

Fire Island

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fire Island National Seashore
Long Island, New York



Summer 2010

Fire Island Program Schedule



A Message from the Superintendent:

After a winter of seemingly endless snow storms, spring and summer are more welcome than ever. It's time for the beach, lazy afternoons outdoors, walks in the woods, and boating on the bay. Fire Island National Seashore is a great place for these activities and we invite you to explore and enjoy all it has to offer: Fire Island and its Great South Beach, the Great South Bay, and the William Floyd Estate in Mastic Beach. A visit to the Seashore, whether on the water, strolling down the beach, hiking through the Sunken Forest, climbing to the top of the Fire Island Lighthouse, or taking a trip back in time at the William Floyd Estate, results in encounters with nature's bounty and our nation's rich history. This year's programs, special events and celebrations will help visitors experience the diversity of the Seashore's wonderful and varied resources.

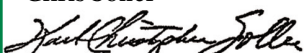
This year, you'll find a new Patchogue Ferry Terminal building when you take the ferry to Watch Hill. The building's grand opening features a juried art show, "The Essence of Fire Island," sponsored by the Friends of Fire Island National Seashore. The art show will be on display through Memorial Day, followed by a temporary exhibit about the history of Fire Island National Seashore, and a history of the terminal site, once the boat yard of famed Long Island boatbuilder Gil Smith. The building will provide new opportunities for interpretation and educational programming for years to come as well as improved restroom facilities and waiting areas for the ferry.

In addition to the art show, the Friends of Fire Island National Seashore are planning a number of events that support the Seashore. Anyone interested in joining the Friends should contact them at www.ffins.org.

There will be lots of activity at the Fire Island Light Station this summer as the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society begins construction of a new building to display the historic Fresnel lens that was once at the top of the lighthouse. The Lighthouse Preservation Society sponsors numerous programs throughout the year. For more information about the Preservation Society and its programs or to become a member of the Society contact them at www.fireislandlighthouse.com.

Whether you want to attend one of our many ranger-led or partner-sponsored programs, go hiking on your own, or just relax in your boat in a marina, enjoy your visit safely and please return often to experience the joys of Fire Island National Seashore.

Chris Soller


Superintendent

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Fire Island National Seashore was established



in September 1964 "for the purpose of conserving and preserving for the use of future generations certain relatively unspoiled and undeveloped beaches, dunes, and other natural features within Suffolk County, New York, which possess high values to the

How Do I Get There?

Ferry Schedule 2010

Fire Island Lighthouse

By car via the Robert Moses Causeway

Fire Island Ferries
631-665-3600 or 666-3600
www.fireislandferries.com

Bay Shore to:

Kismet*
Saltaire
Fair Harbor
Dunewood*
Atlantique*
Ocean Beach
Seaview*
Ocean Bay Park*
**Seasonal Only*

Cross-bay and lateral water taxi

Fire Island Water Taxi
631-665-8885
www.fireislandwatertaxi.com
Seasonal Only



Fire Island Lighthouse

Directions

Located at the southern terminus of the Robert Moses Causeway, just east of Robert Moses State Park. Parking available at Robert Moses State Park Field #5. **(Fee for parking)**

1-mile walk from Kismet.

Sailors Haven

By ferry via the Sayville Ferry Service

Sayville Ferry
631-589-8980
www.sayvilleferry.com

Sayville to:

Sailors Haven/ Sunken Forest*
Cherry Grove
Fire Island Pines
Water Island
**Seasonal Only*



Sailors Haven

Directions

LIE (I-495) or Sunrise Hwy. (Rt.27) to Nicholls Rd. (Rt.97) South. Approx. 5.5 miles to third light, Montauk Hwy. (Rt. 85), make right. Go under R.R. overpass, make left at first light, Foster Ave. in Sayville. Follow green & white "Fire Island Ferry" signs to terminal. **(Fee for parking)**

Talisman/ Barrett Beach

Access by private boat or by chartered ferry from Patchogue via the Davis Park Ferry or from Sayville via the Sayville Ferry.



Talisman/ Barrett Beach

Directions

Access by private boat or by chartered ferry from Patchogue via the Davis Park Ferry or from Sayville via the Sayville Ferry.

Fire Island Map

Watch Hill

By ferry via the Davis Park Ferry Company, Inc.

Davis Park Ferry
631-475-1665

www.davisparkferry.com

Patchogue to:
Watch Hill*
Davis Park
*Seasonal Only

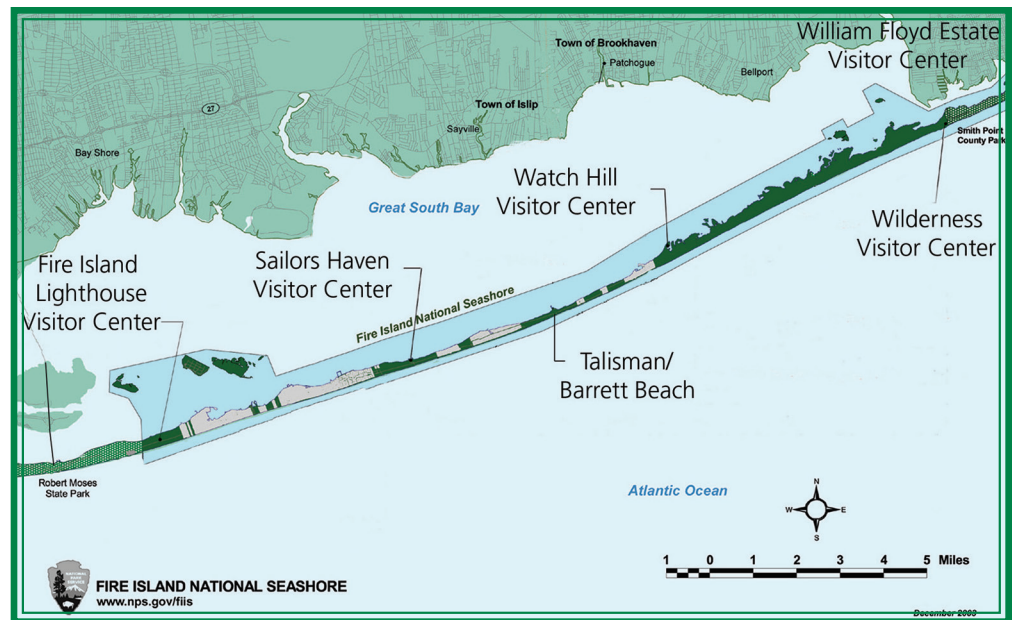
NOTE:
The ferry to Davis Park leaves from a different ferry terminal location in Patchogue than the ferry to Watch Hill. Below are the directions to the Patchogue Ferry Terminal with ferries to Watch Hill.

Fire Island Wilderness

By car or bus via the William Floyd Parkway
Parkway **631-281-3010**

William Floyd Estate

By car via the William Floyd Parkway
631-399-2030



Watch Hill

Directions

Located on West Ave. Patchogue, NY. From LIE (I-495) to Exit 61 South (County Rd 19) or Sunrise Hwy (Rt 27) to Exit 52 South (County Rd. 19). About 1 mile down, bear left, cross Main Street onto West Avenue. Ferry terminal is about 1/2 mile down West Avenue.

Fire Island Wilderness

Directions

Located at the southern terminus of William Floyd Parkway. Parking available at Smith Point County Park. **(Fee for parking)**

William Floyd Estate

Directions

LIE (I-495) or Sunrise Hwy (Rt.27) to William Floyd Parkway (2 miles) south. Cross over R.R., and make left onto Neighborhood Rd. (Mastic Business District), to end of road, follow William Floyd Estate signs to main parking lot. Follow boardwalk to the house.

Sailors Haven Summer Programs 2010

Fire Island
National Seashore



Daily Schedule: July 1 - September 6, 2010

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10:00 a.m.	Visitor Center 10:00-6:30	Visitor Center 10:00-5:00	Visitor Center 10:00-5:00	Visitor Center 10:00-5:00	Visitor Center 10:00-5:00	Visitor Center 10:00-5:00	Visitor Center 10:00-6:30
11:00 a.m.	Sunken Forest Tour/ Rangers Choice	Sunken Forest Tour	Sunken Forest Tour	Sunken Forest Tour	Sunken Forest Tour	Sunken Forest Tour	Sunken Forest Tour/ Catch of the Day
2:00 p.m.	Seaside Stories & Crafts						Jr. Ranger: Path to Discovery
2:30 p.m.	Sunken Forest Tour						Sunken Forest Tour
8:00 p.m.						Enchanted Evenings	

Lifeguards on duty Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sailors Haven Visitor Center

Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
631-597-6183

Ranger-Conducted Programs

Sunken Forest Tour

Monday - Friday
11:00 a.m.
Saturday & Sunday
11:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Meet at Sailors Haven
Visitor Center
Explore the unique wonders
of the crown jewel of Fire
Island—the Sunken Forest.
1½ hours.



Enchanted Evenings

Friday 8:00 p.m.
Meet at Sailors Haven Visitor Center
Various topics, from Stargazing to Mosquitoes to Bedtime
stories, will be discussed and presented each week. Topics
will be announced each week in the visitor center. 1 hour.

Catch of the Day

Saturday 11:00 a.m.
Meet at Sailors Haven Visitor Center
(All ages and levels welcome)

Discover the common marine life in the Great South Bay using
a seine net and dip nets. Participants must wear water shoes.
Plan to walk about ½ mile. 1½ hours.

Junior Ranger: Path to Discovery Program

Saturday 2:00 p.m.
Meet at Sailors Haven Visitor Center
(Children 8-12 years)

Be a part of the Junior Ranger program at Fire Island. Our
Junior Ranger team presents a different program each week to
help kids learn about the special places and things protected by
Fire Island National Seashore. 1½ hours.

Secrets of the Seashore: Rangers Choice

Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Meet at Sailors Haven Visitor Center

Programs vary each week, and may include a stroll along the
beach, seining in the bay, or a talk at the visitor center to discover
horseshoe crabs, whales, or the history of Fire Island. 1 hour.

Children's Hour: Seaside Stories & Crafts

Sunday 2:00 p.m.
Meet at Sailors Haven Visitor Center
(Children 5-7 years)

Come listen to stories of the seashore environment. Whether
it's whales, horseshoe crabs, turtles, birds, deer, trees or stars,
children will be entertained while learning all about our
natural world. Create a craft you can take home. 1 hour.

Watch Hill Summer Programs 2010

Fire Island
National Seashore



Daily Schedule: July 1 - September 6, 2010

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 a.m.	Visitor Center 9:00-6:30	Visitor Center 9:00-5:00	Visitor Center 9:00-5:00	Visitor Center 9:00-5:00	Visitor Center 9:00-5:00	Visitor Center 9:00-6:30	Visitor Center 9:00-6:30
10:00 a.m.	Canoe sign up				Canoe sign up	Canoe sign up	Canoe sign up
11:00 a.m.	Guided Canoe Tour/ Sunday Stroll				Guided Canoe Tour	Guided Canoe Tour	Guided Canoe Tour/ Catch of the Day
2:00 p.m.	Seaside Stories & Crafts						Jr.Ranger: Path to Discovery
8:00 p.m.						Enchanted Evenings	

Lifeguards on duty Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wilderness backcountry camping registration available during visitor center hours

Watch Hill Visitor Center

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

631-597-6455

Ranger-Conducted Programs

Exploring the Salt Marsh: A Guided Canoe Tour

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Children under the age of 6 not permitted on trip)

(Reservations start @ 10:00 a.m. the day of the program in person at the visitor center; limit 24 paddlers—must be 16 & older to paddle)

Explore the Watch Hill salt marsh, some of nature's most productive real estate. Canoes, paddles, & life jackets provided. Participants must be able to swim. **2 hours.**



Enchanted Evenings

Friday 8:00 p.m.

Meet at Watch Hill Visitor Center

Various topics, from Stargazing to Mosquitoes to Bedtime stories, will be discussed and presented each week. Topics will be announced each week in the visitor center. **1 hour.**

Catch of the Day

Saturday 11:00 a.m.

Meet at Watch Hill Visitor Center

(All ages and levels welcome)

Discover the common marine life in the Great South Bay using a seine net and dip nets. Participants must wear water shoes. Plan to walk about ½ mile. **1½ hours.**

Junior Ranger: Path to Discovery Program

Saturday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Watch Hill Dune Station

(Children 8-12 years)

Be a part of the Junior Ranger program at Fire Island. Our Junior Ranger team presents a different program each week to help kids learn about the special places and things protected by Fire Island National Seashore. **1½ hours.**

Sunday Stroll: Discovering Fire Island's Habitats

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Meet at Watch Hill Visitor Center

Join us on this ranger-led walk through Watch Hill's nature trail. Learn about Fire Island's wide range of habitats, the wildlife they support, and their roles in the barrier island ecosystem. **1 hour.**

Children's Hour: Seaside Stories & Crafts

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Watch Hill Dune Station

(Children 5-7 years)

Come listen to stories of the seashore environment. Whether it's whales, horseshoe crabs, turtles, birds, deer, trees or stars, children will be entertained while learning all about our natural world. Create a craft you can take home. **1 hour.**

Wilderness Visitor Center Summer Programs 2010

Fire Island
National Seashore



Daily Schedule: July 1 - September 6, 2010

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 a.m.	Visitor Center 9:00-6:00	Visitor Center 9:00-4:30	Visitor Center 9:00-4:30	Visitor Center 9:00-4:30	Visitor Center 9:00-4:30	Visitor Center 9:00-6:00	Visitor Center 9:00-6:00
10:00 a.m.							Ocean Treasures
2:00 p.m.	Seaside Stories & Crafts						Jr. Ranger: Path to Discovery

Parking is available at Smith Point County Park **(Fee Charged)**
Wilderness backcountry camping registration available during visitor center hours

Otis Pike Wilderness Visitor Center

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

631-281-3010

Ranger-Conducted Programs

Ocean Treasures

Saturday 10:00 a.m.

Meet at Wilderness Visitor Center

Learn about ocean beach dynamics and discover what treasures await. You will never visit the same beach twice on this guided nature walk. You must be able to walk on sand. Bring water, hat, and sunscreen. 1½ hours.



Junior Rangers sample nekton in the Great South Bay through seining.

Junior Ranger: Path to Discovery Program

Saturday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Wilderness Visitor Center

(Children 8-12 years)

Be a part of the Junior Ranger program at Fire Island. Our Junior Ranger team presents a different program each week to help kids learn about the special places and things protected by Fire Island National Seashore. 1½ hours.

Children's Hour: Seaside Stories & Crafts

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Wilderness Visitor Center

(Children 5-7 years)

Come listen to stories of the seashore environment. Whether it's whales, horseshoe crabs, turtles, birds, deer, trees or stars, children will be entertained while learning all about our natural world. Create a craft you can take home. 1 hour.



Fire Island National Seashore 2010 Special Events

Fire Island Trek

June 24, 2010 (1 Day Hike)
September 1-3, 2010 (3 Day Hike)

(reservations required)
A 1-day hike—the Twilight Trek—is scheduled for June 24, 2010, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Fire Island National Seashore is hosting its 3-day Fire Island Trek this year on September 1-3, 2010.

Limited logistical support is available, but you must provide for your own transportation and parking, and pay for your own meals along the way. You will need to provide your own sleeping bag for overnight stays.

There is a nominal cost for lodging and logistical support.

The Fire Island Trek may be canceled at any time due to inclement weather.

For more information or reservations call 631-687-4765 or visit:

www.nps.gov/fjis/FireIslandTrek.htm

Fire Island National Seashore's Traveling Trunk

(reservations required)

Have a ranger visit your classroom or camp with a traveling trunk full of seashore treasures to discover. If you are planning a site visit the trunk will stay in your classroom until the day of your trip. Once at the park, return the trunk and receive a ranger-led tour to complete the experience. Call 631-687-4765.

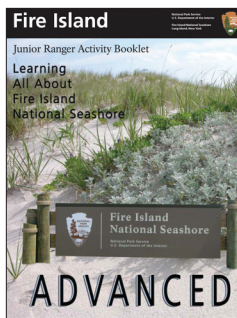
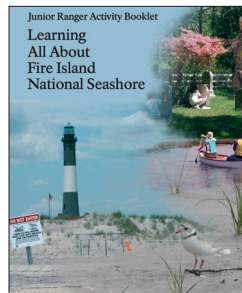
Fire Island National Seashore's Educator Workshop

Spring of 2011

Learn how to enhance your students' field trip experience with activities designed to provide background knowledge in basic natural, cultural & historical resources at Fire Island National Seashore. For more information call 631-687-4765.

Become a Junior Ranger

For kids ages 8 - 12. Pick up a free Junior Ranger activity booklet at any visitor centers. As you explore the park, complete the required activities and return to a visitor center information desk to receive your official Junior Ranger badge or patch. For more information, inquire at the visitor center information desk or call any of the visitor centers. For even more fun, become a WebRanger. Visit: www.nps.gov/webranger



The advanced booklet is for those 13 and older or for anyone who has successfully completed "Learning All About Fire Island National Seashore"

Junior Ranger: Path to Discovery Program

July 10 - August 28 Saturdays 2:00 p.m.

Become a Junior Ranger. Our team of rangers will be presenting a different program each week at our Wilderness, Watch Hill and Sailors Haven Visitors Centers to help kids ages 8-12 learn about special places called National Parks.

For more information, inquire at the visitor center information desk or call any of the visitor centers.



Fire Island Lighthouse: Jr. Lighthouse Keeper

July 7 - August 11
Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.

(reservations required) **Fee charged.**

For more information or reservations please call 631-687-4765.

Annual Labor Day Sand Creation Contest

September 5 at
Watch Hill & Sailors Haven

Put your creativity and building skills into action at the annual sand creation contest to celebrate the end of the summer season. All ages are welcome.

For more information call:

Watch Hill @ 631-597-6455

Sailors Haven @ 631-597-6183



Sand Creation Contest

International Coastal Beach Clean-up

September 22 - October 23, 2010

Fire Island National Seashore will participate in the International Coastal Beach Clean-up. Work sites will be throughout the seashore. For more information call 631-687-4765.



Beach Clean-up Crew 2006

Upcoming Schedule

September	1-3	Fire Island Trek
	25	Public Lands Day;
		International Coastal Clean-up
October	9	WFE: Old Mastic House;
		Architectural Tour
	23	WFE: Colonial Uses of Wood
	30	WFE: Documents in Stone
November	6	WFE: Cultural Landscape Walk
	21	WFE: Old Mastic Bird Walk
	26	Holiday Wilderness Hike
	28	Junior Ranger Program
December	26	Holiday Wilderness Hike
	26	Junior Ranger Program
January	2	New Year's Wilderness Hike
February	12	Hike for Nature Lovers

William Floyd Estate Summer Programs 2010

Fire Island
National Seashore



William Floyd Estate

May 28 - November 14, 2010

Friday - Sunday & Holidays

Grounds: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Old Mastic House: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

631-399-2030

Free self-guiding pamphlets for the outbuilding area and family cemetery are available at the Old Mastic House until 4:00 p.m.

Plan to spend at least 2 hours at the William Floyd Estate to see the house, grounds and family cemetery.

Ranger-Conducted Programs

Old Mastic House Tour

May 28 - November 14, 2010

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday - Sunday & Holidays **Tours are limited to 8 people.**

Visit the historic home of William Floyd and be guided through multiple generations of change from the 1720s to the 1970s. This free 1 hour guided tour of the furnished 25-room house is offered every half-hour. Last tour leaves at 4:00 p.m. **The Old Mastic House is only available by guided tour.**

Old Mastic Bird Walks

May 2, 23, & November 21 9:00 a.m.

Bring binoculars on a 3 mile walk through the woods, fields, and wetlands of the property. A good variety of birds will be seen as we walk the varied habitats. It's peak migration time for thousands of birds heading north or south.

Cultural Landscape Walking Tour

May 15, November 6 10:00 a.m.

What's a cultural landscape all about? On this Estate it's about how the Floyd family manipulated, changed, and adapted their land for various uses. The land changed from a plantation and working farm to a summer estate and hunting preserve. On this guided walk, we will look for the evidence of these changes history left behind.

Trees, Wood and Tools:

The Colonial Uses of Wood

June 5, October 23 10:00 a.m. **Reservations required.**

This is a unique introduction to the trees, tools, and woods of the Colonial Period in New York. The Floyd Family used the pristine forests to build their beloved "Old Mastic House" and all of their barns and outbuildings. Samples of wood and tools used by the Floyds and their carpenters will be shown and explained. Weather permitting; a walk will be conducted to view specific types of trees that were used for various purposes by the Floyd Family.

Old Mastic House: *A Simple Architectural Study*

June 19, October 9 10:00 a.m. **Reservations required.**

Visitors will be given a simple architectural review of the Old Mastic House. Colonial, Victorian and Greek Revival architecture, among other styles, are all represented here and each will be seen and explained. Eighteenth century doors, post and beam framing and 12 over 12 windows are just some of the details to be examined.

Floyd Junior Ranger Programs

July 2, 9, 16 & August 6, 13, 20 10:00 a.m.

(Children 8-12 years) **Reservations required.**

Be a part of the Junior Ranger program at the William Floyd Estate. Our Junior Ranger team presents a different program each week. After 3 Fridays, participating children will earn a Declaration of Independence and a patch. **1 hour.**

The Summer Gunner: *The Art and Lore of Traditional Decoy Carving*

July 3, August 21, September 11 11:00 a.m.

Join decoy carver Jaime Reason on the front porch of the Old Mastic House to learn about carving shorebirds and ducks by hand. Find out about the history of waterfowl hunting in the local bays and the rich traditions of local carvers.

He Dared To Sign: *William Floyd*

July 4 1:00 & 3:00 p.m.

William Floyd was born in the Old Mastic House and inherited it. He was a wealthy plantation owner, yet he dared to sign the Declaration of Independence. For doing so he risked losing his house, property, and his head. But did he really sign on July 4th? Find out about this man and the other signers.

The Old West Lane Walk

July 17 10:00 a.m.

This leisurely nature stroll along the Old West Lane will point out trees, shrubs, flowers, and birds along the road. The road basically follows one of the early entrance roads into the Estate.

Documents in Stone

September 18, October 30 10:00 a.m. **Reservations required.**

It's a unique introduction to genealogical research. Visitors are shown a variety of ways to learn about grave markers from the materials they were made of to foot stones to kinship to burial characteristics. Learn about the origins of the "Deaths Head" and take a grave stone rubbing home.

*Call 631-399-2030 to make your
reservations for any special programs.*

Fire Island Lighthouse Summer Programs 2010

Fire Island
National Seashore



Fire Island Lighthouse

Open daily, year-round
Check their website;
www.fireislandlighthouse.com
or call for hours of operation.
631-661-4876

For more information about
programs and fee schedule
call the *Fire Island Lighthouse
Preservation Society* at
631-661-4876 or visit
www.fireislandlighthouse.com



In addition to the lighthouse tower, a nature trail
and a visitor information and exhibit center are
available at this facility for your enjoyment.

Tower Tours Available

42" height requirement. Fee charged.
Open Daily
10:00 a.m. - 1/2 hour before closing

May

Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour

May 8 9:00 a.m.

Reservations required. **Fee charged.**

Horseshoe Crab Program

May 28 7:00 p.m.

Reservations required. **Fee charged.**

Learn about horseshoe crabs and watch
them come ashore to lay their eggs.

June

9th Annual Art Show

June 25 - July 18

Local artists display their artwork in the
Keepers Quarters at the Lighthouse.

*Opening reception will be held on June 24th,
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Artwork is for sale.*

July

Jr. Lighthouse Keepers Summer Program

July 7 - August 11 10 a.m. - noon.

Call for application. **Fee charged.**

Scheduled activities every Wednesday
for six weeks.

Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour

July 10 9 a.m.

Reservations required. **Fee charged.**

Limit 12 people.

August

National Lighthouse Day

August 7

Call for more information.

Reduced tower tours fee all day.

24th Annual "Barefoot Black Tie Dinner Dance"

August 14 6:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Reservations required. **Fee charged.**

For more information or tickets call:

631-321-7028.

Sunrise Tower Tour

August 28 5:45 a.m.

Reservations required. **Fee charged.**

Amateur Radio Lighthouse Weekend

August 21-22

Ham radio operators set up on the
terrace and Keeper's Quarters to talk with
other operators from around the world.

Fire Island Lighthouse

Upcoming Schedule

Call for fees and reservations.

September	11	Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour
	26	9th Annual Auto Show
October	23	Lantern Light Tour
	30	Ghost Stories and Legends of Fire Island
November	20	Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour
	21	Sunrise Tower Tour, 6:15 a.m.
	27	Tree Trimming Event, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	27	Evening Tower Tour, 4:00 p.m.
December	11	8th Annual Re-Enactment of the Flying Santa, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
	21	Evening Tower Tour, 4:00 p.m.

Cooperating Associations & Friends Groups

Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society



Since its inception in 1982, the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society's directive has been to restore and preserve, through education and capital improvements, the nautical heritage of Fire Island and Long Island and to ensure that the Fire Island Lighthouse and Keepers Quarters/Visitor Center remain an integral part of Long Island maritime history.

The Society took upon itself a broader mandate when, on December 19, 1996, it entered into a partnership agreement with the National Park Service and in 2006 became a cooperating association. The goals of the Society continue with an emphasis on interpretative programs and exhibits to foster an awareness of Fire Island, the history of the Fire Island Lighthouse, as well as a natural history context and maritime heritage.

On-site personnel open and close the Visitor Center and Tower, conduct tower tours, provide information and programs to the park visitor, educational, charitable and social groups, and provide for the daily maintenance activities and minor repairs for the preservation of the national historic site. The Society, a non-profit organization, continues to be fully qualified under State and Federal law to engage in fundraising and receive philanthropic contributions for these purposes. The Society continues to operate and maintain the current beacon atop the Lighthouse as a private aid to navigation. The Society is currently

working on returning and displaying the original 1858 first order Fresnel lens in a newly constructed building next to the Fire Island Lighthouse. Construction will begin this year and with the National Park Service assistance the lens will be assembled inside and on display for the over 120,000 visitors to the Lighthouse.

Friends of Fire Island National Seashore



Friends of Fire Island National Seashore (FFINS) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage proper stewardship of park natural resources, foster cooperative and mutual communication between the National Park Service, communities and user groups, and to promote environmentally sound access to all of Fire Island National Seashore.

In 2009, FFINS helped promote and support several guided walks and other interpretive programs. Their 1st annual art show was the highlight of the opening of the new Patchogue Ferry Terminal in April 2010. As a fundraiser, 2010/11 calendars will be created from the winning entries. The group welcomes more members and contributions to help fund additional services for visitors to Fire Island.

For more information contact:

Friends of Fire Island
National Seashore
P.O. Box 504
Patchogue, NY
11772-0504
www.ffins.org

Friends of Watch Hill



The Friends of Watch Hill (FOWH) is another active organization focused on visitors and boaters, and helping promote the recreational use of Watch Hill while preserving its natural resources and beauty. In 2009, FOWH members donated a freestanding clock near the ferry loading area. As a 2008 Centennial Challenge partner, FOWH-funded wayside panels were installed along the boardwalk at Watch Hill during the summer of 2009. The group continues to support many other programs and activities at Watch Hill.

This group may be reached at:

Friends of Watch Hill
P.O. Box 60
Oakdale, NY 11769
www.friendsofwatchhill.org

Eastern National



Eastern National, a non-profit cooperating association, is dedicated to the preservation and use of the parks for the benefit of all. Operating in more than 150 national parks and other public trusts, Eastern National provides quality educational products and services to visitors through their sales facilities. Sales generated from these facilities allow Eastern National to make donations to the National Parks. Fire Island National Seashore has four Eastern National bookstores, located at the Sailors Haven, Watch Hill, and Wilderness Visitor Centers, and the William Floyd Estate.



Volunteer Spotlight

First Bloom at Fire Island National Seashore

Fire Island National Seashore was one of 26 parks awarded a grant for a First Bloom project. The program was created by the National Park Foundation to honor the passion Mrs. Laura Bush has for the National Park Service and the legacy of Lady Bird Johnson. Mrs. Bush shared Lady Bird Johnson's feelings for the National Park Service and both former first ladies shared a lifelong enthusiasm for wildflowers and the preservation of native plants.

Fire Island's First Bloom project entails establishing gardens, including a butterfly garden, at Fire Island National Seashore's new Patchogue Ferry Terminal. This program is associated with a Boy Scout Eagle and a Girl Scout Gold Award.



Girl Scouts at a monthly workshop where they learn about the park and gardening skills.

Interested in Volunteering?

Fire Island National Seashore is one of 392 National Parks in the system.

Visitor center operation, environmental education and children's programs are just a small part of what is done at Fire Island. Many schools, organizations, scouts and the general public come to the park for educational programs and to experience the beauty of a National Seashore.

If you enjoy working with children or people in general and have a few hours to spare, we could use your help.

Interested in volunteering?
Call Fire Island National Seashore's
Volunteer Coordinator
@ 631-687-4765

What's New & Exciting?



National Junior Ranger Day

Held Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Fire Island Lighthouse, National Junior Ranger Day included Ranger-Led programs, seashore crafts and other activities. The park's Resource Management staff demonstrated how to take saltwater fish surveys and taught about life in the Great South Bay. Sagamore Hill National Historic Site also participated and introduced their activity booklets to the children.

Save the Date: Next year's National Junior Ranger Day is April 23, 2011.



Park Ranger Justine Stefanelli, presenting a Discovering the Ocean program.

New Patchogue Ferry Terminal at the Watch Hill Terminal Site in Patchogue

Passengers taking Fire Island National Seashore's ferry from Patchogue to Watch Hill will be welcomed by a gleaming new terminal building this year. Designed to be reminiscent of the historic Gil Smith Boatyard structures along the Patchogue River, it features many of the latest energy efficiency technologies and materials. Its multipurpose room will be used for temporary exhibits and park programs.



The new Patchogue Ferry Terminal.



Fire Island National Seashore
120 Laurel Street
Patchogue, New York 11772
phone: 631-687-4750
www.nps.gov/fiis

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Fire Island National Seashore Visitor Centers

Fire Island Lighthouse

631-661-4876
Open all year

Sailors Haven

631-597-6183
Open mid-May to mid-October

Watch Hill

631-597-6455
Open mid-May to mid-October

Fire Island Wilderness

631-281-3010
Open all year

William Floyd Estate

631-399-2030
*Open Memorial Day
to mid-November.*

Did You Know?

- * A “white-tailed” deer refers to the white underside of the deer’s tail. When it senses danger, it displays and wags its tail to warn other deer.
- * The male mosquito has feather-like antennae and does not bite people.
- * The lighthouse keeper of the first Fire Island Lighthouse would climb up and down the tower, carrying a 5 gallon container, every morning until all 17 oil lamps were refilled for the next night.
- * During the summer of 2009, 361,714 mosquitoes were collected.

On the Cover:

The briefly exposed remains of the Bessie A. White, a 182 ft., four masted schooner, wrecked February 1922 off the coast of Fire Island.

