

Outdoors

IN NEW YORK CITY

October/November/December 2018



NYC Parks

Welcome to Outdoors in New York City

Fall is a spectacular time to enjoy NYC Parks. From leaf peeping to sports and recreation, the city's parks offer fantastic opportunities for city dwellers to make the most of the change of season. We encourage you to get outside and enjoy NYC Parks with an Urban Park Ranger as your guide. Each weekend the Urban Park Rangers offer exciting Weekend Adventures in a park near you, allowing adults and families to experience the natural world in new and unexpected ways.

Urban Park Ranger program topics include astronomy, hiking, history, wildlife viewing, and nature art, as well as special programs for kids and families. The Rangers can lead you through a Civil War-era fort during the Fort Totten Historic Lantern Tours on Oct. 26 and 27. Take in the scenes of the season on a Fall Foliage hike or get outside during our post-holiday Black Friday hikes throughout the city on Nov. 23. The transition between the seasons in early October and late December is an ideal time for you to use your senses to connect with nature.

Urban Park Ranger Facilities

Please call specific locations for hours.

BRONX

Pelham Bay Ranger Station // (718) 319-7258

Pelham Bay Park // Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

Van Cortlandt Nature Center // (718) 548-0912

Van Cortlandt Park // West 246th Street and Broadway

BROOKLYN

Salt Marsh Nature Center // (718) 421-2021

Marine Park // East 33rd Street and Avenue U

MANHATTAN

Payson Center // (212) 304-2277

Inwood Hill Park // Payson Avenue and Dyckman Street

QUEENS

Alley Pond Park Adventure Center

(718) 217-6034 // (718) 217-4685

Alley Pond Park // Enter at Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway

Forest Park Ranger Station // (718) 846-2731

Forest Park // Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive

Fort Totten Visitors Center // (718) 352-1769

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

STATEN ISLAND

Blue Heron Nature Center // (718) 967-3542

Blue Heron Park // 222 Poillon Ave. between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Fall Foliage and Black Friday Hikes

NYC Parks has plenty of ways for you to enjoy beautiful fall foliage. Black Friday hikes are designed to take you on a longer-than-usual hike on lesser-known trails. For a complete list of programs, family festivals and events in NYC Parks this fall, visit nycgovparks.org/highlights/seasons/fall-fun.

BRONX

Sunday, Oct. 28 // Fall Foliage Hike

Crotona Park // 11:00 a.m.

Crotona Nature Center,
Charlotte Street and Crotona Park East

Sunday, Nov. 11 // Fall Foliage Hike

Van Cortlandt Park // 11:00 a.m.

Van Cortlandt Park East and East 242nd Street

Friday, Nov. 23 // Black Friday Hike:

Northwest Woods (Moderate)

Van Cortlandt Park // 1:00 p.m.

Mosholu Avenue and Broadway

BROOKLYN

Sunday, Nov. 4 // Fall Foliage Hike

Herbert Von King Park // 1:00 p.m.

Clifton Place and Marcy Avenue

Sunday, Nov. 11 // Fall Foliage Hike

Prospect Park // 1:00 p.m.

Prospect Park Picnic House, Fifth Street
and Prospect Park West entrance

Friday, Nov. 23 // Black Friday Hike:

The Midwood Trail

Prospect Park // 1:00 p.m.

Prospect Park Audubon Center,
East Drive and Lincoln Road

MANHATTAN

Sunday, Nov. 18 // Fall Foliage Photography Hike

Central Park // 3:00 p.m.

Dana Discovery Center
Central Park North and Lenox Avenue

Friday, Nov. 23 // Black Friday Hike: South to North

Central Park // 11:00 a.m.

Grand Army Plaza Entrance,
Fifth Avenue and East 59th Street

QUEENS

Saturday, Nov. 3 // Fall Foliage Hike

Highland Park // Noon

Meet at parking lot on Vermont Place

Friday, Nov. 23 // Black Friday Hike:

The Alley Giant

Alley Pond Park // 10:00 a.m.

Enter at Winchester Boulevard under the Grand
Central Parkway and proceed to the Alley Pond
Adventure Course

STATEN ISLAND

Sunday, Nov. 11 // Fall Foliage Canoeing

Clove Lakes Park // 11:00 a.m.

Martling Avenue and Brook's Pond Place

Friday, Nov. 23 // Black Friday Hike:

Blood Root Valley

Latourette Park // 11:00 a.m.

Field of Dreams, parking lot at Alaska Place



Urban Park Ranger Programs

For a complete detailed listing of programs and to register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers.

BRONX

**Saturday, Oct. 6 // Survival Series:
Primitive Survival Skills**

Pelham Bay Park // 1:00 p.m.
Pelham Bay Nature Center,
Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

Saturday, Oct. 13 // Family Camping

Pelham Bay Park // 6:00 p.m.
Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Oct. 3rd.

**Saturday, Oct. 20 // Survival Series:
Basket and Natural Cordage Making**

Van Cortlandt Park // 1:00 p.m.
Van Cortlandt Nature Center,
West 246th Street and Broadway

**Saturday, Oct. 27 // The Van Cortlandt
Super Hike (Vigorous)**

Van Cortlandt Park // 10:00 a.m.
Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Oct. 17th.

Sunday, Nov. 4 // Rocks of New York City

Pelham Bay Park // 1:00 p.m.
Orchard Beach Nature Center,
Section 2 of Orchard Beach

Saturday, Nov. 10 // Astronomy

Pelham Bay Park // 6:00 p.m.
Pelham Bay Nature Center,
Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

**Sunday, Nov. 18 // Survival Series:
Wilderness Navigation**

Pelham Bay Park // 1:00 p.m.
Pelham Bay Nature Center,
Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

Saturday, Nov. 24 // Pelham Bay Park Super Hike

Pelham Bay Park // 11:00 a.m.
Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Nov. 14.



Sunday, Nov. 25 // Birding: Owls

Pelham Bay Park // 1:00 p.m.
Meeting location TBA. Registration begins
on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Saturday, Dec. 1 // Seal Exploration

Pelham Bay Park // 1:00 p.m.
Orchard Beach Nature Center,
Section 2 of Orchard Beach

**Sunday, Dec. 9 // Nature Exploration Hike:
John Muir Trail (Vigorous)**

Van Cortlandt Park // 11:00 a.m.
Moshulu Avenue and Broadway

**Thursday, Dec. 13 // Astronomy:
Geminids Meteor Shower**

Van Cortlandt Park // 5:00 p.m.
Van Cortlandt Nature Center,
West 246th Street and Broadway

**Saturday, Dec. 22 // Ranger's Choice:
Birding Van Trip**

Pelham Bay Park // 11:00 a.m.
Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Dec 12.

BROOKLYN

Saturday, Oct. 6 // Tree Trail Walk

Fort Greene Park // 1:00 p.m.

Fort Greene Visitor's Center,
Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Saturday, Oct. 13 // Open House New York: Prison Ship Martyrs Monument

Fort Greene Park // 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Fort Greene Visitor's Center,
Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Saturday, Oct. 20 // Nature's Workshop: Fermentation

Marine Park // 1:00 p.m.

Salt Marsh Nature Center,
East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Sunday, Oct. 21 // Birding: Raptor Migration

Spring Creek Park // 11:00 a.m.

Gateway Drive and Erskine Street

Sunday, Oct. 28 // Ranger's Choice: Green-Wood Cemetery History Tour

Green-Wood Cemetery // 1:00 p.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Oct. 17.

Saturday, Nov. 3 // Outdoor Skills: Shelter Building

Prospect Park // 1:00 p.m.

Prospect Park Audubon Center,
East Drive and Lincoln Road

Saturday, Nov. 10 // Birding: Winter Birding

Owl's Head Park // 1:00 p.m.

Meet at the Park House,
Colonial Road and 68 Street

Saturday, Nov. 17 // Outdoor Skills:

Advanced Fire Making

Marine Park // 1:00 p.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

Sunday, Nov. 18 // Historic New York:

Brooklyn Bridge

Brooklyn Bridge Park // 11:00 a.m.

Pier 1, Furman Street and Old Fulton Street

Sunday, Nov. 25 // Salt Marsh Exploration Hike (Moderate)

Marine Park // 11:00 a.m.

Salt Marsh Nature Center,
East 33rd Street and Avenue U



Sunday, Dec. 9 // Birding: Waterfowl

Marine Park // 10:00 a.m.

Salt Marsh Nature Center,
East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Sunday, Dec. 16 // Photography Scavenger Hunt

McCarren Park // 1:00 p.m.

Driggs Avenue and Lorimer Street
Bring your own digital camera or smartphone

MANHATTAN

Saturday, Oct. 13 // Open House New York:

Little Red Lighthouse

Riverside Park // 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Meet at park entrance on West 158th
Street near Henry Hudson Parkway.

Sunday, Oct. 14 // Inwood Rocks!

The Geology of Northern Manhattan

Inwood Hill Park // 11:00 a.m.

Isham Street and Seaman Avenue

Saturday, Oct. 20 // Ranger's Choice:

High Line Park Past and Present

Highline Park // 10:00 a.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration
begins on Wednesday, Oct. 10.

Saturday, Oct. 27 // Nature's Workshop:

Land Art and Nature Sculptures

Inwood Hill Park // 11:00 a.m.

Payson Center, Dyckman Street and Payson Avenue

Sunday, Nov. 4 // Wilderness Skills:

Fire Making

Inwood Hill Park // 1:00 p.m.

West 218th Street and Indian Road

**Saturday, Nov. 17 // Ranger's Choice:
Lenape Harvest**

Inwood Hill Park // 1:00 p.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

**Saturday, Nov. 24 // Ranger's Choice:
Central Park Ranger Bike Tour**

Central Park // 11:00 a.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

**Sunday, Dec. 2 // The NYC Naturalist Club:
Winter Tree Identification**

Inwood Hill Park // 1:00 p.m.

Isham Street and Seaman Avenue

**Saturday, Dec. 15 // The NYC History Club: The Hidden
Streams and Wetlands of Manahatta: West Village**

Washington Square Park // 11:00 a.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

**Sunday, Dec. 23 // The NYC Naturalist Club:
Bald Eagle Watch**

Inwood Hill Park // 9:00 a.m.

Payson Center, Dyckman Street and Payson Avenue

QUEENS

Saturday, Oct. 6 // Birding: Fall Migrants

Powell's Cove Park // 9:00 a.m.

Meet at 138th Place and 11th Avenue

Sunday, Oct. 7 // Nature Scavenger Hunt

Flushing Meadows Corona Park // 10:00 a.m.

Meet at Mauro Playground at Park Drive East and 73rd Terrace

Sunday, Oct. 14 // Astronomy: Orionids Meteor Shower

Alley Pond Park // 7:00 p.m.

Enter at Winchester Boulevard under the Grand Central Parkway and proceed to the Alley Pond Adventure Course

Sunday, Oct. 21 // Wildness Skills: Knot Tying

Kissena Park // 11:00 a.m.

Meet at Rose Avenue and Oak Avenue entrance



Fort Totten Historic Lantern Tours

Friday, Oct. 26 and Saturday, Oct. 27

6:30 p.m.

Fort Totten Park

Fort Totten Visitors' Center

Join the Urban Park Rangers for an evening tour of the Fort Totten Water Battery, where you'll learn more about the Civil War-era fort and its significance in New York City history.

Sunday, Nov. 4 // Ranger's Choice:

Gather Around The Campfire

Alley Pond Park // 6:00 p.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins on Wednesday, Oct. 24

Sunday, Nov. 18 // Wildness Skills: Fire Making

Forest Park // 6:00 p.m.

Meet at the Bandshell Parking Lot

Saturday, Nov. 24 // Nature Exploration Hike

Bayswater Park // 10:00 a.m.

Enter the Park off Beach Channel Drive and B35th Street

Sunday, Nov. 25 // Rangers' Choice:

World's Fair Adventure Quest

Flushing Meadows Corona Park // 10:00 a.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins on Wednesday, Nov. 14.



Sunday, Dec. 9 // Winter Wildlife

Alley Pond Park // Noon

Enter at Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway and proceed to the Alley Pond Adventure Course.

Sunday, Dec. 23 // Historic New York:

History of Crocheron Park

Crocheron Park // 11:00 a.m.

Meet inside Parking Lot, 33rd Avenue and 215th Place

STATEN ISLAND

Saturday, Oct. 6 // Family Camping

Blue Heron Park // 7:00 p.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins Wednesday, Sept. 26.

Saturday, Oct. 13 // Animal of the Month: Raccoons

Clove Lakes Park // 7:00 p.m.

Parking lot at Park Drive and Clove Road

Sunday, Oct. 14 // Nature Bike Tour

Brookfield Park // 11:00 a.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins Wednesday, Oct. 3.

Saturday, Oct. 20 // Archery

Willowbrook Park // 11:00 a.m.

Meeting location TBA. Lottery registration begins Wednesday, Oct. 10.

Saturday, Oct. 27 // Astronomy: Night Sky

Brookfield Park // 7:00 p.m.

Parking lot at Brookfield Avenue and Arthur Kill Road

Saturday, Nov. 3 // Shelter Building

Blue Heron Park // 11:00 a.m.

Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Ave., between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Saturday, Nov. 10 // Native Americans:

Past and Present

Conference House Park // 11:00 a.m.

Visitor Center at Hylan Blvd and Satterlee Avenue

Saturday, Nov. 17 // Living With Deer

Greenbelt Nature Center // 2:00 p.m.

Parking lot on Rockland Avenue and Brielle Avenue

Sunday, Nov. 18 // Developing an Eye for Nature

Brookfield Park // 11:00 a.m.

Parking lot at Brookfield Avenue and Arthur Kill Road

Saturday, Nov. 24 // Animal of the Month:

Turkey Vulture

Brookfield Park // 11:00 a.m.

Parking lot at Brookfield Avenue and Arthur Kill Road

Sunday, Dec. 2 // Mushroom Hike

Wolfe's Pond Park // 11:00 a.m.

Comfort Station near parking lot at the end of Cornelia Avenue

Sunday, Dec. 9 // Astronomy: Night Sky

Brookfield Park // 6:00 p.m.

Parking lot at Brookfield Avenue and Arthur Kill Road

Sunday, Dec. 16 // Animal of the Month: Cardinal

Allison Pond Park // 11:00 a.m.

Prospect Ave and Brentwood Avenue

Saturday, Dec. 22 // Nature Photography:

Winter Landscape

Brookfield Park // 11:00 a.m.

Parking lot at Brookfield Avenue and Arthur Kill Road

Sensory Perception in NYC Parks

We take our senses for granted every day. We may hear music and enjoy the rhythm, or laugh when someone tells a joke. We pet our dogs and cats and their soft fur calms us, instantly making us feel better. We see the sun beaming through the trees, creating a beautiful array of shadows as the rays warm us. Those are just some of the ways we move through life using our senses.

For this activity we encourage you to get in touch with your senses. Go to a park and sit in a quiet place. Close your eyes, clear your mind and take a few long, deep breaths. As the sound of leaves rustle and the birds sing, open your eyes. Next, use your senses to experience your park. Tell us what you've experienced below by matching the object with the sensation that best represents what you've felt. When connecting the object with the sense, you should draw a line through the sense that you used. How many senses can you use for each object? Feel free to add your own objects and sensory experience.

Have something you'd like to share? Tag us [@NYCParks](#) on Twitter and Instagram.

Object	Sense	Sensory Experience
Birds	SIGHT	Dry
Sky		Sharp
Rocks		Chilly
Water		Hard
Air		Smooth
Soil	HEARING	Moist
Sticks/Branches		Empty
Leaves		Soft
Wind		Colorful
Pine Needles		Bumpy
Trails	TOUCH	Sweet
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____	SMELL	_____
_____		_____
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