

SPRING EVENTS BLOOM AT STATE PARKS

Spring has sprung in Western New York and the Office of New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has a full calendar of events to help everyone get back outdoors again!

Friday, April 13

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Friday the 13th Adventure

DeVeaux Woods State Park

Join us as we explore superstitions and urban legends surrounding Friday the 13th. Ghost stories by campfire to follow (weather permitting). *For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.*

Friday, April 27

7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Night Buckhorn Swamp People!

Buckhorn Island State Park

Will O' the Wisp, Swamp Sucker Mist. Leads us astray, where the nightjars still play. Whinnied screech owls fright, by Niagara's flowing might. Hear a rattling snore? A Leopard Frog roars. A symbian chorus tonight, Buckhorn Theater by candlelight! *For information & registration call (716)549-1050.*

Friday, May 4

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Woodland Wildflower Walk

Wilson Tuscarora State Park

Spring is in the air! Mother Nature awaits you with her annual display of wildflowers! Stroll through a woods filled of old growth trees, listen for the birds overhead, and behold the beauty seen only this time of the year! End your evening with a Lake Ontario sunset! What a great start to your weekend!

For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Saturday, May 12

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

International Bird Migration Day

Lake Erie State Park

The southern shore of Lake Erie has one of the largest concentrations of colorful spring migrant bird species in North America! Take a song bird serenaded walk along the forested beach ridge trails and witness part of the epic bird migration north to the boreal forest breeding grounds. This is a New York

State Parks and "Environment for the Americas" cooperative program. *For information & registration call (716) 549-1050.*

Saturday, May 12

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

War of 1812

Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park

The War of 1812 occurred 200 years ago! Learn about the attack at Queenston on Upper Canada forces and the later capture of Fort Niagara. Hear about the Tuscarora Heroes that assisted residents escaping the burning of Lewiston. Time period artifacts will be shown. This is a cooperative program presented by Old Fort Niagara and the New York State Parks. *For information & registration call (716) 282-5154.*

Saturday, May 19

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Niagara Bike Ride
Devil's Hole State Park

Get your bikes ready and join us on a bicycle ride from Devil's Hole State Park to the Grand Island Bridge and back. This will be a leisurely ride along the river with stops along the way to view what you may miss when you travel by auto. *For information and registration call (716) 282-5154.*

Sunday, May 20

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Little Beaver Island Reborn

Beaver Island State Park

Marshes are the richest of all habitats teeming with fish, turtles, frogs, water birds and plant life. Industry and development destroyed many of the freshwater marshes along the Niagara River. Witness a historic marsh restoration project that has created trail and kayak access to view the variety of birds and other wildlife species that inhabit a freshwater marsh environment. *For information and registration call (716) 549-1050.*

Saturday, May 26

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Big Tree Trek

Long Point State Park

Deep in the canopied forest awaits, twisted tree relics of all different shapes. Red Maple, Black Cherry and Tulip so tall, a wooded cathedral never felled with saw! Our forest adventure is sure to be swell, discovering old trees and the stories that they tell! *For information call (716) 549-1050.*

Saturday, June 2

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

National Trails Day-Length of Gorge Hike

Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park

Come and enjoy the beautiful Niagara Gorge as we hike the entire rim and gorge trails from the mouth of the gorge at Artpark to the American Falls! National Trails Day is an annual event celebrated across the United States. "America's Largest Trailgating Party!" is the theme for this year. For information go to <http://www.americanhiking.org/>

For program information & registration call (716) 282-5154.

Saturday, June 9, Sunday, June 10

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fairy House Festival

Sponsored by Artpark and Company

Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park

Join the various fun activities. Make your own fairy house to contribute or to take home. Visit state park naturalists at their display on local mammals and Niagara area minerals and fossils. Hands-on activities included. *For information and fees call the Artpark Box Office at (716) 754-4375.*

Saturday, June 23

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Free Fishing Day!

Long Point State Park

Chautauqua Lake fishing is fun so give it a try on a day when no New York State fishing license is required! We will bring the equipment and teach some simple fish-catching techniques so you can feel the thrill of a big one pulling on the line! *For information & registration call (716) 549-1050.*

Saturday, June 30

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Lost! Finding Your Way Without a
Map or Compass**

Evangola State Park

You are alone in the woods; the G.P.S. battery is dead and you have forgotten your compass. By interpreting the natural things around them, early Native Americans and explorers traveled through the wilderness without the aid of modern devices. Let's get "lost" and learn to use our own powers of observation and five senses to find our way out of the woods. *For information & registration call (716) 549-1050.*

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, April 28

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Earth Day Activities

New York Power Authority

Join in the fun at this event sponsored by NYPA. Visit our state parks display and make a "recycled" craft.

For information call (716) 286-6661.

Saturday, April 28

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Boom Days

LaSalle Yacht Club

Celebrate spring and removal of the ice boom. Visit our state parks display at this event. *For information on other boom day events happening also on March 30 and 31st - go to www.boomdays2012.com or call*

(716) 523-3980.

Saturday, April 28

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge Open House

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center

Stop by our state parks wildflower and mammals display and make a flower at this Open House sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

For information call (585) 948-5445 ext 200.

Saturday, June 2

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Fish and Wildlife Festival

Hyde Park, Niagara Falls, NY

Come celebrate National Fishing and Boating Week, and visit our state parks display and activities at this event sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. *For information call (716) 691-5456, ext 122.*