, October 4, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
The public is invited to visit the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) lab for a free self-guided tour of the facility. You will hear about ongoing research from the scientists and see a variety of live marine animals on display in the aquarium rooms. There will be a "Touch Tank" for our young guests to experience as well as talks by our scientists throughout the day. More information: 732-872-3000 or [www.sh.nmfs.gov](http://www.sh.nmfs.gov)

## Junior Rangers

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Sunday, October 5 at 2 p.m.

Kids ages 7 to 12 can walk a beach trail with a ranger and learn about the environment and our responsibility to maintain it. Reservations required. Call 732-872-5970.

## Going Bunkers

Fort Hancock Museum  
Sunday October 12 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.

## Clean Ocean Action's 23rd Annual Fall Beach Sweeps

Meet at Parking Lot E  
Saturday, October 18 at 9 a.m.

Spend a morning cleaning Sandy Hook's beaches. Bring gloves and dress for the weather. Event is rain or shine. Individuals, families and organized groups of all ages are welcome. Groups please register in advance. Call 732-872-0111 or visit [CleanOceanAction.org](http://CleanOceanAction.org) for more information.

## Nature Photography on Sandy Hook

Meet at American Littoral Society Headquarters, Building 18  
Saturday, October 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Join ALS photographer Don Riepe for a short lesson then head out to an area on the Hook to learn to compose and shoot nature pictures. Bring your own camera and a lunch. Reservations required for this fee program. Call 732-291-0055.

## Monmouth County and NJ Audubon Societies Bird Walk

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Sunday, October 19 at 10 a.m.

Join naturalists from the NJ and Monmouth County Audubon Societies for a two-hour bird walk. Sandy Hook is a great place to witness fall migration; search for arriving waterfowl, migrating hawks and many other species of birds. Bring binoculars.

## New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge Weekend, 2008

Sandy Hook Lighthouse  
Saturday October 18, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Sunday October 19, 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>

## Salt Marsh Walk

Parking Area L at Horseshoe Cove  
Saturday, October 25 at 2 p.m.

Explore a wetland salt marsh along Sandy Hook Bay.

## FORT HANCOCK DAYS

Mark the anniversary of the 1895 establishment of Fort Hancock by discovering again the fort's role in the defense of our nation.

## Battery Gunnison at Night

Saturday, October 25,  
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Volunteer living historians from the Army Ground Forces Association will be uniformed as World War II era coast artillery soldiers and will man Battery Gunnison at night. As a special treat, weather permitting, Fort Mott State Park will be here too with their 800 million candle power 1942 Sperry searchlight to provide illumination of the ocean.

## Fort Hancock Day

Sunday, October 26, noon to 4 p.m.

Tours through buildings not normally open to the public. Talk with living history re-enactors who will have military items on display. Volunteers from the Army Ground Forces Association will be uniformed as World War II artillery soldiers and demonstrate how the guns of Battery Gunnison were aimed and fired. Book signing by Park Historian Tom Hoffman. The Roseland Amateur Radio Club will be on site to talk about shortwave radio operations.

## Hook Talks with Steve Doocy

Fort Hancock Post Chapel  
Thursday, October 30 at 6 p.m.

Join Sandy Hook Partners as they host Steve Doocy, Emmy Award-winning broadcaster and co-host of the Fox News program "Fox & Friends." Meet Steve and receive a copy of his book, *Tales From the Dads Side*. Reservations required for this fee program. Call Sandy Hook Partners at 732-908-9013 or [Dfeingold@thefortatsandyhook.net](mailto:Dfeingold@thefortatsandyhook.net)

## November

### Birding for Beginners

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, November 1, at 10 a.m.

Join a naturalist from New Jersey Audubon for a two-hour guided birdwalk in search of some of the many species of birds that inhabit the hook.

### Cold War Defenses on Sandy Hook

Meet at the Nike Ajax Missile,  
¼ mile north of the Ranger Station  
Sunday, November 2 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.

### Night Prowl

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, November 8 at 7 p.m.

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

### Fort Hancock Walking Tour

Meet at the Parade Ground Flag Pole opposite the Fort Hancock Museum  
Tuesday, November 11 at 2 p.m.

A Veterans Day walking tour of Fort Hancock.

### Holly Forest Ramble

Sandy Hook Visitor Center  
Saturday, November 22 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 2008



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

**Gateway National Recreation Area  
 Sandy Hook Unit**

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

**Superintendent  
 Sandy Hook Unit**  
 Dave Avrin

**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/nej](http://www.nps.gov/nej)