

Jamaica Bay, Staten Island, New York; Sandy Hook, New Jersey *Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial*



A Great Egret flies over Jamaica Bay demonstrating nature against the backdrop of our urban environment. Photo by Don Riepe.

Gateway Programs and Events

This is a special edition of the program guide covering the months of June, July and August. Programs and events for Jamaica Bay and Staten Island, NY and for Sandy Hook, NJ are contained here in separate sections. On the back of this booklet you will find a map of all of Gateway, a vast park spanning two states and three New York City boroughs and much of it reachable by public transportation. We invite you to explore all three geographic areas.

Artists Celebrate the Centennial

Art in a park is not a new idea-- sculpture, displays of two dimensional art as well as dance, music and theater have been included in the things to do in parks for centuries. This summer at Gateway artists will create new works of visual art, and present live performances of dance, music and theater, as a special focus of the Centennial celebration. MoMA PS1 partners again with a special outdoor installation at Fort Tilden, opening July 2.

Imagine Your Park is the name that the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has chosen for its special grant initiative to fund art projects in celebration of the NPS Centennial. Gateway is pleased to host two major art events in partnership with proud partner organizations each receiving NEA funding for special projects this year: At Sandy Hook the Monmouth Arts Council, and at Jamaica Bay, Rockaway Artists Alliance each presents special programs funded by NEA.

Celebrating the NPS Centennial Gateway Annual Photo Contest:

I found my park, it's Gateway!

Enter the Gateway Photography Contest to be held during the month of July. The photos must be recent (within the current year) and must tell the story: I found my park! It's Gateway!

The pictures must be of Gateway and demonstrate what makes Gateway special. Show us with your images why Gateway is your park; and what unique features attract you...is it nature? beach, sun and sand? landscapes and sunsets? or the diverse array of activities?

Points will be scored by pictures that tell a story and were taken at the park demonstrating recognizable features of the park.

The overall theme will be Gateway--nature/people/park images against the backdrop of New York/New Jersey metropolitan area. We will accept submissions during July. We will select the top ten contenders, and there will be crowd source voting via Facebook to select the top three submissions. There will be an exhibit at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge in the fall that will feature the winners and the top contenders.

We want pictures that really show the context within the park and in the vicinity of the metropolitan area. While all those full frame shots of a bird on the beach or a prickly pear cactus bloom, are beautiful, they will not be accepted. This will be a juried contest, there will be modest cash prizes awarded and the winners and the top contenders will be included in the exhibit.

Contest Rules

All photos submitted will enter the public domain (the state of belonging or being available to the public as a whole, and therefore not subject to copyright). Do not submit pictures that are copyrighted or which you wish to sell. No copyright images will be considered. Each person may submit up to three (3) images for the contest. Submission will be electronic; no paper, print images may be submitted or considered. Submit images of at least 600 dpi by email to



This picture taken at Jacob Riis Park by Glenda Altarejos was entered in the 2014 contest.

“I found my park, it's Gateway !” We want you to enter the Gateway Photography Contest

Gateway_photo_contest@nps.gov between July 1 and July 31. Note that pictures that do not fit the parameters of the contest guidelines or those which have insufficient digital information (low dpi) will not be accepted.

Please use this letter of transmission when you email your entry:

Subject: Gateway Photo Contest

To: Gateway National Recreation Area. Please accept the attached photo as my entry into the Gateway Photo Contest. I understand that by entering this photo that it will enter the Public Domain, and may be used by Gateway National Recreation Area and the NPS in promoting its programs. No photos will be sold, but may be used by the park and the NPS.

*Submitted by
Photo Title or Caption
Name
Address
Phone number
Verify email
Signed (please enter your full name)*

The entries will be reviewed by a panel made up of NPS and artist/photography experts who will select ten photos as top contenders.

Crowd-sourced voting via Facebook will determine the three winners from these photos. The winning images and top contenders will be displayed at an exhibit at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge during the fall. Prizes: First prize, \$100; second prize, \$50, third prize, \$25.

So as you are out and about in the park, take those pictures and show us: ***I found my park, it's Gateway.***

Do you receive email notifications of Gateway's programs and events? If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, please send a message to Charles_Markis@nps.gov, with 'program guide' in the subject line and we will add you.

The ♥ symbol denotes a hike or walk of moderate activity. Improve your health, as you enjoy your park.

Jamaica Bay Visitor Programs and Events Summer 2016

Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial



IMAGINE YOUR PARK

Artists will create new works to celebrate the NPS Centennial at Fort Tilden, opening Saturday, July 2.

Join partners MoMA PS1, Rockaway Artists Alliance, Rockaway Theater Company, and others for a summer arts festival with exhibitions and programs running through Labor Day. Live performances of dance, music and theater will occur on opening day. **Rockaway Artists Alliance** presents *Forbidden Fruit: Street Art in a National Park*, telling the story of the people, flora and fauna of Jamaica Bay, supported by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). RAA is one of two partners at Gateway receiving NEA funding for the NPS celebration.

See the Sandy Hook section below for information on the other NEA funded project.

MoMA PS1 presents Katharina Grosse, (whose work is shown above) acclaimed for exploring the medium of painting in regard to its conditions and possibilities, in a special outdoor exhibit. Through this temporary public art installation, Grosse will turn Ft. Tilden's decaying former military buildings into an overwhelming exterior painting with her unique spray-painting technique. This exhibition is made possible through the generous support of Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Above: Untitled, 2015, by Katharina Grosse, photo by Olaf Bergmann, copyright by Katharina Grosse und VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn, 2016, used with permission.

New Orleans Jazz Centennial Band —Riis Park Bazaar Bay 9 Sunday, June 5; 1:30 and 3:30 PM Howa bout some music to get you in a festive mood? Riis Park Bazaar will host the NPS New Orleans Jazz Centennial Band for a performance in the afternoon. This ensemble, made up of NPS employees and volunteers, performs two sets of traditional jazz of New Orleans and the Tri-Delta area.

Recurring Programs

Your Park! Your Health!

Let's Go Kayaking

Canarsie Pier

June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2, August 16

5PM – 7:30PM

Be the captain of your own boat! Learn basic skills and practice paddling in the calm waters of Jamaica Bay. 20-minute sessions. Kayaks and life vests provided. No reservation required. ♥ varies.

Let's Go Camping

Floyd Bennett Field – Ecology Village, 4PM.

July 2-3, July 30-31, August 6-7, August 13-14, August 20-21

Enjoy a summer evening under the stars with friends and family! Adventure for all ages! Tents, sleeping pads and/or cots provided. Program begins at 4PM; program ends next day at noon. Reservations required at <https://www.facebook.com/TuParqueTuSalud.YourParkYourHealth>. ♥ varies.

Let's Go Biking

Floyd Bennett Field – Ecology Village

July 9, July 24, August 6; 11 AM

Bike to the beach! Explore land and sea in Jamaica Bay! Bicycles and helmets provided. Reservations required at

<https://www.facebook.com/TuParqueTuSalud>.

♥ varies.

Other Recurring Programs

Golden Age of Aviation

Floyd Bennett Field –

Ryan Visitor Center

Daily, 11AM – 11:30AM

Join a Park Ranger for a tour of New York City's first airport terminal and learn about the field's role in aviation history.

Historic Aircraft Restoration Project Tours

Floyd Bennett Field - Hangar B

Daily (beginning June 23) 1PM – 2PM

Join a Park Ranger for a tour of Floyd Bennett Field's historic aircraft collection, and learn about their role in the field's rich aviation history.

Beach Campfires with a Park Ranger

Jacob Riis Park – Bay 9

Fridays, May 27 – September 2

7PM – 9PM

Join the National Park Service and the Riis Beach Bazaar for an enjoyable evening in the park. Learn about the tradition of campfires and share songs, stories, and S'MORES! All are welcome!

Fort Tilden Bunkers

Walking Tour

Fort Tilden – Building 1

Sundays, May 29 – September 4

11AM – 12PM

Join a Park Ranger for an exploration of Fort Tilden's gun batteries, and find out about the fort's role in the defense of New York Harbor. ♥ 1 mile.

Birding for Beginners

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Saturdays and Sundays, May 28 –

September 3; 11AM – 12PM

Join us for an introduction to this fun hobby. Learn the basics of birding. Bring binoculars and field guide or borrow from the refuge. ♥ 1.5 miles.

Ranger's Choice at Frank Charles Park

Frank Charles Park

Thursdays, June 2 – September 1

11AM – 12PM

Join National Park Rangers for a variety of activities, from seining in Jamaica Bay to a nature hike around the park.

Boating Programs

For all boating programs: dress to get wet, wear shoes that will not fall off, and bring water, sunscreen and a snack. Kayaks or canoes, personal floatation devices, paddles and instruction will be provided. There are a variety of programs for boaters of all skill levels. "Paddles" are usually shorter trips intended for beginners; "excursions" are longer trips intended for those who have paddled the listed distance before. "Walk-ups" and "skills sessions" are intended for first time paddlers, or those who wish to improve their skills and practice.

I found my park; it's Gateway is the theme of this year's Photo Contest. See Page two for information on how to enter.

Camp Gateway Walk-up and Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Saturdays and Sundays

May 28 – August 28;

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Canarsie Walk-up and Paddle

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn

Saturdays

May 28 – August 27

1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Riis Landing Walk-up and Paddle

Riis Landing, Queens

Sundays

May 29 – August 28

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Camp Gateway Ranger Adventure

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Wiley Post Campfire Ring

Saturdays

June 4–August 27; 9:30 –11:30 AM

Join a Park Ranger for nature walks, interactive games and exploration with this fun program for children from 6 to 12 years old. Programs vary. Space is limited. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation.

Are you on our mailing list?

*If you are not on our mailing list, and would like to receive this guide and notices of special events at the park, please send contact Charles_Markis@nps.gov and put **mailing list** in the subject line. We will add you to the list.*

Recurring Programs

Campfire Safety Program

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Wiley Post Group Campfire Ring
Saturdays, June 4- August 27;
2 PM– 3 PM

Learn best practices for enjoying a campfire safely. No reservation required, groups welcome.

Individual Sailing Instruction

Gateway Marina, Brooklyn
Thursdays
June 30 – August 25; 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Each class consists of three consecutive sessions where participants learn the basic skills of sailing. Reservations are required; call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation.

Youth Group Sailing

Gateway Marina, Brooklyn
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
July 5 – August 25; 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Groups will learn about sailing and the environment of Dead Horse Bay. Reservations are required; call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation.

Programs and Events– June

Rockaway Cove Paddle

Riis Landing, Queens
Wednesday, June 1; 10 AM – 12:30 PM
Rockaway Point and back – this trip follows the scenic bay shore of Rockaway peninsula along the cove toward Rockaway Point. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Wednesday, June 1; 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Receive instruction and then practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Adults and children over 11 are welcome to participate in this program. No reservations req.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Hokulea Visits Jamaica Bay

Thursday, Friday June 2, 3; Time TBA
Canarsie Pier, Gateway Marina
Welcome the Hokulea and her crew from the Polynesian Voyaging Society, as they travel around the world. Stops at Canarsie Pier, and Gateway Marina are planned.

Beach Cleanup - North Channel Bridge

Saturday, June 4, 10AM – 1PM
Join Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus for a monthly beach clean-up at the North Channel Bridge as part of an ongoing effort to improve the coastline habitat of Jamaica Bay.

New Orleans Jazz Centennial Band

Riis Park Bazaar Bay 9
Sunday, June 5; 1:30 and 3:30 PM
Riis Park Bazaar hosts the NPS New Orleans Jazz Centennial Band for a performance in the afternoon. This ensemble, made up of NPS employees and volunteers performs traditional jazz of New Orleans and the Tri-Delta area.

Ruffle Bar Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Wednesday, June 8; 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Paddle around this large island in Jamaica Bay on this trip. Learn about the history of the island and the plants and animals that thrive there. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5 miles.

North Channel Beginners Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Wednesday, June 8; 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Enjoy this beginner paddle along the Eastern Shore of Floyd Bennett Field. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or make a reservation.

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Thursday, June 9; 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Children over 11 and adults are welcomed to participate in this program. No reservation required.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Jamaica Bay Bio Blitz

Friday, Saturday, June 10, 11
Jacob Riis Park
A team of scientists and citizen science volunteers will take a 24-hour snapshot of the biodiversity of Jamaica Bay to see what flora, fauna and other critters inhabit our parklands. Join us for special tours.

Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Friday, June 10
12:00 PM – 2:30 PM
See the sights on this beginner's paddle to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Keeping a Nature Journal: Expanding Your Connection Outside

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday, June 12; 3:30-4:30 PM
Looking for a way to better connect with nature? Keeping a nature journal is a great way to do so! Learn how to sharpen your observation skills and other tips for getting in tune with your natural surroundings. Please bring your own notebook.

Find Your Park! Heart-Healthy Hike to Penn Park

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn
Monday, June 13
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Hike to the top of Pennsylvania Park with a National Park Ranger. Begin this 3 mile trek from Canarsie Pier and enjoy panoramic views from nearly 100 feet up. Dress for the weather, bring sunscreen, a snack and water. Call 718-338-3799 to make a reservation. ♥ 3 miles.

North Channel Beginners Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp,
Wednesday, June 15
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Enjoy this beginner paddle along the Eastern Shore of Floyd Bennett Field. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation.

Enter the Gateway Photo Contest *Contest information is found on page 2. This year it's "I found my Park, it's Gateway!"*

Floyd Bennett Field Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Gateway Marina, Flatbush Avenue
Wednesday, June 15
12:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Enjoy a 4.25 mile paddle around
Floyd Bennett Field with a National
Park Ranger and a 1.5 mile walk back
to the start. Reservations are required.
Call 718-338-3799 for more infor-
mation or to make a reservation. ♥
5.75 miles total.

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Thursday, June 16
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Receive instruction and then practice
kayak strokes and skills each week.
Children over 11 and adults are wel-
comed to participate in this program.
No reservation required.

North Channel Beginners Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp,
Friday, June 17
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Enjoy this beginner paddle along the
Eastern Shore of Floyd Bennett Field.
Reservations are required. Call 718-
338-3799 for more information or to
make a reservation.

Pennsylvania Park Father's Day Weekend Paddle

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn
Saturday, June 18
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Enjoy some time with dad, paddling
from Canarsie Pier to Pennsylvania
Park and back. Take a walk to the top
of Pennsylvania Avenue Park before
enjoying a leisurely paddle back to the
start. Reservations are required. Call
718-338-3799 for more information or
to make a reservation.

Calling All Volunteers

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, June 18, 1PM – 2:30 PM
Looking for something to do this sum-
mer? Need to get the kids out of the
house for a few hours?

Want to lend a helping hand to your lo-
cal National Park? Come out to this in-
formational session about all of the
unique and exciting volunteer opportuni-
ties available at Jamaica Bay Wildlife
Refuge. Call for more information: 718-
318-4340.

Get Your Head in the Clouds

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday, June 19th, 2PM – 3:30PM
Clouds are everywhere we go! They
bring us different types of weather, have
inspired art and folklore and even help
us stay climate change. Join us for
weather related experiments and sharpen
your meteorological skills with a weath-
er walk around the refuge.

Full Moon Hike

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday, June 19, 8PM – 9:30PM
Experience the park after dark and learn
more about the nocturnal residents at the
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. An in-
door presentation will be followed by an
evening hike. Overcast skies cancels. ♥
1 mile.

North Channel Beginners Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp,
Wednesday, June 22
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Enjoy this beginner paddle along the
eastern shore of Floyd Bennett Field.
Reservations are required. Call 718-338-
3799 for more information or to make a
reservation.



Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Thursday, June 23
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
See the sights on this beginner's paddle
to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh.
Open to the public, ages 6 and up with
an adult. Reservations required. Call
718-338-3799 for more information or
to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Thursday, June 23; 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Enjoy a beginners' paddle along the
shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then
have a pleasant walk back to the start.
Reservations are required. Call 718-
338-3799 for more information or to
make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Little Egg Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Friday, June 24; 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Experienced paddlers will enjoy this
open water excursion across the south-
east side of Jamaica Bay. This seven
mile excursion will take you past Little
egg marsh from Floyd Bennett Field's
Seaplane Ramp. Dine dockside mid-trip
at a Rockaway eatery to be determined.
Reservations are required. Call 718-338-
-3799 for more information or to make
a reservation. ♥ 7 miles.

Birds, Butterflies, and Terrapins of Jamaica Bay

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, June 25
10AM – 1PM
Meet at the refuge visitor center and
hike the trails along the East and West
Ponds to look for egrets, ibis, oyster-
catchers, as well as nesting terrapins.
Learn about the history, ecology and
wildlife of the Jamaica Bay ecosystem.
Leader: Don Riepe. This is a partner-
ship program with the American Littor-
al Society and NYC Audubon.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Riis Park Rec Fest

Riis Park Mall

Sunday, June 26; 1-5PM.

Join us to explore and experience the various recreational activities offered in the park--demos of camping, hiking, biking, kayaking and other activities.

A Champion for the People

Floyd Bennett Field –

Ryan Visitor Center

Tuesday, June 28, 2PM – 4PM

This program celebrates the birthday of William Fitz Ryan, whose efforts expanded freedoms and rights, protected children from lead poisoning, inspired community-based health care, and created Gateway National Recreation Area. Please call: 718-338-3799 to make a reservation.

Camp Gateway

Walk Up and Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Wednesday, June 29

9:00 AM- 11:00 AM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Floyd Bennett Field Kayak Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Gateway Marina, Flatbush Avenue

Wednesday, June 29

12:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Enjoy a 4.25 mile paddle around Floyd Bennett Field with a National Park Ranger and a 1.5 mile walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5.5 miles total.

Elders Point Marsh Kayak Excursion

North Channel Bridge, Queens

West Parking Lot

Thursday, June 30

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

See marsh island restorations first hand on a National Park Ranger-led paddle. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 4.25 miles.

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Thursday, June 30; 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Adults and children over 11 are welcome to participate in this program. No reservation required.

JULY

Camp Gateway

Walk Up and Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Friday, July 1; 9:30 AM- 11:30 AM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Friday, July 1; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Beach Cleanup

North Channel Bridge

Saturday, July 2, 10AM – 1PM

Join Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus for a monthly beach clean-up at the North Channel Bridge as part of an ongoing effort to improve the coastline habitat of Jamaica Bay.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Imagine Your Park: NPS Centennial Celebration

Fort Tilden

Saturday, Sunday July 2 and 3

Join partners MoMA PS1, Rockaway Artists Alliance, Rockaway Theater Company, and others for a summer arts festival with exhibitions and programs running through Labor Day. Live performances of dance, music and theater will occur on opening day. Rockaway Artists Alliance presents *Forbidden Fruit: Street Art in a National Park*, telling the story of the people, flora and fauna of Jamaica Bay. Supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

MoMAPS1 presents Katharina Grosse, acclaimed for exploring the medium of painting in regard to its conditions and possibilities, in a special outdoor exhibit. Through this temporary art exhibit, Grosse will turn Ft. Tilden's decaying "aquatic buildings" into an overwhelming exterior painting with her unique spray-painting technique. The exhibition is made possible through the generous support of Bloomberg Philanthropies.

Bergen Beach Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Wednesday, July 6; 12:30–3:30 PM

The soft shoreline along Bergen beach up to Paedergat Basin is a wild habitat along the edge of the bay. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for information or to reserve. ♥ 3 miles.

Joco Marsh Excursion

Bayswater Park, Queens

Thursday, July 7; 10 AM – 1:00 PM

Enjoy an excursion from Bayswater Park through JoCo Creek. NYC Urban Park Rangers will also be accompanying this paddle. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for information and to reserve. ♥ 4.5 miles.

Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Friday, July 8; 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM

See the sights on this beginner's paddle to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for information or to reserve. ♥ 2 miles.

Birds, Butterflies and Terrapins of Jamaica Bay

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, July 9, 10AM – 1PM

Join us for peak summer butterfly and nesting bird time. Meet at the refuge visitor center for a slide program and walk. Learn about behavior, biology and identification of many species. Leader: Don Riepe. This is a partnership program with the American Littoral Society and NYC Audubon.

Fresh Creek Paddle

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn
Wednesday, July 13
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Explore the wild on this beginner's paddle to Fresh Creek from Canarsie Pier. Investigate the shoreline by Pennsylvania Avenue park and up along the creek. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp

Thursday, July 14; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Space Invaders

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, July 16, 2 PM – 3:30 PM
Want to defend local habitats from alien invaders? Join a National Park Ranger for a guided tour of the North and South Gardens. Learn about the Garden Restoration Project being conducted with help from The Nature Conservancy and the Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy. Also learn about several invasive plant species: how to identify them, how they got here, why they are a problem, and different ways to combat them. Call for more information (718) 318-4340.

The US Navy and Freedom

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Sunday, July 17, 2 PM – 4 PM
This program discusses the relationships of the US Navy and people of color over the past 240 years, especially at NPS sites like Pearl Harbor, Port Chicago, and Naval Air Station NY here at Gateway NRA. Please reserve at: (718) 338-3799

Full Moon Hike

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Tuesday, July 19, 8 PM–9:30 PM
Experience the park after dark and learn more about the nocturnal residents at the

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. An indoor presentation will be followed by an evening hike. Overcast skies cancels. ♥ 1 mile.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Wednesday, July 20; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Floyd Bennett Field Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
RC Flying Field, Mill Basin
Kayak Launch
Thursday, July 21; 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Enjoy a 4.25 mile paddle around Floyd Bennett Field with a National Park Ranger and a 1.5 mile walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5.75 miles total.

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Friday, July 22; 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Adults and children over 11 are welcome to participate in this program. No reservation required.

Canarsie Pier Paddle

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn
Wednesday, July 27; 1:30PM - 3:30 PM
Enjoy a leisurely paddle along the north shore of Jamaica Bay to Canarsie Pier, then investigate nature with NYC Urban Park Rangers and paddle back to the pier. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Fountain Avenue Park Paddle

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn
Thursday, July 28
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Kayak along the North shore of Jamaica

Bay to Hendrix Creek and see the thriving wildlife in the saltmarsh edge of the former landfills. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2.5 miles.

Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Thursday, July 28; 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
See the sights on this beginner's paddle to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Ruffle Bar Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Friday, July 29; 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Paddle around this large island in Jamaica Bay on this trip. Learn about the history of the island and the plants and animals that thrive there. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5 miles.

Seaweeds, Seashells, and More

Fort Tilden – Building 1
Sunday, July 31, 10AM – 12:30PM
Hike the seashore at low tide with American Littoral Society naturalist, Mickey Maxwell Cohen, author of *Adventures at the Beach*, to look for marine life, coastal birds, and seaside plants. Binoculars, a magnifying glass, and sun protection will be helpful.

AUGUST

For Kids:

A Summer Camp for Jr. Rangers: Refuge Explorers

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
August 1 – August 4, 9AM – 12PM
Recommended for 6-8 year old children. Join us in our first ever day-camp for Junior Rangers at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. This four day program will take children through many aspects of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Space is limited, please call 718-318-4340 for more information and reservations.

Have you found your park? Is it Gateway? Please enter our photo contest held during the month of July, details, page 2 above.

Floyd Bennett Field Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Wednesday, August 3

12:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Enjoy a 4.25 mile paddle around Floyd Bennett Field with a Park Ranger and a 1.5 mile walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5.75 miles total.

Gerritsen Creek Excursion

Gateway Marina, Brooklyn

Thursday, August 4

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Enjoy a scenic excursion up Gerritsen Creek and back. See the estuary and then cool off at the Salt Marsh Nature Center while learning about habitat with the NYC Urban Park Rangers. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 4.5 miles.

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Thursday, August 4; 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Adults and children over 11 are welcome to participate in this program. No reservation required.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Friday, August 5; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Beach Cleanup

North Channel Bridge

Saturday, August 6, 10AM – 1PM

Join Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus for a monthly beach clean-up at the North Channel Bridge as part of an ongoing effort to improve the coastline habitat of Jamaica Bay.

Dead Horse Bay Paddle

Gateway Marina, Brooklyn

Wednesday, August 10

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Experience Dead Horse Bay from the water on this pleasant paddle to Plumb Beach. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Yellow Bar Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp,

Thursday, August 11

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Paddle to this saltmarsh at mid-tide and see the plants and animals that thrive there. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5 miles.

Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Thursday, August 11

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

See the sights on this beginner's paddle to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Friday, August 12; 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Great Centennial Campout!

Saturday and Sunday, Aug 13 and 14

Camping at Jamaica Bay,

Staten Island and Sandy Hook

Join REI and the NPS for the Great Centennial Campout! We will be hosting three simultaneous camping

experiences at Floyd Bennet Field, Fort Wadsworth, and Sandy Hook. Each location will have its own activities ranging from a Navigation Scavenger Hunt, to Stand-up Paddle Boarding, led by REI Outdoor School Instructors. In the evening enjoy a complimentary meal, live music, and s'mores around a campfire. Next morning start the day with Yoga class followed by a day of stewardship at each location. Let us all give a hand to get the parks ready for their 100th birthday on August 25th! Reservation fees apply. Find out more at rei.com/learn.

Beginner's Paddle and Walk in the Park

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn

Seaplane Ramp

Wednesday, August 17

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Enjoy a beginners paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Idlewild Park Paddle

Idlewild Park, Queens

Thursday, August 18

11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Explore the salt marsh near the head of Jamaica Bay on this idyllic paddle. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Birding activity will also be provided by NYC Urban Park Rangers on shore. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Full Moon Hike

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Thursday, August 18, 8PM – 9:30PM

Experience the park after dark and learn more about the nocturnal residents at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. An indoor presentation will be followed by an evening hike. Overcast skies cancels. ♥ 1.5 miles.

Dead Horse Bay Paddle

Gateway Marina, Brooklyn

Friday, August 19

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Experience Dead Horse Bay from the water on this pleasant paddle to Plumb

Beach. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations are required. Call 718 -338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Rockaway Cove Paddle

Riis Landing, Queens
Friday, August 19; 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Rockaway Point and back – this trip follows the scenic bay shore of Rockaway peninsula along the cove toward Rockaway Point. Reservations are required. Call 718 -338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

11th Annual Shorebird Festival

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, August 20, 8AM – 5PM
Join us for indoor and outdoor programs to celebrate the migrating shorebirds. Guides include Kevin Karlson, Lloyd Spitalnik, and Don Riepe. This is a partnership program with the American Littoral Society and NYC Audubon. Cost: \$20 includes a continental breakfast, coffee break/snacks, and guides. or Email donriep@gmail.com, or call 718 -474-0896 for information and reservations.

Dead Horse Bay, New York's Best Kept Nature Secret

Floyd Bennett Field
Main Entrance Ranger Station
Sunday, August 21, 10AM – 12:30PM
Hike the trails and shoreline at Dead Horse Bay with Mickey Maxwell Cohen, American Littoral Society naturalist, author of *Discovering the Trails of Dead Horse Bay*. Explore the nature and fascinating history of this little known area and amazing adventure into the world of urban archaeology. Sturdy footwear is essential. This is an American Littoral Society Partnership Program. ♥ 2 miles.

Ruffle Bar Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Seaplane Ramp
Wednesday, August 24
1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Paddle around this large island in Jamaica Bay on this trip. Learn about the

history of the islands of Jamaica Bay. Reservations are required. Call 718 -338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5 miles.

Canarsie Pol Excursion

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn
Thursday, August 25
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Paddle around this large island in Jamaica Bay on this energetic trip. Learn about the history of the islands of Jamaica Bay. Reservations are required. Call 718 -338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 5 miles.

Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Thursday, August 25
1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
See the sights on this beginner's paddle to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations are required. Call 718 -338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Rockaway Cove Paddle

Riis Landing, Queens
Friday, August 26
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Rockaway Point and back – this trip, follows the scenic bay shore of Rockaway peninsula along the cove toward Rockaway Point. Reservations are required. Call 718 -338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation. ♥ 2 miles.

Kayak Skills Session

Riis Landing, Queens
Friday, August 26
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills. Adults and children over 11 are welcome to participate in this program. No reservation required.

Fall Bird Migration Hike

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, August 27, 10AM – 1PM
Meet for a slide program and walk

around the ponds to look for migrating warblers, tanager, and shorebirds. Leader: Don Riepe. This is a partnership program with the American Littoral Society and NYC Audubon. ♥ 2 miles.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Centennial Founder's Day Paddlefest

Sandy Hook, Jamaica Bay, Staten Island
Sunday, August 28. Times vary.
Join National Park Rangers for fun on the water. Enjoy walk-ups, beginner trips or intermediate excursions. Dress to get wet; bring sunscreen, a snack and water. Kayaks or canoes, personal floatation devices, paddles and instruction will be provided. Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799 for more information or to make a reservation.

Mighty Monarchs

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday August 28, 11AM – 12:30PM
Children and their families are invited to join a National Park Ranger at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge to learn about the mighty Monarch butterfly! This interactive program will teach kids about the life cycle of the Monarch as well as the story of their incredible migration.

—end of Jamaica Bay listings—



Sandy Hook Visitor Programs and Events Summer 2016

Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial



These children participated in the Junior Ranger Pirate Program led by Ranger Joanna Jorge, summer 2014.

Programs for Kids— Junior Ranger and Jr. Junior Ranger—

Sandy Hook is celebrating the NPS Centennial with a wonderful array of special program offerings for kids. See below for Junior Ranger (age 7-12) and Junior Junior Ranger (age 3-6) programs. These range from Astronomer, to Lenni-Lenape Native Americans, to the study of bats, and our favorite, the Pirate! For the Jr. Junior Ranger try our Sensory Nature Walk, Hermit Crabs Love Company, Birds, Beaks and Feathers, and our favorite, What is a Park Ranger?

Imagine Your Park as a Gateway to the Arts—that's what proud partner Monmouth Arts is calling their project, funded by the National Endow-

ment for the Arts (NEA). This summer beginning in June, three artists who be creating sculptures to be installed at selected beach centers using materials and objects collected in Clean Ocean Action Clean-up. This fall a special Zero Waste Arts Festival will occur on September 17 and 18. We are thrilled to have two partners in receipt of NEA funding for the centennial (the other Rockaway Artists Alliance, noted above).

Nine Gun Battery Tours--The park now has tours through the Nine Gun Battery, located at the most northern end of the multi-use trail. This battery was the only place in the US with nine large caliber disappearing guns. It was built in four stages between 1897 to 1904 and has the length of two football fields.

Because of the difficulty of monitoring nine guns by one commander, in 1904 four distinct batteries were created. From north to south: Batteries Alexander Halleck, Bloomfield, and Richardson were created honoring generals in the American Revolution and Civil Wars. Nine Gun Battery is located near the observation deck, a birders' paradise. Sandy Hook is a well-known migratory stop for song birds, raptors, and passerines. See program entries below to sign up for the newly offered tours.

The ♥ symbol denotes a hike or walk of moderate activity. Improve your health, as you enjoy your park.

**Sandy Hook Lighthouse
Keepers Quarters
Sandy Hook Visitor Center**

Visitor Center Hours:

Daily, 9 AM – 5 PM

Lighthouse Tours: Daily

1 PM to 4:30 PM

Tours are first-come, first-served. Visitors must be 48 inches tall to climb the tower. Sign up in the 1883 Keeper's Quarters for lighthouse tours, and see exhibits on New Jersey lighthouses, a rotating art exhibit, and visit the gift shop. Grounds and video in adjacent barn are always open. Groups must make advance reservations. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information.

Eastern National Gift Shop

Visitor Center/Keepers Quarters

Daily, 9 AM – 5 PM

Battery Potter Tours

Saturdays and Sundays

June 18 - August 28

1 PM – 4:30 PM

Explore and tour Sandy Hook's oldest disappearing gun battery, and the first concrete disappearing gun battery ever built in America, completed in 1895.

Mortar Battery Tours

Saturdays and Sundays

June 18 - August 28

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Join a ranger guided tour of the Mortar Battery and learn about the first Endicott era (1890 – 1910) concrete gun battery built on Sandy Hook.

Nine Gun Battery Tours

Saturdays and Sundays

June 18 - August 28

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Explore and tour the north end of Fort Hancock's Nine Gun Battery the longest gun battery the U.S. Army ever built for harbor defense. When construction began in 1897, the battery was originally intended to mount three 10-inch caliber disappearing guns, but when construction was completed in 1902 an additional six 12-inch caliber disappearing guns were emplaced, creating a nine gun battery that operated until 1944.

Nike Missile Radar Site

Horseshoe Cove, Parking Lot L

Saturdays, June 18, July 9 & 30, Aug. 20

Sundays, June 5 & 26, July 17,

Aug. 7 & 28; 12 PM – 4 PM

Guided tours of the Integrated Fire Control (IFC) will allow you to see the inner workings of the facility where the supersonic nuclear armed Nike Hercules missiles were controlled and guided using Cold War era computers and radar. While taking a guided tour of this one-time TOP SECRET missile site, you will have the opportunity to meet and talk with some of the veterans who actually worked on the Nike Air Defense System. ♥1/4 mile.

**BEACH CONCERT
INFORMATION:**

Enjoy the popular free summer concert series, which will take place at Lot E every Wednesday at 6 PM throughout the summer, courtesy of the Sandy Hook Foundation. Remember: beach parking fees are in effect until 5 PM. Call 732-291-7733 or sandyhookfoundation.org for weather updates. Cancellations are made by 2 p.m. Weather permitting the summer 2016 schedule is:

- June 15 The Nerds
- June 22 The Weeklings
- June 29 Matt O'Ree Band
- July 6 Tim McLoone and the Shirlies
- July 13 Bob Bandiera Band
- July 20 Sensational Soul Cruisers
- July 27 Carl Gentry Band
- August 3 Rain Date
- August 10 Riptide (special guests The Sam Sims Band, 5:30 PM start)
- August 17 Jobonanno and the Godsons of Soul

**RECURRING WEEKDAY
OFFERINGS**

**Monday
Canoe Cruise**

U.S. Life-Saving Station Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)

June 13-August 29; 9:15 AM - 12 PM

Take a two-mile morning paddle to explore Sandy Hook bay from an ideal vantage point—the water itself. Rangers guide you on a two and a half hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island.

Use www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 to reserve.

**Tuesday
Canoe Cruise**

U.S. Life-Saving Station Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)

June 14-August 30; 9:15 AM – 12 PM

Take a two-mile morning paddle to explore Sandy Hook bay from an ideal vantage point—the water itself. Rangers guide you on a two and a half hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island. Use www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 to reserve.

Seining

Lot C- Bayside

June 14 through August 30

10 AM – 11:30AM

Collect marine life with a seine net and explore the complex interactions of the Sandy Hook Bay environment.

Crustacean of the Day

Beach Area E

June 21 through August 30

2 PM – 4 PM

Park rangers reveal fun facts and provide a hands-on crustacean pool to share with beachgoers of all ages. Drop in at Beach Area E to observe and handle creatures native to Sandy Hook Bay.

**Wednesday
Canoe Cruise**

U.S. Life-Saving Station Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)

June 15-August 30; 9:15 AM -12 PM

Take a two-mile morning paddle to explore Sandy Hook bay from an ideal vantage point—the water itself. Rangers guide you on a two and a half hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island. Go to www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 to make your reservation.

Crustacean of the Day

Beach Area E

June 22-August 31; 2 PM – 4 PM

Park rangers reveal fun facts and provide a hands-on crustacean pool to share with beachgoers of all ages. Drop in at Beach Area E to observe creatures native to Sandy Hook.

RECURRING WEEKDAY OFFERINGS

Junior Jr. Ranger

June 22-August 31; 10 AM – 11 AM

Children 3 to 6 years old.

See Junior Jr. Ranger section for rotating schedule of programs.

Thursday

Canoe Cruise

U.S. Life-Saving Station Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)

June 16-August 25; 9:15 AM – 12 PM

Take a two-mile morning paddle to explore Sandy Hook bay from an ideal vantage point—the water itself. Rangers guide you on a two and a half hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island. Use www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 to reserve.

Junior Ranger

June 23-August 25; 10 AM – 11 AM

For kids ages 7 to 12.

See Junior Ranger section for rotating schedule of programs.

Friday

Canoe Cruise

U.S. Life-Saving Station Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)

June 17-August 26; 9:15 AM – 12 PM

Take a two-mile morning paddle to explore Sandy Hook bay from an ideal vantage point—the water itself. Rangers guide you on a two and a half hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island. Use www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 to reserve.

Birding on the Bay

Spermaceti Cove Boardwalk (Sandy Hook Bay - between Lot D and Lot E)

June 17-August 26; 9 AM – 11 AM

Visit a ranger at the end of the boardwalk and learn about the birds on the bay. A scope will be set up to view osprey, egrets, and songbirds.

Crustacean of the Day

Beach Area E

June 17-August 26; 2 PM – 4 PM

Park rangers reveal fun facts and provide a hands-on crustacean pool to share with beachgoers of all ages. Drop in at Beach Area E to observe and handle creatures native to Sandy Hook Bay.

PARK AND COOPERATOR PROGRAMS:

JUNE

Horseshoe Crab Walk

American Littoral Society

Lot B Beach Plaza

Friday, June 3; 6 PM – 8 PM

Get up close and personal with a living fossil. Take an evening walk at Plum Island on Sandy Hook to look for spawning horseshoe crabs. Learn about an animal that has survived virtually unchanged for 450 million years. Wear proper foot gear. Please call (732) 291-0055 to make reservations.

Night Hike on the Beach

Lot B Beach Plaza

Saturday, June 4; 7 PM – 8:30 PM

Explore various parts of Sandy Hook's ecosystem and history with this summer's series of night hikes. This night's one mile hike features bayside exploration during the high season for horseshoe crab sightings. Don't forget to wear good sand walking shoes and bug repellent. Free, call (732) 872-5970 to make reservations. ♥ 1 mile.

Bird Walk

Monmouth County Audubon Society
Spermaceti Cove U.S. Life Saving Station
Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)

Thursday, June 9; 6 PM – 8 PM

Walk along the bayside and ocean to look for osprey, herons, and egrets. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear comfortable shoes. Free. ♥ 1 mile.

Junior Ranger

Horseshoe Crab

Parking Lot B

Friday, June 10; 6 PM – 7:30 PM

Find, see and feel living fossils from the age of dinosaurs that are still swimming along the shores today, and aid the survival of the horseshoe crab by hands-on participation in "Horseshoe Crab Rehab."

Littoral Society Members Day

Building #18

Saturday, June 11; 10 AM

Join the American Littoral Society for Members Day, a fun day at the Hook that includes a picnic lunch, hiking, and special recognitions for volunteers. Free for members of the Littoral Society. Consider

learning more about the American Littoral Society. Reservations required, please call (732) 291-0055 and make yours today. Cost: \$20 for non-members. Contact: 732-291-0055 for more information and to reserve.

Union City Concert

Fort Hancock Parade Ground

Saturday, June 11; 1 PM

American Littoral Society and Union City Music Project bring a free concert to the parade ground. Rain or shine.

Stars of Sandy Hook

Lot E Beach Plaza

Saturday, June 11; 8:30 PM – 11 PM

Join a park ranger and the Amateur Astronomers Association to view the night sky. Bring binoculars and/or telescopes.

The Big Three: Battery Potter, Battery Granger and Mortar Battery

Sunday, June 12; 5 PM – 7 PM

Explore and tour Fort Hancock's three oldest gun batteries on this guided walking tour. Park at Battery Potter to meet with park staff to explore Potter, then walk to Battery Granger and lastly the Mortar Battery. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a flashlight and insect repellent.

Horseshoe Crab

Twilight Walk

NJ Sea Grant Consortium

Officer's Row, Building #22

Friday June 17 or Saturday,

June 18; 6 PM – 8 PM

Join NJSGC marine educators for this unique opportunity to observe and learn about horseshoe crabs as they arrive at Sandy Hook for spring mating season. Advance registration required. Call 732-872-1300 ext. 20. Fee-based program.

The ♥ symbol denotes a hike or walk of moderate activity. Improve your health, as you enjoy your park.

Have you found your park? Is it Gateway? Please enter our photo contest held during the month of July, details, page 2 above.

Summer Solstice Walk

American Littoral Society
Headquarters, Building #18
Monday, June 20; 6 PM - 8 PM

Take a two mile stroll on the Hook on the longest day of the year. Society naturalists will identify coastal flora and fauna, as well as the history of Sandy Hook. A special tour of a gun battery may be included. Cost: Free. Call (732) 291-0055 to make reservations. ♥ 2 miles.

Campfire on the Beach

Lot E (southern chute)
Friday, June 24; 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Sing silly Sandy Hook songs, and hear true stories from days of yore surrounding the history and mysteries of the Hook. Participants are encouraged to bring beach blankets or chairs, snacks, bug spray, marshmallows, family and friends! Free. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information.

Fort Hancock Bike Tour

Theater Parking Lot
Sunday, June 26; 10 AM – 12 PM
Bicycle with a ranger on a guided tour highlighting everything from batteries to beaches. Bring a bike helmet and call (732) 872-5970 for reservations. ♥ 3 miles.

JULY

Campfire on the Beach

Lot E (southern chute)
Friday, July 8; 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Sing silly Sandy Hook songs, and hear true stories from days of yore surrounding the history and mysteries of the Hook. Participants are encouraged to bring beach blankets or chairs, snacks, bug spray, family and friends! Free. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information.

Fort Hancock Bike Tour

Theater Parking Lot
Saturday, July 9; 5 PM – 7 PM
Bicycle with a ranger on a guided tour highlighting everything from batteries to beaches. Bring a helmet and call (732) 872-5970 to make reservations. ♥ 3 miles.

Enter the Gateway Photo Contest *Details found on page 2.*

Sunset Seining

American Littoral Society Headquarters,
Building 18
Monday, July 11; 6 PM – 8 PM
Discover the diverse wildlife inhabiting our coast. After a short talk on the Society's front porch, you will head over to Horseshoe Cove on Sandy Hook bay for a seining adventure. Participants are invited to help pull our 40 foot seine net through the bay, and experience the excitement of learning about the fish and other critters caught. Wear clothes and shoes you don't mind getting wet. Cost: \$5 per person, free for member families. Contact: (732) 291-0055 for information and reservations.

Stars of Sandy Hook

Lot E Beach Plaza
Saturday, July 16; 9 PM – 11 PM
Join a park ranger and the Amateur Astronomy Association to view the night sky. Bring binoculars and/or telescopes.

Night Hike- Full Buck Moon

Lot E
Wednesday, July 20; 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Explore various parts of Sandy Hook's ecosystem during the full buck moon. At this time of year is when bucks begin to grow new antlers. This night hike features night seining, which is always an interesting adventure. Bring a flashlight, bug repellent, and wear shoes you can get wet. Free, but reservations required. Call (732) 872-5970 ♥ 1 mile.

Bird Walk

Monmouth County Audubon Society
Lot M
Thursday, July 21; 6 PM – 8 PM
Walk out the Fisherman's Trail to look for nesting piping plovers, others. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear comfortable shoes. Free. ♥ 1.5 miles.

Battery Gunnison/New Peck Preserved

Wednesday-Saturday,
July 20-23; 12 PM – 6 PM
The Army Ground Forces Association is a volunteer group in WWII era uniform performing restoration projects and interpreting Battery Gunnison/New Peck. Visitors are invited to learn about restoration of Battery Gunnison/New Peck, and the historic time period of July 1943 at Fort Hancock during this 4-day restoration and work period.

Campfire on the Beach

Lot E (southern chute)
Friday, July 22; 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Sing silly Sandy Hook songs, and hear true stories from days of yore surrounding the history and mysteries of the Hook. Participants are encouraged to bring beach blankets or chairs, snacks, bug spray, family and friends! Free. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information.

Going Bunkers: Battery Mills

Sunday, July 24; 6 PM – 7:30 PM
Explore and tour one of two of Fort Hancock's long range and well-hidden gun batteries that went into use shortly after WWI through WWII. Meet park staff at the old Visitor Center Parking Lot between Parking Lot D and Lot E, then car caravan to Battery Mills. Please wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring a flashlight and insect repellent.

32nd NPS All-Women Lifeguard Tournament

Lot E Beach
Wednesday, July 27; 9 AM – 6 PM
Come cheer on the women in this exciting annual competition. They will be representing beach patrols from the East Coast and elsewhere. Seeing them in action will hopefully encourage other women to consider surf-lifeguard work in the future. Contact: (732) 291-0055 for information and reservations.

Holly Forest Night Prowl

Lot E
Friday, July 29; 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Explore the Sandy Hook Holly Forest on this sensory led tour with a ranger. Family fun for everyone! ♥ 1 mile.

AUGUST

Campfire on the Beach

Parking Lot E (southern chute)
Friday, August 5; 7:30 PM – 9 PM
Sing silly Sandy Hook songs, and hear true stories from days of yore. Bring beach blankets or chairs, snacks, bug spray, family and friends! Free. Call (732) 872-5970 for info.

Fort Hancock Bike Tour

Theater Parking Lot

Saturday, August 6; 5 PM – 7 PM

Bicycle with a ranger on a guided tour highlighting everything from batteries to beaches. Bring a helmet and call (732) 872-5970 to make reservations. ♥ 3 miles.

National Lighthouse Day

Sunday, August 7; 12 PM – 5 PM

Visit the Sandy Hook Lighthouse and learn about the oldest operating lighthouse in the nation. Celebrate the National Park Service's 100th birthday and climb the lighthouse with Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper Samuel P. Jewell. Learn what it was like to be a lighthouse keeper during the 18th Century. Must be 48" or taller to climb the lighthouse. Wear appropriate footwear.

Coastal Explorers

American Littoral Society
Headquarters, Building 18

Monday - Friday

August 8 -12; 9 AM – 2 PM

Join the Littoral Society for a week of educational fun that includes seining, marine life identification, fishing, crabbing, birding, shelling, field journaling, plankton discovery, coastal botany, and understanding nature through art. For students entering grades 5 through 8. Cost: \$250. Contact 732-291-0055 for more information and to reserve.

Sunset Seining

American Littoral Society Headquarters, Building 18

Wednesday, August 10; 6 PM - 8 PM

Discover the diverse wildlife inhabiting our coast. After a short talk on the Society's front porch, you will head over to Horseshoe Cove on Sandy Hook bay for a seining adventure. Participants are invited to help pull our 40 foot seine net through the bay, and experience the excitement of learning about the fish and other critters caught. Wear clothes and shoes you don't mind getting wet. Cost: \$5 per person, free for member families. Contact: (732) 291-0055 for information and reservations.

Have you found your park? Is it Gateway? Please enter our photo contest held during the month of July, details, page 2 above.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Great Centennial Campout!

Saturday and Sunday Aug 13 and 14
Camping at Jamaica Bay, Staten Island and Sandy Hook

Join REI and the NPS for the Great Centennial Campout! We will be hosting three simultaneous camping experiences at Floyd Bennet Field, Fort Wadsworth, and Sandy Hook. Each location will have its own activities ranging from a Navigation Scavenger Hunt, to Stand-up Paddle Boarding, led by REI Outdoor School Instructors. In the evening enjoy a complimentary meal, live music, and s'mores around a campfire. Next morning start the day with Yoga class followed by a day of stewardship at each location. Let us all give a hand to get the parks ready for their 100th birthday on August 25th! Reservation fees apply. Find out more at rei.com/learn.

Night Hike

Lot E Beach Plaza

Saturday, August 13; 7:30 PM – 9 PM

Explore various parts of Sandy Hook's ecosystem. This night hike is the *Ranger's Choice Hike*, so the question is, "Are you feeling adventurous?" Bring a flashlight, bug repellent, and shoes you can get wet. Free, call (732) 872-5970 to reserve. ♥ 1 mile.

Going Bunkers: Battery Mills

Sunday, August 14; 6 PM – 7:30 PM

Explore and tour one of two of Fort Hancock's long range and well-hidden gun batteries that went into use shortly after WWI through WWII. Meet park staff at the old Visitor Center Parking Lot between Parking Lot D and Lot E, then caravan to Battery Mills. Please wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring a flashlight and insect repellent.

Bird Walk

Monmouth County Audubon Society
Lot M

Thursday, August 18; 6 PM – 8 PM

Walk out Fisherman's Trail to the ocean to look for piping plover, terns and migrating shorebirds. Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and wear comfortable shoes. Free. ♥ 1.5 miles.

Campfire on the Beach

Lot E (southern chute)

Friday, August 19; 7:30 PM - 9 PM

Sing silly Sandy Hook songs, and hear true stories from days of yore surrounding the history and mysteries of the Hook. Participants are encouraged to bring beach blankets or chairs, snacks, bug spray, family and friends! Free. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information.

Fort Hancock Bike Tour

Theater Parking Lot

Saturday, August 20; 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Bicycle with a ranger on a guided tour, highlighting everything from batteries to beaches. Bring a helmet and call (732) 872-5970 to make reservations. ♥ 3 miles.

Sunset Seining

American Littoral Society Headquarters, Building 18

Wednesday, August 24; 6 PM - 8 PM

Discover the diverse wildlife inhabiting our coast. Participants are invited to help pull our 40 foot seine net through the bay and experience the excitement of learning about the critters caught. Wear clothes and shoes you don't mind getting wet. Cost: \$5 per person, free for member families. Contact: (732) 291-0055 for information and reservations.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Founders Day - 100th Birthday of the National Park Service

Visitor Center/Keepers Quarters

Thursday, August 25; 10 AM – 3 PM

Celebrate Founders Day (NPS 100th Birthday) with the National Park Service, and participate in various NPS themed games/activities/trivia. Refreshments will be served in the Visitor Center.

Night Hike

Lot E Beach Plaza

Thursday, August 25

7:30 PM – 9 PM

Explore various parts of Sandy Hook's ecosystem. This night hike is the *Ranger's Choice Hike*, so the question is, "Are you feeling adventurous?"

Bring a flashlight, bug repellent, and shoes you can get wet. Free, call (732) 872-5970 to reserve. ♥ 1 mile.

Campfire on the Beach

Lot E (southern chute)
Friday, August 26; 7:30 PM - 9 PM
Sing silly songs, and hear true stories from days of yore. Bring beach blankets or chairs, snacks, bug spray, family and friends! Free. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information.

Shore Birds and Wild Edibles

Parking Lot M
Saturday, August 27; 9 AM - 11 AM
Littoral Society naturalists lead a hike to one of the least visited beaches. We will identify edible plants and observe shore birds feeding. Bring binoculars, comfortable walking shoes, and lots of sunscreen! Cost: \$5 per person, free for member families. Contact: 732- 291-0055 for more information and to reserve. ♥ 1 mile.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Family Camping

Saturday August 27, 3 PM
Sunday August 28, 12 PM
Campgrounds; Endicott Loop
Maximum Participants: 30
Bring your own camping equipment and food, the rangers will assign the space and provide activities. It will be a blast! Call to reserve: 732-872-5970.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Founders Day Paddle Fest – Canoe Cruise

Sunday, August 28; 9 AM – 12 PM
Meet at Life Saving Station Lots D/E. Take a two-mile paddle. Rangers guide you on a two and a half hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island. Use www.recreation.gov to reserve.

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAMS: Ages 7 to 12

These are offered Thursdays from June 23 to August 25. Parents must accompany their children for the duration of the programs. All programs are free, but reservations are required. Call (732) 872-5970 to reserve.

Junior Ranger Astronomer

Beach Plaza E
Thursday, June 23; 8 PM – 10 PM

Learn how to identify planets and star constellations in the night sky. Telescopes will be set up. Bring telescopes if available.

Junior Ranger Ocean Steward

Lot D
Thursday, June 30; 11AM – 12 PM
Help clean-up the beach with and learn how to protect the ocean so that it can be a healthy place for sea life now and in the future.

Junior Ranger Lifeguard

Lot E, Center Beach Walkway
Thursday, July 7; 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Lifeguards are responsible for the safety and well-being of people on the beach. Learn what it takes to be a lifeguard.

Junior Ranger Pirate

US Life-Saving Station Parking Lot (between Lot D and Lot E)
Thursday, July 14; 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Children will re-enact true Sandy Hook pirate stories and use a compass/treasure map to locate their “pirate booty” - around a historic area of Sandy Hook (Captain Kidd’s Meadow). Pirate attire, accents, and attitude “Aaaargh” required! ♥ 1 mile.

Junior Ranger Copycat

Guardian Park
Thursday, July 21; 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Learn about animal mimicry and camouflage, and how it aids in the survival for many Sandy Hook insects, birds and mammals.

Junior Ranger Marine Invader

Horseshoe Cove
Thursday, July 28; 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Participate in citizen scientist work by helping rangers find, catch, identify and track non-native/invasive Asian Shore Crab, and explore its potential impact on native crab species. You will get wet.

Junior Ranger Survivor

Sandy Hook Lighthouse
Thursday, August 4
10 AM – 11:30 AM
Children learn the essential elements needed to survive Sandy Hook.

Junior Ranger Leni-Lenape Scavenger Hunt

North Beach Pavilion
Thursday, August 11; 10 AM – 11:30 AM
Learn about the local Leni-Lenape Indian tribe and try your hand at some traditional Lenape craftsmanship and games.

Junior Ranger Going Batty

Keepers Quarters/Visitor Center
Thursday, August 18; 7 – 8:30 PM
Learn about various types of bats - their behavior, how they communicate, and why they are so important to the Sandy Hook ecosystem. Assist the ranger with bat box installation.

Jr. Ranger Lighthouse Keeper

Sandy Hook Lighthouse
Thursday, August 25; 10–11:30 AM
Celebrate the National Park Service’s 100th birthday and climb the lighthouse with Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper Samuel P. Jewell. Learn what it was like to be a lighthouse keeper during the 18th Century. Must be 48” or taller to climb the lighthouse.

Junior Jr. Ranger Programs: Ages 3 to 6

These programs teach young children about the habitats and history of Sandy Hook through fun hands-on activities. Programs are being offered from 10 AM to 11 AM weekly on Wednesdays from June 22 to August 31. Children will learn through hikes, walks, and demonstrations. Parents are required to accompany their children for the entire program. Space is limited, call (732) 872-5970 to make reservations.

June 22: What is a Park Ranger? Meet at Guardian Park

June 29: Splishy, Splashy, Squishy: Let’s go seining! Meet at Horseshoe Cove.

July 6: Sensory Nature Walk. Meet at Guardian Park

July 13: “I Spy!” Meet at Guardian Park

July 20: Hermit Crabs Love Company, Meet at Guardian Park

July 27: Birds, Beaks, and Feathers, Meet at Guardian Park

August 3: Bugging Out, Meet at Guardian Park

August 10: Terrapin vs. Turtle, Meet at Guardian Park

August 17: Surf, Sand and Shells, Meet at Guardian Park

August 24: Splishy, Splashy, Squishy: Let’s Go Seining! Meet at Horseshoe Cove

August 31: Nighttime Creatures, Meet at Guardian Park

—end of Sandy Hook listings—

Staten Island Visitor Programs and Events Summer 2016

Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial



Bo Peep, last year's First Prize Winner of the Goat Beauty Pageant surrounded by young admirers.

Join us for "Fourth at the Fort"—the July 4th celebration at the Overlook for your part in the annual reading of the Declaration of Independence presented by Staten Island OutLOUD. Stay for the music by the South Shore Band under the direction of James De Francesco, a concert of patriotic favorites to get you ready for the Macy's fireworks. In August, Staten Island Shakespeare Theater returns to present Euripides' tragedy, *The Trojan Women* for four twilight performances at Battery Weed.

Celebrate the 100th birthday of the National Park Service with our Founder's Day Program on August 25, the day on which the legislation was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

The Staten Island Philharmonic under the direction of Chief Warrant Officer Russell Houser, Commander of the US Army Band at Ft. Lewis, Washington. The ensemble will perform music of celebration of the NPS Centennial and will be joined by Staten Island OutLOUD with group readings relating to the event. We need you to be here to do your part in the readings.

Goat Walks and Talks--Gateway has used goats to control vegetation for many years. Goats especially love to eat poison ivy and are not bothered by the oils that cause human reaction of itching and burning when the oil gets on unprotected skin. Walks and talks about the goats are offered all summer. See listings for details.

Our **Goat Beauty Pageant** is a really unique and fun way to celebrate. New York City presented Goat Beauty Contests in the 1930s. Bring the kids for arts and crafts, create a painting, write a goat story on Sunday August, 21 from 11:00-1:00 PM. Vote for your favorite baby goat, and goat name, and have a blast. Don't you think this Goat Beauty Pageant says Happy 100th Birthday in a special way?

Enter the Gateway Photo Contest Contest information is found on page 2. This year it's "I found my Park, it's Gateway!"

Recurring Programs:

Discover Fort Tompkins

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Wednesday - Sunday
11AM and 3PM

Explore the little known areas of this historic structure with a park ranger. Learn about coastal fortifications and get a glimpse of life in the 1800's. Wear sturdy footwear. Meet at the visitor center.

Keeper of the Narrows:

A Walking Tour of Fort Wadsworth

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Saturdays, 10:30AM

Join us for a walking tour of one of the oldest military installations in the nation – Fort Wadsworth, part of the Coastal Defense Trail. Rich in history and natural beauty, Fort Wadsworth affords the opportunity to observe an important part of our nation's history, while offering magnificent views of New York Harbor. Bring water, sunscreen and comfortable walking shoes. ♥ 1.5 miles.

Full Moon Lantern Tours

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
June 19, July 19, August 18

Explore historic Fort Wadsworth with a ranger by the light of a full moon. Bring a flashlight and wear sturdy walking shoes. Meet at the Visitor Center. Reservations Required at 718-338-3799. ♥ 1.5 miles.

Goat Walks and Talks

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
July, every Wednesday and Sunday,
11:30-12:30 PM

August, every Wednesday and Sunday,
11:30-12:30 PM

September, every Sunday
11:30-12:30 PM

Meet at the Visitor Center, then walk to at Battery Weed where we will feed the goats. Gloves will be supplied. Under 18 yrs. of age must be accompanied by an adult. Cancelled during inclement weather. Reservations call: 718 354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

Summer Basket Ball Camp

Miller Field Basketball Courts
Wednesday-Friday, July 13-15
Wednesday-Friday, July 20-22
Wednesday-Friday, July 27-29

Youth ages 8 – 16 are welcome to participate in our free basketball camp. Younger participants will learn how to dribble, shoot and pass with a park ranger; skilled players will practice with our ranger-coaches. Competitive games will follow. Call 718-351-6970 for more information.

Bike New York Program Series

Fort Wadsworth Parking Lot at Hudson Road & South Weed Road

Registration policy: Advance registration is preferred; walk-up students are accepted as space allows. For map and registration page: <http://www.bike.nyc/education/classes>.

♥ 8-10 miles. Schedule:

Day	Date	Time	Class
Sat	6/4/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Learn to Ride - Adults
Sat	6/11/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Bike Path Cruise Ride
Sat	6/18/2016	11 AM - 2 PM	Street Skills Ride
Sat	7/9/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Learn to Ride - Adults
Sat	7/16/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Bike Practice Session
Sat	7/23/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Bike Path Cruise Ride
Sat	7/30/2016	11 AM - 2 PM	Youth Bike Basics
Sat	8/6/2016	11 AM - 2 PM	Street Skills Ride
Sat	8/13/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Learn to Ride - Adults
Sat	8/20/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Bike Practice Session
Sat	8/27/2016	11 AM - 2 PM	Bicycling Basics
Sat	9/10/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Learn to Ride - Adults
Sat	9/17/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Bike Path Cruise Ride
Sat	10/1/2016	11 AM - 2 PM	Bicycling Basics
Sat	10/15/2016	11 AM - 1 PM	Bike Path Cruise Ride

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Centennial Campfires

Miller Field Beach

Friday, May 27 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 25 at 7 p.m.

Great Kills Park Beach Center,

Thursday, July 28 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, August 20 at 7 p.m.

Gather on the beach for an evening of music and storytelling around a roaring campfire. Marshmallows for roasting will be provided!

Programs and Events June

Centennial Citizen Science Series

Horseshoe Crab Walk and

Tagging

Great Kills Park

Lot G Beach Center

Thursday, June 2, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Join in this search at Crooke's Point for the mysterious horseshoe crab when this ancient species comes ashore to spawn.

Assist with tagging. Visitors must show up no later than 7 PM in order to receive a special program parking permit for Crooke's Point. Wear appropriate shoes; reservations required. Call (718) 354-4655. ♥ 1 mile.

Beach Volleyball

Great Kills Park Beach Center

June 4; 10 AM

Enjoy a morning of easy volleyball on the beach. Ages 10 and up are welcome to participate.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Family Overnight Camping

Fort Wadsworth, Camp Hudson

Friday, June 10

Check in: 2 PM - Check out: 10 AM

Enjoy marine nature study and hiking with National Park rangers. Learn to pitch a tent, build a fire, cook and make s'mores over a fire pit. This program is free. All equipment will be provided - just bring your own food, insect repellent, and ice. Space is limited. Call (718) 354-4655 for more information and reservations.

Bike Path Cruise Ride

Fort Wadsworth

Parking lot at Hudson Road & South Weed Road

Saturday, June 11; 11:00 AM

Join Bike New York, for a casual ride on protected bike paths that give novice adult and mature teen cyclists the opportunity to practice riding. All equipment (bicycles and helmets) will be provided to those who register online for the class. Advance registration is preferred; walk-up students are accepted as space allows. For map and registration go to: <http://www.bike.nyc/education/classes>. ♥ 8-10 miles.

Star Gazing

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York

Lot A Great Kills Park Parking Saturday, June 11; 8:30 - 10:00 PM

The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public star-gazing at the main parking area, lot A. Inclement weather will cancel this program.

Biking Street Skills Class

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Multimedia Room

Thursday, June 16; 1:00 PM

(This is the prerequisite for the Street Skills Ride offered June 18.) Join Bike New York

for an interactive presentation & discussion that provides concrete examples of city cycling scenarios and how best to handle them. Students must be at least 14 years old. Lead by a Certified League Cycling Instructor (LCI). No equipment necessary. Advance registration is preferred; walk-up students are accepted as space allows. For map and registration go to: <http://www.bike.nyc/education/classes>.

Youth Basketball Tournament

Miller Field Basketball Courts
Saturday, June 18; 10 AM
Participate in a free, double elimination basketball tournament for boys and girls ages 10 to 16. The tournament will take place on the new Miller Field basketball courts. Registration is required. To ensure a space sign up by the June 11 deadline. Call 718-351-6970. (Late or same day registration may be possible if space allows.)

Centennial Citizen Science Series **Horseshoe Crab Tagging and Population Count**

Great Kills Park
Lot G Beach Center
Saturday, June 18, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Join in this search at Crooke's Point for the mysterious horseshoe crab. Assist with tagging. Visitors must show up no later than 7 p.m. in order to receive a special program parking permit for Crooke's Point. Wear appropriate shoes; reservations required. Call (718) 354-4655. ♥ 1 mile.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial **Coastal Defense Trail Hike**

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sunday, June 19; 12:00--1:30 PM
Join us for a 1.5-hour hike along our new Coastal Defense Trail at Fort Wadsworth as we explore both the natural areas and the remnants of the former harbor defense system. Inclement weather will cancel the program. Reservations required. Call (718) 354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

Bike Maintenance

Fort Wadsworth
Parking lot at Hudson Road & South Weed Road
(Inclement weather, go to Visitor Center.)
Wednesday, June 22
10:30 AM-12:30 PM
Join Bike New York to learn how to fix brakes and adjust gears. Advance registration is preferred; walk-up students are accepted as space allows. For map and registration go to: <http://www.bike.nyc/education/classes>.

Morning Kite Flying

Miller Field (meet near the playground)
Saturday, June 25; 10 AM

Children and adults are invited to build their own kites and launch them from our historic airfield. All materials will be provided. Ages 10 and up are welcome to participate.

Centennial Citizen Science Series **Horseshoe Crab Tagging and Population Count**

Great Kills Park
Lot G Beach Center
Saturday, July 2; 6:00 - 8:00 PM
See June 18 program description above.
Call (718) 354-4655. ♥ 1 mile.

JULY

Fourth at the Fort

Monday July 4; 7:00 PM
Celebrate Independence Day at the Overlook. Join Staten Island OutLOUD at 7 PM for the annual reading of the Declaration of Independence. The South Shore Band will play a program of patriotic music at 7:30PM. Stay and see the fireworks display over the harbor.

Outdoor Physical Fitness

Great Kills Park, Parking Lot A
July 9; 10 AM
Join the park rangers for an easy, outdoor workout that will keep everyone moving in the park. All ages are welcome to participate.

Star Gazing

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York
Lot A, Great Kills Park
Saturday, July 9; 8:30 -10 PM
Inclement weather cancels this program.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial **Photo Walk of Fort Wadsworth**

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center
Saturday, July 9; 2-4PM
Join a photo walk tour of Fort Wadsworth with a professional photographer Ed Coppola who will provide guidance on capturing architectural details and landscape views while experiencing the historic site. Presented in partnership with the Alice Austen House and in celebration of the National Park Service Centennial.

Bike Path Cruise Ride

Fort Wadsworth
Parking lot at Hudson Road & South Weed Road
Sunday, July 10; 10:30 AM
Join Bike New York, for a casual ride on protected bike paths that give novice adult and mature teen cyclists the opportunity to practice riding. All equipment, including bicycles and helmets will be provided to those who register online for the class. Advance registration is preferred; walk-up students are accepted as space allows. For map

and registration go to: <http://www.bike.nyc/education/classes>. ♥ 8-10 miles.

Youth Basketball Tournament

Saturday, July 16; 10 AM
Meet at the Miller Field Ranger Station
Participate in a free, double elimination basketball tournament. The tournament will take place on the new Miller Field basketball courts. Registration is required. The deadline to sign-up is May 31. Boys and girls ages 10 – 16 are welcome to register. Call 718-351-6970.

Salt-Water Day and Fishing Clinic

Lot E Great Kills Park
Sunday, July 17, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
In 1914, naturalists on Staten Island gathered to celebrate the biodiversity at Great Kills Park, calling it Salt Water Day. Join us as we learn about the fish and plants that live in this area today. Call for registration: 718 354-4655.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial **Coastal Defense Trail Hike**

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sunday, July 17 from 2:30- 4:00 PM
Join us for a 1.5-hour hike along our new Coastal Defense Trail at Fort Wadsworth as we explore both the natural areas and the remnants of the former harbor defense system. Inclement weather will cancel the program. Reservations required. Call (718) 354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

Morning Kite Flying

Great Kills Park, Parking Lot A
Saturday, July 23 10 a.m.
Children and adults are invited to build their own kites and launch them from our historic beachfront. All materials will be provided. Ages 10 and up are welcome to participate.

Outdoor Physical Fitness

Miller Field (meet near the playground)
Saturday, July 30 at 10 a.m.
Join the park rangers for an easy, outdoor workout that will keep everyone moving in the park. All ages are welcome to participate.

Seine and Search

Fort Wadsworth Campground
Sunday, July 31, 11:00 AM - Noon
Experience the Native American fishing technique known as seining while discovering the animals that live along the shore. All equipment provided.

AUGUST

Tough Kids Triathlon

Great Kills Park Beach Center
Saturday, August 6; 10 AM
Youth ages 10 – 16 are invited to participate in a mini-triathlon that will include running, navigating an obstacle course and a bike ride in Great Kills Park. Participants must bring a bike. Registration required. Deadline to register is July 23. Call 718-351-6970. (Same day registration at the site may be available if space allows.)

Star Gazing

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York
Lot A Great Kills Park
Saturday, August 6; 8:30 PM -10 PM
Inclement weather will cancel this program.

Staten Island Community Band

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Thursday August 11; 6:00 PM
Borough President's Concert. The Community Band presents concert favorites at the Overlook .

Step Up Event

Great Kills Park, Parking Lot A
Saturday, August 13; 10 AM
Navigate an obstacle course and then finish with a walk in Great Kills Park. Ages 10 and up are welcome.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Great Centennial Campout!

Saturday and Sunday Aug 13 and 14
Camping at Jamaica Bay, Staten Island and Sandy Hook
Join REI and the NPS for the Great Centennial Campout! We will be hosting three simultaneous camping experiences at Floyd Bennet Field, Fort Wadsworth, and Sandy Hook. Each location will have its own activities ranging from a Navigation Scavenger Hunt to Stand-up Paddle Boarding led by REI Outdoor School Instructors. In the evening enjoy a complimentary meal, live music and s'mores around a campfire. Next morning start the day with Yoga class followed by a day of stewardship at each location. Let us all give a hand to get the parks ready for their 100th birthday on August 25th! Reservation fees apply. Find out more at rei.com/learn.

The Trojan Women

Fort Wadsworth
Fri. & Sat. August 19, 20, 26, 27; 6:00 PM
Staten Island Shakespeare Theater will present The Trojan Women, an outdoor production of a tragedy by Euripides, at the walls of Battery Weed at twilight.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Goat Beauty Contest

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sunday August, 21; 11:00- 1:00 PM
We are presenting our second Annual Goat Beauty Contest. New York City hosted goat beauty pageants in the 1930's. Join us as we recreate this fun and participatory event. Vote for your favorite baby goat, goat name, and do some arts and crafts—paint a picture, write a story. Food trucks will be available. Information, call 718 354-4655 for details.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Centennial Loop Ride

Miller Field, Fr Capodanno Blvd Parking Lot
Saturday, August 20 at 10 a.m.
Celebrate the 100th birthday of the National Park Service as we prepare for the upcoming Founders Day celebration by cycling from Miller Field to Fort Wadsworth and back (distance: 6.2 miles.) Participants must bring their own bike. Ages 10 and up are welcome.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Coastal Defense Trail Hike

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Monday, August 22; 12:00 -1:30 PM
Join a 1.5-hour hike along our new Coastal Defense Trail at Fort Wadsworth as we explore both the natural areas and the remnants of the former harbor defense system. Inclement weather will cancel the program. Reservations required. Call (718) 354-4655. ♥ 2 miles.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

National Park Service Centennial Birthday Campout

Fort Wadsworth Camp Hudson
Thursday, August 25; 2 PM -10 AM
Enjoy marine nature study and hiking

with National Park Rangers. Learn to pitch a tent, build a fire, cook and make s'mores over a fire pit. This program is free. All equipment will be provided - just bring your own food, insect repellent, and ice. Space is limited. Call (718) 354-4655 for more information and reservations. Join us for the concert noted below.

Seine and Search

Fort Wadsworth Campground
Thursday, August 25, 2:30 -4 PM
Experience the Native American fishing technique known as seining while discovering the animals that live along the shore. All equipment will be provided.

Celebrate the NPS Centennial

Founder's Day Centennial Celebration

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Thursday August 25; 6:00 PM
Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of National Park Service with a program at Fort Wadsworth featuring the Staten Island Philharmonic, Staten Island OutLOUD doing readings with audience participation.

—end of listings—

Want to be on our email list to receive this publication and notices of special events? Email Charles_Markis@nps.gov, and put "program guide" in the subject line. We'll add you to our list.



Gateway National Recreation Area is a vast park spanning two states and three New York City Boroughs.