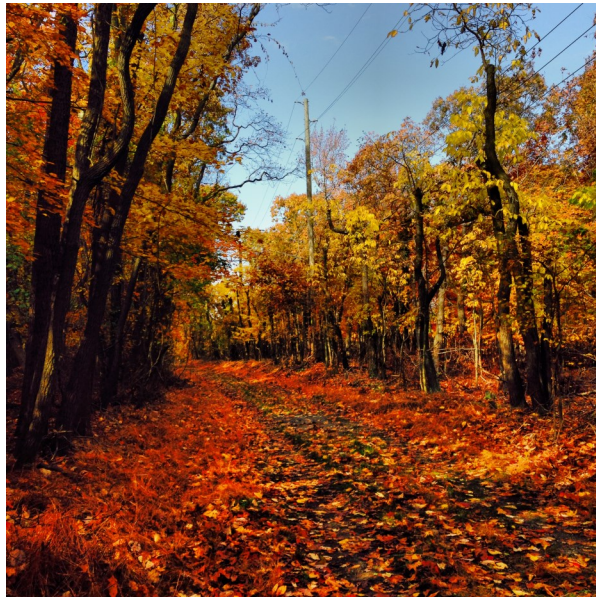




Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve

Fall Events Guide (October–December)



STATE OF NEW YORK
Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
Rose Harvey, Commissioner
Leslie Wright, NYC Regional Director
Chris Cuschieri, Preserve Manager

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Agency

Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve

Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve is a 260-acre natural area near the southwest shore of Staten Island. Once the site of clay-mining, the Preserve today contains a mixture of unique habitats such as wetlands, fields, sandy barrens, spring-fed streams and woodlands. As a terminal point for some northern and southern species, the area is rich with a variety of plant and animal life.

Clay Pit Ponds is New York City's first State Park Preserve. It is managed to retain its' unique ecology. The Preserve is an Audubon Bird Conservation Area and is home to Gericke Farm, where organic gardening is still practiced and taught.

- Enjoy hiking on our designated foot trails!
- Bring your own horse and ride our 5 miles of horse trails!

Our nature trails open daily from dawn to dusk.

Preserve Headquarters (83 Nielsen Ave.)
open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily.
Gate at Headquarters locked at 5 p.m.

Wildlife has free run of the Preserve. This is their home and you are their guests. Visitors must follow Preserve rules.



The Interpretive Center
Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve
2351 Veteran's Rd. West
Staten Island, NY 10309

Open Tuesday—Saturday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Phone: 718-605-3970 ext. 201

All programs are FREE of charge.
All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration for public programs will be accepted two weeks prior to the program.

The Interpretive Center at Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve strives to provide educational and recreational programs for people of all ages.

The Interpretive Center also offers in-house and outreach programs for schools and other groups throughout the year. These programs are free and are designed to fit your curriculum needs and to enhance your visit to our state parks.

Call 718-605-3970 ext. 201 to book your trip!

For information or directions please call us or visit our website
WWW.NYSPARKS.COM/PARKS/166/DETAILS.ASPX

Fun for Kids: Ages 5 and up

Fall Nature Hike

Saturday, October 4th
1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Join us to welcome fall with a hike in our woods. Use your senses to complete a seasonal scavenger hunt along the way!

Growing Greens!

Saturday, October 11th
10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Plant your own seeds with us at Gericke Farm (2876 Arthur Kill Road). Learn how to plant and care for seeds, as well as how they grow! A \$3 donation is suggested for materials.

Secret Plant Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, October 11th
1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Join us at Gericke Farm (2876 Arthur Kill Road) and use your observatory skills to complete a secret plant scavenger hunt and learn about plants and vegetables.

Dream Catcher

Saturday, November 8th
1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Learn about the beliefs behind the 'dream catcher.' Then, using natural materials, create a dream catcher to hang at home. A \$3 donation is suggested for materials.

Picture Perfect

Saturday, November 29th
10:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Paint a picture frame of your own. Keep it for yourself or give it as a gift. Bring a 2x2 picture to put in your frame! A \$3 donation is suggested for materials.

Fun for Kids: Ages 5 and up

Winter Hike

Saturday, December 27th
10 a.m.

Come join us on a hike to welcome winter! We will hike along our green and blue trails and see what winter visitors have arrived.

Family Adventures: Fun For All Ages

National Food Day Fall Festival

Saturday, October 25th
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Join us for our first fall festival, in cooperation with National Food Day, sponsored by NYS Parks and Senator Andrew Lanza. Come make a scarecrow, paint a pumpkin to take home, go on a nature hike and more! Please bring canned food for our canned food drive! Call us or check out our website for more details on the timeslot of each event!

Fall Photography 101

Saturday, November 1st
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Join award winning and local grant funded photographer, Jarred Sutton, for Photography 101. From beginner to advanced amateur, learn to overcome the technical with technique to make the camera an extension of our hand. After the learning session, put those new skills to work as we walk the grounds and capture the fall foliage with Jarred's guidance to answer all your real world questions! Check out www.jarredsutton.com.

Family Adventures: Fun For All Ages

To Kill a Mockingbird and When Children Discover America

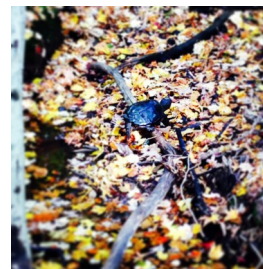
Saturday, November 22nd
2:00 p.m.

Join us for this program presented by Staten Island OutLoud. We'll read from *Mockingbird* and Harper Lee's essay on what America means to children. Community conversation followed by a forest walk, weather permitting.

Wreath Making

Saturday, December 13th
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Join us for our annual wreath making demonstration and make your own wreath to take home, just in time for the holidays! Please bring any additional decorations you would like to decorate your wreath with and any pruners if you have them. If you have a wreath base from the previous year, please bring that one to use. A \$10 donation is suggested for materials.



For the Adults

Project WILD & aquatic WILD Workshop

Saturday, October 18th
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Sign up for this Department of Environmental Conservation– presented professional development workshop: a wildlife-focused conservation education program for classroom and non-formal pre K-12 educators and their students. At this workshop, you will be given an overview of the curriculum and activities, as well as an activity guide to take home. Please register and bring lunch!

De-Stressing with Herbs

Saturday, December 20th
11:00 a.m.

What herbs on your kitchen spice shelf can ease the stresses of daily life? Herbalist Gert Coleman will show you some simple herbal teas and other remedies to help you de-stress around the holiday season. A \$5 donation is suggested for materials.

If you would like to register for a program, book a class trip, or to be added to our mailing or e-mail list, please e-mail Elisabetta.OConnor@parks.ny.gov or call 718-605-3970 ext. 201.

Donations for programs or materials are appreciated.

Before your visit, please apply sunscreen and bug spray. When you are leaving, please always check for ticks!