



# Staten Island Visitor Programs

## Winter 2006-2007

### December

#### Holiday Wreath

Miller Field Ranger Station

Sunday, December 3 at noon

Children and adults are invited to create wreaths using pinecones, flowers and more. All materials will be provided. All ages are welcome. For reservations please call (718) 351-6970.

#### Endangered Species Holiday Decorations

Great Kills Park

Education Field Station

Sunday, December 10 at 2 p.m.

Create decorations that depict images of threatened species located in our area. Ages 9-14 are invited.

For reservations call (718) 351-6970.

#### Lantern Tour of Fort Wadsworth

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

Monday, December 18 at 6 p.m.

Our most popular tour explores the historic sites of the fort by night. Bring a flashlight; good walking shoes a must. Reservations required.

(Space is limited-reserve early.)

For reservations call (718) 354-4500.

### January

#### New Years Day Walk

Great Kills Park Entrance

Monday January 1 at noon

Ring in the New Year by joining the sixteenth annual beach walk, sponsored by the Natural Resource Protection Association and the Protectors of the Pine Oaks. Observe winter wildlife on a walk to Crooke's Point and toast the New Year on the beach. Dress for an outdoor adventure.



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The Common Goldeneye is one of the many waterfowl that can be seen at Great Kills Park in the winter.

#### Presidents

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

Saturday, January 6

*Backstage at the White House* will be shown at 10:25 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

View rare newsreel clips capturing every president from Taft to Reagan, showing the lighter side of the presidency.

*Abraham Lincoln* at 11:30 a.m.

Enjoy D.W. Griffith's first sound film starring Walter Houston as Lincoln.

#### "Jean Shepherd's American Character's"

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

Saturday, January 20

Films shown between 10:30 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.

Enjoy eight unique visual essays written and performed by the legendary radio humorist, Jean Shepherd.

#### Before the Bridge: A Film Essay Dedicated to the People of the Boroughs of Staten Island and Brooklyn

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

Sunday, January 21 at 1 p.m.

Take a nostalgic journey to the 1950's that explores the innocence of a lost but historic time. The films include "Once Upon A Time on Staten Island" and the award winning "The Little Fugitive." Reservations required.

For more information call (718) 354-4500 or 354-4556.

#### Winter Waterfowl Walk

Great Kills Park

Education Field Station

Sunday, January 21 at 1 p.m.

Enjoy a variety of these beautiful birds in their winter habitat at Great Kills Park. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars.

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

**Fort Wadsworth  
(718) 354 – 4500**  
The visitor center is open  
Wednesday through Sunday, from  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ranger led tours of  
the fortifications are conducted  
Wednesday through Sunday at  
2:30 p.m.

**Great Kills Park  
(718) 987 – 6790**  
The ranger station is open Friday  
through Monday from 9 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m.

**Miller Field  
(718) 351– 6970**  
The ranger station is open  
Wednesday through Sunday  
from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**After-School Program  
Richmondtown Library  
Tuesday, January 23 at 4 p.m.**  
Children ages 8-11 will explore the  
National Park Service portable  
discovery station to learn about  
native plants and animals.

**Pioneers of Conservationism  
Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Saturday, January 27 at 2 p.m.**  
Read excerpts of famous  
environmentalists and create a story  
of the events that lead to saving some  
National Parks. Ages 10-15 are  
invited. Reservations required.

## February

**So Others May Live: Coast  
Guard Rescue Swimmers  
Saving Lives, Defying Death  
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center  
Sunday, February 4 at 1 p.m.**  
Join author Martha J. Laguardia-  
Kottie in the untold story of the U.S.  
Coast Guard helicopter rescue  
swimmer. In startling clear and  
exceptional writing, it tells twelve  
heroic stories of the greatest  
maritime rescues. Attempted. The  
program will cover diverse  
environments: oceans, hurricanes,  
oilrigs, caves, sinking vessels, floods,  
Niagara Falls and Hurricane Katrina.  
For reservations please call (718)  
354-4500 or 4556.

**Our Winter Birds  
Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Sunday, February 11 at 1 p.m.**  
Snow, ice and chilling winds. Learn  
about birds that winter in Great Kills  
Park and how they survive this  
challenging time of the year.  
Dress for the weather.

**A View from the Top  
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center  
Sunday, February 11 at 1 p.m.**  
Enjoy a tour of Battery Weed and its  
top tier (weather permitting) for a  
special view of New York Harbor.  
Visitors will also be able to visit the  
restored turn- of- the- century  
lighthouse. Reservations required.  
For more information call  
(718) 354- 4500. (Space is limited-  
reserve early.)

**Underground Railroad Quilt  
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center  
Sunday, February 18 at 1 p.m.**  
Join a park ranger to celebrate Black  
History Month and learn about  
Underground Railroad quilt codes.  
An activity for the whole family.  
All supplies will be provided.  
For reservations call (718) 354-4500.

**After-School Program  
Richmondtown Library  
Tuesday, February 20 at 4 p.m.**  
Children ages 8-11 will explore the  
National Park Service portable  
discovery station to learn about  
native plants and animals.

**Winter Survival  
Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Wednesday, February 21 at 1 p.m.**  
(See School Break Program on page 3.)

**The Four Seasons: A Special  
Photo Walking Tour  
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center  
Sunday, February 25 at 1 p.m.**  
In celebration of the Staten Island  
Photography Contest, we are  
offering a special three-hour walking  
tour of the secret places of Fort  
Wadsworth. This walk will be  
offered for each season with future  
dates listed in the program guide.  
Dress for the weather. For  
reservations call (718) 354-4500

## School Break Program Winter Survival

Great Kills Park

Education Field Station

Wednesday, February 21 at 1 p.m.

Ever wonder how animals survive the winter? Children ages 8-11 can join National Park rangers and learn how local fauna make it through the winter. Dress for the weather as we go outdoors to look for evidence of these animals.

## Richmond County Fly Tying Club

Great Kills Park

Education Field Station

Sundays, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Come to observe and learn the art of saltwater fly tying. Extra materials will be available for anyone interested in participating during this club's weekly meetings.

## Staten Island Unit Junior Ranger Program

The Junior Ranger Program is self-guided and available year-round. Children ages 7 to 12 years can participate by picking up a free booklet at the Great Kills Park Ranger Station, the Miller Field Ranger Station or the Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center. The booklet, "National Park Adventure for Junior Rangers," contains self-guided and ranger-led activities that must be completed at all three of the Staten Island Unit's sites. For more information, call (718) 987-6790.



A variety of hawks can be seen on a winter bird walk at Great Kills Park.



## Permits

Fishing and Bird Watching/Nature Study Parking permits will be available in February for the 2007 season at Fort Wadsworth, Miller Field and Great Kills Park.

Boat Launch Permits are issued at Great Kills Park only.

Call (718) 987-6790 for more information.



**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**

### **Winter 2006-2007**

**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

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

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

**Superintendent**  
**Staten Island Unit**  
Dave Avrin

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

**(718) 338-3988**

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



Enjoy the beauty of Great Kills Park in the winter.