

Fire Island

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fire Island National Seashore
Long Island, New York



Summer 2011

Fire Island Program Schedule



A Message from the Superintendent:

Summer: time for trips to the beach, lazy afternoons, walks in the woods, visits with friends, picnics, boating, or taking in an historic site or museum. Fire Island National Seashore is a great place for any of these activities. This is our busiest season and we welcome all our visitors to enjoy the wonders of Fire Island and its Great South Beach, the Great South Bay, and the magnificent William Floyd Estate in the Village of Mastic Beach on Long Island.

Fire Island National Seashore is one of three national parks on Long Island (the other two are Gateway National Recreation Area in Brooklyn/Queens and Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in Oyster Bay). Fire Island is a special place set aside for the protection and enjoyment of its beaches, dunes, marshes and wetlands, the Fire Island Lighthouse, and on Long Island the historic William Floyd Estate. Any visit to Fire Island National Seashore, whether on the water, the beach or walking a trail through the Sunken Forest or at the William Floyd Estate, results in an encounter with nature's bounty as well as our nation's history.

Two highlights of this summer are worth noting. The first is our annual art show sponsored by the Friends of Fire Island National Seashore. This year it's a photography show on display from mid-May through June at the Patchogue Ferry Terminal. Look for details on the show's opening in this guide.

The second highlight will be the opening of the new Fresnel Lens Building at the Fire Island Light Station. After almost 70 years, the historic first order Fresnel lens that once shone from the top of the Fire Island Light is returning to Fire Island. The Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society is completing a new building on the site of the historic power generating station to display the lens. Having been in storage for a number of years, the lens will be restored prior to being installed in the new building. The Preservation Society is scheduling a grand opening celebration for late July. After that time the new building will be open to the public.

In addition to these two events the National Seashore has scheduled programs and activities for the entire summer which are outlined in this program schedule. So, whether you are attending a ranger-led program, hiking, or just relaxing in a boat or on the beach, enjoy your visit and please return often to experience the many wonders that are Fire Island National Seashore. Have a great summer.

Chris Soller



Superintendent

In This Issue:

How Do I Get There?	P. 2
Fire Island Map	P. 3
Fire Island Programs	P. 4
Special Events	P. 7
Special Events	
-William Floyd Estate	P. 8
-Lighthouse	P. 9
Coop. Associations & Friends Groups	P. 10
Volunteer Spotlight	P. 11
Junior Rangers	P. 11

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
Nation."

How Do I Get There?

Ferry Schedule 2011

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
41 River Road, Sayville, NY 11782

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, chartered ferry from Patchogue or from Sayville via the Sayville Ferry Service, or by walking in from the neighboring communities.



Talisman/ Barrett Beach

Directions

Access by private boat, by chartered ferry from Patchogue or Sayville or a 1½-mile walk from Fire Island Pines or a 2½-mile hike from Davis Park.

Fire Island Map

Watch Hill

By ferry via the Patchogue Ferry Terminal.
150 West Ave., Patchogue, NY 11772

Patchogue Ferry Terminal
631-758-4032

Patchogue to:
Watch Hill*
**Seasonal Only*

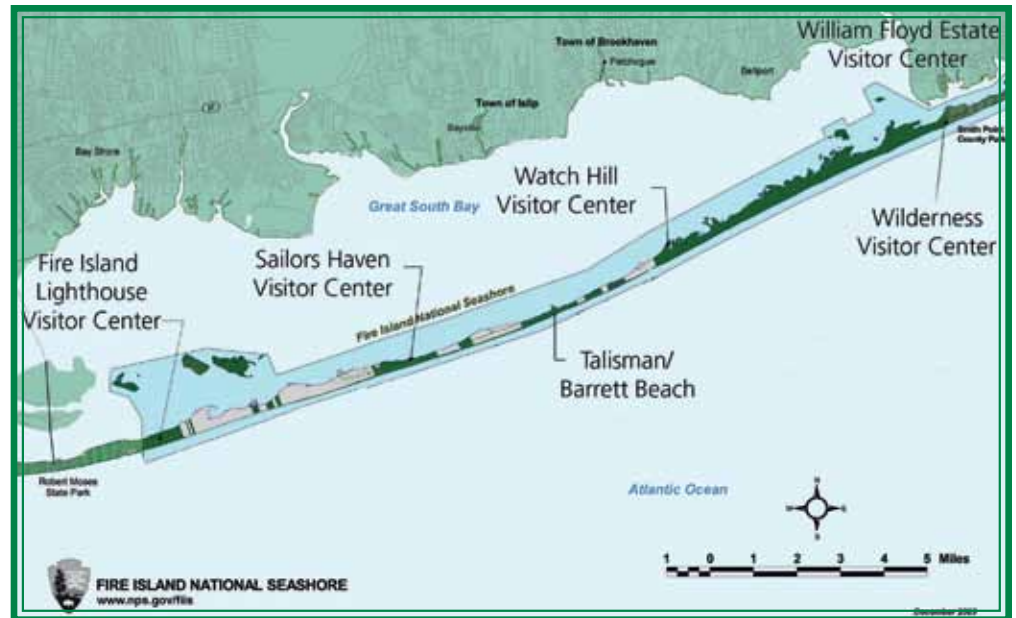
NOTE:
The ferry to Davis Park leaves from a different ferry terminal location in Patchogue than the ferry to Watch Hill. Below are the directions to the Patchogue Ferry Terminal with ferries to Watch Hill.

Fire Island Wilderness

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

William Floyd Estate

By car via the William Floyd Parkway
245 Park Road, Mastic Beach, NY 11951
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 2011

Fire Island
National Seashore



Daily Schedule: July 1 - September 5, 2011

	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/ Ranger's 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.	Lil' Rangers: Fox Kit Adventures						Jr. Ranger:Path to Discovery
2:30 p.m.	Sunken Forest Tour						Sunken Forest Tour
Lifeguards on duty Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 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

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.

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.



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: Ranger's 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.

Lil' Ranger: Fox Kit Adventures

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Sailors Haven Visitor Center

(Children 5-7 years)

Come on an amazing adventure with a ranger. Explore the seashore through games, activities, stories and lots of fun. A new and different adventure awaits each and every Sunday. Create a craft you can take home. 1 hour.

Watch Hill Summer Programs 2011

Fire Island
National Seashore



Daily Schedule: July 1 - September 5, 2011

	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.	Lil' Rangers: Fox Kit Adventures						Jr.Ranger: Path to Discovery
Lifeguards on duty Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 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

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.

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.



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.

Lil' Ranger: Fox Kit Adventures

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Watch Hill Dune Station

(Children 5-7 years)

Come on an amazing adventure with a ranger. Explore the seashore through games, activities, stories and lots of fun. A new and different adventure awaits each and every Sunday. Create a craft you can take home. 1 hour.

Wilderness Visitor Center Summer Programs 2011

Fire Island
National Seashore



Daily Schedule: July 1 - September 5, 2011

	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.	Lil' Rangers: Fox Kit Adventures						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.

Lil' Ranger: Fox Kit Adventures

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Wilderness Visitor Center

(Children 5-7 years)

Come on an amazing adventure with a ranger. Explore the seashore through games, activities, stories and lots of fun. A new and different adventure awaits each and every Sunday. Create a craft you can take home. 1 hour.

Fire Island National Seashore 2011 Special Events

Fire Island Treks

June 23, 2011 (1-Day Hike)
September 24, 2011 (1-Day Hike)
September 7-9, 2011 (3-Day Hike)
(reservations required)

The 1-day Twilight Treks are scheduled for June 23 & September 24, 2011, 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 7-9, 2011. 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/fiis/fire-island-trek.htm

Fire Island National Seashore's Educator Workshop

May 2011

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

Save the Date: Next year's workshop will be Spring 2012.

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.

"The Essence of Fire Island" Nature Photography Exhibition

May 15 - June 25
Weekends, Noon - 5:00 p.m.

Patchogue-Watch Hill Ferry Terminal
The Friends of Fire Island National Seashore will once again be conducting their Annual Art Exhibition and Fundraiser. This year's "Essence of Fire Island" exhibition will feature the work of the Nature and Wildlife Photographers of Long Island. For more information:

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

White-tailed Deer Photo Contest

Got a good photo of a Fire Island Deer? If so, please visit: www.nps.gov/fiis/planyourvisit/annual-photo-contest.htm for entry form and contest details.

New Fresnel Lens Display Building: Grand Opening Opening this Summer at the Fire Island Lighthouse

Late July 2011

Watch for the grand opening of a new special feature at the Fire Island Light Station in 2011. The original Fresnel lens, which was put into service on November 1, 1858, and removed from the top of the Fire Island Lighthouse in 1933, has made its way back home! Through a partnership effort by the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society and the National Park Service, this magnificent artifact will again be visible on Fire Island. Its new home is a specially constructed display building, designed to resemble the power generation building that stood at this site from 1894 to the 1940s. Learn more about the Return of the Fresnel Lens at the park's web site: www.nps.gov/fiis.

Annual Labor Day Sand Creation Contest

September 4 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 - October 2011

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	7-9	Fire Island Trek
	24	Public Lands Day:
		International Coastal Clean-up
	24	
November	26	Fall Twilight Trek
	27	Holiday Wilderness Hike
December	26	Junior Ranger Program
	30	Holiday Wilderness Hike
January	1	Junior Ranger Program
February	11	New Year's Wilderness Hike
		Hike for Nature Lovers

William Floyd Estate Summer Programs 2011

Fire Island
National Seashore



William Floyd Estate

May 27 - November 13, 2011

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 27 - November 13, 2011

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 1, 22, & November 20 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 5 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 4, October 22 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 Tour

June 18, October 8 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.

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

July 2, August 20, September 3 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 10:00 a.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.

Floyd Junior Ranger Programs

July 8, 15 & August 5, 12 10:00 a.m.

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

Become a Junior Ranger! Attend two of the Friday programs and complete the activity booklet (on your own but with help from a ranger) and earn a Declaration of Independence and a pin. 1½ hours.

Documents in Stone

September 24, October 29 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.

Wildflowers of Autumn

October 30 10:00 a.m.

Fall is peak time for a variety of wildflowers to bloom. The fields are washed in a pretty array of colors. Native grasses also add color to the landscape. This 2 hour program will look at the blooms in Old Mastic Fields.

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

Fire Island Lighthouse Summer Programs 2011

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

Fire Island Lighthouse: Jr. Lighthouse Keeper

July 6 - August 10
Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.
(reservations required) **Fee charged.**

May

Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour

May 14 9:00 a.m.
Reservations required. **Fee charged.**
Limit 12 people.

Armed Forces Day

May 21
Free Tower Tour for those who served in the armed forces. Thank you for your service!

June

Horseshoe Crab Program

June 11 7:00 p.m.
Reservations required. **Fee charged.**
Learn about horseshoe crabs and watch them come ashore to lay their eggs.

10th Annual Art Show

June 24 - July 17
Local artists display their artwork in the Keepers Quarters at the Lighthouse. Opening reception will be held on June 23rd, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Artwork is for sale.

NEW Summer Evenings

Extended Summer Evening Hours:
Every Friday in July until 8:00 p.m.

July

Jr. Lighthouse Keepers Summer Program

July 6 - August 10 10 a.m. - noon.
Reservations required. **Fee charged.**
Call for application.
Scheduled activities every Wednesday for six weeks. For children 7-14 years old.

Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour

July 9 9 a.m.
Reservations required. **Fee charged.**
Limit 12 people.

Grand Opening Fresnel Lens Building

Late July Evening

August

National Lighthouse Day

August 7
Call for more information.
Reduced tower tour fee all day.

25th Annual "Barefoot Black Tie Dinner Dance"

August 13 6:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Reservations required. **Fee charged.**
For more information or tickets call:
631-321-7028.

Evening Tower Tour

August 14 7:30 p.m.
Reservations required. **Fee charged.**

Amateur Radio Lighthouse Weekend

August 20-21
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	10	Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour
	25	10th Annual Auto Show
October	15	Lantern Light Tour
	29	Ghost Stories and Legends of Fire Island
November	12	Sunrise Tower Tour 6:00 a.m.
	19	Light Keepers Behind the Scenes Tour
	26	Tree Trimming Event, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	26	Evening Tower Tour 4:00 p.m.
December	10	9th Annual Re-Enactment of the Flying Santa, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
	10	Evening Tower Tour 4:00 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.

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 is currently completing the work on returning and displaying the original 1858 First Order Fresnel lens in a newly constructed building. The National Park Service is assisting with assembling the lens inside. Watch for the Grand Opening, in the summer of 2011, on our website www.fireislandlighthouse.com. The Society welcomes new members and contributions to complete the historic project. For more information, call 631-321-7028.

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 2010, FFINS hosted its first annual art show, which was a highlight of the grand opening of the new Patchogue Ferry Terminal. Their 18-month 2010/2011 calendar was created as a fundraiser for the group. For 2011, the group is hosting a photography exhibit, featuring the work of the Nature and Wildlife Photographers of Long Island, on display from May 15 through June 25 at the Patchogue-Watch Hill terminal site. FFINS also provides support for other park programs, and hosted a special tour to Sailors Haven for International Students from Stony Brook University. 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 beauty. In 2010, FOWH purchased ten new mosquito magnets and two new benches for the marina area, and installed outdoor showers at the Dune Station. In 2011, the group plans to purchase a new drinking fountain and additional benches for the Watch Hill common area. 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

Volunteers work to improve Visitor Center Exhibits

Fire Island National Seashore would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work and dedication, who give of their time and talents, and who very often make the impossible possible. This year we at the seashore would like to give a special thank you to a few of those dedicated, underpaid (ha, ha!) volunteers who have recently helped us greatly improve our visitor center exhibits. So thank you to Mike Trotta who has built numerous shelves, fish tank stands, display boxes and more, to Mary Trotta for putting on those special finishing



touches, to Jim Cuzzo for all his help laminating, and for sanding down and sealing all of the wood exhibits with oil each year, keeping them looking great, to Larry Turk for his help in sealing wood exhibits and for his help (along with Linda



Sue) in painting the Watch Hill Visitor Center, to Pat Livingston for scrubbing the Watch Hill exhibits until they shined once more and for keeping the entire visitor center organized, and of course, thank you for everything else all of you **do** to keep us moving forward.

Fish tank stand and display case with U.S. Life Saving Service display made by volunteers.

Interested in Volunteering?

Fire Island National Seashore is one of almost 400 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



Fire Island National Seashore Junior Rangers



National Junior Ranger Day

Held Saturday, April 23, 2011 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 21, 2012.



Park Biologist Lindsay Ries, shares equipment used to help protect threatened and endangered species on Fire Island.

Become a Fire Island National Seashore Junior Ranger

For kids ages 8 - 12. Pick up a free Junior Ranger activity booklet at any of the 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



Our newest booklet is "Explore the Seashore" The Lil' Rangers series is for those 5-7 years old.



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?

- * The only appendage completely regenerated by a mammal can be found on the male deer; antlers.
- * A female mosquito can lay 100 to 300 eggs at one time.
- * The Fire Island Lighthouse Keepers Quarters was used as a school for the children on the island in the early 1900s. The lighthouse keeper's daughter was the teacher.
- * During the summer of 2010, 248,000 female and 2,400 male mosquitoes were collected.

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/FireIslandNPS>

On the Cover:

The Fire Island Lighthouse.

