



Friends of Sterling Forest Schedule of Events October 2017



THE FRIENDS OF STERLING FOREST (F.S.F.) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established to protect and preserve the great legacy of natural resources and historical treasures within Sterling Forest State Park. Our events are open to the public and free of charge; donations, however, are gratefully accepted to assist us in fulfilling our mission.

All events will originate at the Lautenberg Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

Hudson River Valley Ramble

Sunday, October 1

This is the last day of the annual Hudson River Valley Ramble. Visit www.hudsonrivervalleyramble.com for a list of events happening today!

Friends of Sterling Forest Annual Meeting

Sunday, October 8 12 NOON

All members are encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the F.S.F. The agenda will include the nomination and election of officers for the coming year, as well as an update on current activities and events. Bring your lunch! We'll provide coffee/tea and cookies.

Lecture: The Underground Railroad in Orange County

Sunday, October 8 1 PM

Linda Zimmerman, local author and researcher, will discuss the history of the Underground Railroad in Orange County. Prior to the Civil War, runaway slaves hid in dark corners of basements, in secret rooms behind coal bins, and in abandoned mine shafts. Local residents risked heavy fines, imprisonment, and even torture, as they provided food, shelter, and transportation for these exhausted and terrified men, women, and children. This presentation will highlight some of the dramatic stories of these slaves, abolitionists, and bounty hunters – stories that took place in our own backyards.

Hike: Iona Island

Sunday, October 15 1 PM

First came the Native Americans - then the Dutch - then the British troops - then the entrepreneurs - then the U.S. Navy - and finally the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Iona Island has had a curious and varied history! Join Doc Bayne and members of the F.S.F. for an approximately 3 hour leisurely-paced walking tour of the island. Be sure to bring water and a snack and wear comfortable, sturdy shoes. **Meet at Iona Island in the parking lot by the railroad tracks.** (Iona Island is just off 9W, about one mile south of the Bear Mountain Inn.)

Hike: Lakeville Iron Trail at Night

Friday, October 27 7 PM

Join Doc Bayne and members of the F.S.F. for a night hike on the same trails and roads miners historically walked to go to work. Are their spirits still in Lakeville? Come and see for yourself! Bring a candle lantern if you can; flashlights will not be used on the hike. This program will last approximately 2 hours. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots.

Lecture: Sterling Forest Gardens

Sunday, October 29 1 PM

Sterling Forest Gardens opened in the 60's and closed in the mid 70's. Located in a wonderful wooded setting, the Gardens were known for displays of spring bulbs and formal elements, such as European-style fountains. Doc Bayne will bring the Gardens to life once again as he presents hundreds of photos of the Gardens in all their glory.

Registration is required for all programs.

For more information or to register, call 845-351-5907.