



Visitor Programs and Events – Autumn 2011

Sandy Hook Unit



Sandy Hook "BioBlitz"

Headquarters located at the Littoral Society, Bldg. 18
Friday, September 16th – Saturday, September 17th
3 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Join park and university naturalists and researchers to discover the biological diversity found on the Sandy Hook peninsula over a 24 hour period. You can participate in field explorations and assist with species counts, learn about the natural ecosystems through public walks and displays; or volunteer to assist with the event. Registration is required. For more information please visit <http://nbii-nin.ciesin.columbia.edu/sandyhook/bioblitz/>

Ft. Hancock Days Weekend

October 28 – 30

Mark the anniversary of the 1895 establishment of Fort Hancock by discovering the fort's role in the defense of our nation. (See page 3 for details.)

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!

Soar Productions Presents: "Bell, Book and Candle"

By John van Druten

October 21, 22, 28, & 29

8 p.m.

October 30

2 p.m.

November 4 & 5

8 p.m.

Before there were *Bewitched*, *Wicked* or *Harry Potter*, there was *Bell, Book and Candle*. Gillian is a beautiful witch living in New York City who is smitten with her handsome upstairs neighbor. She casts a little spell, and he is immediately captivated by her. But Gillian must be careful — if she falls in love with him, she could lose her magical powers forever. Will she be undone by her own mischief?

General Admission \$20.00

Senior/Students \$18.00

Purchase tickets from

www.soarproductions.org and save \$2.00.

September

Kids' Day with American Littoral Society (ALS)

ALS Headquarters (Bldg. 18)

Saturday, September 10

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Ages 4 – 8

This program introduces kids to Sandy Hook, the art of seining, and offers an opportunity for “Fish Fun,” the art of making Japanese fish prints with rubber fish and non-toxic paint. There is a \$5 fee for this program. Call (732) 291 – 0055 to make a reservation.

Danskin Women's Triathlon

Sunday, September 11

7 a.m.

The triathlon is being held once again at Sandy Hook. Come cheer on over 3,000 participants in this swim/bike/run event which supports breast cancer research. For more information, visit www.danskinwomenstri.com.

Sandy Hook “BioBlitz”

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Join park and university naturalists and researchers to discover the biological diversity found at Sandy Hook over a 24 hour period. Participate in field explorations, assist with species counts, learn about the natural ecosystems through public walks and displays; or volunteer to assist with the event. Registration is required. For more information please visit <http://nbii-nin.ciesin.columbia.edu/sandyhook/bioblitz/>

Cold War Day

Parking Lot L at Horseshoe Cove

Sunday, September 18

12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Visit a Nike missile radar site restored to the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Visit and tour the Nike launch site. Learn about why these sites were essential to national security in the Cold War era.

Fall Equinox Walk ♥

Guardian Park

Friday, September 23

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Take a walk out to the beach with the American Littoral Society and see if the egg will stand on its end. Regardless of whether or not the egg stands, the beach is a beautiful place for an evening stroll. Bring a small flashlight in case it is really dark. Call (732)-291-0055 to reserve your spot. (3 miles)

Night Prowl

Visitor Center Parking Lot

Saturday, September 24

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Bring a flashlight for this night walk that utilizes the five senses. Reservations required: (732) 872-5970.

Lighthouse to Lighthouse Tour ♥

Sandy Hook Keepers' Quarters

Sunday, September 25

5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Climb the Sandy Hook Lighthouse starting at 5 p.m., then car caravan over to Twin Lights State Historic Site in the Highlands to climb the south tower there. Reservations required: (732) 872-5970. (1 mile)

October

Junior Ranger Air

Defender

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Saturday, October 1

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Girls and Boys ages 7 to 12.

Visit Sandy Hook's Nike missile battery, then build a model Nike rocket of your own. Learn how to fire your rocket at a target the Nike Missileman way.

Reservations required: Call (732) 872-5970.

Going Bunkers Tour ♥

Post Theater Parking Lot

Sunday, October 9

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

A three-hour ranger led tour of fortifications that once defended New York Harbor. Bring a flashlight and dress for the weather. Free, but reservations required: call (732) 872 – 5970. (1 mile)

New Jersey Lighthouse Challenge Weekend

Sandy Hook Lighthouse

Saturday, October 15

8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday, October 16

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Sandy Hook Light is one of the 11 New Jersey Lighthouses along the Atlantic coastline and Delaware Bay open for tours this weekend at this annual event sponsored by the NJ Lighthouse Society. For more information, visit <http://www.njlhs.org>.

Beginning Birding with Monmouth County

Audubon Society

Visitor Center Parking Lot

Saturday, October 15

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join us for a morning bird walk to look for migrating hawks plus a variety of birds on their journey south for the winter. Call (732)-872-2500 for more information. (2 miles)

Clean Ocean Action 25th Annual Beach Sweep

Lot Delta (Seagull's Nest Lot)

Saturday, October 22

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Spend a morning cleaning Sandy Hook's beaches. Bring gloves, attend rain or shine, and dress for the weather. Closed, hard-soled shoes are recommended. Individuals, families, and organized groups of all ages are welcome. Groups of 10 or more are asked to register with Clean Ocean Action in advance by visiting CleanOceanAction.org. Call (732) 872 – 0111 for more information.

Ft. Hancock Days Weekend

October 28 – 30

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

World War II Harbor Defense Lantern Tour

Fort Hancock Museum

Friday, Oct 28,

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Volunteer living historians from the Army Ground Forces Association (AGFA) will be uniformed as World War II era coast artillery soldiers and will take you on a tour through the Fort, which ends at Battery Gunnison.

Battery Gunnison /New Peck Preserved

Saturday, Oct 29

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Visitors are invited to stop by on this day to watch AGFA members conduct drills and prepare the battery for Sunday's public event. This is a great time to chat and learn more about Battery Gunnison/New Peck and the historic time period of October 1943.

Fort Hancock Day-Battery Gunnison/New Peck in World War II

Sunday, Oct 30

10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Learn how soldiers lived and worked at Ft. Hancock in October 1943. Volunteers from the Army Ground Forces Association in World War Two uniform bring Battery Gunnison/New Peck and its 6-inch guns to life as they were in October 1943.

History House

October 29 & 30

1p.m. – 5p.m.

This 1898 lieutenant's residence along "Officers Row" is furnished as it was in the 1940's when Fort Hancock was at its busiest. Stop in to chat with a ranger and learn how to become a park volunteer.

Surf Fishing Clinic

Building 18

Saturday, October 29

8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Join American Littoral Society staff members for a day of surf fishing and instruction on the beach at Sandy Hook. Skills covered include casting, knot tying, lure/bait selection, and "reading" a beach. All skill levels are accommodated. Rods, reels and tackle will be provided, but bring your own equipment if you have it. Children are welcome with a supervising adult. Bring a lunch for the beach. Space is limited; call (732) 291 – 0055 to reserve. Fees: \$20 per member family, \$40 per non-member family.

November

Surf Fishing Clinic

Building 18

Saturday, November 5

8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Join American Littoral Society staff members for a day of surf fishing and instruction on the beach at Sandy Hook. Skills covered include casting, knot tying, lure/bait selection, and "reading" a beach. All skill levels are accommodated. Rods, reels and tackle will be provided, but bring your own equipment if you have it. Children are welcome with a supervising adult. Bring a lunch for the beach. Space is limited; call (732) 291 – 0055 to reserve. Fees: \$20 per member family, \$40 per non-member family.

Cold War Defenses on Sandy Hook: Nike Ajax Missile

¼ mile north of the Ranger
Station

Sunday, November 6

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Car caravan to Sandy Hook's Nike missile sites built as part of the Cold War air defenses in the 1950s.

Reservations required: call (732)
872 – 5970.

Junior Ranger Naturalist

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Sunday, November 13

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Girls and Boys ages 7 to 12
See what fun there is to find in the fall in the natural habitats and hiding places of the Hook.

Holly Forest Ramble ♥

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Saturday, November 19

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Join a ranger to learn about Sandy Hook's maritime holly forest at the peak of the autumn season. Call (732) 872-5970 for more information. (1 mile)