

High Rock Park

200 Nevada Avenue off Rockland Avenue

High Rock Park is a 90-acre preserve, which can be reached from its main entrance on Nevada Avenue off Rockland Avenue. High Rock Park offers picnic areas, short hiking trails, comfort stations, the Greenbelt's administration and education centers, and headquarters for the Urban Park Rangers. A paved, relatively flat Nature Path where visitors of all abilities can observe flora and fauna, with the aid of illustrated signs, is accessible from the parking lot. Please refer to the highlighted map that depicts High Rock Park. Call: (718) 667-2165.

Greenbelt Environmental Education Program

The Greenbelt's Environmental Education Department is a federally-land-marked educational resource that augments science curricula for school students. From the magic of the insect world to the wonders of weather and Native American lore, children (pre-K through upper school level) engage in hands-on learning about local habitats, wildlife, and natural history. Programs include summer camp sessions, studio art classes, hikes and school vacation programs. Additional programming is available for senior adults, educators and the general public. Call (718) 667-7475 or 667-2165 to request a program brochure.



Please Join Us as a Member

One of the best ways to sustain Staten Island's natural legacy for future generations is to join the Greenbelt Conservancy, a not-for-profit 501(C)(3) organization that supports environmental education programs, special events, natural area maintenance, the Carousel and much more. Family membership provides an ideal way to involve everyone in enjoyable and educational activities throughout the year.

Members will receive Greenbelt mailings, announcements of programs, an invitation to a "members" event, and discounts on carousel rides, summer camp tuition, and program fees where applicable.

- Young Naturalist (age 5-12) - \$15.00
- Friend - \$ 25.00
- Family - \$ 50.00
- Sustainer - \$100.00
- Patron - \$250.00
- Benefactor - \$500.00
- Corporate Partner - \$1,000.00

All membership contributions are tax deductible. We appreciate your generous support. Please return with your donation to:

Greenbelt Conservancy Membership,
200 Nevada Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306

Name: _____

Address: _____


Telephone: _____

E mail: _____

Willowbrook Park and the Carousel For All Children

Eton Place off Richmond Ave.

Ball and archery fields, a playground, picnic grove, pond-side relaxation, catch and release fishing and the magnificent Carousel For All Children make the 164-acre Willowbrook Park one of the Greenbelt's most popular destinations. Since 1999, the carousel has provided hundreds of thousands of children with happy memories to last a lifetime. The carousel is open from May through October, and is available for private rental. Call the Greenbelt Conservancy at (718) 667-2165, or the carousel at (718) 477-0605, during operating hours.



Nature and Recreation Centers

The Greenbelt's newly constructed Nature Center is scheduled to open in late 2003 at Rockland and Brielle Aves. The Nature Center will include exhibition and meeting spaces, a classroom, gift shop, parking and access to the Greenbelt's trails. Plans for a Greenbelt Recreation Center off Brielle Avenue are also being finalized. These capital projects are part of the Greenbelt's Masterplan to make programs and resources more available to the public.



Park and Trail Safety

- The Greenbelt's trails are designed for walking and hiking. We recommend that visitors hike in groups of two or more and, if possible, carry a cellular phone.
- Bicycles are only permitted on paved areas within the Greenbelt, and on the planned perimeter bike path.
- For your own safety, and to ensure that the wildlife habitats remain undisturbed, please remain on designated trails.
- Please be considerate of your fellow park users and our neighbors. Dispose of trash properly and do not smoke cigarettes in or near the woods.
- Leave flowers, plants, animals and other natural resources as you found them. Take only pictures, leave only footprints!
- Overnight camping, fires and possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited anywhere within the Greenbelt or any NYC park.
- Destruction, defacement, alteration or removal of parks property is illegal.
- Dogs love the Greenbelt. They are very welcome, but must be kept on a leash. Owners must clean-up after their pets.

Hours

The Greenbelt's natural areas and parks are open 365 days a year from dawn until dusk. Hours for some parking areas may differ; please check signs. Call: (718) 667-2165.



Photo Credits: Mary DiBiase Blach, Philip Brown, Teymur Gadzhiev, Lauren Raimondi, Dorothy Reilly

The William T. Davis Wildlife Refuge

Travis Avenue near Richmond Avenue

The 260-acre wildlife refuge bears the name of noted naturalist, William Thompson Davis (1862-1945). The area is noted for its tidal marshlands, freshwater wetlands, woodland communities, and birdwatching opportunities.

LaTourette Park and Golf Course

Richmond Hill Rd. above Historic Richmond Town

The stately David LaTourette House, a federal-style brick mansion built in 1836, stands in the center of the 540-acre LaTourette Park. Today the building functions as the clubhouse for LaTourette Golf Course, a hilly 18-hole public course. For golfing information, call (718) 351-1889.

The Native Plant Demonstration Garden & Propagation Nursery

The Native Plant Demonstration Garden, 2252 Richmond Ave., near Travis Ave., grows over 275 species of native plants. As a sanctuary for relaxation and learning, the area features gardens, a picnic area and greenhouses, as well as access to the William T. Davis Wildlife Refuge. The garden is open to the public; a visit is certain to brighten your day and enhance your knowledge of native plants. Parking is located off Travis Avenue. Call: (718) 667-5169.

The Native Plant Propagation Nursery, 3808 Victory Blvd., conserves indigenous plant species and promotes bio-diversity. The nursery provides plants for municipal projects. It is not open to the public.


Hiking Trails & Natural Areas

(Full trail map is on reverse)

Natural areas such as Deer Park (an upland forest), Blood Root Valley (mature woodlands that provide a wildflower habitat), Buck's Hollow (wet woodlands), Reeds Basket Willow Swamp, Egbertville Ravine, Amundsen Trailway, Moses' Mountain (a 230' high man-made peak), the Overlook, and over thirty miles of hiking trails are highlighted on the trail map within this brochure.



There are four major foot trails in the Greenbelt on which bikes and motorized vehicles are strictly prohibited. The trails have been rated according to degree of ease/difficulty. Total mileage for each trail has been gauged. Please refer to reverse side for trail descriptions and map.



Cultural Institutions

Within range of the Greenbelt, one can visit the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art on Lighthouse Avenue. The peaceful setting offers visitors a glimpse into an ancient and remarkable culture. Call (718) 987-3500.

Historic Richmond Town is also within proximity of the Greenbelt. Richmond Town is a restored colonial village where visitors can experience what life on Staten Island was like hundreds of years ago. Call (718) 351-1611.

The Greenbelt

Staten Island holds in its heart 2800 acres of nature's rugged beauty - The Greenbelt. Walk for a while and discover woodlands, wetlands and meadows, a wonderful place to observe nature's bounty while taking a break from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Opportunities for simple relaxation and contemplation abound for Staten Island residents and visitors. The majority of the Greenbelt is New York City parkland featuring natural areas as well as traditional parks. LaTourette, Willowbrook and High Rock Parks dot the Greenbelt's perimeter. Visitors can enjoy active recreation such as golf, archery, baseball, hiking and birding, as well as enchanting carousel rides. The Greenbelt also hosts environmental education programs, summer camp sessions, special events and concerts throughout the year. Please refer to the trail map and written information within this brochure to acquaint yourself with the Greenbelt. We look forward to seeing you in our "great outdoors!"

Directions to High Rock Park

BY CAR: From the Verrazano Bridge, take 278 W to the Bradley Avenue exit. From the service road, turn left onto Bradley Avenue. Continue until you reach the intersection of Brielle Avenue, bear right on Brielle Avenue. At the second traffic light, turn left onto Rockland Avenue. Turn left on Nevada Avenue. Ascend the hill to the end where you will see the parking lot. If you are handicapped, and need to park close to our buildings, you may drive slowly along the park road (through stone pillars), and park in the designated area.

BY BUS: From the Staten Island ferry terminal, take bus S62 to Victory Blvd. and Manor Road; transfer to S54. Get off at intersection of Rockland and Nevada Avenues. Walk up steep hill (15-20 minutes).

For further bus information, call the Dept. of Transportation (24 hrs. a day) at 718-330-1234 ext. 0.

Directions to Willowbrook Park/ Carousel For All Children

BY CAR: Take Route 278 W to the Victory Boulevard exit. Make a left onto Victory Boulevard. Drive to Richmond Avenue, turn left. At the next traffic light, turn left onto Eton Place, which leads into the park. Additional parking is available in rear lot behind the carousel.


BY BUS: From the Staten Island Ferry Terminal, take bus #S62 to Marani Street, just past the College of Staten Island Campus. The main entrance to Willowbrook Park is across the street. Walk around the pond to reach the carousel and picnic grounds.

A Bit of Greenbelt History

That is most remarkable about the Greenbelt is that much of it has remained relatively unchanged since the Revolutionary War era. Later, in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the area was comprised of large estates and health-promoting institutions. It was Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), co-designer of Central Park, who first conceived of its use as a series of parks. In the mid 20th century, the Boy and Girl Scouts of America came into possession of part of the land. More recently, in the 1960's and early 70's, community members successfully protected what is today's Greenbelt from encroaching development and roadway construction resulting in the land's designation as a city park. Our predecessors' vision and determination continues to inspire us today. In 1989, the Greenbelt Conservancy, a not-for-profit organization, was formed to work in partnership with the City of New York/Parks & Recreation to help preserve and maintain the Greenbelt while increasing public awareness, support and enjoyment of this beautiful treasure. The Conservancy has its own board of trustees and staff who help maintain Greenbelt programs and initiatives. In order for the Greenbelt to thrive, community involvement will always be essential.

Discover The Greenbelt

A New York City Flagship Park located in the heart of Staten Island



Trail Map, Information & Directions

718-667-2165 www.sigreenbelt.org

The Greenbelt on Staten Island is more than three times the size of Central Park. It offers visitors opportunities for enjoyment and education in a beautiful and natural setting.

