



## BOROUGH BEAT

This fall, help **MillionTreesNYC** continue toward its goal of planting one million trees across New York City over the next eight years. Since 2007, nearly 250,000 trees have been planted by volunteers, private partners, community organizations and more. You can take part by joining us on October 24 when New Yorkers throughout the five boroughs plant 20,000 trees in parks and other public spaces for **It's My Park! Day**. Help make our city an even more beautiful and comfortable place to live, work, and visit. **See you in the Parks!**



**Adrian Benepe,**  
Commissioner

**Tom Paulo,**  
Staten Island Commissioner

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Kids get tangled up in a game of Double Dutch at Greenbelt Summer Camp.  
**Photo by Dorothy Reilly**

## CITYWIDE SPOTLIGHT ➡ School's In! Find a Parks Afterschool Program Near You!

On any afternoon, visit one of the 35 **Parks Afterschool** locations and you will see children ages 6 to 13 participating in a wide variety of recreational, cultural, and educational programs. Three thousand children in the City of New York are served by the Parks Afterschool Program between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, the time when school-aged children are most in need of being in safe, supportive environments. Parks Afterschool youth receive homework help, participate in fitness activities, and explore arts & culture opportunities. Parks Afterschool programs complement what children are learning in schools and strengthen their sense of belonging to the communities in which they live.

Registration is available from September through June. For more information about the **Parks Afterschool Program**, call **(212) 360-3333**. To register your child, contact your nearest recreation center.

**Cromwell Recreation Center**  
Pier 6 at Hannah & Bay Streets

**Greenbelt Recreation Center**  
Brielle Avenue  
(between Walcott and Rockland Avenues)

# CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2009

**Richmond County Fair**  
**Historic Richmond Town**  
September 11 – 13 • 11:00 a.m.  
(Friday – Sunday)

**Night Hike**  
**High Rock Park**  
Sat., September 12 • 6:00 p.m.

**1776 Peace Conference**  
**Celebration**  
**Conference House Park**  
Sat., September 19 • 10:00 a.m.

**Soap Box Derby**  
**Westerleigh Park**  
Sat., October 3 • 12:00 p.m.

**Annual Pumpkin Festival**  
**Willowbrook Park**  
Sat., October 10 • 12:00 p.m.

**It's My Park! Day**  
**Citywide**  
Sat., October 24 • 9:00 a.m.



**What's going on**  
in my park this weekend?

**How do I request**  
a tree for my street?

**How can I report**  
a problem in a park?

**For answers**  
to these questions and more,  
visit [www.nyc.gov/parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks)  
or call 311.

# FEATURE OF THE MONTH

## A Banner Year for the Greenbelt!

Parks and the Greenbelt Conservancy recently celebrated the Carousel for all Children's tenth anniversary. The carousel, in Willowbrook Park in the Greenbelt, is a Victorian style, accessible merry-go-round that is decorated with 51 carved wooden figures and scenes of Staten Island. Visitors to the event commemorated its anniversary with a "birthday party," including birthday cake, games, and a visit from a clown.

But that's not the only cause for celebration in the Greenbelt this year – 2009 also marks the 5th anniversary of the Greenbelt Nature Center, the 20th anniversary of the Greenbelt Conservancy, and the 25th anniversary of the ribbon cutting on the Greenbelt.

The Greenbelt is a flagship park in the heart of Staten Island consisting of nearly 3,000 acres. The wide variety of environments found within the Greenbelt makes it a main attraction on Staten Island. The park is home to a nature center, a native plant center, and a wildlife refuge. Visitors can hike, bike, play golf, tennis or baseball and much more all in one amazing park!

## DID YOU KNOW?

... You can now submit forestry service requests online! Log on to the Parks website to report a damaged or dead tree, request a new street tree, notify Parks of overgrown trees or branches, or let us know about an undesirable root, sewer, or sidewalk condition. Visit [www.nyc.gov/parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks) to learn more!

## CURRENT EVENTS



Staten Island Slimefest 2009 contestants toss water balloons in Bloomingdale Park.

Photo by Brett Copp



Fall is a great time to visit Conference House, or any of Staten Island's many free historic house museums.

Photo: New York City Parks Photo Archive