

Outdoors

in New York City

THE FREE NEWSPAPER OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

INCLUDES
CALENDAR OF
URBAN PARK RANGER
FREE PROGRAMS

Message From:

Gary Bagley, Executive Director of New York Cares, NYC's largest volunteer organization.



Photo by Lyn Hughes

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.

Maintaining parks across the five boroughs is a big job, and the Department of Parks and Recreation makes it look easy. It manages more than 29,000 acres – a staggering 14% of New York City – including 1,800 parks, around two million park trees, and much, much more. No one knows this better than New York City Urban Park Rangers, who help New Yorkers enjoy all the parks have to offer.

Did you know you can help take care of our parks, too?

That's where we come in. New York Cares is the city's largest volunteer organization. We work with parks citywide, developing volunteer projects that help keep our treasured green spaces the best they can be. Our projects tackle important work that supplements what Parks' staff can do and create meaningful ways for everyone to help.

During the fall, New York Cares volunteers rake leaves; mulch; plant tulip, daffodil and hyacinth bulbs that will bloom in the spring; and do other tasks to prepare for winter.

Volunteers also help restore natural areas, like the wetlands and salt marshes on Randall's Island, Inwood Hill Park, Marine Park and other waterfront areas.

Since New Yorkers are the busiest people around, our volunteer projects take place around the clock so you can fit them in with other fall activities. A few projects are family-friendly, but be sure to ask before bringing kids along.

We offer environmental projects in the winter, too; things like composting, mulching and building garden sheds. Come spring, look for our biggest green volunteer event, New York Cares Day Spring (sponsored by HSBC Bank), and join 5,000 other caring New Yorkers for good, green, fun. You can volunteer 365 days a year with New York Cares – indoors and out – reading with students, visiting seniors in nursing homes, and helping people use computers, to name a few (1,000 different projects every month).

I wish you your best fall ever in NYC parks. Stroll, play, and if you can, roll up your sleeves and release your inner gardener. The parks are our backyard, and we all have a role to play in making them the best they can be. I hope to see you out there!

For more information or to volunteer, please visit www.newyorkcares.org.

Urban Park Ranger Nature and Visitor Centers

BRONX

Crotona Nature Center:

Crotona Park. Enter the park at Charlotte St. & Crotona Park East. 718.378.2061

Orchard Beach Nature Center:

Pelham Bay Park. Section 2 of Orchard Beach. 718.885.3466

Pelham Bay Ranger Station:

Pelham Bay Park. Bruckner Blvd. & Wilkinson Ave. 718.319.7258

Van Cortlandt Nature Center:

Van Cortlandt Park. Enter the park at W. 246th St. & Broadway. 718.548.0912

BROOKLYN

Salt Marsh Nature Center:

Marine Park. East 33rd St. & Avenue U. 718.421.2021

Fort Greene Visitor Center:

Fort Greene Park. Enter the park at Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park. 718.722.3218

MANHATTAN

Belvedere Castle:

Central Park. 79th St., mid-park. 212.628.2345

Dana Discovery Center:

Central Park. 110th St. & Lenox Ave. 212.860.1376

Inwood Hill Nature Center:

Inwood Hill Park. Enter park at W. 218th St. & Indian Road. 212.304.2365 or 212.304.3401

QUEENS

Alley Pond Park Adventure Center:

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

Forest Park Visitor Center:

Forest Park. Woodhaven Blvd. & Forest Park Drive. 718.846.2731

Fort Totten Visitors Center:

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:

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

High Rock Ranger Station:

High Rock Park. Park in the lot at the end of Nevada Avenue, off Rockland Ave., and follow signs. 718.667.6042.



Sarah Aucoin, *Director*
Bonnie McGuire, *Deputy Director*
Richard Simon, *Deputy Director*
Marta Arroyo, *Program Manager*
Elizabeth Green, *Graphic Designer*



Urban Park Rangers
1234 Fifth Avenue
New York City 10029

It's My Park Day

Mark your calendar for **It's My Park Day** on October 1st. Each *It's My Park Day*, thousands of New Yorkers come together to volunteer and celebrate their neighborhood parks at parks and public spaces throughout the five boroughs. At the last *It's My Park Day*, more than 9,000 New Yorkers participated in 175 parks throughout the city!

How does *It's My Park Day* work?

Partnerships for Parks invites dedicated community groups to organize *It's My Park Day* volunteer projects and free cultural events in their neighborhood parks. Volunteer activities range from horticulture to painting projects, along with a variety of free events, including kayaking, dance performances, and much, much more!

YOU can help! On *It's My Park Day*, Partnerships for Parks invites you and your family to help care for and celebrate our parks! Registration is not required—all you need to do is find a local park that's hosting an *It's My Park Day* activity and show up at the park that day. It's that simple. *It's My Park Day* is a great opportunity to meet local park groups that need year-round help from caring neighbors like you.

It's My Park Day activities are coordinated by local community groups, City Parks Foundation, and many divisions of the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, including Urban Park Rangers, Historic House Trust, and Recreation. Here's a sampling of how you can get involved:

- Clean up litter in parks, along shorelines, and greenstreets

- Rake, mulch, plant bulbs, and care for tree pits
- Paint benches, fencing, park houses, and comfort stations throughout playgrounds and parks
- Participate in fun, free events for the whole family – including tennis lessons, face painting, historic house tours, nature walks and more.

If you can't make it on October 15th, don't worry – there will be another *It's My Park Day* in the spring. There are also plenty of other volunteering opportunities throughout the year. Partnerships for Parks can put you in touch with a community group that advocates for and volunteers in parks in your neighborhood. If your local park doesn't have a group already they can even help you to get one started. Through MillionTreesNYC you can take a free tree care workshop and learn how to protect and tend to street trees, or come and get your hands dirty during one of their volunteer planting days.

For more information about *It's My Park Day* and other volunteer opportunities, visit <http://www.partnershipforparks.org>. For information about MillionTreesNYC visit <http://milliontreesnyc.org>.



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©Photo by Malcolm Pinckney/NYC Parks

Astronomy and Night Sky Programs

The wonders of the universe are ready to be discovered and New York City parks are the perfect place to stargaze and explore the night sky. Our Urban Park Rangers will be your guides to the solar system, discussing the science, history and folklore of the universe. Astronomy is consistently rated as a favorite science topic for children and our programs are the perfect gateway for furthering science education. Fall and winter are the best times to observe meteor showers, the phases of the moon, and many planets of the Milky Way.

Astronomy programs feature the use of telescopes and binoculars to observe specific astronomical events. Many programs feature astronomy experts and all equipment is provided. Night Sky programs

highlight the history and folklore of the solar system, using the naked eye to locate stars and planets. Programs are best enjoyed on clear nights, so please call ahead if weather conditions are not clear.



©Photo by Elizabeth Green | NYC Parks

BRONX

Saturday, December 17

The Night Sky/ Van Cortlandt Park 5 p.m. / Golf House, enter park at Bailey Avenue and Van Cortlandt Park South

MANHATTAN

Saturday, October 22

Starfest 2011 with the Amateur Astronomers Association of NY / Central Park 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. / Sheep Meadow, enter at West 67th Street and Central Park West

QUEENS continued

Saturday, December 10

Astronomy / Fort Totten Park 6 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

BROOKLYN

Saturday, November 12

Astronomy / Fort Greene Park 5 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Sunday, November 20

The Night Sky / Inwood Hill Park 9 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

STATEN ISLAND

Saturday, December 3

The Night Sky / Wolfe's Pond Park 6 p.m. / Comfort Station west of Cornelia Avenue

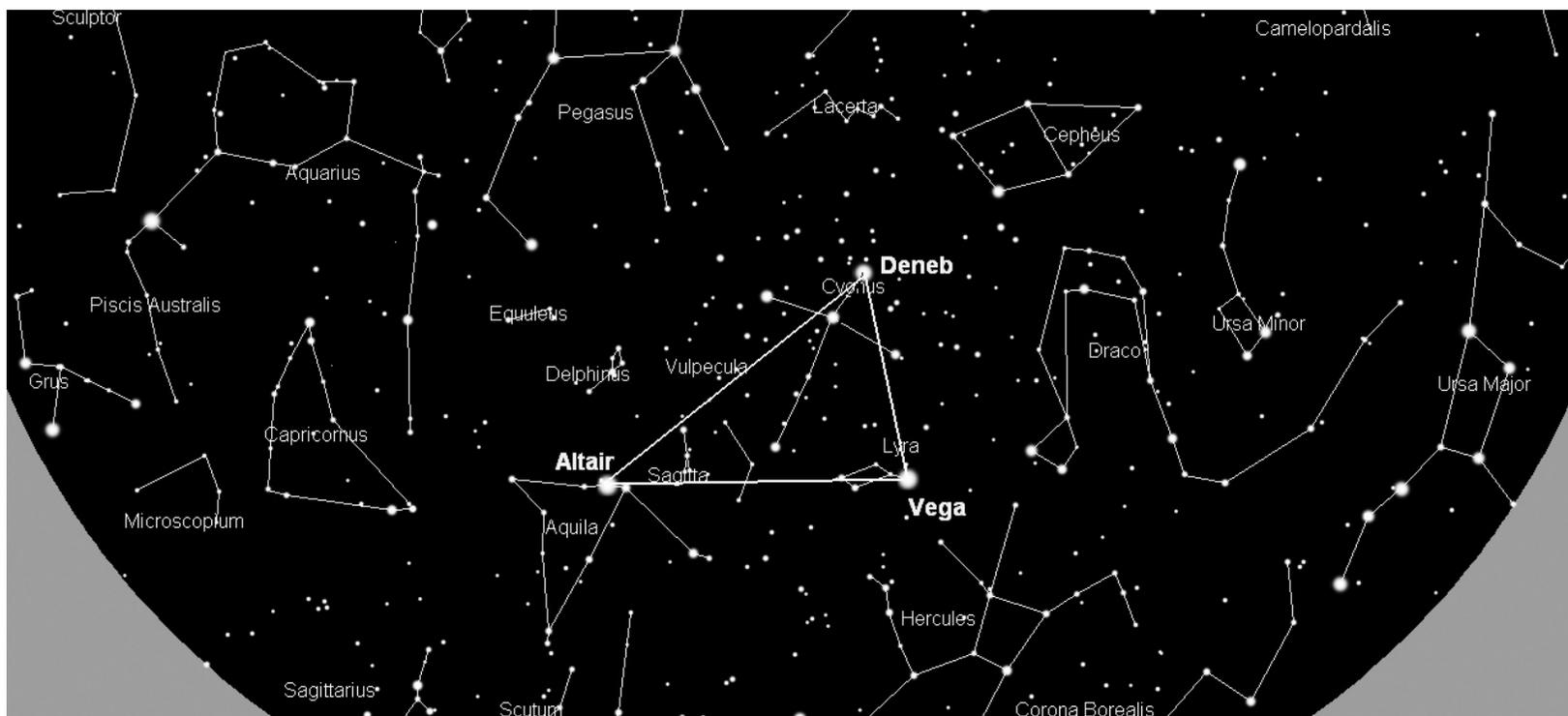
Saturday, December 3

Astronomy / Marine Park 5 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

QUEENS

Sunday, October 23

Astronomy / Fort Totten Park 7 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway



Conservation, Restoration, and Stewardship

Get involved! Help keep NYC clean and green. New York City is home to over 29,000 acres of parkland, 600 miles of shoreline, and over 5 million trees, all of which need your help. From tree planting and habitat restoration, to composting, cleanups, and wildlife monitoring, there are many ways for New Yorkers to volunteer and improve our City. The Urban Park Rangers partner with MillionTreesNYC, the Natural Resources Group, and other organizations to support initiatives that help improve the health of NYC's diverse ecosystems and natural areas. Volunteering just a few hours of your time is a generous way to return a gift to our great city.

Volunteering is a great way to make new friends and to give back to your city. Volunteer opportunities usually involve manual labor and may not be appropriate

for all ages. Some opportunities require pre-registration. All equipment is provided.



©Photo by Malcolm Pinckney | NYC Parks

BRONX

Saturday, October 8

Coastal Clean-up / Pelham Bay Park
12 p.m. / Orchard Beach Nature Center, section 2 of the beach. Help clean up the Long Island Sound waterfront and learn about ongoing conservation efforts. Bring a hat and sun screen. Registration required for this program. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers.

Sunday, October 16

Coastal Clean-up / Pelham Bay Park
10 a.m. / Orchard Beach Pavilion. Registration required for this program. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers.

Saturday, October 22

MillionTrees NYC Fall Planting Day /
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Pelham Bay Park, Van Cortlandt Park and Bronx River Park. Visit www.milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Sunday, October 23

MillionTrees NYC Fall Planting Day /
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Raoul Wallenburg Park. Visit www.milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.

BROOKLYN

Saturday, October 8

It's My Park Day / Fort Greene Park 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Saturday, October 22

MillionTrees NYC Fall Planting Day /
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Marine Park. Visit www.milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering

BROOKLYN continued

Tuesday, October 25

MillionTrees NYC Fall Planting Day /
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Marine Park.

Visit www.milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering

QUEENS

Saturday, October 15

Coastal Clean-Up / Fort Totten Park 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. / Meet at Front Gate at Totten Road and Cross Island Parkway.

Registration required for this program. To register, visit nyc.gov/parks/rangers.

QUEENS continued

Saturday, October 22

MillionTrees NYC Fall Planting Day /
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Clearview Park.

Visit www.milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Wednesday, October 26

MillionTrees NYC Fall Planting Day /
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Ft. Totten Park.

Visit www.milliontreesnyc.org if you are interested in volunteering



©Photo by Dave Sanders | NYC Parks

Hiking & Orienteering

Hiking is the ultimate way to enjoy the outdoors and reduce stress. Regardless of the intensity level, it is a great way to burn calories and stay fit. Our Urban Park Ranger hiking guides will introduce you to the hidden gems of New York City and places often off limits to the general public. On our hikes, you may explore nature, discover our City's rich history and diverse culture, or just unplug from the world to clear your head.

On Nature Exploration Hikes we will discover the plants and animals that inhabit the urban forest. Our Night Hikes are great for families! Fitness Hikes feature less talking and more walking, for those who don't mind a vigorous two hour hike. Learn how to navigate using a map and compass on our Orienteering programs. Special geo-cache programs teach you how to use a GPS while searching for hidden prizes.

Hiking and Orienteering programs feature intensity levels ranging from light (a leisurely stroll on mostly paved paths), moderate (longer, faster paced hikes on rugged terrain), to vigorous (long distance, with hills and rugged terrain). For all hiking programs we recommend wearing comfortable shoes or boots, and packing water and a light snack.



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BRONX

Saturday, October 1

Nature Exploration (light) / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

Saturday, November 12

Fitness Hike (vigorous) / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Meet at Mosholu and Bdwy

Saturday, November 19

Nature Exploration (moderate) / Riverdale Park 11 a.m. / 232 Street on the south-bound road of the Henry Hudson Parkway

Saturday, November 26

Fitness Hike (vigorous) / Van Cortlandt Park 10 a.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

Saturday, December 10

Nature Exploration (moderate) / Pelham Bay Park 1 p.m. / Orchard Beach Nature Center, Section 2 of the beach.

BROOKLYN

Sunday, October 9

Nature Exploration (moderate) / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Saturday, November 5

Nature Exploration (light) / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Meet under the Arch at Grand Army Plaza

Sunday, November 13

Fall Foliage (moderate) / Prospect Park 3 p.m. / Prospect Park Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Rd.

BROOKLYN continued

Sunday, December 11

Nature Exploration (moderate) / Prospect Park 3 p.m. / Prospect Park Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Rd.

Sunday, December 18

Nature Exploration (moderate) / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Prospect Park Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street

MANHATTAN

Saturday, October 8

Orienteering (light) / Inwood Hill Park 1 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Saturday, November 12

Night Hike (moderate) / Inwood Hill Park 9 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Sunday, November 13 and 27

Nature Exploration (light) / Central Park 11 a.m. / Dana Discovery Center, 110th Street and Lenox Avenue

Saturday, November 19

Nature Exploration (light) / Central Park 11 a.m. / Belvedere Castle, 79th Street and Mid-Park

Sunday, December 11

Fitness Hike (vigorous) / Inwood Hill Park 10 a.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Saturday, December 17

Orienteering (light) / Central Park 11 a.m. / Dana Discovery Center, 110th Street and Lenox Avenue

QUEENS

Sunday, October 9

Fall Foliage Hike (light) / Cunningham Park 10 a.m. / Parking lot on Union Turnpike and 196th Street

Saturday, November 12

Fall Foliage Hike (light) / Kissena Park 11 a.m. / Rose and Oak Avenues

Saturday, December 3

Orienteering (light) / Alley Pond Park 1 p.m. / Alley Pond Park Adventure Center, enter Winchester Boulevard, under the Grand Central Parkway

STATEN ISLAND

Sunday, October 9

Nature Exploration (light) / Bloomingdale Park 11 a.m. / Playground at Ramona Avenue and Lenevar Avenue

Sunday, October 30

Nature Exploration: Halloween Hike / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Saturday, November 12

Nature Hike (light) / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Sunday, November 13

Orienteering (moderate) / Clove Lakes Park 11 a.m. / Playground at 1180 Clove Road

Sunday, December 18

Nature Exploration (light) / High Rock Park 11 a.m. / High Rock Ranger Station, park in lot at the end of Nevada Avenue, off Rockland Avenue and follow signs

History & Culture

Ice-age glaciers, Native Americans, Dutch traders, British Redcoats, and the Underground Railroad have all left their mark on New York City. Their stories can be found in the names of our streets, our architecture, and our parks. Urban Park Rangers specialize in interpretation of historic turning points, both natural and man-made, in our city's long history. Fans of military history can explore our city's role in various conflicts at Brooklyn's Fort Greene Park and Queens' Fort Totten Park. Architecture and the history of the Hudson River are explained at Manhattan's Little Red Lighthouse and Highbridge Park. Native American culture is celebrated in special programs and lectures throughout the five boroughs and park history programs tell the story of your favorite parks from the past to their future.

Certain popular programs have limited space and require registration.



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BRONX

Sunday, November 13

Historic New York: Native Americans / Crotona Park 1 p.m. / Crotona Nature Center, Charlotte Street and Crotona Park East

Sunday, December 4

Historic New York: Native Americans / Seton Fall Hike 1 p.m. / 233rd Street and Baychester Avenue

BROOKLYN

Saturday, October 15;

Sunday, October 16

Open House NY: Prison Ship Martyr's Monument / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Sunday, October 23

Historic New York / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Sunday, November 20

Revolutionary New York: Life in the Colonies / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Sunday, November 27

Prison Ship Martyr's Monument / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Sunday, December 4

Historic New York: Park Slope / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Meet under the arch at Grand Army Plaza

BROOKLYN continued

Sunday, December 11

Historic New York: Fort Greene/ Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

MANHATTAN

Sunday, October 9

Historic New York: The Highbridge / Highbridge Park 1 p.m. / West 174th Street and Amsterdam Avenue

Sunday, October 16

Open House NY: Little Red Lighthouse / Fort Washington Park 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. / Enter the park at 181st Street and Plaza Lafayette

Open House NY: The Arsenal / Central Park 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. / 64th Street and 5th Avenue

Saturday, November 19

Historic New York: Native Americans/ Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Saturday, December 3

Historic New York: Central Park's Castle / Central Park 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. / Belvedere Castle, 79th Street and Mid-park

Sunday, December 4

Historic New York: Northern Manhattan / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

QUEENS

Saturday, November 12

Sunday, November 13

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

Saturday, November 26

Historic New York: Native Americans / Forest Park 1 p.m. / Forest Park Visitor Center, Woodhaven Boulevard and Forest Park Drive

Sunday, November 27

Civil War New York: Fort Totten / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Pkwy

STATEN ISLAND

Saturday, October 15

Open House NY: Freshkills Tour / Freshkills Park 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. / TBA. To register, visit www.nyc.gov/parks one month before the program date.

Saturday, October 29

Saturday, November 5

Saturday, November 19

Freshkills Tour / Freshkills Park 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. / TBA. To register, visit www.nyc.gov/parks one month before the program date.

Kids and Family

We connect children with nature to encourage active exploration of the natural world. Children who spend time outdoors develop strong imaginations and learn to socialize better with others. Urban Park Rangers are role models who encourage children to let their imaginations run wild in a safe, supportive atmosphere.

While most of our programs are family friendly, the programs highlighted here are specifically for young children and families. Whether enjoying a family friendly movie under the stars, freeing your imagination playing in nature, or learning about conservation through eco-crafts, a free Ranger program is the perfect addition to your family's weekend. All supplies provided.



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BRONX

Sunday, October 9

Nature Exploration: Tasting Nature / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

Sunday, October 23

Scarecrow Making / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway

Sunday, October 30

Halloween Festival: Ghoul Pool / Van Cortlandt Park 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. / Van Cortlandt Pool, West 242nd Street and Broadway

BROOKLYN

Sunday, October 2

Raptor Fest / Prospect Park 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. / Nethermead, enter park at Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Road

Saturday, October 29

Halloween Festival / Fort Greene Park 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Saturday, November 19

Kids Nature Crafts / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Saturday, December 31

Kids Nature Crafts / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

MANHATTAN

Saturday, October 22

Family Birding / Inwood Hill Park 11 a.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Sunday, October 30

Halloween Festival / Inwood Hill Park 6 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Saturday, November 12

Woodland Walk / Central Park 1 p.m. / Belvedere Castle, 79th Street and Mid-park

Saturday, November 26

Nature Crafts / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Sunday, December 18

Meet the Critters / Inwood Hill Park 11 a.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Saturday, December 24

Nature Art / Central Park 12 p.m. / Belvedere Castle, 79th Street and Mid-park

QUEENS

Saturday, October 8

Nature Painting / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway and follow sign

Friday, October 28

Halloween at the Haunted Fort / Fort Totten Park 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

QUEENS continued

Saturday, October 29

Halloween at the Haunted Fort / Fort Totten Park 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

Saturday, November 19

Scavenger Hunt / Kissena Park 10 a.m. / Rose and Oak Avenues

Sunday, November 20

Kids Nature Trivia / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway and follow sign

Sunday, December 18

Scavenger Hunt / Fort Totten Park 1 p.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway and follow sign

STATEN ISLAND

Saturday, October 8

Nature Crafts / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Sunday, November 20

Holiday Nature Crafts / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Saturday, December 10

Holiday Nature Crafts / Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

Nature Art and Photography

It has been said that art takes nature as its model. The beauty of nature has inspired many great Americans to create artistic masterpieces. From the wildlife portraits of John James Audubon to the stunning black and white photography of Ansel Adams, nature has been a muse to artists for centuries. Our Urban Park Ranger Art and Photography programs allow you to interpret the natural world through artistic expression, while learning about the local environment.

Art programs may include drawing, painting, poetry and nature art projects. All supplies are provided unless otherwise indicated. All art programs are family friendly, but may be challenging for younger children. All Photography programs are for digital cameras and you must provide your own camera. DSLR preferred, but all cameras are welcome.



BRONX

Sunday, November 20

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

BROOKLYN continued

Saturday, December 10

Black & White Photography / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Audubon Center, East Drive and Lincoln Road

QUEENS

Saturday, October 8

Nature Painting / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212st Street and Cross Island Parkway and follow sign

BROOKLYN

Sunday, November 6

Nature Photography: Fall Foliage / Prospect Park 1 p.m. / Picnic House, West Drive and Third Street

MANHATTAN

Sunday, October 23

Nature Photography: Fall Foliage / Inwood Hill Park 2 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West 218th Street and Indian Road

Sunday, November 20

Nature Drawing / Riverside Park 11 a.m. / 83rd Street and Riverside Drive

STATEN ISLAND

Sunday, October 23

Nature Photography: Fall Foliage / High Rock Park 11 a.m. / High Rock Ranger Station, parking lot at the end of Nevada Avenue, off Rockland Avenue and follow signs



©Top and lower photo by Richard Simon | NYC Parks

Wilderness Survival & Emergency Preparedness

What would you do if you found yourself lost in the woods? Do you know how to build your own shelter, or start a fire without matches? What would you eat and where would you find water? Do you have what it takes to survive in the wild? Our Urban Park Rangers are skilled in the techniques of wilderness survival and emergency preparedness. On these fun, family friendly programs you will learn tips and tricks that will enhance your knowledge of the natural world, and might just save your life. Whether you are preparing for an extended journey through the woods or just want to be more prepared for any situation, a wilderness survival program is perfect for you.

Wilderness survival programs feature hands-on activities in an outdoor setting. Emergency Preparedness provides families and individuals with helpful information on how to be ready when an emergency situation arises. All programs are family

friendly, but are recommended for ages 8 years and older. Please dress appropriately for cold weather.



BRONX

Sunday, November 27

Wilderness Survival / Pelham Bay Park
11 a.m. / Pelham Bay Ranger Station,
Bruckner Boulevard and Wilkinson Avenue

MANHATTAN

Sunday, November 13

Wilderness Survival / Inwood Hill Park
12 p.m. / Inwood Hill Nature Center, West
218th Street and Indian Road

STATEN ISLAND

Sunday, November 27

Emergency Preparedness: Knot Tying /
Blue Heron Park 11 a.m. / Blue Heron
Nature Center, 222 Poillon Avenue,
between Amboy Road and Hylan Boulevard

BROOKLYN

Saturday, December 17

Wilderness Survival / Marine Park 1 p.m. /
Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street
and Avenue U

Saturday, December 10

Wilderness Survival / Central Park 1 p.m. /
Dana Discovery Center, 110th Street and
Lenox Avenue

Sunday, December 11

Wilderness Survival / Blue Heron Park
11 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center,
222 Poillon Avenue, between Amboy Road
and Hylan Boulevard

QUEENS

Saturday, December 17

Wilderness Survival / Forest Park 1 p.m. /
Forest Park Visitor Center, Woodhaven
Boulevard and Forest Park Drive



Wildlife Viewing

New York City is home to an amazing abundance of wildlife. From falcons and salamanders, to deer and seals, wildlife viewing opportunities exist year-round in all of our parks and beaches. Wildlife viewing is a perfect activity for any age. Today wildlife viewing is recognized as one of the nation's fastest growing activities. Our Rangers will guide you to the best wildlife viewing spots in New York City.

We offer birding programs throughout the year and our Exploration series focuses on unique wildlife viewing opportunities during particular seasons. Birding programs are appropriate for all skill levels and beginners are welcome. To enhance your experience we encourage you to bring binoculars and field guides, or ask a Ranger to borrow a pair.



BRONX

Saturday, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Birding / Van Cortlandt Park 8 a.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway / With NYC Audubon and the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy

Saturday, November 5, 12, 19, 26

Birding / Van Cortlandt Park 8 a.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway / With NYC Audubon and the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy

Saturday, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Birding / Van Cortlandt Park 8 a.m. / Van Cortlandt Nature Center, West 246th Street and Broadway / With NYC Audubon and the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy

Sunday, December 11

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

Sunday, December 18

Seal Watch / Pelham Bay Park 11 a.m. / Orchard Beach Nature Center, Section 2 of Orchard Beach

BROOKLYN

Saturday, October 1

Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Sunday, October 2

Raptor Fest / Prospect Park 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. / Nethermead, enter park at Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Road

BROOKLYN continued

Sunday, October 30

Insect Exploration / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / Fort Greene Visitor Center, Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park

Saturday, November 5

Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

Sunday, November 13

Birding: Winter Waterfowl / Marine Park 1 p.m. / Salt Marsh Nature Center, East 33rd Street and Avenue U

MANHATTAN

Saturday, October 8

Wildlife Viewing / Central Park 9 a.m. / Belvedere Castle, 79th Street and mid-park

Saturday, November 5

Birding / Central Park 9 a.m. / 100th Street and Central Park West

Sunday, December 18

112th Annual Central Park Christmas Bird Count / Central Park 8 a.m. / Reservoir South Pumpouse. For registration details, visit www.nyc.gov/parks or www.nycaudubon.org.

QUEENS

Saturday, October 1

Birding / Oakland Lake 10 a.m. / Meet at entrance of the park at 46th Avenue and Cloverdale Boulevard

QUEENS continued

Saturday, November 5

Birding / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 10 a.m. / Meet at Mauro Playground, Park Drive East and 73rd Terrace

Sunday, December 4

Birding: Winter Waterfowl / Fort Totten Park 11 a.m. / Fort Totten Visitor Center, 212th Street and Cross Island Parkway

Sunday, December 11

Birding: Winter Waterfowl / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 10 a.m. / Grand Central Parkway Service Road and 72nd Road

STATEN ISLAND

Saturday, October 1

Birding: Birds of Prey / High Rock Park 11 a.m. / High Rock Ranger Station, parking lot at the end of Nevada Avenue, off Rockland Avenue and follow signs

Sunday, December 4

Birding / Bloomingdale Park 11 a.m. / Playground at Ramona and Lenevar Avenues

Saturday, December 17

Birding / Silver Lakes Park 11 a.m. / Revere Street and Hart Boulevard



NYC Parks

in New York City

Outdoors

THE FREE NEWSPAPER OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE



MillionTreesNYC Volunteer Planting Day

Beautify our parks! Build healthy new forests!
Meet new friends! Make a difference!

Join MillionTreesNYC and fellow volunteers to make New York City greener and greater, by volunteering to help plant 20,000 trees at parks citywide!

Plant a tree in one of these parks:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 9:00am – 1:00pm

BRONX Pelham Bay Park, Van Cortlandt Park, Bronx River Park

BROOKLYN Marine Park

QUEENS Clearview Park

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2011 9:00am – 1:00pm

BRONX Raoul Wallenburg Park

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2011 9:00am – 1:00pm

BROOKLYN Marine Park

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2011 9:00am – 1:00pm

QUEENS Fort Totten Park

Register at www.milliontreesnyc.org to participate.



milliontreesNYC

