



Jamaica Bay Visitor Programs

Winter 2006 – 2007

December

Howard Hughes

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Saturday, December 2
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

A presentation and discussion of the record – setting aviator's career, featuring the many flights he made from Floyd Bennett Field. Reservations required.

Harvesting the Heavens

Floyd Bennett Field
Radio Controlled Flying Field
Friday, December 8
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Join the Amateur Astronomers Association to observe winter stars and constellations. Telescopes will be provided. Dress warmly.

Winter Bird Walk

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, December 9
10 a.m. – noon

With the fall migration past, the search is now on for winter resident birds. Waterfowl, gulls, hawks and songbirds are expected. Join bird pro/ park volunteer Ron Bourque for this winter birding trek along the refuge trails. Bring binoculars. Reservations required.

The Ever Changing Nature of Plumb Beach

Plumb Beach Round House
Sunday, December 10
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

The dunes, salt marsh, sand beach, and extensive mudflats of Plumb Beach are dynamic, always changing marine habitats. Explore this fascinating area with American Littoral Society naturalist Mickey Maxwell Cohen. Reservations required.



Winter is a wonderful time to explore Jamaica Bay's natural areas.

The Pines of Winter

Floyd Bennett Field
Main Entrance Ranger Station
Saturday, December 16
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Visit the Ecology Village campgrounds during the "off-season." Search for signs of wildlife, learn winter botany, and explore the folklore of the chilly season, all under an evergreen canopy of pines. Reservations required.

Decorate a Tree for Wildlife

Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Sunday, December 17
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Children ages 6-10 will make simple bird feeders, then bundle up and head out doors to decorate a tree for wildlife. All materials will be provided. Reservations required.

January

New Year's Day Beach Walk

Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Monday, January 1
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join the American Littoral Society for this annual New Year's Day walk on Fort Tilden Beach. At noon, attempt to

Mirror-signal others on a similar outing across the harbor, at Gateway's Sandy Hook. Call (718) 318-9344 for more information.

Nature Photography Workshop

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday, January 7
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Photographer Johann Schumacher covers the tips and techniques for photographing natural landscapes, plants and wildlife. After the indoor presentation, a weather permitting outdoor excursion is sure to inspire budding photographers. Reservations required.

Fort Tilden Beach and Winter Woods

Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Sunday, January 14
10 a.m. – noon

Accompany Mickey Maxwell Cohen of the American Littoral Society on a walk along Fort Tilden's beachfront and little known woodland trails. Explore winter botany, birds, signs of wildlife, and relics of World War II. Reservations required.

**Gateway NRA
Jamaica Bay Unit
Floyd Bennett Field
Building 69
Brooklyn, NY 11234
(718) 338 – 3338**

For Reservations:

Canarsie Pier
(718) 763 - 2202

Education Programs
(718) 338 - 4306

Floyd Bennett Field
(718) 338 - 3799

Fort Tilden
(718) 318 - 4300

Jacob Riis Park
(718) 318 - 4300

Jamaica Bay Institute
(718) 338 - 3338 ext. 222

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
(718) 318 - 4340

Plumb Beach
(718) 338 - 3799

Special Events
(718) 338 - 3512

Visitor Program Office
(718) 338 - 3338 ext. 224

**For information on programs at
other units of Gateway NRA
contact:**

Staten Island Unit, New York
(718) 354 - 4500

Sandy Hook Unit, New Jersey
(732) 872 - 5970

www.nps.gov/gate

**Gateway NRA
Office of Communications and
Public Affairs**
(718) 354 - 4606

Programs are subject to change
due to weather or other concerns.
Please call the park before
attending.

**NYC Audubon
Winter Birding on the Bay
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, January 20
10 a.m. – noon**

Join naturalist Don Riepe for a winter birding ramble along the refuge trails. Look for winter waterfowl in the wetlands; snowbirds, hawks and owls in the uplands. Bring binoculars and lunch. Reservations required.

**Fort Tilden's for the Birds
Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Saturday, January 27
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.**

Park volunteer and expert birder Ron Bourque leads the search for loons, gulls, cormorants and winter-hardy land birds. Climb to the top of historic Battery Harris for a birds-eye view of prime winter bird habitat. Reservations required.

**Winter Birding for Kids
Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday, January 28
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.**

Children ages 7-12 will learn about the amazing adaptations birds have for survival and get hands on practice identifying winter birds. There will be indoor and outdoor components to this program, so dress warmly. Bring binoculars. Reservations required.

February

**NYPD Aviation
Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Saturday February 10
10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
Learn about the history of the NYPD Aviation Unit, which has been based at Floyd Bennett Field since 1936. Reservations required.

**Geology at the
Breezy Point Tip
Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Sunday, February 11
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**
Mickey Maxwell Cohen of the

American Littoral Society leads this two-mile round trip trek to the wild, western tip of the Rockaway Peninsula. There will be car-pooling from Fort Tilden to the Breezy Point Tip. Dress warmly. Reservations required.

**Birding Breezy
Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Saturday, February 17
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Park volunteer and expert birder Ron Bourque leads this birding trip to the winter beach at Breezy Point. Sanderlings, dunlin, purple sandpipers are expected, while snow buntings and even a snowy owl could be special treats. There will be car-pooling from Fort Tilden to the Breezy Point Tip. Dress warmly. Reservations required.

**Tuskegee Airmen
Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Saturday, February 17
2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Celebrate Black History Month with this presentation and discussion of these World War II aviation heroes. Reservations required.

**Winter Animal Signs
Fort Tilden
Visitor Contact Station
Sunday, February 18
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.**

Just because we don't always see animals at Fort Tilden doesn't mean they're not here. Be a nature detective on this fun family program and learn the basics of identifying animal tracks and other winter animal signs. A portion of this program will be outdoors, so dress accordingly. Reservations required.



Urban National Parks

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Saturday, February 24
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Learn about some of the National Park Service sites that are found in New York City, and other large urban areas. Reservations required.

NYC Audubon Early, Early Spring Nature Walk

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sunday, February 25
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Look for the earliest signs of spring along the trails of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Spy winter waterfowl in courtship display and returning red-winged blackbirds to the marshes. Bring binoculars. Reservations required.

Jamaica Bay History Series

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
The National Park Service presents this series of lectures and presentations on historical topics relating to Jamaica Bay. All programs are free, but reservations are required. Call (718) 318 – 4340.

Jamaica Bay: A History

Wednesday, February 7 at 7 p.m.
Author Dan Hendrick will discuss his all – encompassing new book on Jamaica Bay. Books will be available for purchase at the book store.

Robert Moses and Jamaica Bay

Wednesday, February 21 at 7 p.m.
A presentation on New York's master builder and the effects of the projects he planned and built on Jamaica Bay.

To Rockaway by Rail

Wednesday, February 28 at 7 p.m.
How the railroads and trolleys helped to spur development in and around Jamaica Bay.

Continuing Programs

Aviation at Floyd Bennett Field

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Saturdays, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
From barnstormers to sub-hunters, find out about the “Golden Age” of aviation and Floyd Bennett Field's crucial role in World War II.

Brooklyn N-Trak

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Sundays, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Learn about this unique form of model railroading.

Cross Country Skiing

Floyd Bennett Field
First Snowfall
Follow the cross-country ski trail through the North 40 Natural Area. A park ranger will cut a track at first snow. Call for trail conditions.

Explore New York City's First Control Tower

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
Sundays, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
See spectacular views of Floyd Bennett Field and Jamaica Bay while learning about their importance to aviation history.

Historic Aircraft Restoration Project

Floyd Bennett Field
Hangar B
Facility closed for winter.
Will reopen spring, 2007.
Call (718) 338-3799 for information.

PARCS Model Aircraft

Floyd Bennett Field
Radio Controlled Flying Field
Open Daily (weather permitting)
Join the Pennsylvania Avenue Radio Control Society at their mini airport within an airport.

Riis Park Walking Group

Parking Lot East of Bathhouse
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, starting January 8 at 8 a.m.
Stay fit by joining our walking group at Jacob Riis Park.

Floyd Bennett Garden Association

FBGA offers community gardens and educational workshops to the public at Floyd Bennett Field. FBGA is a volunteer member organization. Applications for garden plots are available at the Ryan Visitor Center. Contact the FBGA at (718) 338-4255.

Floyd Bennett Field Photo Contest

Floyd Bennett Field
Ryan Visitor Center
If you're an amateur photographer then you're invited to submit your finest photo of Floyd Bennett Field, whether it's an image of the salt grasses at its edge, or a historic structure or plane at its heart. Call for more information regarding the submission guidelines and deadline. Young photographers, ages 14 and under are encouraged to enter the children's competition. Call (718) 338 – 3799 for more information.

Rockaway Artist Alliance

Fort Tilden
Studio 6 and Studio 7
Saturdays, noon to 5 p.m.
Sundays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
All exhibits are free of charge.
For more information, call the RAA at (718) 474-0861 or visit their website at: www.rockawayartistalliance.com

Gifted

November 4-December 10

Where Flowers Bloom In Winter

January 20 – February 18

A Call for Volunteers!

Call (718) 354 – 4564 to learn about volunteer opportunities at the park.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Gateway National Recreation Area
Office of Communications and Public Affairs
210 New York Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10305

Standard Mail
Postage and Fees

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Visitor Programs Jamaica Bay Unit Winter 2006 - 2007

**EXPERIENCE YOUR
AMERICA**

**Gateway National Recreation Area
Jamaica Bay Unit
New York**

**General Superintendent
Gateway National Recreation Area**
Barry Sullivan

**Unit Superintendent
Jamaica Bay Unit**
Lisa Eckert

**Assistant Superintendent for
Special Events Jamaica Bay Unit**
Christine Hoepfner

**Chief of Interpretation
Jamaica Bay Unit**
Kathy Krause

Program Guide Production
John Lincoln Hallowell

**United States Park Police
24 - Hour
Emergency Number:**

(718) 338 - 3988



The 2006 Jamaica Bay History Series will feature author Dan Hendrick speaking about his new book on the history of the bay. **Wednesday, February 7 at 7p.m. at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge Visitor Contact Station.**

Winter is a great time of year to visit Gateway National Recreation Area. The National Park Service and its partners are offering programs throughout the season that give

visitors a new perspective on the treasures that can be found in Jamaica Bay. Dress warmly and *Experience Your America!*