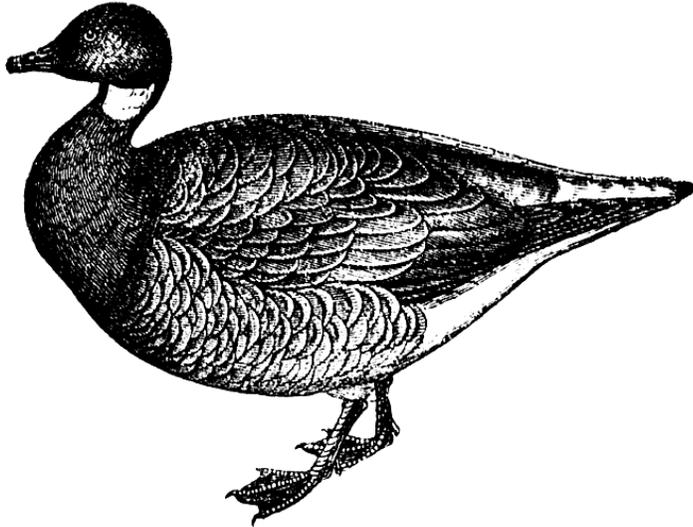




Visitor Programs and Events – Autumn 2011

Jamaica Bay Unit



What's With The ♥?

Gateway's programs are wonderful ways to stimulate your mind and your senses, but did you know that many of them provide fantastic opportunities to get some exercise? Our hikes, service projects, and paddles are great ways to get your heart going, while you enjoy the natural beauty and historic treasures that surround you. Just look for the ♥ next to the program listing for programs that require walks of a mile or more, or moderate physical exertion, and let Gateway pump you up!

International Coastal Cleanup Day

Sites Around Jamaica Bay
Saturday, September 17
Celebrate International Beach Clean-up Day by volunteering to help clean the shoreline of Jamaica Bay, and the beaches of Rockaway. Groups are welcome. Bring work gloves, sun/insect protection. Wear waterproof boots or old sneakers.

For information and schedule of beaches, call Natalie at American Littoral Society (718) 474 – 2643; e-mail: alsbeach@nyc.rr.com Once you have chosen a site, you will help to clean and document litter at our beaches.

Herbert Johnson Lecture Series:

New Findings in an Old Bay
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Wednesdays in October
7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Learn about the ongoing research projects happening right now in Jamaica Bay. Learn what the scientist discover before it is even in print!

Ryan Visitor Center Reopening and "Winnie Mae" Unveiling

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Friday, November 11
12 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Join the National Park Service for a sneak peak of the Ryan Visitor Center after an extensive restoration. The park will also unveil the replica of Wiley Post's famous Lockheed Vega, the "Winnie Mae," which he used to make his famous solo 'round the world flight from Floyd Bennett Field in 1933. This replica has been built from the ground up by the volunteers of the Historic Aircraft Restoration Project.

Gateway – Jamaica Bay Partner Programs

Visit our partner's websites, to find out what programs they're offering this fall!

Floyd Bennett Garden Association

Have a "Green Thumb?" Learn at public gardening workshops. Find out about the Floyd Bennett Garden Association:
<http://www.fbga.net/>

Rockaway Artist Alliance

Enjoy artist exhibitions and events. See the 2011 Calendar:
http://www.rockawayartistsalliance.org/exh_Calendar11.html

Rockaway Theatre Company

Have a night at the theater in Fort Tilden. See the 2011 Calendar:
<http://rockawaytheatrecompany.org/>

September

Bike to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge ♥

Canarsie Pier

Saturday, September 10

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Join a Park Ranger on a bike trip along the bike path and city streets to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge on this 7 mile round trip. Travel at a moderate pace and bring lunch. Dress for the ride, bring water and sunscreen. Space is limited; call (718) 338 – 3799 for reservations. (7 miles)

Turtle Talk: There's More than Just Terrapins at Jamaica Bay

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, September 10

2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Sure, everyone sees terrapins on the trails at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, but there are other turtles there too. West Pond has snappers and painted turtles and sliders, and box turtles roam the fields and forest. Come hear the stories these turtles have to tell, and learn about new research projects on these species. Are you traveling to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge by subway? Meet a park ranger at the MTA "A" Subway, Broad Channel Station at 1:30 p.m. and walk together.

MTA = Q21, Q 53

International Coastal Cleanup Day

Sites Around Jamaica Bay

Saturday, September 17

Volunteers wanted to clean and document litter at a beach near you. Bring work gloves, sun/insect protection, and wear waterproof boots or old sneakers. Groups are welcome. For information and schedule of beaches, call Natalie at American Littoral Society e-mail: alsbeach@nyc.rr.com or call (718) 474-2643; or contact the Ranger Station at (718) 338-3799.

"Vin Fiz" Bookend

Reading

Floyd Bennett Field, Hangar B

Saturday, September 17

11a.m. and 1 p.m.

Visitors young and old will enjoy book readings about Cal Rodger's Record Breaking First Transcontinental Flight from Brooklyn to California on its hundredth anniversary. This event is co – sponsored with the Brooklyn Borough President's Office. For more information, call (718) 338 – 3799.

Bike Tour: Fort Tilden ♥

Floyd Bennett Field

Ranger Station

Sunday, September 18

9a.m. – 11 a.m.

Join a Park Ranger for a bike ride to Fort Tilden's Battery Harris, and return. Space is limited; call (718) 338 – 3799 for reservations. (6 miles)

Beach Plums & Goldenrod at Plumb Beach ♥

Plumb Beach Roundhouse

Sunday, September 18

12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

The shifting dunes, classic salt marsh, and extensive mud flats of Plumb Beach are dynamic, ever-changing habitats for myriad seashore species. During September, hundreds of native Beach Plums are in full fruit and provide an opportunity for some tasty sampling. Explore this fascinating area with American Littoral Society naturalist, Mickey Maxwell Cohen. This is an American Littoral Society / Gateway NRA Partnership Program. (3 miles)

Walking Tour: Ft. Tilden ♥

Meet at Ft. Tilden Flagpole

Saturday, September 24

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join a park ranger for this walking tour along Shore Rd., and through the back fort, to discover the hidden history of this former coastal defense post. (2 miles)
MTA = Q35

Photography and the Art of Seeing

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, September 24

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Join photographer Johann Schumacher for a Photo Workshop. Investigate the visual vocabulary of design, light, color, composition, gesture, pattern and rhythm. Then head outdoors to explore the West pond and find your personal vision. Are you traveling to the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge by subway? Meet a park ranger at the MTA "A" Subway, Broad Channel Station at 1:30 p.m. and walk together.
MTA = Q21, Q 53

Jamaica Bay Sunset Cruise

Sunday, September 25

4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Join us for a special 3-hour narrated tour of Jamaica Bay aboard the *Golden Sunshine* out of Sheepshead Bay. Learn about the history & ecology of the bay and see migrating hawks, peregrine falcons, oystercatchers, osprey, herons, egrets, ibis, shorebirds and waterfowl. Leaders: Mickey Cohen, Don Riepe. Cost: \$45 includes narrated tour, wine & cheese, fruit, snacks. For more information American Littoral Society (718) 318-9344 or e-mail: donriepe@gmail.com. This program is an American Littoral Society and Gateway NRA partnership.

October

The Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge: The Cultural Landscape

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, October 1

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Join a park ranger for this walking tour and discussion about how the Jamaica Bay

Stars by the Shore

Fort Tilden

Building 1

Saturday, October 1

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Join the Amateur Astronomers Association on Saturday nights in Gateway NRA. Look for the moon, Saturn, Venus and Jupiter. Learn about the Andromeda Galaxy. Telescopes will be provided but more binoculars or telescopes are always welcome. Rain Date: Sunday, October 2, 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. For more information contact Richard Rosenberg, president@aaa.org

Herbert Johnson Annual Lecture Series: *New Findings in an Old Bay*

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Wednesday, October 5

7 -8 p.m.

Amaranthus to Zostera: Research Permits and Information Sharing in Jamaica Bay

Presented by George W. Frame, Ph.D., Natural Resources Management Division, Gateway NRA The National Park Service manages most of Jamaica Bay. All research is tracked through the computerized system of Scientific Research and Collecting Permits. The permit system ensures that the best scientific information is available to managers of Gateway National Recreation Area for use in protecting the resources in Jamaica Bay. A brief selection from the 200 studies will be highlighted. And

Is Oyster Restoration Possible in an Urban Environment Such as Jamaica Bay?

Presented by Allison Mass, PhD Candidate- The Graduate Center, City University of New York Urbanization effects the possible restoration of oysters in New York City. Learn how metal pollutants alter the energy of the oysters, making it harder for them to grow and reproduce. Allison Mass has studied 2 sites in Jamaica Bay: Spring Creek and Floyd Bennett Field (as well as the Bronx River and Tuckerton, NJ).

NYC Audubon Raptor Migration Walk ♥

Fort Tilden, Bldg. 1

Sunday, October 9

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Hike along the beach, dune and wooded areas. Visit the Hawk Watch platform for great views of birds and NY Harbor. (1.5 miles) MTA = Q35

Herbert Johnson Annual Lecture Series: *New Findings in an Old Bay*

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Wednesday, October 12

7-8 p.m.

On the Shores of Jamaica Bay: What have Three Years of Monitoring Shown Us?

Presented by John Rowden, PhD., Associate Director, Citizen Science and Outreach, New York City Audubon

Each spring, tens of thousands of horseshoe crabs repeat an ancient ritual on New York City's beaches by coming ashore to spawn. Many shorebird species depend on horseshoe crab eggs to fuel their long migration north, and since 2009 NYC Audubon has been monitoring crab and shorebird populations in Jamaica Bay. I will share what we have learned about these species' use of the bay through our monitoring efforts.

Seining the Gulf Stream

Floyd Bennett Field

Main Entrance Ranger Station

Parking Area

Saturday, October 15

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

October often brings the warm water of the Gulf Stream into Jamaica Bay, and along with it, interesting southern marine creatures. Seine and sample the bay's living treasures with American Littoral Society naturalist, Mickey Maxwell Cohen. Carpool to the program site at the historic seaplane ramp. We'll supply the nets and waders in a variety of sizes. MTA = Q35

The Famous Flyers of Floyd Bennett Field

Floyd Bennett Field

Hangar B

Sunday, October 16

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Join a park ranger to see the historic airplanes in Hangar B, and find out about some of the famous pilots associated with them.

Herbert Johnson Annual Lecture Series: *New Findings in an Old Bay*

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Visitor Center

Wednesdays in and October

7 -8 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19th

Terrapins on the runways: The story of Jamaica Bay terrapins just got more complicated

Presented by Dr. Russell Burke, Professor of Biology, Hofstra University

A decade of research on the terrapins that nest on Ruler's Bar has produced lots of results about Jamaica Bay terrapins. But the recent news about terrapins at JFK airport suggests that a different story may be unfolding on the east side of Jamaica Bay. Come here about what we know, and don't know, about Jamaica Bay terrapins.

Lantern Tour of Hangar B

Floyd Bennett Field

Hangar B

Saturday, October 29

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Join a Park Ranger and learn about the famous and the infamous moments in aviation history.

Space is limited; call (718) 338 – 3799 for reservations.

people, planes and historic

November

Bike Around

Floyd Bennett Field ♥

Floyd Bennett Field

Ranger Station

Saturday, November 5

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join a Park Ranger and enjoy the sites of Floyd Bennett Field on this 4 mile trip. Travel at a moderate

pace and break for lunch at Hangar B. Dress for the ride, bring water and sunscreen. Space is limited; call (718) 338 – 3799 for reservations. (4 miles)

Herbert Johnson Annual

Lecture Series: *New*

Findings in an Old Bay

Saturday, November 5

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

2 – 3 p.m.

Live, Work and Play in Jamaica

Bay: The Importance of Place in Developing Relationships to Nature

Presented by Kristen Van

Hooreweghe Instructor,

Environmental Studies and

Sociology, SUNY-Potsdam

For folks who live on Jamaica Bay, some of their fondest memories

include walking along the shores, kayaking and seeing plants, birds and the open vista with parents or

grandparents. But do race, class, gender or politics impact access to

Jamaica Bay and stewardship

activities? Come learn what

Kristen Van Hooreweghe

discovered when she took the time

to talk with your neighbors.

Stars by the Shore

Fort Tilden, building 1

Saturday, November 5,

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Join the Amateur Astronomers Association on Saturday nights in Gateway NRA. Look for the

moon, Venus, Mercury and

Jupiter. Learn about Pleiades,

Hyades and the Alpha Persei Star

Clusters. Telescopes will be

provided but more binoculars or

telescopes are always welcome.

Rain Date: Sunday, November 6, 6

p.m. – 9 p.m. (Daylight Savings

Ends). For more information

contact Richard Rosenberg,

president@aaa.org

Ryan Visitor Center

Reopening and “Winnie

Mae” Unveiling

Floyd Bennett Field

Ryan Visitor Center

Friday, November 11

12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Join the National Park Service for a sneak peak of the Ryan Visitor Center after an extensive

restoration. The park will also

unveil the replica of Wiley Post’s

famous Lockheed Vega, the

“Winnie Mae,” which has been

built from the ground up by the

volunteers of the Historic Aircraft

Restoration Project. MTA = Q35

Hike the Trails of the

North Forty Natural Area ♥

Floyd Bennett Field

Main Entrance Ranger Station

Saturday, November 12

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Join American Littoral Society

naturalist, Mickey Maxwell

Cohen and discover the birds,

wildflowers, autumn fruits and

foliage in this developing coastal

woodland. Participants will

carpool to the program site at

Floyd Bennett Field. (3 miles)

MTA = Q35

Wild Waterfowl and

Hawks, Too ♥

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Sunday, November 13

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The early waterfowl are back from their Arctic breeding

grounds and hawks soar over the refuge lands. Walk the West

Pond Trail with naturalist Ron

Bourque and practice spotting,

identifying, and observing these

birds. (2 miles) MTA = Q21, Q 53

or A Broad Channel stop

NYC Audubon Winter

Waterfowl Workshop

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Visitor Center

Saturday, November 19

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

View a slide presentation on

watwerfowl identification then

hike around the West Pond with

naturalist Don Riepe to look for

snow geese, brant geese,

bufflehead, and many species of

wintering ducks. (1.7 miles)

MTA = Q21, Q 53 or A Broad

Channel stop

Jamaica Bay Continuing
Programs:

Fabric Aircraft

Floyd Bennett Field
Hangar B
Saturdays
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join a Volunteer in Park and learn how to fabric an aircraft, the “old fashioned way,” using needle and thread.

Group Tours of the Historic Aircraft Restoration Project

Floyd Bennett Field
Hangar B
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays
10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1p.m.

Learn about the historic aircraft at Hangar B on a guided tour. Reservations are required. Call (718) 338 – 3799.

Historic Aircraft Restoration Project

Floyd Bennett Field
Hangar B
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Observe park volunteers as they restore vintage aircraft from Floyd Bennett Field’s past.

Kayak Fishing with a Ranger ♥

Floyd Bennett Field
Seaplane Ramp
Tuesdays
September 6, 13, 20, and 27
6 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Bring your fishing gear and dress to get wet. Kayaks, personal floatation devices, and paddles will be provided. Space is limited; call (718) 338 – 3799 for reservations.

Observing the Night Sky

Floyd Bennett Field
Radio Controlled Flying Field
8 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Fridays

September 16, October 7 and
November 4

Weather permitting, clear or partly clear skies only. Join the Amateur Astronomer Association and learn about the night sky. Dress for the weather. Telescopes provided.

Sunrise Paddle ♥

Floyd Bennett Field
Seaplane Ramp
Thursdays
September 8, 15, and 22
6 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Join a Park Ranger before going to work for this short energetic paddle. Kayaks, personal floatation devices, and paddles will be provided. Space is limited; call (718) 338 – 3799 for reservations. (3 miles)

Rockaway Artists Alliance:

Fort Tilden
Gallery Open Saturdays and Sundays
noon - 4:00 p.m.

Exhibits:

Artsplash 2011
September 10 - October 16
A vibrant juried exhibition of original works, all media.
Opening Reception September 18

Inksplash 2011,
October 9 - November 6
A juried exhibition of original print works
Opening Reception October 9

Gifted 2011
November 19 - December 18
A members-only juried exhibition showcasing the very best from our Artists. This is an all media show including: drawing, mixed media, photography, painting, watercolor, cartoon, video, textile work, poetry and literature, sculpture, dance, music, performance and more. This is a perfect exhibition for a dazzling December dash of talent, imagination and artistic skill.
Opening Reception November 20

Events:

September 11, 2011, 1:00p.m.
sTudio 7
Doreen Lynn Saunders will be presenting The Americana Stars Memorial, it is a more than 200 foot long artistic piece honoring every victim of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United states.

Saturday, October 29th through Monday, October 31st
6pm to 10pm
fright fest in studio 7. On the public will be welcomed into “Toyland” at their own risk. Our Artists, musicians and volunteers spend countless hours devising a netherworld of freakish entertainment for all ages to celebrate Halloween.

For class schedule and more events see
<http://rockawayartistsalliance.org>