New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238

Contact: Niagara Region

(716) 282-

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GET OUTDOORS THIS FALL FOR FREE!

The Niagara Region of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has released their Fall events schedule. Events take place across the region, are free to attend and reservations are highly encouraged. The schedule is as follows:

October 7, 2012 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Christmas at the Lighthouse Golden Hill State Park

This annual event sponsored by Friends of Thirty Mile Point Lighthouse will include: tours of the lighthouse, bake sale, basket auction, and souvenirs for sale. Visit a state park naturalist's display. There will be food available including a chicken barbeque. Admission to the park and the lighthouse is FREE. Donations to the Friends Group are gratefully accepted. For information call (716)795-3885.

Saturday, October 13 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Goat Island Walking Tour Niagara Falls State Park A casual walk that will feature facts, figures, stories, and a little bit of exercise along with some natural beauty. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

> Friday, October 19 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The River from the Rim Devil's Hole/Whirlpool State Park

Tranquil and turbulent as it makes its way to the sea, the Niagara River has many stories to tell and mysteries to reveal. This gentle and scenic hike will give you some insight to the natural and cultural history of the Mighty Niagara. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Saturday, October 20 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Flat Out Fall Adventure Whirlpool State Park This journey will take us to the mighty rapids of the Niagara River at the Whirlpool Flats. Along the way we will discuss historical events, identify plants, observe wildlife, and connect with nature. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Sunday, October 21 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The Great Gorge Experience Niagara Falls State Park This hike is a nice introduction to the trails and scenic beauty of the Niagara Gorge. We will use the new staircase to connect to the rim trail and visit some new, breathtaking scenic overlooks. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

> Saturday, October 27 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Halloween Spooktacular New York Power Authority

Happy Halloween! Ghosts, ghouls and goblins.....oh my!! State Park naturalists will take part in this event at the New York Power Authority's visitor center. Come join us for a ghoulish fun time and make a Halloween craft! For information contact NYPA at (716) 286-6661.

Saturday, October 27 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. In Search of Owls Golden Hill State Park Owls occupy a very fascinating place in nature. As we listen and look for them we will talk about their life history and the various species found in the Niagara Region. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Sunday, October 28 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Autumn Moonlit Hike Beaver Island State Park Let us hope to "Feast our Eyes" on what Native Americans call the Full Hunter's Moon! The sky should be bright as we search and listen for creatures of the night! For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Saturday, November 10

10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Gorge at Low Water Whirlpool State Park

Enjoy the Niagara Gorge after the volume of water in the Niagara River is reduced by 25%. Join park naturalists for a guided hike that will take you past the Whirlpool to the site of the Great Gorge Route station and beyond. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

> Saturday, November 17 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Gorge at Low Water Whirlpool State Park

Enjoy the Niagara Gorge after the volume of water in the Niagara River is reduced by 25%. Join park naturalists for a guided hike that will take you past the Whirlpool to the site of the Great Gorge Route station and beyond. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Saturday, December 8 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Deck the Halls New York Power Authority Come bring the family to a holiday celebration of fun at the New York Power Authority's visitor center. State Parks will join in and provide a craft for the children. For information contact NYPA at (716) 286-6661.

> Thursday, December 13 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. "Go and Catch A Falling Star!" Geminid Meteor Shower Evangola State Park

The Geminids are now considered by many experts as the most brilliant and reliable meteor shower surpassing the August Perseids shower! So bring a blanket and lawn chair and enjoy up to 120 blue green streaking meteors an hour! For information & registration call (716)549-1050.

Saturday, December 15 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Christmas Crafts DeVeaux Woods State Park Take a break and come join us for a fun- filled and relaxing afternoon of holiday crafts! We will have a variety of simple crafts for you to make. For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Saturday, December 22 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Ski More Knox! Knox Farm State Park

A rollicking ski on the "Ess Kay" snow, a "Show Barn" and hayfield, along we go! Cut like a "Sabre" along the slope, with a "Roycroft" style and a "Polo" lope. A "Mansion" and "Greenhouse" beckons on the rise, the beauty and history brings mist to our eyes! For information & registration call (716) 549-1050.

> Friday, December 28 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. The Full Long Nights Moon Snowshoe Hike Wilson Tuscarora State Park

The sparkle of the full moon on a freshly fallen blanket of snow illuminates the night like nothing else. Join us for a walk on the 1st full moon of winter and the last full moon of 2012. Look & listen for nocturnal animals as you enjoy the park in a whole new way. (Weather permitting for snowshoe use). For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Angela P. Berti, APR Western District Marketing and Public Affairs Coordinator NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Prospect Park P.O. Box 1132 Niagara Falls, NY 14303 716. 278.1764-Phone 716.704.6270-cell www.nysparks.state.ny.us

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