

Outdoors

THE FREE NEWSPAPER OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

APRIL / MAY / JUNE 2010



in New York City



Urban Wildlife Appreciation Day

April 10th, 11:30am – 3pm
Fort Tryon Park, Cloister Lawn



Includes
CALENDAR OF
URBAN PARK RANGER
FREE PROGRAMS



Message from: *Frederic Lilien, "The Legend of Pale Male"*



Pale Male, as New Yorkers call him, was the first of his kind to settle down in the heart of the Big Apple. From his nest perched near the top of a posh Fifth Avenue co-op he has raised 23 chicks, creating the first dynasty of red-tailed hawks in New York City. But he is more than just a successful father. By representing in a deeply emotional way nature itself, he has drawn thousands of people to the park to watch him and his chicks year after year. I followed the annual ritual of the nesting season for six years, finally completing my first wildlife documentary in 2003. The story of this unusual bird held universal appeal, and the film aired on PBS's Nature series and in more than 75 countries around the world.

But while my film was finished, Pale Male's story wasn't over yet. In December 2004, in response to the removal of his nest, New Yorkers of every stripe rose up to defend him and called for its return. Even I, who knew Pale Male's power so well, was amazed at the extent of the protest. Pale Male was front-page news in the New York Times and the subject of late night talk shows across the nation. I grabbed my camera and followed him for another five years, realizing I now had another, much bigger, and different story to tell—a story about my own life, and what Pale Male meant to me and to his other followers. I finished *The Legend of Pale Male* in 2009, and I look forward to seeing it distributed this spring.

Pale Male means many things to many people; his triumph in the modern world affects each of us in a deeply personal way. To me, this one hawk has done more than his part to restore something previously lost in our urban life, something wild and wonderful. That it happened in the center of New York City seems like a miracle. Pale Male has shown us that nature is always close by, waiting for us to let it in, waiting for us to let it flourish. How extraordinary it is to find at the center of the world's most powerful and celebrated city a heart so deep and green.

Every year as spring arrives in Central Park, I am taken back to a moment almost 20 years ago that changed my life forever. At the time I was working as the floor manager of a hair salon on the Upper East Side. Whenever I could find the time I would go to Central Park to eat my lunch. On one such afternoon I happened to look up, and there, just above my head, a wild red-tailed hawk was having his lunch too—a freshly-caught pigeon. In that moment, Central Park took on a wild and powerful potential for me. The next day, I naively bought my first video camera hoping to capture some footage of this stranger in a city world. Little did I know that this bird of prey would live an extraordinary life, and would become the most famous bird in North America.

Outdoor News

CALLING ALL SOFA SPUDS IN 2010 – DISCOVER HEALTH, FITNESS, AND FUN FOR FREE AT "OPEN HOUSE" MONDAYS AT RECREATION CENTERS CITYWIDE!

On January 11, 2010, Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe launched **BeFitNYC**, a week long "Open House" at recreation centers across the city, with City Council Speaker Christine Quinn at Chelsea Recreation Center. From Monday, January 11, through Saturday, January 16, Parks' recreation centers invited the community in for free to try that class they've always wondered about. To kick off the week, table tennis pro and hip-hop sensation Wally Green, and SPiN co-founder Bill Mack hammed it up for health and New York City with a 'smash hit' exhibition game.

During "Open House" week, Parks highlighted free activities at one recreation center in each borough. St. Mary's Recreation Center in the Bronx offered yoga, water aerobics, mamba lessons, karate, and more. Greenbelt Recreation Center on Staten Island provided patrons with the chance to try core training classes, teen fitness, and yoga. St. John's Recreation Center in Brooklyn featured Tai Chi for seniors, aerobics classes, and weight room and cardio machine demonstrations. Queens' Al Oerter Recreation Center showcased dance classes from salsa to hip-hop and provided visitors with a fitness evaluation that assessed body fat, heart rate, and more.

Building on the success of January's "Open House" week, Parks will continue to offer this free fitness opportunity to New Yorkers each month. **On the first Monday of each month through December 2010 citywide recreation centers will offer an "Open House," day when the public may try classes and use fitness equipment for free.*** Discover Monday "Open House" activities as well as monthly fitness activities by visiting nyc.gov/parks, keyword: **BeFitNYC**, or call 311. BeFitNYC is an online search engine that connects New Yorkers to thousands of health and fitness opportunities across the city with just the click of a button.

For pennies a day adults can enjoy unlimited access to recreation centers all over the city. Annual recreation center membership for adults aged 18 to 54 is \$75 at centers with indoor pools and \$50 at centers without indoor pools. Seniors aged 55 and over pay only \$10. Membership is free for children aged 17 and under.



*"Open House" does not include the Flushing Meadows Corona Park Aquatic Center

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Urban Park Rangers • 1234 Fifth Avenue • New York City 10029



By Nancy Barthold, Assistant Commissioner for Recreation & Programming

Spring is finally here, the days are getting longer and soon it will be time for all of us to venture outdoors and take part in our favorite activities. Cycling is a great way to get around the city, see the sites and get in shape. New York City is working to become a more bike friendly city and Parks is doing its part to encourage New Yorker's to ride. For several years now Parks has partnered with Bike New York to teach New York's youngest residents to ride bicycles. This spring we will continue to offer the LEARN TO RIDE program in parks and playgrounds throughout the five boroughs.

This class teaches children a safe, easy, effective way to learn to ride. Using the "balance first" method, parents help get their children rolling while the child does most of the work. Participants learn the basics of balancing, starting, stopping, and steering a bike, as well as proper helmet fit and adjustment. Most people learn to ride their bike while taking the class, but even if they don't, they will leave with an easy, hands-free, crash-free, and low-stress way to learn to ride. All you need is a bicycle and a helmet and a desire to ride! Look for a schedule of classes and other exciting program on our website at nyc.gov/parks. See you in the park!



Ordinary or penny farthing (1880s)



Ladies safety bicycle (1890s)



Mountain Bike



Racing Bike



Tandem



Recumbent

BIKE NEW YORK offers many other programs and group rides for cyclists of all ages. Visit them on the web at bikenewyork.org.

LEARN TO RIDE SITES	BOROUGH	TIME	LOCATIONS
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2010			
Midland Beach Parking Lot	Staten Island	10am – 3pm	Father Cappodonna Blvd at Hunter Ave
SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010			
Emerald Park	Queens	10am – 1pm	Emerald Playground, 164th Street between Jewel and 71st Avenues
SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2010			
Pelham Bay Park	Bronx	11am – 3pm	Area near the Playground for All Children
Owls Head Park	Brooklyn	11am – 2pm	67 Street & Colonial Road
Inwood Hill Park	Manhattan	11am – 2pm	Inwood Hill Nature Center
Tompkins Square Park	Manhattan	10am – 1pm	Multi- purpose field
O'Donohue Park	Queens	10am – 1pm	Beach 17th Street & Boardwalk
Midland Beach Parking Lot	Staten Island	10am – 3pm	Father Cappodonna Blvd at Hunter Ave
SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010			
Van Cortlandt Park	Bronx	11am – 3pm	Near the Major Deegan Expressway & VC Park South
McCarren Park	Brooklyn	11am – 2pm	Driggs Avenue and Lorimer Street
Juniper Park	Queens	10am – 1pm	Juniper Blvd. South and 80th Street
Midland Beach Parking Lot	Staten Island	10am – 3pm	Father Cappodonna Blvd at Hunter Ave
SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2010			
Crotona Park	Bronx	11am – 3pm	Boxcar Playground, Crotona Avenue East, Surburban & Charlotte
Carroll Park	Brooklyn	11am – 2pm	Court Street and Smith Street
Thomas Jefferson	Manhattan	11am – 2pm	Thomas Jefferson Park / Recreation Center, First Ave @ 112TH St.
SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2010			
North Rochdale Park	Queens	10am – 1pm	Baisley Blvd & Bedell Street
SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2010			
JJ Byrne Park	Brooklyn	11am – 2pm	4 Avenue and 3 Street
Admiral Park	Queens	10am – 1pm	Little Neck Parkway and 42nd Avenue
SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2010			
North Meadow Recreation Center	Manhattan	10am – 1pm	Mid Park @ 97th Street

Urban Park Rangers

EXPLORER PROGRAMS

City of New York
Parks & Recreation
Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Adrian Benepe, Commissioner

Arts and Culture



See, hear, and participate in crafts, poetry, writing, dance, acting, readings, photography and open microphone nights in our beautiful parks and nature centers.

Birding



Learn everything you need to know about birds. Programs highlight different bird types, special park areas and seasonal highlights.

Camping



Enjoy a night sleeping under the stars in New York City. Space is limited! Programs require RESERVATIONS. Visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/reservations for more information.

Canoeing



Learn to canoe and explore New York City's waterways. First-come, first-served, unless otherwise noted. Bring a hat, water, sunscreen, and a snack. Ages 8 and up. Be prepared to get wet.

Fishing



Catch a fish! Freshwater and saltwater fishing available. Equipment provided, catch and release only. The NYSDEC requires a fishing license for everyone 16 years of age and older. To find out more information on how to obtain a fishing license visit dec.ny.gov/permits/6091.html.

Hiking & Biking



Adventure and leisure hikes and bike rides. Nature walks, historic tours, and greenbelt rides.

History



Learn about the important role of our parkland in New York City history and hear the fantastic stories the Urban Park Rangers have to tell.

Kids Activities



Join us for a variety of children-centered activities. Nature crafts, sing-a-longs, play dates, storytime, and more! Check for special out of school and vacation programs. Visit our Parkids NYC website at nycgovparks.org/kids/ to find fun online kids activities.

Nature Exploration



Learn about plants, wildlife, or stars in the sky. Bring binoculars if you have them, and a flashlight for evening programs.

Special Events



Our Special Events celebrate nature and are great fun for all ages!

Survival & Orienteering



Learn to survive in the wild. From using a map and compass to knot-tying and shelter-building, the Rangers have workshops to help you safely enjoy your outdoors experiences.

MillionTreesNYC



A citywide initiative to plant and care for one million new trees in New York City by 2017.

Adventure Course



The Alley Pond Park Adventure Course features ropes course activities that promote team-building and problem-solving skills. Free public programs on Sundays through November. Visit nyc.gov/adventurecourse for more information.



RANGER STATIONS & NATURE CENTERS



BRONX

Crotona Nature Center, seasonal (CNC): Crotona Park. Enter the park at Charlotte St. & Crotona Park East. 718.378.2061

Orchard Beach Nature Center, seasonal (OBNC): Pelham Bay Park. Section 2 of Orchard Beach. 718.885.3466

Pelham Bay Ranger Station (PBRs): Pelham Bay Park. Bruckner Blvd. & Wilkinson Ave. 718.885.3467

Van Cortlandt Nature Center (VCNC): Van Cortlandt Park. Enter the park at W. 246th St. & Broadway. 718.548.0912



BROOKLYN

Salt Marsh Nature Center (SMNC): Marine Park. East 33rd St. & Avenue U. 718.421.2021

Fort Greene Visitor Center (FGVC): Fort Greene Park. Enter the park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park. 718.722.3218

MANHATTAN

Belvedere Castle (BC): Central Park. 79th St., mid-park. 212.628.2345

Dana Discovery Center (DDC): Central Park. 110th St. & Lenox Ave. 212.860.1376

Inwood Hill Nature Center (IHNC): Inwood Hill Park. Enter park at W. 218th St. & Indian Road. 212.304.2365 or 212.304.3401

QUEENS

Alley Pond Park Adventure Center (APPAC): Alley Pond Park. Enter at Winchester Blvd., under the Grand Central Parkway. 718.217.6034 or 718.217.4685

Forest Park Visitor Center (FPVC): Forest Park. Woodhaven Blvd. & Forest Park Drive. 718.846.2731

Fort Totten Visitors Center (FTVC): Fort Totten Park. Enter park at fort entrance, north of intersection of 212 St. and Cross Island Pkwy. and follow signs. 718.352.1769

STATEN ISLAND

Blue Heron Nature Center (BHNC): Blue Heron Park. 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road & Hylan Boulevard. 718.967.3542

High Rock Ranger Station (HRRS): High Rock Park. Park in the lot at the end of Nevada Avenue, off Rockland Ave., and follow signs. 718.667.6042.



Bronx

Get active! Enjoy birding, hiking, canoeing, camping and fishing on New York City's "Northside".



KIDS' WEEK


March 29 - April 2

Schools Out! Take the kids to the park to enjoy a variety of nature programs. Nature walks, scavenger hunts, crafts and more. Get outside, get excited!

Visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers for more details, or call Van Cortlandt Nature Center.




Saturdays, May through August




Van Cortlandt Bird Club has much to crow about! No longer just once every four weeks, you can bird with us every week to suit your monthly schedule. How is this possible? Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy invited Fieldston School to help the Urban Park Rangers and NYC Audubon team up for bird walks together with you! A specific focus is listed in our calendar for each Saturday program beginning in May, but you never know what will actually fly in your path—that's the fun and adventure of birding. Beginners & experts welcome. Bring lunch, water, comfortable shoes and, of course, binoculars if you have them.

Saturday, April 3



Feathered Friends/ Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Spring is back and so are our fine feathered friends. Come birding with us! Bring your own binoculars if you have them.

Sunday, April 4




Spring Scavenger Hunt/ Crotona Park 2 p.m. / CNC Search for and discover evidence of spring critters and plants found in this urban park.

Sunday, April 11




Hunter Island Hike / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / OBNC Discover the diversity of habitats on Hunter Island: salt marshes, forests and open fields.

Saturday, April 17



Living Fabric/ Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / VCNC With the arrival of spring, Van Cortlandt Park has been draped in a cloak of vibrant green. Learn to identify the plants that make up this living fabric and look for wildlife that make use of these green providers.

Sunday, April 18




Earth Day Eco-Trek / Pelham Bay Park 12 p.m. / PBRS Pay your respects to Mother Earth on an extended hike through Pelham Bay Park. Wear sturdy shoes; bring water and a pair of binoculars, if you have them.

Saturday, April 24




MillionTreesNYC Spring Planting Day / 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. / Locations Citywide Help make NYC greener by volunteering to plant trees citywide! Planting projects will be held in Parks in all five boroughs. Email info@milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Sunday, April 25




What Lurks Below? / Crotona Park 1 p.m. / CNC Explore the depths of Indian Lake from the shore and find out what wondrous creatures live there. Appearances may be deceiving!

Saturday, May 1



Van Cortlandt Birding Club: Multi-borough Tour/ Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Birds don't stay in one borough and neither will we! This tour will cover parks in the Bronx and Manhattan. Bring lunch, water, comfortable shoes, and binoculars if you have them. Space limited. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on April 21.

Sunday, May 2




Camping Gear and Skills Workshop/ Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / VCNC Whether you are an experienced backpacker, or you've never set up a tent, the Rangers will have plenty of tips and tricks for people of every skill level. Bring your backpack if you would like a free professional fitting, but otherwise, just bring your love of the great outdoors!

Saturday, May 8




Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Waves of Warblers/ Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Don't miss these tiny, colorful, flying gems that flock to our park in migration seasons




Raptor Migration/ Pelham Bay Park 11 a.m. / PBRS The raptors are returning from their winter vacation; let's see if we can find them. Bring your own binoculars, if you have them.

Sunday, May 9




The Giants of Van Cortlandt/ Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / VCNC Identify some of Van Cortlandt Park's leafy green giants – trees!

Saturday, May 15




Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Bird Calls/Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Caws, whistles and pee wees make up the chorus in the woods and helped give birds their names.




Canoe the Lagoon / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / Canoe and Kayak Launch, northwest corner of Orchard Beach parking lot Paddle through the sparkling blue waters and green marsh grasses of the Lagoon. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.

Sunday, May 16




Cycling Through History / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / VCNC Leave your car behind and bike the Bronx Greenway as we explore what makes the Bronx the greenest borough in the city.

Saturday, May 22




Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Waterfowl / Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Duckweed eats and webbed feet aren't the only tell tale signs of water-loving birds. Find out more with us.




Spring Bird Migration / Seton Falls Park 1 p.m. /233 Street and Bainbridge Avenue Explore Rattlesnake Creek and the surrounding hardwood forest and wetlands to look for the early spring migrants. Bring binoculars if you have them, and wear sturdy shoes.

Sunday, May 23




Seashore Safari / Pelham Bay Park 2 p.m. / OBNC Crabs, seaweed, and seastars are among the treasures you will find as you explore the coastline of Pelham Bay Park.

Saturday, May 29




Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Nest Building / Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC If that's not spaghetti hanging from that bird's beak, what is it?!



Fishing Fun / Crotona Park 1 p.m. / CNC Learns the ins and outs of angling and try your luck at Indian Lake. Bamboo poles will be provided.

Sunday, May 30




Spring Tide Lovers/ Pelham Bay Park 10 a.m. / OBNC On moonlit nights horseshoe crabs return to the shores of Twin Island to mate. Marvel at the spawning cycle of this ancient creature that pre-dates the dinosaurs.

Saturday, June 5




Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Flap Versus Glide / Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Catch the flight patterns of flappers and gliders and figure out why birds do one or the other.



The Reel Deal / Crotona Park 2 p.m. / CNC Learn all about our underwater neighbors while fishing in beautifully restored Indian Lake. Equipment provided. First come, first-served.

Sunday, June 6



Basic Canoeing / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Golf House, Van Cortlandt south and Major Deegan Expressway This quiet lake is a perfect place to learn the basics of canoeing. Bring water, sun block and a snack. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.





Bronx

Sunday, June 6 cont'd



Shore Birds/ Pelham Bay Park 11 a.m. / OBNC Gulls and geese and oystercatchers, oh my! From the common to the unusual, the beach abounds with shore birds. We'll see how many we can spot. Bring your binoculars if you have them.



Buggin' Out/ Crotona Park 1 p.m. / CNC Calling all nature detectives as we go in search of and learn all about the wonderful world of insects and spiders.

Saturday, June 12



Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Camouflage / Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Camo, or cryptic coloration as it's called in ornithology, makes it harder for predator or prey to spot you. The military learned this trick from wildlife.



Ancient Remedies/ Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / VCNC Through time many different cultures have relied on herbal medicine. Learn about some of the herbal remedies they used on this walk through Van Cortlandt Park.



Tree's Company/ Crotona Park 1 p.m. / CNC Investigate the importance of trees in our neighborhood. Learn about different ways to identify these neighborhood giants. "Bark" your calendars for this "tree-mendous" program.



Moses Builds a Beach/ Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / OBNC Robert Moses, NYC's famous Parks Commissioner, left a lasting imprint on the Bronx. Learn about him and the building of Orchard Beach.

Sunday, June 13



Hiking the Aqueduct Trail / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / VCNC During the 1830's, New York City was devastated by fire and disease. Both problems stemmed from one source: an inadequate water supply. Explore this historic fresh water route.

Saturday, June 19



Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Bird Photography/ Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Birds' eyesight is many times keener than humans. No wonder, their eyeballs take up most of their head!



Cass Gallagher Hike/ Van Cortlandt Park 12 p.m. / Broadway and Moshulu Avenues The cool hardwood forest in the northwest section of Van Cortlandt Park is a wonderful retreat from a summer day. Explore the many trees, plants and animals found in this area.

Saturday, June 19 cont'd



Dragons and Damsels/ Crotona Park 11 a.m. / CNC No, we are not talking about knights in shining armor, but dragonflies and damselflies, little insects with the tenacity of dragons and the beauty of the ages. These spirited insect jewels can be found in and above Indian Lake. Why do we love them?



Forever Wild! Explore Twin Island/ Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / OBNC Comb the beaches, scour the salt marshes, and hike the woodlands of these former Islands that are now connected to Orchard Beach.

Sunday, June 20



Father's Day Fishing/ Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / VCNC Bring your kids for a fun time at the lake! Learn the basics of angling, or bring your own supplies and cast in a line. Bamboo poles will be provided for those who don't have their own gear.



Seining the Shores/ Pelham Bay Park 11 a.m. / OBNC There's more than one way to catch a fish! For this slightly different take on fishing, you cast in a net instead of a line. Who knows what you'll come up with!

Friday, June 25



Family Camping/ Pelham Bay Park 6 p.m. / OBNC Pitch a tent, and go on a night hike to meet the nocturnal residents of Pelham Bay Park and sleep under the stars. Bring a flashlight and sleeping bag. Space limited. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on June 16.**

Saturday, June 26



Van Cortlandt Bird Club: Nest Counts/ Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Feathers are an engineering feat that serve a multitude of purposes from temperature regulation to physical attraction.

Saturday, June 26 cont'd



Birding along the Hudson/ Riverdale Hike 1 p.m. / 232 Street and the Henry Hudson service road southbound Riverdale Park has the perfect blend of waterfront and greenery, which looks appealing to a variety of birds. Look for and listen to some of the birds that make Bronx parks their home. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Sunday, June 27



Island Hopping / Pelham Bay Park 11 a.m. / OBNC Orchard Beach is surrounded by islands- some big, some small, and some only show at low tide, but most have names, and some have stories. Explore these islands by canoe. Space limited. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on June 16.**



Senses Alive/ Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / VCNC There's more to perception than eyesight- but how much of the other four senses do you use? Delve into all five of your senses, and discover a new way of perceiving the world.



Orienteering for Beginners/ Crotona Park 1 p.m. / CNC Learn the basics of orienteering in an outdoors environment as we explore Crotona Park using a map and a compass.



Journey through time! Explore Brooklyn on an historic neighborhood walking tour.

Brooklyn



KIDS' WEEK March 29 - April 2

Kids' Week at the Fort! / Fort Greene Park 10 a.m. / FGVC Schools out. What to do? Learn about the history and nature of Fort Greene Park, and then make crafts to take home. Ages 5-12.

MONDAY – It's All Fun and (Colonial) Games

TUESDAY – Archaeology Adventure

WEDNESDAY – March of Time

THURSDAY – State Flags

FRIDAY – The Giving Tree

Kids' Week at the Marsh! / Marine Park 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / SMNC Spend spring break exploring the salt marsh at Marine Park. Nature Walks, crafts, team-building activities, performances, and more. Morning and afternoon activities. Ages 12 and under.

MONDAY – Build a Bug 10 a.m. and Animal Tracks 1 p.m.


TUESDAY – Portable Adventure 10 a.m. and Create a Nature Collage 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – Owl Pellet Dissection 10 a.m. and Children's Spring Nature Hike 1 p.m.

THURSDAY – Portable Adventure 10 a.m. and Backyard Bass Ice Fishing Derby 1 p.m.


FRIDAY – Build a Bird Feeder 10 a.m. and Fun with Map and Compass 1 p.m.


Thursday April 1

 **Thursday Night Lecture: Planets Galore / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC** Join New York City's Amateur Astronomers Association for a galactic gawk. In the event of rain, we'll meet indoors for a lecture.


Saturday April 3


 **Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

 **Plant Sketching Workshop: Observing and Sketching / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street** Learn the basics of observing and sketching scientifically accurate plant drawings. All ages and skill levels welcome.


 **The Giving Trees / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** Learn how these trees got their names, what they were used for in the past, and what they give us today.

Sunday April 4

 **Ravine Walk / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street** Walk through one of Brooklyn's best kept secrets!


 **Journey through Time: Fort Greene and Clinton Hill / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** We're kicking off another season of neighborhood walking tours by exploring our own backyard; lovely Clinton Hill. Tour will last approximately 2 hours, so wear comfortable shoes and bring water.

Friday, April 9


 **Mugwars! / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC** Join a corps of volunteers in helping to wage a season-long war on invasive weeds!


Saturday April 10


 **Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

 **Plant Sketching Workshop: Colored Pencils / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street** Learn the basics of sketching and coloring scientifically accurate plant drawings. All ages and skill levels welcome.

Sunday April 11


 **Basic Orienteering / Owls Head Park 1 p.m. / Park House on 68 Street and Colonial Road** Learn the basics of how to use a compass and put your skills to the test! Compasses provided. Ages 8+.


 **Talkin' Baseball / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** Learn about Hall of Famers who played on New York City ballfields.

 **Proteus Gowanus Gallery/ 1 p.m. /543 Union Street** Proteus brings together Brooklyn-based artists, scientists and active members of Brooklyn to explore common themes through art, artifacts, books and events.


Saturday April 17


 **Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

 **Plant Sketching Workshop: Watercolors / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street** Learn the basics of coloring and annotating scientifically accurate plant drawings. All ages and skill levels welcome.

 **Colonial Kids / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** What was life like for kids in Colonial Times? Find out what they wore and what they did for fun.

Sunday April 18


 **April is "Keep America Beautiful" Month / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** Help us keep Fort Greene one of the most beautiful parks in the city. **To RSVP and learn more about Fort Greene Park, volunteers email carol.anastasio@parks.nyc.gov or call (718) 722-3218.**


 **Happy Birthday Salt Marsh Nature Center / Marine Park 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. / SMNC** The Salt Marsh Nature Center is celebrating ten years as Brooklyn's premier nature center! Enjoy a day of nature hikes, children's crafts and entertainment for all.

Saturday April 24


 **Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

 **MillionTreesNYC Spring Planting Day / 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / Locations Citywide** Help make NYC greener by volunteering to plant trees citywide! Planting projects will be held in Parks in all five boroughs. Email info@milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.


 **The McWalk /McCarren Park 1 p.m. / Bedford and North 12 Street** Walk from McCarren to McGolrick Park and discover their past, present, and future.


 **Global Climate Change / Marine Park 2 p.m. / SMNC** Join this discussion-style lecture about climate change.

Saturday April 24 cont'd

 **An evening with Ray Rivera/Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC** Jazz legend Ray Rivera will descend on the nature center with his band for a night of his honeyed crooning and smooth guitar.


Sunday April 25

 **Women of the Revolution / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** On April 26, 1776, a rider on horseback raced to deliver the warning that the British were advancing. The rider wasn't Paul Revere; however, it was Sybil Ludington. Find out all about her and other women who helped make the American Revolution happen.

 **Prospect Park in Bloom / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street** Take a guided nature walk and learn to identify the plants bursting to life around the park.


Saturday May 1


 **Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

 **Insect Infants / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Wollman Rink, East Drive and Lincoln Road** We'll talk about our favorite bug babies: dragonflies, beetles, butterflies, and bees.


 **The Giving Trees / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** See April 3 for listing.

Sunday May 2


 **Spring Migration Watch / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Audubon Center, Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue** Walk to Look Out Hill in search of our feathered friends returning from winter vacation. Wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars and field guides, if you have them.


 **Journey through Time: Park Slope Part 1 / Flatbush Avenue and Bergen Street 11 a.m. / Northwest Corner** Explore one of Brooklyn's most fascinating neighborhoods.


Thursday, May 6

 **Thursday Night Lecture: NYC Marine Mammals / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC** Some of NYC's most interesting wildlife remains elusive and unseen.

Saturday May 8


 **Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

 **Marshy Macro Invertebrates / Marine Park 11 a.m. / SMNC** Explore the smallest salt marsh creatures.

 **Become a Bee Watcher / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC** Some solitary bees haven't been spotted since the 19th century. Thanks to bee watchers, however, long lost species are re-discovered every spring.

 **Journey through Time: Fort Greene and Clinton Hill / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** See April 4 listing.

Sunday May 9

 **Mother's Day Flowers / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** Make Mom a beautiful bouquet of paper flowers! Ages 5-12. All materials will be provided.

Brooklyn



Sunday May 9 cont'd

- Go Native / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC** Learn about the Native American tribe that inhabited this area.

Saturday May 15

- Brooklyn Queens Birding Big Day Out / Prospect Park 8 a.m. / Wollman Rink Parking Lot and East Drive** Come on an all day birding tour. Bring binoculars and a bag lunch. Transportation will be provided. Space is limited. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on May 5.**
- Insect Insanity / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** Bug out! Learn what kinds of insects live in the park, check out our pet bugs, make your very own bug craft, and, for the truly brave, try a cricket cookie!
- Shrub Pruning Workshop / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC** Learn the finer points of pruning and tools of the trade.

Sunday May 16

- The Bridges (and Arches) of Kings County/ Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Road** Discover the unique design on the bridges and arches within Prospect park.
- Ask a Historian! / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC** Brian Merlis, John Manbec and Brooklyn Borough Historian Ron Schweiger will be pooling their knowledge to answer your questions about Brooklyn history.
- Journey through Time: Park Slope Part II / Grand Army Plaza 11 a.m. / Meet under the Arch** We'll explore Grand Army Plaza, the Montauk Cub and the mansions of Prospect Park West. Tour will last approximately 2 hours, wear comfortable shoes and bring water.

Saturday May 22

- Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**
- Wild for Wildflowers / Marine Park 11 a.m. / SMNC** Explore each blossom along the trail at SMNC.
- Salt Marsh Alliance's Seventh Annual Fine Art Show / Marine Park 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. / SMNC** Enjoy photographs and paintings from local artists & volunteers. For further information contact the show's coordinator, Ellen Hoyt at ellenart@verizon.net.
- Brooklyn Brews / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** Explore Brooklyn's sudsy past as we take a look at the history of Brooklyn brew masters and breweries.

Sunday May 23

- Insect Insanity! / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Avenue** You supply the curiosity and we'll supply the nets!
- Salt Marsh Alliance's Seventh Annual Fine Art Show / Marine Park 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. / SMNC** See May 22 listing.
- Hidden History / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** Learn all about long-lost tunnels, Underground Railroad safe houses, pirates, and rebels. Then stick around to win prizes in our NYC Trivia Contest.

Saturday May 29

- Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**
- Invasive Investigation / Marine Park 11 a.m. / SMNC** Learn the importance of native plants and animals and the cost we pay for having the invasives in our parks.
- Scavenger Hunt / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC** Children of all ages welcomed. Prizes awarded.
- Spring Sock Hop with Karaoke Master Bob B. / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC** Bring your friends and family for a night of karaoke.

Sunday May 30

- Children's Hour / Marine Park 11 a.m. / SMNC** Make your own bird feeder to attract our feathered friends.
- Journey through Time: Coney Island / Coney Island Boardwalk 11 a.m. / Meet at the Parachute Jump** We'll take you back to the days of the "Nickel Empire." Tour will last approximately 2½ hours, so wear comfortable shoes and bring water.

Thursday June 3

- Thursday Night Lecture: Preventative Medicine / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC** Marine Park Local and Volunteer Victoria Keller hopes to kick off your summer with a rousing lecture on preventative medicine.

Saturday June 5

- Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**
- Common Shorebirds / Marine Park 11 a.m. / SMNC** This introductory walk will highlight the summer shorebirds of Marine Park.
- Journey through Time: Fort Greene and Clinton Hill / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** See April 4 listing.

Sunday June 6

- D-Day White Island Landing / Marine Park 11 a.m. / Burnett Street and Avenue U.** Canoe down Gerritsen Creek to take a look at the current restoration project and learn about the plants and animals calling the island home. **Space is limited. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on May 26.**
- Spanning Time / Brooklyn Borough Hall Steps 11 a.m. / Meet at Joralemon and Court Streets** Learn about the united New York City as we walk across the Brooklyn Bridge and return via the Manhattan Bridge. Tour will last approximately 3 hours, so wear comfortable shoes and bring water.

Saturday June 12

- Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**
- Marsh Ecology / Marine Park 11 a.m. / SMNC** Walk through the Salt Marsh to learn about our special salt marsh grasses.
- National Weed your Garden Day / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** Exercise your green thumb and help keep our flowers blooming! Space is limited, for more information call 718.722.3218.

Saturday June 12 cont'd

- Prehistoric Romance / Plum Beach 8 p.m. / Plum Beach Comfort Station** Observe hundreds of horseshoe crabs as they make their way to the beach to find a mate. With the National Park Service. **Space is limited at the preserve, so call ahead 718.318.4340.**

Sunday June 13

- Where the Wild Things Are / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC** Learn what creatures live in our very own backyard.
- The Churches of Carroll Gardens / Carroll Park 1 p.m. / Smith Street and President Street** We'll begin in Carroll Park, named after American Revolutionary leader Charles Carroll, who was the only Catholic to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Saturday June 19

- Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**
- Bug Watching / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street** You've heard of bird watching, but come try the unique art of bug watching!
- A Revolutionary Idea / Washington Park 1 p.m. / Old Stone House, Fourth Avenue and Fifth Street** Discover the prominent role our borough played in American History. Bring water and comfortable walking shoes. **Email info@theoldstonehouse.org or call 718.768.3195 to secure your spot as seating is limited, RSVP no later than Friday, June 12.**
- Joe Ardigo, Rock Legend...Park Supervisor / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC** Come out to support one of the Parks Department's best kept secrets: Joe Ardigo.

Sunday June 20

- Canoe the Creek / Marine Park 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. / Avenue U and Burnett Street** Enjoy a day out on the waters of beautiful Gerritsen Creek. Bring water and sunscreen. First come, first served. Ages 8+
- Journey through Time: Bay Ridge / John Paul Jones Park 11 a.m. / Fort Hamilton Parkway and 101 Street** Tour the area formerly known as Yellow Hook. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water, tour will last approximately 2½ hours.

Saturday, June 26

- Early Morning Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC**

Sunday June 27

- In-Seining! / Marine Park 10 a.m. / Avenue U and Burnett Street** Use a seining net to learn about the sea creatures of Gerritsen Creek. Please wear pants and shoes you can get wet.
- Fresh Water Fishing / Prospect Park 11 a.m. / Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Road** Learn fresh water ecology while practicing "catch and release" fishing. Equipment provided. First come, first-served.

Wildlife in Manhattan? You bet! Learn all about it at Urban Wildlife Appreciation Day at Fort Tryon Park.

Manhattan





KIDS' WEEK March 29 - April 2

Schools Out! Take the kids to the park to enjoy a variety of nature programs. Nature walks, scavenger hunts, crafts and more. Get outside, get excited!


Visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers for more details, or call Inwood Hill Nature Center.


Saturday, April 3

 **Let's Go to the Movies / Central Park 1 p.m. / Doris Freedman Plaza, 60 Street and Fifth Avenue** Calling all movie-philes! Get ready to be in pictures as we travel the south end of the park visiting locations from some of the most memorable movies.

 **Open Mic Night / Inwood Hill Park 6 p.m. / IHNC** Bring your instruments, prose or poetry and contribute to a night of fun filled free form expression.


Sunday April 4

 **Early Birding / Inwood Hill Park 8 a.m. / IHNC** On our early morning bird walk we'll be looking for woodpeckers, waterfowl, raptors and much more.



 **Family Nature Journals / Riverside Park 1 p.m. / River Run Playground, 83 Street and Riverside Drive** Start your very own nature journal! It's easy, and one of the most satisfying ways to experience and learn about nature. We'll explore the natural gems hidden in plain sight at Riverside Park. All ages welcomed.

Saturday, April 10




 **Urban Wildlife Appreciation Day / Fort Tryon Park 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. / Cloister Lawn** Get up close and personal with NYC's wild residents. Learn about squirrels, raccoons, coyotes, skunks, eagles and more. Enjoy musical performances, live animals, and kid's activities. Discover the best places in NYC and NYS to watch wildlife. With the Fort Tryon Park Trust.


Sunday, April 11


 **In Bloom Series Part I - Early Bloomers / Central Park 11 a.m. / BC**
 As the days become longer and warmer, the early spring flowers begin to emerge. Discover the wildflowers and flowering trees that are in bloom!

Sunday, April 11 cont'd


 **Native American Nature Crafts / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** This nature based craft program will focus on Native Americans culture for inspiration, as we create dream catchers, rattles and a model sized Wigwam and Longhouse.


Saturday, April 17

 **Native Americans of Manhattan / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** Learn about the vibrant Native American history of Inwood Hill Park. Explore the Indian rock shelters, sit inside a real wigwam and hike to the overlook meadow for a view of the Hudson River and Palisades.

 **Understories: Secrets of the Forest Floor / Central Park 12 p.m. / BC** Life abounds in the soil beneath our feet! Uncover a world of mosses, ferns, fungi, and invertebrates during the exploration of the Ramble woodlands.


Sunday, April 18

 **Clean Up Our Earth Day / Morningside Park 10 a.m. / 112 Street and Morningside Avenue** Do your part for Earth Day and help clean-up the park! Dress for the weather and bring plenty of water.


 **Create Your Own Biosphere / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** Start today on a greener tomorrow. Reuse your empty 2-liter soda bottles to create your very own biosphere.


Saturday, April 24

 **MillionTreesNYC Spring Planting Day / 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / Locations Citywide** Help make NYC greener by volunteering to plant trees citywide! Planting projects will be held in Parks in all five boroughs. Email info@milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.


 **Spring Bloom Bike Tour / Riverside Park 12 p.m. / West 79 Street Boat Basin** Take a bike ride in search of Spring's early bloomers. We will start our botany bike journey at the boat basin of Riverside Park and ride along the Hudson River in Fort Washington Park, Fort Tryon and end at the Inwood Hill Nature Center.


Saturday, May 1

 **Spring Migration / Central Park 10 a.m. / BC** Central Park looks like an oasis to the song birds that are migrating overhead. Come on a walk to spot which birds have stopped by for a visit. Bring binoculars if you have them.


 **Advanced Hiking / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** Visit the Red-tailed Hawk nest, explore the Indian caves and enjoy the beautiful views of the Hudson River and Palisades at the overlook meadow. Please wear comfortable hiking boots.

Sunday, May 2



 **Early Birding / Inwood Hill Park 8 a.m. / IHNC** Look for woodpeckers, waterfowl, raptors and much more.


 **Rockin' through the Park / Central Park 2 p.m. / West 72 Street and Central Park West** Musicians have visited Central Park for over a hundred years to perform and get inspired. Take a walk through time and visit the landmarks that musicians have connected with over the years.

Saturday, May 8


 **Little Red Light House / Fort Washington Park 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / Little Red Light House, West 181 Street and Plaza Lafayette** Go behind the scenes at the Jefferies Hook Light House. This landmark was made famous by the book *The Little Red Light House* and the Great Grey Bridge.


Sunday, May 9

 **In Bloom Series Part II - Wildflowers and Cherries/ Central Park 12 p.m. / DDC** What's in bloom at the Wildlife Meadow?
 Explore the blooms of Central Park and learn everything you wanted to know and more about flowers! We'll end with a magnificent stroll along the Reservoir Cherry Blossom trail.


 **Highbridge Water Tower / Highbridge Park 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / West 173 Street and Amsterdam Avenue** Explore the unique solution to the water pressure problem in Northern Manhattan during the late 1800's.


Saturday, May 15

 **Raptors: Master's of the Sky / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** Explore the natural history, biology and ecology of birds of prey with a lecture and hawk walk at Inwood Hill Park. Discover how raptors have inspired humans for thousands of years.


 **On A Wing Family Festival / Central Park 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. / BC** Bring the entire family and enjoy a magical afternoon learning more about our feathered friends.


Sunday, May 16

 **Climb the Peaks of Central Park! / Central Park 11 a.m. / Doris Freedman Plaza, East 60 Street and Fifth Avenue** Millions of years ago, Central Park was covered in mountains higher than the Himalayas. Visit the tallest remaining outcrops of these ancient mountains on this hike which concludes at the Dana Discovery Center. Be prepared for a fast paced, advanced hike.

 **Heather Garden Walk / Fort Tryon Park 12 p.m. / Margaret Corbin Circle, northernmost end of Fort Washington Avenue** Stroll through the Heather Garden to find out what is in bloom and enjoy the beautiful views of the Hudson River while learning about the history of this magnificent park.

Saturday, May 22

 **Ethno Botany and Edible Plants / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** The forest of Inwood Hill Park provided the Lenape tribe with the many natural resources vital to their survival. Discover the vibrant Native American history and ethno botany of this unique park.


 **Raccoon Rap / Central Park 2 p.m. / DDC** Wild at heart, but living in our backyard. Raccoons are all around! Learn all about these intriguing "masked bandits".


Manhattan




Sunday, May 23




 **Riverside Redtail Reunion / Riverside Park 11 a.m. / River Run Playground, West 83 Street and Riverside Drive** Reconnect with the adored pair of Red-tailed Hawks that continue to raise their young in this part of Riverside Park.


 **Biodiversity Hike / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** Explore the diverse ecology, habitats, plants and animals of Inwood Hill Park's Salt Marsh, old growth forest and Hudson River.


Saturday, May 29

 **Red-tailed Hawk Nest Watch / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** Take a glimpse into the magnificent nest of the resident Red-tailed Hawks of Inwood Hill Park. Learn the natural history and biology of these incredible raptors. Bring binoculars if you have them.


 **North Forts Memorial Tour / Central Park 1 p.m. / DDC** Celebrate Memorial Day touring Revolutionary War sites in Northern Central Park. The journey begins around the beautiful Harlem Meer with tales of McGowan's Pass, and includes a fantastic peek inside Blockhouse #1. Enjoy a moderate hike through the North Woods as we unofficially welcome summer today and remember those who came before.

Sunday, May 30

 **Advanced Highbridge Hiking / Highbridge Park 11 a.m. / 158 Street and Edgecombe Avenue** Traverse the hidden trails of Highbridge. Take in fabulous views of Morris Jumel Mansion and the Harlem River and conclude your hike with the challenging Highbridge Tower Crawl.

 **Ramble Trail Blazing / Central Park 1 p.m. / BC** Learn how Native Americans used trail markers to keep from getting lost and find important landmarks. After a short lesson you will follow a course through the Ramble, and this time, you'll know exactly where you're going!


Saturday, June 5


 **Family Bonsai Class / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC** A family oriented workshop where participants can create their own Bonsai tree. Materials provided, but bring a pot or dish for your new Bonsai!

Saturday, June 5 cont'd


 **Family Camping / Central Park 6 p.m. / TBA** Enjoy a night under the stars. The evening will be filled with fun group activities including a night hike through the Woods. Bring a sleeping bag, tents will be provided. Space limited. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on May 26.**


Sunday, June 6

 **Spanning Time / City Hall Park 11 a.m. / The Fountain, Park Row and Beekman Street** Learn about united New York City as we walk across the Brooklyn Bridge and return via the Manhattan Bridge. Tour will last approximately 3 hours, so wear comfortable shoes and bring water.


 **Evening Night Hike / Inwood Hill Park 8 p.m. / IHNC** Search for owls, skunks, raccoons, bats and other nocturnal creatures that inhabit the park.

Saturday, June 12


 **Family Scavenger Hunt / Central Park 11 a.m. / Children's Gate, East 64 Street and Fifth Avenue** Surprises and secrets await your discovery in the historic Children's District of Central Park. Enjoy exploring and learning outdoors together in this lively part of the Park.

 **Little Red Light House / Fort Washington Park 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / Little Red Light House, West 181st Street and Plaza Lafayette** Join us as we get a behind the scenes look of the Jeffries Hook Light House. This landmark was made famous by the book *The Little Red Light House* and the Great Grey Bridge.


Saturday, June 19


 **Flowers in Bloom Series Part III - Secret Garden Tour / Central Park 1 p.m. / Vanderbilt Gate, East 105 Street and Fifth Avenue** Spend some moments among springtime's finest flowers on this stroll through Central Parks Conservatory Garden. Along the way, we'll share excerpts from Frances Hodgson Burnett's enchanting novel, "*The Secret Garden*."

Saturday, June 19 cont'd


 **Family Camping / Inwood Hill Park 6 p.m. / IHNC** Spend part of your weekend enjoying a night under the stars. The evening will be filled with fun group activities including a night hike. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on June 9.**

Sunday June 20


 **Inwood Fledgling Watch / Inwood Hill Park 10 a.m. / IHNC** Red-tailed Hawks are dedicated parents that protect and nurture their young. This Father's Day come visit the proud Red-tailed Hawk parents and keep your eyes peeled for their young fledglings.


 **Walk Through a Story Book / Central Park 11 a.m. / East 72 Street and Fifth Avenue** On this magical walk through Central Park we will visit the statues that live in the park and tell us a tale that happened once upon a time.

Saturday, June 26

 **Fishing Festival / Riverside Park 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. / West Harlem Piers Waterfront Park, West 125 Street and Hudson River** Connect to the life living within the Hudson River. Equipment provided, but bring your own enthusiasm, some luck and maybe a friend. Come for the fishing and stay for some other River-related activities.

Sunday, June 27

 **Canoeing / Central Park 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. / The Harlem Meer, outside of Lasker Pool** Bring the whole family for a wonderful aquatic experience for canoers at all levels of experience. Bring water, sunscreen, and a hat. Equipment provided. First come, first- served. Ages 8 +.

 **Nature Scavenger Hunt / Highbridge Park 12 p.m. / West 174 Street and Amsterdam Avenue** Test your observational and sleuthing skills in this challenging scavenger hunt. Put your nature knowledge to the test. Fun for all ages.





Queens

Explore the diversity of Queens parks; from the Adventure Course at Alley Pond Park to the "Bones of Baisley."



KIDS' WEEK

March 29 - April 2

Schools Out! Take the kids to the park to enjoy a variety of nature programs. Nature walks, scavenger hunts, crafts and more. Get outside, get excited!

Visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers for more details, or call Forest Park Nature Center.

Sundays, May through November



Alley Pond Adventure Course / Alley Pond Park 10 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. / APPAC Join us every Sunday from May 2 to November 21 at the largest ropes course in the tri-state area. Our programs foster trust, problem-solving and team building while providing outdoor recreational fun. Open to families and individuals ages 8 and above. Please arrive ½ hour before each session to register. Bring valid photo identification. No open toe shoes.

If you have questions call 718-217-4685 or visit nyc.gov/adventurecourse.

Saturday April 3



Bridging the Gap: Fort Totten to Fort Schuyler / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway Bridge the historical gap between the East River's military defense sites. Take a tour of Fort Totten on Willets Point and then take a trip to Fort Schuyler. Space limited. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on March 24.



Denizens of the Dark / Forest Park 6 p.m. / FPVC Look for bats, raccoons, owls, and whatever else lurks in the dark on this after-hours tour. Bring a flashlight, but leave your fear at home.

Sunday April 4



Early Spring Migration / Oakland Lake 10 a.m. / Meet at the entrance to the park on Cloverdale Boulevard Search for early arrivals and find out if some birds stuck around after the winter season. Bring binoculars if you have them.



Easter Scavenger Hunt / Kissena Park 11 a.m. / Rose and Oak Avenues Learn about the different shapes, sizes and colors of animal eggs. Then, in celebration of Easter, try to find plastic eggs that are hidden throughout the park. Prizes awarded!

Saturday April 10



Impression Painting / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC Make a lasting impression as we create beautiful works of art using items that we collect around the park. Painting, drawing, stenciling and more. Material provided.

Sunday April 11



Orienteering / Cunningham Park 12 p.m. / Parking lot on Union Turnpike and 197 Street You'll never get lost in the woods! Learn navigation with a map and compass. Equipment provided.

Sunday April 11 cont'd



Tree-mendous Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway Explore Fort Totten Park and discover the variety green giants who live here. Walk the trail of the Fort's oldest and proudest living residents.



Saturday April 17



Bike the Greenway / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 11 a.m. / Mauro Playground, Park Drive East and 73 Terrace Bike this cyclist route from Flushing Meadows Corona Park to Fort Totten Park in northeast Queens. Bring your own bike and helmet. Tour ends at Fort Totten.



The "Hidden World" of Fort Totten/ Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC Explore the mysterious side of Fort Totten as we take you through the Main Magazine and Endicott Batteries.

Sunday April 18



Spring Migration / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 10 a.m. / Mauro Playground, Park Drive East and 73 Terrace Along with the temperatures, migration season is heating up! Welcome back our fine, feathered friends.



The "Hidden World" of Fort Totten/ Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC See April 17 listing.

Saturday, April 24



MillionTreesNYC Spring Planting Day / 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. / Locations Citywide Help make NYC greener by volunteering to plant trees citywide! Planting projects will be held in Parks in all five boroughs. Email info@milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.



Solid as a Rock: The Old Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC Explore the nineteenth century fortress that helped protect NYC's harbor from possible naval attack and learn about the history of Willets Point.

Sunday April 25



Ho, Ho, Ho, Green Giant / Alley Pond Park 11 a.m. / APPAC With Arbor Day right around the corner, there's no better time to learn about the "Alley Giant," the largest tulip tree on Long Island.



Kids Conservation 101 / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC Earth Day has passed but we should never forget to conserve our environment. Learn how to protect all it has to offer. Ages 6+.

Friday April 30



The Bones of Baisley / Baisley Pond Park 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. / Sutphin Playground, Sutphin Boulevard and 125 Avenue 150 years ago, city workers found the remains of a Mastodon while dredging Baisley Pond? Learn about this pre-historic relative of the elephant while enjoying dinosaur-themed activities.

Saturday May 1



Earth Day Rockaway / Rockaway Beach 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. / B. 28 Street and Boardwalk Rockaway's 4th Annual Earth Day celebration at the beach includes environmental programs, arts 'n' crafts, and entertainment that is fun and informative for the whole family. Visit nyc.gov/parks for more info.



Fort Totten Bike Tour / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway Pedal your way through Fort Totten's history, dating back to the Civil War. We will be make several stops along the way highlighting important buildings on the base. Bring your own bike and helmet.

Sunday May 2



Plight of the Plover / Rockaway Beach 12 p.m. / B. 44 Street and Boardwalk Learn about the trials and tribulations that the piping plover, a tiny endangered shorebird, goes through during breeding season.



Fort Totten Bike Tour / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway See May 1 listing.

Saturday May 8



A Haven for Herpetology / Forest Park 11 a.m. / FPVC Strack Pond in Forest Park is one of the best places in the City to observe reptiles and amphibians in action. Look for painted turtles and listen for the call of the bullfrog, all while learning about the important role that these animals play in the ecosystem.



Pre-Mother's Day Crafts for Kids / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC Put your artistic skills to use and make something for your loved one this Mother's Day. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sunday May 9



Mother's Day Wildflower Walk / Alley Pond Park 11 a.m. / APPAC What better day is there to stop and smell the roses? You can't pick any wildflowers from the park to add to that bouquet for mom but you can certainly learn about them.



Insect Insanity: Buggin Out / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC There are millions of creepy crawly insects around the world. Let's see how many we can find at Fort Totten. All ages welcomed.

Saturday May 15



Nature Scavenger Hunt / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC Kids put their wildlife investigation skills to the test as we use clues to find nature's treasures. All children welcomed.





Saltwater Fishing / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 1:30 p.m. / World's Fair Marina, Pier 1, North of Citi Field, between 126 Street and Grand Central Parkway Rather than catch a big fish in a small pond, why not try to catch a big fish in Flushing Bay? Equipment provided. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.



Queens





Sunday May 16

-  **Spring Migration / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 10 a.m. / Mauro Playground, Park Drive East and 73 Terrace** See April 18 listing.
-  **Wild about Wildflowers/ Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** Hidden beneath Fort Totten's history is a wondrous world of wildflowers. Come learn all about these "spring beauties".



Saturday May 22

-  **Impression Painting / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / FTVC** Make a lasting impression as we create beautiful works of art using items that we collect around the park. Painting, drawing, stenciling and more. Material provided.
-  **Fort Totten Bike Tour / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway** See May 1 listing.

Sunday May 23

-  **Hawk Watch / Astoria Park 11 a.m. / Parking lot on Hoyt Avenue and 19 Street** Team up with the Rangers and NYC Audubon to observe the Red-tailed Hawks that have been nesting in Astoria Park. **To register or for more information, visit nycaudubon.org or call 212.691.7483.** Space is limited.
-  **Fort Totten Bike Tour / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway** See May 1 listing.


Saturday May 29

-  **Healthy Hike / Kissena Park 10 a.m. / Rose and Oak Avenues** "Exercise" good judgement on this fast-paced, healthy hike. Bring hiking shoes / sneakers and water.
-  **Tree-mendous Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway** See April 11 listing.




Sunday May 30

-  **Early Birding / Fort Totten Park 10 a.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway** Along with the temperatures, migration season is heating up! Join us as we welcome back our fine, feathered friends.
-  **Orienteering / Cunningham Park 11 a.m. / Parking lot on Union Turnpike and 197 Street** See April 11 listing.



Saturday June 5

-  **Family Camping / Alley Pond Park 6 p.m. / APPAC** Enjoy the time-honored tradition of camping in the woods. There will be a barbecue cookout and a night hike in celebration of National Trails Day. Tents, dinner and a light breakfast provided. Bring your own sleeping bag. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on May 26.**



Sunday June 6

-  **Orienteering / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / FTVC** Learn the basics of map reading, compass skills and exploration. After this adventure, you will never find yourself lost again.
-  **Solid as a Rock: The Old Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** See April 24 listing.
-  **The Crabs are Coming! / Broad Channel American Ball fields 3:30 p.m. / Cross Bay Blvd and 22 Road** Horseshoe crabs have been spawning along the Atlantic coast since the time of the dinosaurs. Observe these arthropods in action.




Saturday June 12

-  **Birding for Kids/ Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / FTVC** Bring the kids to the park for a day of birding by sight and song watching. Children 12 and under. Limited number of children's binoculars available.
-  **Solid as a Rock: The Old Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** See April 24 listing.



Sunday June 13

-  **The Slocum Story / Astoria Park 12 p.m. / Parking lot on Hoyt Avenue and 19 Street** On June 15, 1904, the steamship General Slocum caught fire and burned while navigating up the East River, near Astoria Park. To commemorate the anniversary, we will discuss this little-known, but important piece of NY history.
-  **Solid as a Rock: The Old Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** See April 24 listing.


Saturday June 19

-  **Father's Day Fishing / Kissena Park 10 a.m. / Rose and Oak Avenues.** Equipment provided. Everyone welcomed. First come, first-served.
-  **Pre-Father's Day Crafts for Kids / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** Put your artistic skills to use and make something for your loved one this Father's Day. Children must be accompanied by an adult.
-  **Solid as a Rock: The Old Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** See April 24 listing.

Sunday June 20

-  **The Birds and the Bees / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 10 a.m. / Mauro Playground Park Drive East and 73 Terrace** Learn about the intricate role that birds and bees play in flower pollination, seed dispersal and overall habitat health.
-  **Explore the Shore / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Front Gate, intersection of Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway** It's easy for New Yorkers to forget just how close they live to the seashore. Explore the shore of the coastal bays to see what marine creatures live in our back yard. Crabs, clams, and fish are just some of the fun things we'll find when we use our seining nets to skim the shoreline. Equipment provided, but come ready to get a little wet.

Saturday June 26

-  **Astronomy: Moon Lighting/ Fort Totten Park 8 p.m. / FTVC** There is always something in the sky no matter what time of day. Come get a glimpse of tonight's full moon and learn all about Planet Earth's natural satellite. Weather permitting.

Sunday June 27

-  **Bug and Insect Hunt / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / FTVC** Ants, beetles, butterflies, and more. Look under rocks, logs and trees to learn about these creatures and their environment. Get an even closer look through our high powered microscope.
-  **School's out for Summer / Bayswater Park 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. / B. 32 Street and Beach Channel Drive** Celebrate the "unofficial" first days of summer. Enjoy music, games, refreshments, and Ranger-led programs (including canoeing in Norton Basin). Children 8 and older can participate in the canoe program with a parent/guardian. Canoes, lifejackets, and instruction will be provided. **For canoeing, register at nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on June 16.**
-  **Solid as a Rock: The Old Fort / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / FTVC** See April 24 listing.

Celebrate the arrival of spring by hiking through some of the largest parks in the City, from the Greenbelt to Fresh Kills.

Staten Island

KIDS' WEEK March 29 - April 2

Kids' Week in the Forest! / Blue Heron Park 10 a.m. / BHNC Spend spring break exploring the forest of Blue Heron Park. Nature walks, crafts, team-building activities, performances and more.

MONDAY – Forest Ecology


TUESDAY – A-Z Nature Hike


WEDNESDAY – Geology Rocks

THURSDAY – Nature's Fakers


FRIDAY – Tremendous Tree

Saturday, April 3


 **Park Pick Up / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / BHNC** Do a good deed in your community by helping to clean up your park. Those who need volunteer work or community service are welcome!

 **Doggie Day Hike / Bloomingdale Park 2 p.m. / Comfort Station, Lenvar Avenue and Ramona Avenue** Calling all dog lovers! Exercise your dogs through natural areas, while enjoying the great outdoors. Please be sure to have your dogs on a leash.


Sunday, April 4


 **Canoeing Basics/ Clove Lakes Park 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. / Martling Pond, Martling Avenue entrance, just west of Clove Road** Explore the tranquility of Martling Pond while getting to know nature. Let's look for egrets, herons, and turtles while having fun! Equipment provided. First come, first-served. Age 8+.

Saturday, April 10


 **Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / Meeting TBA** Witness the dramatic transformation, as well as the turkey vultures, red-tailed hawks, and ring-neck pheasants. You won't believe your eyes! **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks.**


Sunday, April 11

 **Archery Basics/ Willowbrook Park Archery Range 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. / Comfort Station near Eton Place and Richmond Avenue** Take aim and try for a bull's eye! We'll teach you the safe and proper way to draw a bow and shoot an arrow. Equipment provided. Ages 8+.


 **Trees in the City / Clove Lakes Park 2 p.m. / Playground at 1180 Clove Road** Trees are an important part of our everyday lives. You'll be shocked at all the items we rely on that come from trees. After the discussion, we'll identify some trees on a nearby trail.



Saturday, April 17

 **Litter Critters / Blue Heron Park 10 a.m. / BHNC** Take a walk through the park, pick up some natural and man-made litter and use it to make a creature. Ages 8+.

 **"Frederick Law Olmstead: The Influence of Staten's Island's Experimental Farmer on America" / Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / BHNC** Frederick Law Olmstead was the "Father of Landscape Architecture". Beryl Brenner will discuss Frederick Law Olmstead's influence on Staten Island.


Sunday, April 18

 **Park to Park: Heyerdahl Hill / High Rock Park 11 a.m. / HRRS** Journey on the Red Trail to explore the haunted hill of Heyerdahl and the ruins that were left behind in the early 1800's. Wear hiking boots and bring a snack and water. Moderate to difficult terrain.


 **Arbor Day Celebration / Clove Lakes Park 2 p.m. / Playground, 1180 Clove Road** Arbor Day is April 30, but we can get an early start appreciating all things trees.  Learn how to identify tree species, find out their height, and why they're so important.

Saturday, April 24


 **MillionTreesNYC Spring Planting Day / 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. / Locations Citywide** Help make NYC greener by volunteering to plant trees citywide! Planting projects will be held in Parks in all five boroughs. Email info@milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.

 **Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / Meeting TBA** See April 10 listing. **To register, visit nyc.gov/parks.**

Sunday, April 25

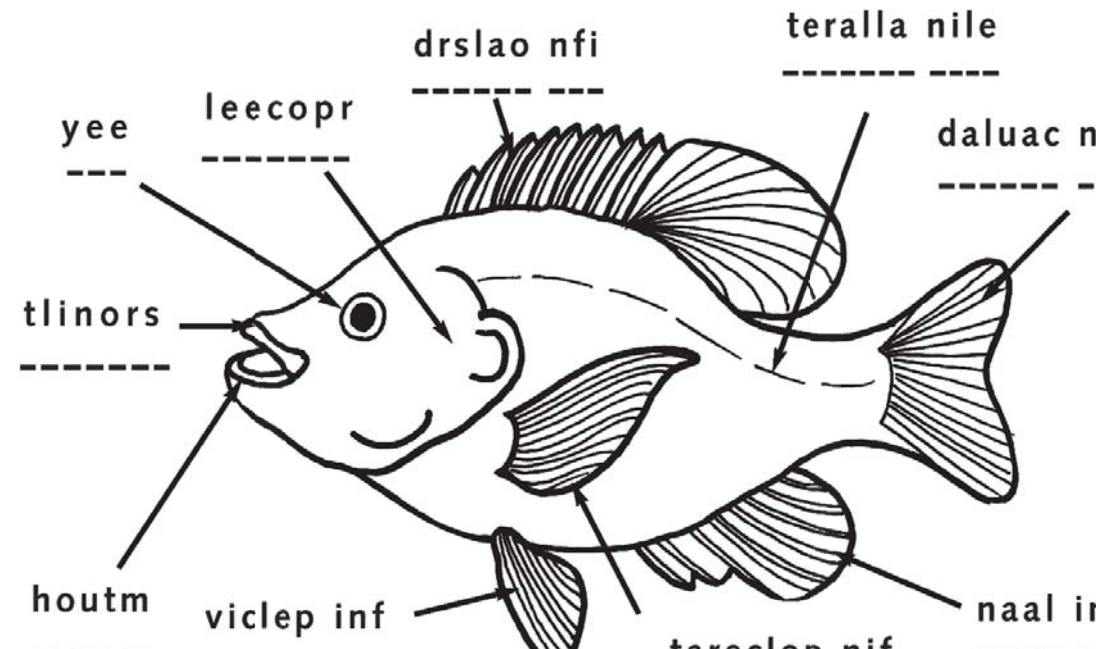
 **Animal Tracks / Blue Heron Park 10 a.m. / BHNC** Animals leave all types of signs that they've been around. Use your investigating skills to find the signs. Ages 3+.

Saturday, May 1

 **Maps and More/ Willowbrook Park 11 a.m. / Comfort Station near Eton Place and Richmond Avenue** Don't own a GPS? Always getting lost? Can't read a map or a compass? Would you like to learn? Take your turn on our course. Hope you can find Willowbrook Park!

Learn your fish anatomy!

Unscramble the words describing the various parts of a fish using the list below.



mouth: yee
 opercle: leecopr
 pelvic fin: drslao nfi
 eye: teralla nile
 dorsal fin: daluac nif
 lateral fin: tlinors
 caudal fin: houtm
 anal fin: viclep inf
 nostril: tareclop nif
 pectoral fin: naal inf

cool stuff

kids and youth



Staten Island

Saturday, May 1 cont'd

- Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / Meeting TBA See April 10 listing. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks.

Sunday, May 2

- Canoeing Basics/ Wolfe's Pond Park 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue See April 4 listing. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.

Saturday, May 8

- Mother's Day Eco-Crafts/ Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / BHNC Create a gift that is unique for your special Mom. Supplies will be collected outside.

- Blooming Wonders / Bloomingdale Park 2 p.m. / Playground at Ramona Avenue and Lenavar Avenue Discover the wonderful world of wildflowers and try to identify what we find.

Sunday, May 9

- Mother's Day Eco-Crafts/ Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / BHNC See May 8 listing.

- Incredible Insects / High Rock Park 2 p.m. / HRRS What vital role do insects play in the natural world? Hike through the woods and learn what creepy crawlers can do besides give us the creeps!

Saturday, May 15

- A-Z Nature Hike/ Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / BHNC Test your knowledge to see if you can find something to cover every letter of the alphabet while hiking your way through Blue Heron trails. Wear hiking boots and bring a snack and water.

- Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / Meeting TBA See April 10 listing. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks.

Sunday, May 16

- Archery Basics/ Willowbrook Park Archery Range 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. / Comfort Station near Eton Place and Richmond Avenue See April 11 listing.

Sunday, May 16 cont'd

- Pond Ecology/ Blue Heron Park 2 p.m. / BHNC What animals can you find living in Spring Pond? Fish, frogs, turtles, oh my! Learn all about these residents as well as the ecological role they play in the pond.

Saturday, May 22

- Family Camping / Willowbrook Park 7 p.m. / Behind Carousel- Eton Place and Richmond Avenue Enjoy a fun evening of activities, followed by a night under the stars. Please bring sleeping bag, tents will be provided. Space limited. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on May 12.

Sunday, May 23

- Pond Ecology/ Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / BHNC See May 16 listing.

- Animal Tracks / Bloomingdale Park 2 p.m. / Comfort Station, Lenvar Avenue and Ramona Avenue See April 25 listing.

Saturday, May 29

- Canoeing Basics/ Wolfe's Pond Park 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue See April 4 listing. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.

Sunday, May 30

- Flower Power / Wolfe's Pond Park 11 a.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue Why are wildflowers beautiful? Why do they smell so great? Bring a magnifying glass, comfortable shoes, water, and a snack, and find out. Let's see how many flowers we can discover.

- History Club: The History of Memorial Day / Blue Heron Park 2 p.m. / BHNC Find out how this holiday came to be and appreciate why this holiday is not just considered the unofficial start of summer.

Saturday, June 5

- Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / Meeting TBA See April 10 listing. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks.

Saturday, June 5 cont'd

- Family Camping / Blue Heron Park 7 p.m. / BHNC See May 22 listing. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on May 26.

Sunday, June 6

- Park to Park: Moses Mountain/ High Rock Park 11 a.m. / HRRS Test your knowledge with this A-Z nature hike to see if you can find something to cover every letter while hiking up to Moses Mountain. Wear hiking boots and bring a snack and water.

Saturday, June 12

- Salt Water Fishing / Lemon Creek Park 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. / Fishing Pier, Sharrot Street and Hylan Boulevard Ahoy! When it comes to catching the big ones, nothing compares to salt water fishing. Instructions, poles, and bait provided. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.

- Incredible Insects/ Blue Heron Park 2 p.m. / BHNC What vital role do insects play in the natural world? Hike with us through the woods and learn what creepy crawlers can do besides give us the creeps!

Sunday, June 13

- History Club: Flag Day U.S.A. / Blue Heron Park 2 p.m. / BHNC You may know Betsy Ross, but did she really design our first flag? Why were the colors red, white, and blue used? How did the flag change throughout the years? Who created Flag Day? Find out why our national symbol deserves its own special day.

Friday, June 18

- Family Camping/ Wolfe's Pond Park 7 p.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue See May 22 listing. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers/register on June 9.

Saturday, June 19

- Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. / Meeting TBA See April 10 listing. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks.

Sunday, June 20

- Father's Day Eco-crafts / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / BHNC Make cool crafts for Dad using natural materials found outside. All supplies will be collected as we hike through the woods.

- Father's Day Fishing / Clove Lakes Park 2 p.m. / Playground at 1180 Clove Road Catch a great time! Equipment provided. First come, first-served.

Saturday, June 26

- Pond Ecology/ Blue Heron Park 2 p.m. / BHNC See May 16 listing.

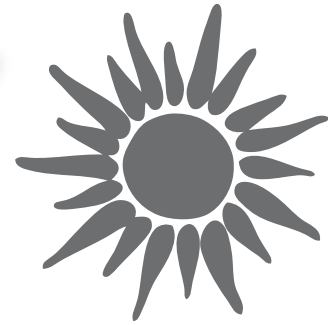
Sunday, June 27

- Canoeing Basics/ Wolfe's Pond Park 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue See April 4 listing. First come, first-served. Ages 8+.

- Beautiful Buzzing Bees / Blue Heron Park 2 p.m. / BHNC Learn about the importance of bees in the natural environment and how they help humans.



Summer Fun!



Know a great kid... or a great group of kids... looking for FUN outdoor activities this summer?



Look no further than your local New York City parks! This summer, the Urban Park Rangers offer a wide variety of programs for your kids.

Urban Park Ranger Kid-Time!

In addition to all the wonderful activities listed in the Urban Park Ranger Calendar of Programs, this summer the Rangers are offering MORE! Monday through Friday in the summer, bring the kids to parks around the city for drop-in programs. Kids love earning their Nature Detective badge as they explore the "wild" side of parks with the Rangers. Visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers for more information, locations, and times. Look under "Ranger Kid-Time Programs."

FREE!

Give Your Kids a Night Out Under the Stars!

Family camp-outs with the Urban Park Rangers. Barbecue dinner and activities including stargazing, night hikes, and more. Sleep under the stars. Tents and food provided. Visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers for more information and click on "Family Camping". Or see the Urban Park Ranger Calendar of Programs for registration dates and phone numbers. Friday and Saturday nights in July and August. Limited space. Pre-registration required.

FREE!

Adventure Programs

Looking for the excitement and challenge of "wilderness" adventure but want to stay here in the City? Join the Urban Park Rangers for canoeing, fishing, orienteering, and more. Day programs and overnight camp-outs available. Great for camp groups, youth groups, and community groups. Customize an adventure and team-building program. Visit nyc.gov/parks for more information and enter "Adventure Program" in the search field. Groups of 30, ages 8+ (cost associated). Preregistration is required.

Junior Ranger Day Camp Summer 2010 (ages 8-11)

Your child can paddle a canoe in quiet blue waters edged with bright green grass and explore nature from a whole new perspective.

Junior Rangers participate in fun & educational activities and games, immersed in a natural park setting. A summer full of fun!

Located in Brooklyn, Manhattan, Bronx and Staten Island.
Monday through Friday, 9 am - 4:30 pm.
Extended hours: 8:30 am - 5:30 pm.

We accept Human Resources Administration (HRA) vouchers.



- maps and compasses
- CONSERVATION
- fishing
- PLANTING TREES
- SEINING
- INSECTS
- ECOLOGY
- canoeing
- BUILDING SHELTERS
- SCAVENGER HUNTS
- fish
- WILDERNESS SURVIVAL
- archery
- GAMES
- AND MUCH MORE!
- BIRDS
- NATIVE AMERICAN EXPLORATION
- INSECT COLLECTING
- CRAFTS
- HIKES
- PLANTS AND TREES
- BIRD WATCHING

For more information visit our website: nyc.gov/parks/rangers

Outdoors

in New York City

SATURDAY, MAY 15TH, 2010
SPRING IT'S MY PARK! DAY
9:00AM TO 3:00PM
(START AND END TIMES VARY
AT EACH PARK)

OVER 150 PARKS
IN ALL FIVE
BOROUGHES.

Join thousands of New Yorkers to care for and celebrate New York City parks on **IT'S MY PARK DAY**. Participate in clean-up and planting projects, as well as free events at 150 parks across the city.

Photographer: Mohammed Alomeri | © Urban Park Rangers



This **IT'S MY PARK DAY** we will celebrate Partnerships for Parks' 15th Anniversary, highlighting the accomplishments of our many dedicated community groups over the years. Projects and events are organized by local community groups, with fun, free activities provided by NYC Parks & Recreation and City Parks Foundation.

For more information, or to learn how your group can organize or join an IT'S MY PARK DAY project in a park near you, visit www.PartnershipsForParks.org.

OUTDOORS in New York City is a publication of the Urban Park Rangers, a division of the City of New York Parks & Recreation
 Visit our website at nyc.gov/parks/rangers



THE FREE NEWSPAPER OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Outdoors

in New York City

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 Parks & Recreation
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