

January 2010



Special Programs this Month at Fire Island National Seashore

For More Information:

www.nps.gov/fiis
631-687-4750

Friday

January 1:
10 am

New Years Day Hike and Lighthouse Tower Tour - Fire Island Lighthouse

(Free guided walk/\$6 tower tour; reservations required: call 631-661-4876)

Meet at Robert Moses State Park Field 5 for a naturalist-guided walk. Fire Island Lighthouse open noon to 4 pm.

Friday

January 1:
4 pm

Evening Lighthouse Tower Tour - Fire Island Lighthouse

(\$15 Fee; reservations required: call 631-661-4876)

Experience the lighthouse at night on this New Years Day. View the night sky during the Wolf Man Moon from the top of the tower. Sunset at 4:35 pm and moonrise at 5:53 pm.

Saturday

January 2:
9 am – Noon

New Years Hike in the Fire Island Wilderness - Wilderness Visitor Center

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-281-3010)

Start the New Year off right! Discover the peaceful solitude that wilderness can offer. Dress for the weather and join a ranger for a guided 3-mile round-trip hike on the beach and into New York's only federally designated wilderness area. Park at Smith Point County Park, meet at Wilderness Visitor Center.

Saturday

January 9:
9 am

Lighthouse Keepers Behind-the-Scenes Tour - Fire Island Lighthouse

(\$15/person; reservations required: call 631-661-4876)

Follow a present-day Fire Island Lighthouse keeper on his rounds. This bottom to top tour takes you from the auxiliary generator and the light keepers' workshop in the basement of the Keepers Quarters to the beacon in the lantern room of the lighthouse tower. Learn how lighthouse keepers from the 1860s to 2009 maintained the light. Limit of 12 people.

Saturday

January 23:
9 – 11 am

The Old Mastic Way to the Bay – William Floyd Estate

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-399-2030)

Explore a fascinating cultural landscape and natural history. This ranger-guided walk from the Old Mastic House to the bay follows roads well used by the Floyd family from the mid-1700s to the 1970s. Along the way, discover signs of historic uses of the property. Pass through fields and woods, along mounds and ditches, cultural plantings, fresh water creeks, and the salt marsh on Moriches Bay. Dress for the weather. Be prepared for a 3-mile roundtrip walk.

Sunday

January 24:
9 – 11 am

Old Mastic Winter Bird Walk – William Floyd Estate

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-399-2030)

Search for both wintering and year-round avian species at the Old Mastic Estate. Dress for the weather and be prepared for a 2- to 3-mile roundtrip walk.

Saturday

January 30:
6:30 am

Early Morning Lighthouse Tower Tour - Fire Island Lighthouse

(\$20/person; reservations required: call 631-661-4876)

Come enjoy the scenery from the top of the tower as the sun rises and the moon sets. Tour includes a "light" breakfast and souvenir mug. Sunrise is at 7:05 am and moonset is at 7:09 am

Saturday

January 30:
9 – 11 am

Old Mastic Winter Woods – William Floyd Estate

(Free program; call for directions/information 631-399-2030)

Experiencing the winter woods in their dormant state is so different from the growing time of summer. Find and identify plants, seeds, birds, and the occasional evidence of other animal life on this serendipitous exploratory hike. Dress for the weather and be prepared for a 2- to 3-mile roundtrip walk.

Sunday

January 31:
10 – 11:30 am

Inside the Park's Collections – William Floyd Estate

(Free program. Reservations required; call 631-399-2030)

Take an inside look at Fire Island National Seashore's museum collections. More than 100,000 objects are catalogued and stored in the park's curatorial storage facility. See christening dresses, 19th century ceramics, indentures, cartes de visite, and much more. Limit of 12 people. **Reservations required by January 29.**

Fire Island National Seashore Facilities open in January

Fire Island Lighthouse - 631-661-4876

*Open mid-December – March 31, Weekends, Noon – 4 pm; Weekdays, 9:30 – 4 pm
(staff & weather permitting)*

Last tower tour 1 hour before closing

Wilderness Visitor Center - 631-281-3010

Open January 1 through March 31: Wednesday - Sunday, 9 am – 4 pm

Wilderness camping permits when office is open

Park Headquarters in Patchogue - 631-687-4750

Open all year, Monday - Friday, 9:30 – 4 pm

Closed on federal holidays

William Floyd Estate - 631-399-2030

Closed until May 2010, grounds open for special guided tours

Watch for special programs this winter and spring!

Sailors Haven and Watch Hill Facilities and *The Pier* at Watch Hill Restaurant

Closed until May 2010

Watch Hill Campground - 631-597-6664

Reservations for 2010 season accepted by mail after January 1