



Visitor Programs and Events

Fall 2015

Staten Island, New York

Photo Contest Update

Soon we will be posting the top ten pictures and will be sending out an email message to announce the finalists and to ask for you to vote for your favorites. Voting is by “liking” on Facebook, Instagram or by email. After the voting is complete we will exhibit the winners and the top contenders at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.

Last year it was very interesting to see the voting progress and watch the numbers change as the various voting factions weighed in. There were surprises—you may recall that the first prize photo was of a veterinarian and a diamond back terrapin, and not the landscape scenes. Stay tuned.



Sandy Hook BioBlitz

A BioBlitz is a 24-hour event in which teams of scientists, volunteers, families, students, teachers and other community members work together to find and identify as many species of plants, animals, microbes, fungi and other organisms as possible. This survey usually occurs over a 24 hour time period within a particular geographical area. Gateway has previously sponsored this snapshot of biological activity on Sandy Hook in 2011 and Jamaica Bay in 2010. On September 18 and 19 the American Littoral Society, in partnership with the National Park Service, will sponsor a BioBlitz at Sandy Hook.

Click here <http://www.littoralsociety.org/index.php/programs/education/sandy-hook-bioblitz> to see the details and sign up if you would like to participate as a volunteer. Volunteers and visitors may attend one of **six** special tours/hikes offered at Sandy Hook during the BioBlitz: Friday, Sept. 18: 6 PM Sunset Seining and Plum Island Hike, and 9 PM Star Gazing for Families. Saturday Sept. 19: 9:30 AM Family Seining, 10 AM Old Dune Trail Hike, and 1PM Holly Forest Walk. Details in Sandy Hook Guide.

Fall Lectures Jamaica Bay

The City College of New York recently completed a two-year research project developing a thorough analysis of Jamaica Bay, as well as a series of proposed design strategies for coastal resiliency. Led by principal investigator Catherine Seavitt Nordenson, an associate professor in the Landscape Architecture Program at City College’s Spitzer School of Architecture, their research was funded by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of a four-university initiative with the US Army Corps of Engineers entitled “Structures of Coastal Resilience.” The results of the work of all four university teams may be seen at www.structuresofcoastalresilience.org. The Fall 2015 Herbert Johnson Lecture Series at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge features four talks by members of the City College Jamaica Bay research team, all graduates of City College’s Master of Landscape Architecture program. Each speaker will share aspects of their research and analysis of this fascinating place that is Jamaica Bay. The programs are:

Battery Weed and Verrazano Bridge, by Danny Ingellis, is an entry in our 2015 Photo Contest Find Your Park.

Sunday October 4, 2:00pm: *On Vulnerability: Infrastructural, Social, and Environmental Risk at Jamaica Bay*, by Kjirsten Alexander. Sunday October 11, 2:00pm: *From Protection to Restoration: A History of the US Army Corps at Jamaica Bay*, by Eli Sands. Sunday October 18, 2:00pm: *Above and Below: Species of Jamaica Bay*, by Danae Alessi. Sunday October 25, 2:00pm: *The Unexpected Environmentalist: Robert Moses, the Belt Parkway, and the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge* by Fern Lan Siew, Please see Jamaica Bay Guide for the full story on this excellent series.

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.

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Extended through September 30

Discover Fort Tompkins

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Wednesday-Sunday, 11AM and 2PM
Explore the little known areas of this historic structure with a park ranger. Learn about the coastal fortifications and get a glimpse of life in the 1800s. Wear sturdy footwear.

New York City Skyline Tour

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Wednesday-Sunday, 4PM
Experience the history of New York City from one of the best vantage points the city has to offer on this ranger-guided talk.

SEPTEMBER

Goat Talk

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Tuesday, September 1
11:30 PM - 12:30 PM
Learn about why the National Park Service employs goats at Fort Wadsworth and how we take care of them. Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

Goat Talk

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sunday, September 6
11:30 PM - 12:30 PM
Learn about why the National Park Service employs goats at Fort Wadsworth and how we take care of them. Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York

Saturday, September 12
Great Kills Park Lot A
8:30 PM- 10 PM
The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public stargazing at the main parking area, Lot A. Inclement weather will cancel the program.

International Beach Clean-Up

Great Kills Beach Center Lot G
Saturday, September 19 (Rain Date: Sunday, September 20)
11 AM -1 PM
This is the 30th Annual New York State Beach Cleanup, locally sponsored by the American Littoral Society. Help document what litters our shores, and send the data to quantify patterns over time. Bring gloves and water. Contact 718 354-4655 for questions.

Goat Talk

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sunday, September 20
11:30 PM - 12:30 PM
Learn about why the National Park Service employs goats at Fort Wadsworth and how we take care of them. Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

Goat Talk

Fort Wadsworth Overlook
Sunday, September 27
11:30 PM - 12:30 PM
Learn about why the National Park Service employs goats at Fort Wadsworth and how we take care of them. Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

Monarch/Dragonfly Migration

Great Kills Park Ranger Station (opposite main parking lot A)
Wednesday, September 30
10 AM – noon ♥ 2 miles.
Join a National Park Service ranger for the annual hike to view the migration of the monarch butterflies. Be a citizen scientist and assist with tagging butterflies. Inclement weather cancels the program. For reservations, call 718 354-4655.

OCTOBER

***The Great Gatsby* Staten Island OutLoud**

Fort Wadsworth Beach
Sunday, October 4, 2015
2PM
Staten Island OutLoud hosts a seaside celebration of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* at the Fort Wadsworth waterside gazebo. The gazebo's view of the Narrows and Lower New York Harbor conjures the world of Gatsby and Fitzgerald's jazz age. This event takes place rain or shine. This event is part of Staten Island OutLoud's Autumn 2015 "Gatsby" series: details at www.statenislandoutloud.org.

Monarch/Dragonfly Migration

Great Kills Park Ranger Station (opposite main parking Lot A)
Sunday, October 4
2 PM - 4 PM ♥ 2 miles.
Join a National Park Service ranger and volunteer Paul Lederer for the annual hike to view the migration of the monarch butterflies and dragonflies. Be a citizen scientist and assist with tagging butterflies. Inclement weather cancels the program. ♥ 2 miles. For reservations, call 718 354-4655.

Amateur Astronomers

Association of New York
Saturday, October 17
Great Kills Park Lot A
8:30 PM- 10 PM
The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public stargazing at the main parking area, Lot A. Inclement weather will cancel the program.

Greenbelt to Great Kills Hike

Meet at Carousel in
Willowbrook Park
(at the end of Eton place)
Sunday, October 18
11 AM -3 PM

Join the Greenbelt Educators and National Park Service rangers for a hike from forest to field to coastal habitat. The White trail of the Greenbelt connects to Great Kills Park. This hike is approximately 3 hours in length. Please dress appropriate for weather conditions and make arrangements for transportation back to Carousel, or arrange to depart from the Great Kills Park parking lot at Hylan Blvd. and Buffalo St. Bring water and a snack. ♥ 5 miles.
Registration required. Call (718)351-3450.

NOVEMBER

Fall Hike

Fort Wadsworth
(Meet at the Overlook)
Sunday, November 8
11 AM -1 PM ♥ 2 miles.

Hike the Overlook Loop along the paths at Fort Wadsworth. Bring binoculars and wear comfortable shoes. Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

Amateur Astronomers Association of New York

Saturday, November 14
Great Kills Park Lot A
8:30 PM- 10 PM
The Staten Island Chapter of the Amateur Astronomer's Association hosts public stargazing at the main parking area, lot A. Inclement weather will cancel the program.

Fall Hike

Fort Wadsworth
(Meet at the Overlook)
Sunday, November 15
11 PM -1 PM ♥ 2 miles.
Hike the overlook loop, along the paths at Fort Wadsworth. Bring binoculars, and comfortable shoes.
Call 718 354-4655 for questions.

End of list.