

# Outdoors

THE FREE NEWSPAPER OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE  
JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016





## Message From

Iris Rodriguez-Rosa  
Borough Commissioner  
Bronx



Credit: Malcolm Pinckney | NYC Parks

I am very happy to be back in the Bronx! After 12 years in Queens, I have returned to the Bronx as the new Parks Borough Commissioner. This winter, I will be spending much of my time outdoors, as should you. The Bronx has some of the best activities to cure your cabin fever. Beginning this November, you'll be able to walk across Randall's Island as a new way to get to the Bronx thanks to the Randall's Island Connector that will soon open, connecting the South Bronx to 256 acres of Parkland on Randall's Island. This dedicated pedestrian and bicycle greenway will span the Bronx Kill that separates the Island from the Bronx.

And when the leaves fall from the trees, be sure to head over to Pelham Bay Park and Van Cortlandt Park to explore the nature trails where you will forget that you are in New York City, experiencing an ambiance reminiscent of the Appalachian Trail. For a guided experience through parks across the city, take a tour with the Urban Park Rangers to learn more about the natural and historic elements in our Parks. Tours are offered on weekends and are available for large groups. You should also visit our four Historic Houses located right in the Bronx — Bartow-Pell Mansion, Edgar Allan Poe Cottage, the Valentine Varian House, and the Van Cortlandt House Museum — to learn about the residents

who occupied the houses and the history of the borough.

Don't fear the snow, you will definitely have a place to go! When snow hits the ground in NYC, make sure to go to our parks and build snowmen, make snow angels, and go sledding. We have plenty of hills in Crotona Park, St. Mary's Park, and Ewen Park that will excite all ages.

But if the weather becomes too cold for a stroll, or you feel that winter has made you inactive, make sure to sign up for our recreation centers. We have six centers in the Bronx — all of which offer a wide variety of opportunities including exercise, computer use, and programmed activities.

To learn more about these activities and other exciting opportunities for you and your family, please make sure to visit us online at [nyc.gov/parks](http://nyc.gov/parks).

## Urban Park Ranger Facilities

For Nature Center, Visitors Center and Ranger Station hours, please call the specific location.

### BRONX

#### Pelham Bay Ranger Station

Pelham Bay Park Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue. 718.319.7258

#### Orchard Beach Nature Center

Pelham Bay Park Section 2 of Orchard Beach. 718.885.3466

#### Van Cortlandt Nature Center

Van Cortlandt Park Enter the park at West 246th Street and Broadway. 718.548.0912

### BROOKLYN

#### Salt Marsh Nature Center

Marine Park East 33rd Street and Avenue U. 718.421.2021

### MANHATTAN

#### Belvedere Castle

Central Park 79th Street, mid-park. 212.628.2345

### QUEENS

#### Alley Pond Park Adventure Center

Alley Pond Park Enter at Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway. 718.217.6034 or 718.217.4685

#### Forest Park Ranger Station

Forest Park Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive. 718.846.2731

#### Fort Totten Visitors Center

Fort Totten Park Enter the park at fort entrance, north of intersection of 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway and follow signs. 718.352.1769

### STATEN ISLAND

#### Blue Heron Nature Center

Blue Heron Park 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard. 718.967.3542

# Outdoors

THE FREE NEWSPAPER OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE



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New York, NY 10029

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City of New York Parks & Recreation  
Bill de Blasio, Mayor  
Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP, Commissioner

# Mayor de Blasio Doubles Community Parks Initiative Investment To \$285 Million

*Mayor Bill de Blasio and NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP, have announced that the City has doubled the funding for the Community Parks Initiative — a citywide program launched in October 2014 to improve historically under-funded parks in densely populated and growing neighborhoods with higher-than-average concentrations of poverty.*

In total, CPI will now invest \$285 million in capital dollars through 2019 — along with a sustained annual commitment of over \$2.5 million in expense funding — to improve the quality of life in neighborhoods across the five boroughs by revitalizing 67 community parks that have not undergone significant improvements in decades.

“Every New Yorker deserves access to clean, safe green spaces, no matter what neighborhood they live in. By doubling our investment in historically underserved neighborhood parks, we are significantly improving the quality of life of families and children across this city,” said Mayor Bill de Blasio. “Our sustained investments in additional neighborhood parks will expand the Community Parks Initiative’s impact to 3 million New Yorkers — ensuring countless more families and children will have a revitalized park right in their neighborhood.”

“In the 12 months since Mayor de Blasio launched the Community Parks Initiative, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers in historically under-resourced neighborhoods have benefited from enhanced public spaces, new and increased programming, and grassroots parks scoping sessions,” said NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver. “Now, even more New Yorkers can look forward to 67 total parks slated for complete reconstruction. The doubled capital investment reaffirms the administration’s commitment to ensuring all New Yorkers a bright, green future.”

The additional Mayoral commitment of \$150 million in the FY ’16 Executive Plan, bringing the administration’s total investment in CPI to \$285 million, promotes the full recreation and reconstruction of an anticipated

67 parks through 2019. Thirty-five of these parks were announced by the Mayor in 2014, all of which are on time and on budget. The City announced the next 12 sites, with 20 more sites to be announced over the next three fiscal years.

These wholesale capital improvements are complemented by immediate targeted improvements — high-impact, fast-action enhancements such as new pavements for basketball courts, new plantings, and aesthetic improvements. To date, the Parks Department has completed targeted improvements in 60 CPI neighborhood playgrounds. The Mayor’s additional funding will allow this targeted improvements program to continue, with an additional 25 targeted improvement sites to be completed over the next 12 months.



Credit: Daniel Avila | NYC Parks





# KIDS WEEK

Monday, February 15th to Friday, February 19th

School is out: Take the kids to the park to enjoy a variety of nature programs. Get outside and get excited!

## BRONX

**FEBRUARY 15 & 18** Monday & Thursday / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

**FEBRUARY 16 & 19** Tuesday & Friday / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / Pelham Bay Nature Center, Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

**FEBRUARY 17** Wednesday / Crotona Park 1 p.m. / Crotona Nature Center, Charlotte Street and Crotona Park East

## BROOKLYN

**FEBRUARY 15-19** Monday - Friday / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

**FEBRUARY 16 & 18** Tuesday & Thursday / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor's Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

## MANHATTAN

**FEBRUARY 15, 17, 19** Monday, Wednesday, & Friday / Central Park 2 p.m. / Dana Discovery Center, 110th Street and Lenox Avenue

**FEBRUARY 16 & 18** Tuesday & Thursday / Inwood Hill Park 2 p.m. / Payson Center, Payson Street and Dyckman Avenue

## QUEENS

**FEBRUARY 15 & 16** Monday & Tuesday / Fort Totten 1 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

**FEBRUARY 17 & 18** Wednesday & Thursday / Forest Park 1 p.m. / Forest Park Visitor Center, Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive

**FEBRUARY 19** Friday / Alley Pond Park 1 p.m. / Alley Pond Park Adventure Center, Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway

## STATEN ISLAND

**FEBRUARY 15-19** Monday - Friday / Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Visit [www.nyc.gov/parks/rangers](http://www.nyc.gov/parks/rangers) for more information.

# Ranger's Choice

*Our bright and talented Urban Park Rangers are what make our Weekend Adventure programs so amazing. Each season we feature some of the Rangers' favorite Weekend Adventure experiences. From stunning wildlife viewing to behind-the-scenes access, these programs are not to be missed. Space is limited on all Ranger's Choice programs and registration is required. Please visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) to register.*

## BRONX

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 23**

**Pioneering Skills: Building with Ropes and Wood / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / TBA**

Many plants produce natural cordage, which our ancestors used to construct things like tools and shelters. You'll learn basic knots and employ those skills for building a variety of simple, useful objects that can be enjoyed in the woods and at home. Participants are chosen by lottery. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, January 13th.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

**Camp Cooking 101 / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / TBA** Become a campfire foodie!

Learn the basics of camp etiquette, how to set up a campfire, and how to make a meal with a Dutch Oven. Participants are chosen by lottery. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 2nd.

## BROOKLYN

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20**

**Prospect Park Orienteering Course / Prospect Park 12 p.m. / TBA** Participants will use provided maps and compasses to locate hidden markers in the park.

The program goal is not only to teach navigational skills, but also to inspire a sense of adventure and self-awareness in unfamiliar terrain. Participants are chosen by lottery. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 9th.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26**

**Gravesend Cemetery Tour / Gravesend Cemetery 11 a.m. / TBA**

Dating back to 1643, Gravesend Cemetery is the final resting place of many prominent early residents of old Brooklyn. We will explore the cemetery while sharing their stories. Participants are chosen by lottery. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 16th.

## MANHATTAN

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**

**North Manhattan Parks Super Hike / Inwood 11 a.m. / TBA** Discover the hidden gems found in the parks of northern Manhattan. Hikers will see the old rock shelters used by Lenape Natives at Inwood Hill Park, observe the Cloisters building in Fort Tryon Park, and finish at the legendary Little Red Lighthouse. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, December 30th.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

**Lantern Night Hike / Central Park 7 p.m. / TBA** Discover Central Park at night.

The Rangers will discuss history and nocturnal wildlife on this night hike ending at Belvedere Castle. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, February 17th.

## QUEENS

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

**Nature Photography: Winter Wonderland / Forest Park 11 a.m. / Forest Park Visitor Center, Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive** Bring your camera and get inspired by the powerful images of nature in winter. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 2nd.

## STATEN ISLAND

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

**Nature Photography: Winter Woods / High Rock Park 11 a.m. / TBA** Bring your camera and get inspired by the powerful images of nature in winter. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](https://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 2nd.



Credit: NYC Parks



# Astronomy and Night Sky Programs

*Our Urban Park Rangers will be your guides to the solar system, discussing the science, history and folklore of the universe. Astronomy programs feature the use of telescopes and binoculars to observe specific astronomical events. Many programs feature astronomy experts and all equipment is provided. Night Sky programs highlight the history and folklore of the solar system, using the naked eye to locate stars and planets.*

## BRONX

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**

Astronomy: Winter Solar System / Van Cortlandt Park 6 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5**

The Night Sky / Pelham Bay Park 6 p.m. / Pelham Bay Nature Center, Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

## BROOKLYN

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3**

Astronomy: Quadrantids Meteor Shower / Marine Park 7 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19**

The Night Sky / Prospect Park 7 p.m. / Prospect Park Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Road

## MANHATTAN

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

Astronomy: Mercury at Greatest Elongation / Central Park 7 p.m. / North side of the Great Lawn, 85th Street, mid-Central Park

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

The Night Sky / Inwood Hill Park 7 p.m. / Payson Education Center, Payson Avenue and Dyckman Street

## QUEENS

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3**

Astronomy: Quadrantids Meteor Shower / Fort Totten 6 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

The Night Sky / Fort Totten 6 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

## STATEN ISLAND

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 23**

Astronomy: The Full Moon / Wolfe's Pond Park 6 p.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20**

Spring Equinox / Conference House Park 7 p.m. / Conference House Visitor's Center, Satterlee Street and Hylan Boulevard



# Nature's Workshop

Urban Park Rangers Nature Centers are your gateway to New York City parks. Each serves as an in-park community center for public education, recreational activities, and environmental studies. This winter, join us for the Nature's Workshop series. Each program in this series explores its topic in depth and allows you to develop a skill, participate in a hands-on project, and indulge your curiosity. All supplies provided.

## BRONX

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 9**

**Medicinal Plants / Van Cortlandt Park**  
1 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway Learn how common plants have been used by humans throughout history to ease pain and cure disease.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**Taste of Nature / Van Cortlandt Park** 1 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway Everyday food sometimes has surprising origins. Discover how many familiar tastes are created with common plants.

## BROOKLYN

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**

**Build a Birdfeeder / Marine Park** 1 p.m. / TBA Build your very own bird feeder from recycled materials. Participants chosen by lottery. To enter your name in the lottery, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Friday, January 1st.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**Weather Exploration and Monitoring / Marine Park** 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U Winter is the best time to learn about weather, weather anomalies, and our changing climate through some fun weather experiments and outdoor exploration.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

**Natural Fiber Workshop/ Fort Greene Park** 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park Learn how to extract fiber and dyes from natural plants and try your hand at tying and weaving techniques using cordage made from plant fiber. Participants chosen by lottery. To enter your name in the lottery, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Thursday, February 11th.

## MANHATTAN

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**

**Seed Germination Workshop / Inwood Hill Park** 2 p.m. / TBA Learn about native flowers and pollinators. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn more about gardening and start their own seeds to take home. All materials provided. Registration required. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, January 20th.

## MANHATTAN continued

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5**

**Nature's Music Workshop / Central Park** 12 p.m. / TBA Discover which trees and natural materials are used to build modern day and tribal musical instruments. Instruments including log drums and a Native American flute will be on display. Participants will construct an authentic Native American instrument. Registration required. To register visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, February 24th.

## QUEENS

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 23**

**Ethnobotany / Forest Park** 11 a.m. / Forest Park Visitor Center, Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive Learn the many everyday uses of plants by people, past and present. This program will also include a short walk highlighting and identifying common plants in parks. Registration required. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, January 13th.

## STATEN ISLAND

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**

**Indoor Composting Workshop / Blue Heron Park** 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**Winter Journal Writing / Blue Heron Park** 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

**Owls and Pellets / Blue Heron Park** 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard



Credit: NYC Parks

# Outdoors Skills

*Our Urban Park Rangers are well versed in outdoor lore. Learn tips and tricks that will enhance your knowledge of the natural world, and might just save your life. Whether you are preparing for an extended journey through the woods or just want to be more prepared for any situation, a wilderness survival program is perfect for you. All programs are family friendly, but are recommended for ages 8 years and older.*

## BRONX

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**

**Finding Your Way / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Mosholu Avenue and Broadway** If you lost your way, could you navigate to safety? Join the Urban Park Rangers and learn basic cartography skills, how to use a compass, and other Native American navigational skills while walking through Van Cortlandt Park.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

**Fire Making Skills / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway** Fire is mankind's greatest discovery. Learn primitive and modern methods for making fire safely and responsibly while exploring the great outdoors. Registration required. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, February 17th.



Credit: Sunny Corrao | NYC Parks

## BROOKLYN

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 9**

**Winter Survival Skills / Sunset Park 1 p.m. / 7th Avenue at 43rd Street** Learn ways to stay warm and survive in harsh winter weather.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

**Fire Making Skills / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U** Fire is mankind's greatest discovery. Learn primitive and modern methods for making fire safely and responsibly while exploring the great outdoors. Registration required. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, January 27th.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

**Shelter Building / Canarsie Park 1 p.m. / Meet at Park House 88th Street and Seaview Avenue** Do you have what it takes to survive in the wilderness? Develop skills that will help you create shelter from natural and man-made objects.

## MANHATTAN

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 16**

**Finding your Way: Maps and Compasses / Central Park 1 p.m. / Dana Discovery Center, 110th Street and Lenox** If you lost your way could you navigate to safety? Join the Urban Park Rangers and learn how to navigate using a map and compass.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

**Fire Making Skills / Inwood Hill Park 1 p.m. / Isham Street and Seaman Avenue** Fire is mankind's greatest discovery. Learn primitive and modern methods for making fire safely and responsibly while exploring the great outdoors. Registration required. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, February 24th.

## QUEENS

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**Animal Tracking / Alley Pond Park 11 a.m. / Alley Pond Park Adventure Center, Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway** Learn to identify animal tracks to understand animal behavior.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12**

**Fire Making Skills / Alley Pond Park 1 p.m. / Alley Pond Park Adventure Center, Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway** Fire is mankind's greatest discovery. Learn primitive and modern methods for making fire safely and responsibly while exploring the great outdoors. Registration required. To register, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 2nd.

## STATEN ISLAND

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

**Shelter Building / Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard** Do you have what it takes to survive in the wilderness? Develop skills that will help you create shelter from natural and man-made objects.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26**

**Fire Making Skills / Willowbrook Park 11 a.m. / Comfort Station, Eton Place and Richmond Avenue** Fire is mankind's greatest discovery. Learn primitive and modern methods for making fire safely and responsibly while exploring the great outdoors. Registration required. To register visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 16th.



# History

*Urban Park Rangers specialize in interpretation of historic turning points, both natural and man-made, in our city's long history. Revolutionary New York programs focus on the history of New York during the pre- and post-Colonial Period. Historic New York programs highlight the history and architecture of selected neighborhoods or parks. Native American culture is celebrated in special programs throughout the five boroughs.*

## BRONX

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24**

Historic New York: Split Rock / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / Bartow-Pell Mansion (Shore Road)

## QUEENS continued

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

Historic New York: The World's Fair / Flushing Meadows-Corona Park 1 p.m. / Meet at the Unisphere

## STATEN ISLAND

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

Historic New York: Goodhue Park / Goodhue Park 1 p.m. / Goodhue Center, Clinton Avenue and Prospect Avenue

## BROOKLYN

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30**

Survival During the American Revolution / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park Before they could fight for our freedom, harsh winters forced the Continental Army to fight for their lives. Learn about their secrets of survival during this arduous time of battle and strife in American history.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

Historic New York: Nature and Design / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Meet under the Arch at Grand Army Plaza

## MANHATTAN

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**

A Park for the People: Central Park / Central Park 1 p.m. / Doris Freedman Plaza, 60th Street and 5th Avenue

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

Historic New York: Foundations of Inwood / Inwood Hill Park 1 p.m. / Payson Center, Payson Avenue and Dyckman Street

## QUEENS

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

Historic New York: Fort Totten Architecture/ Fort Totten 1 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway



Credit: Daniel Avila | NYC Parks

# Hiking

Our Urban Park Ranger hiking guides will introduce you to the hidden gems of New York City. On our hikes, you may explore nature, discover our city's urban forests, or just unplug from the world to clear your head. Hiking programs feature intensity levels ranging from light (a leisurely stroll on mostly paved paths), to moderate (longer, faster paced hikes on rugged terrain), to vigorous (long distance, with hills and rugged terrain).

## BRONX

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 16**

Nature Exploration: Hunter Island (*moderate*) / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / Orchard Beach Nature Center, Section 2 of Orchard Beach

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

Nature Exploration: John Muir Trail (*vigorous*) / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Mosholu Avenue and Broadway

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

Hunter Island Night Hike / Pelham Bay Park 6 p.m. / TBA Owls, deer, coyotes, and raccoons are among the many animals that call Pelham Bay Park home. Join the Rangers for this rare winter night hike. Participants are chosen by lottery. To enter your name in the lottery, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, February 24th.

## BROOKLYN

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 16**

Scavenger Hunt Hike (*light*) / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

Winter Tree ID (*light*) / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Prospect Park Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Road

## MANHATTAN

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3**

Nature Exploration (*moderate*) / Central Park 1 p.m. / Dana Discovery Center, 110th Street and Lenox Avenue

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

Winter Tree ID (*light*) / Inwood Hill Park 1 p.m. / Isham Street and Seaman Avenue

## QUEENS

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 2**

Nature Exploration (*moderate*) / Forest Park 11 a.m. / Forest Park Visitor Center, Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

Winter Tree ID (*light*) / Kissena Park 11 a.m. / Rose Avenue and Oak Avenue

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19**

Nocturnal Hike (*light*) / Flushing Meadows-Corona Park 7 p.m. / Mauro Playground Park Drive East and 73 Terrace  
Participants are chosen by lottery. To enter your name in the lottery, visit [nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register](http://nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register) on Wednesday, March 9th.

## STATEN ISLAND

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**

Fitness Hike (*vigorous*) / High Rock Park 11 a.m. / Park in the lot at the end of Nevada Avenue, off Rockland Avenue.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

Nature Exploration (*moderate*) / Clove Lakes Park 1 p.m. / Park Drive and Clove Road

**SUNDAY, MARCH 27**

Scavenger Hunt Hike (*light*) / Conference House Park 1 p.m. / Conference House Visitor's Center, Satterlee Street and Hylan Boulevard



Credit: Daniel Avila | NYC Parks



# Wildlife Viewing

*New York City is home to an amazing abundance of wildlife. Our Rangers will guide you to the best wildlife viewing spots in the urban jungle. We offer birding programs throughout the year and our Exploration Series focuses on unique wildlife viewing opportunities during particular seasons. Birding programs are appropriate for all skill levels and beginners are welcome.*

## BRONX

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Seal Exploration / Pelham Bay Park 12 p.m. / Orchard Beach Nature Center, Section 2 of Orchard Beach

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Birding: Owls / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / Orchard Beach Nature Center, Section 2 of Orchard Beach

### SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Living with Urban Coyotes / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

## BROOKLYN

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

Birding: Super Winter Bird Walk / Prospect Park 10 a.m. / Meet under the Arch at Grand Army Plaza

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Winter Wildlife Animal Tracking / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

### SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Wildlife Viewing: City Squirrels / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

## MANHATTAN

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Birding: Eagles / Inwood Hill Park 9 a.m. / Payson Center, Payson Street and Dyckman Avenue

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

Living with Urban Coyotes / Inwood Hill Park 11 a.m. / Payson Center, Payson Street and Dyckman Avenue

## MANHATTAN continued

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Birding: Eagles / Inwood Hill Park 9 a.m. / Payson Center, Payson Street and Dyckman Avenue

## QUEENS

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Winter Waterfowl / Baisley Pond Park 1 p.m. / Meet at parking lot, Baisley Boulevard and 155th Street

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Birding: Winter Birds / Highland Park 11 a.m. / Park entrance opposite Vermont Place parking lot

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Birding: Owls / Alley Pond Park 3 p.m. / Alley Pond Park Adventure Center, Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway

## STATEN ISLAND

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

Birding: Winter Waterfowl / Silver Lake Park 10 a.m. / Forest Avenue and Silver Lake Park Road

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Living with White-tailed Deer / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard Explore Blue Heron Park with the Urban Park Rangers in a search for deer. Learn about deer ecology and behavior as you look for clues of deer presence. Join in a discussion about the impacts of deer in an urban environment.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Birding: Winter Birds / Clove Lakes Park 11 a.m. / Park Drive and Clove Road



Credit: NYC Parks

# Be a Good Neighbor. Five Easy Tips for Living Safely with White-tailed Deer and Coyotes in New York City.



## Do not feed white-tailed deer.

Feeding increases nuisance behavior, putting both deer and people at risk. It is also illegal.

## Drive with caution, especially at dawn and dusk.

Deer are most active in the evening and early morning.

## Check for ticks after visiting a park or greenspace.

Humans and dogs may contract tickborne diseases if bitten by an infected tick.

## Leave fawns alone.

It is normal for does (mothers) to leave fawns (young) unattended for long periods each day.

## It is illegal to hunt deer anywhere in New York City.

For more information, call 311 or visit [www.nyc.gov/deer](http://www.nyc.gov/deer)



## Do not feed coyotes.

Keeping coyotes wild is the key to coexistence.

## Remove attractants.

Store all food and garbage in animal-proof containers.

## Supervise pets.

Walk dogs on a leash and keep cats inside for safety.

## Keep coyotes wary.

If you are approached, act big and make loud noises.

## Appreciate coyotes from a distance.

Share this information.

Adapted from *Project Coyote*  
[www.projectcoyote.org](http://www.projectcoyote.org)



NYC Parks

