

Caleb Smith State Park Preserve

Tiny Tots: "Nature Discoveries"

This is a special time for both parent and child to discover the wonders of their natural world together. Each program's theme will use nature explorations and hands-on activities as a springboard for learning. Children ages 3-5. **Held on Thursdays: 10:00 - 11:00 am**

January 11 th	(12/28)	Deer Detectives
January 25 th	(1/11)	Snowflakes Keep Falling on My Head!
February 8 th	(1/25)	To Nature with Love!
February 22 nd	(2/8)	Who's Been Walking in The Snow?
March 8 th	(2/22)	What's Green?
March 22 nd	(3/8)	In Like a Lion – Out Like a Lamb

January

Wildlife Oddities Family Program	Saturday	January 13th	1:30 – 3:00 pm
There are some mighty odd plants and animals that live in the preserve and around the world. We have plants that eat meat and plants that 'pop' seeds every which way. There are bugs that 'talk' using their own light! Let's explore these fun and fascinating wildlife oddities!			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			
The Trail Less Traveled Adult Program	Sunday	January 14th	1:30 – 3:00 pm
For this walk we will take the Red Trail. You will discover areas along this trail that are unlike the views along the well-traveled Yellow and Blue Trails. Wear good walking shoes and bring water if you like. Moderate hike including some hills.			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			
Winter Survivors Children's Program	Saturday	January 27th	10:00 – 11:30 am
Explore some ways animals, birds and insects survive in extremely cold weather. Some dig down into the earth to escape it, some sleep through it and others brave the worst of it. Through fun experiments discover what it is like for these hearty survivors.			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			
Encounters In the Dark Family Program	Sunday	January 28th	1:30 – 3:00 pm
Compare how nocturnal animals cope with the dark of night on Long Island with those living in the total darkness of caves. Discover how well your senses take over in the dark through hands-on games and activities.			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			

Caleb Smith State Park Preserve

February

March

Trout Unlimited Fishing Clinic Family Program	Saturday	March 10th	9:00 am ~ 12:00 pm
	Learn to fly fish with Trout Unlimited! Please call Caleb Smith State Park Preserve for more information and reservations.		
	Reservations are required: (631) 265 -1054		
Suncatchers Children's Program	Saturday	March 10th	1:30 – 3:00 pm
	Discover interesting facts about the sun and why we cannot live without it. Then you will create a unique craft that will capture rays from the sun and transform them into many brilliant colors to brighten up your home.		
	Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054		

Caleb Smith State Park Preserve

Wind Catchers Family Program	Sunday	March 11th	1:30 – 3:00 pm
Wind plays an important part in our world. Discover advantages and disadvantages of the wind through hands-on activities and games. Afterwards, you'll create your very own unique wind catcher for your yard.			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			
Bird & Breakfast Adult Program	Saturday	March 24th	9:00 – 11:00 am
Enjoy a tasty continental breakfast before we head out into the preserve searching for any migrators and our usual local residents.			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			
Hug A Tree And Survive! Family Program	Sunday	March 25th	2:00 – 3:00 pm
You're walking in a huge park enjoying the wonderful sights and sounds of nature and suddenly you realize you are not sure you are on the path you should be. You can't find your map, it is getting dark, it may rain or snow and you are getting a bit scared: what do you do? Join us to explore the simple survival techniques for both children and parents!			
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054			

Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve

January

February

Just a Hike (On the Roads) Adult Program	Sunday	February 11th	12:30 ~ 2:15 pm
While questions are most welcome, there will be no formal nature discussion during this four mile, on road, moderately paced hike, thus affording walkers the opportunity for uninterrupted relaxing and socializing. Some hills. Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770			

Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve

Maple Sugaring Adult Program

Sunday **February 18th** **10:45 am ~ 12:30 pm**

This hands-on program, *geared for the average adult*, will teach you how to identify and tap a maple tree so you can make real maple syrup at home. You will also learn the cultural, historical, economic, and scientific background of this uniquely American craft. Very short-walk. Not recommended for children.

Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770

Birding Basics for Beginners

Adult Program

Saturday **February 24th** **12:30 ~ 2:30 pm**

This hands-on program will introduce adults to birds and their adaptations. It will provide information on where to go and what to get to learn more. Bring binoculars. Indoor program with approximately one mile walk.

Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770

March

History of Caumsett Adult Program

Sunday **March 4th** **11:00 am ~ 1:00 pm**

On this hilly, moderately long walk (approx. 2 miles), we will study the park's social, economic, architectural, and political history.

Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770

Just a Hike (Center Section)

Adult Program

Saturday **March 10th** **11:00 am ~ 1:00 pm**

While questions will be most welcome, there will be no formal nature discussion during this moderately paced, five-mile walk, thus affording the opportunity for uninterrupted relaxing and socializing.

Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770

Winter Water Walk Adult Program

Sunday **March 18th** **9:45 am ~ 1:00 pm**

While our main goals are to leisurely observe winter waterfowl and explore the beach, we'll also learn about ponds. During our moderately paced 4 mile walk to and from the water, we'll relax and socialize. Bring binoculars.

Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770

Introduction to Wilderness Survival Adult Program

Saturday **March 24th** **10:45 am ~ 1:00 pm**

You can survive on your own at Caumsett. In this hands-on program, *geared for the average adult*, we'll teach you how to find food, start a fire and build shelter. Approximately 1 mile. For reasons of safety, no children under 16 will be permitted. There will be some sitting on grass.

Reservations are required: (631) 423 – 1770

Connetquot River State Park Preserve

Tiny Tots: "Nature Discoveries"

Explore the natural world around us. These programs will connect children and their parents with nature through short walks, animal visitors, and crafts. Children ages 3 -5.

Held on Tuesdays: 10:00 - 11:00 am and 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

January 16 th	(1/2)	Winter Wildlife
January 30 th	(1/16)	Wonderful Weather
February 13 th	(1/30)	Owl Always Love You
February 27 th	(2/13)	Snowflakes
March 13 th	(2/27)	Forever Green
March 27 th	(3/13)	Spring is Here!

South Side Sportsmen's Club Historic House Tours

Step back in time as you tour the Main House of the South Side Sportsmen's Club. A docent will discuss the history of the tavern and the high society Sportsmen's Club which shaped Connetquot River State Park Preserve into what it is today.



1:00 – 2:00 pm

January 7th February 4th March 4th

**Reservations are suggested.
Please call 631-581-1072 for more information.**

Annual Hunt Dinner

Friends of Connetquot

6:00 pm

February 10th

The Annual Hunt Dinner will be held at Connetquot River State Park Preserve. Guests can look forward to gathering in the Fish Room for fresh Long Island oysters and clams on the half shell, smoked salmon, shrimp and cheeses. A special dinner will be prepared and served in the Main Dining Room by the Irish Coffee Pub, including Long Island potato soup, sliced filet of beef and roast Long Island duckling, paired with a selection of traditional beverages for each of the courses. But above all, the evening will be remembered for great stories, Connetquot history and wonderful company. The event will be limited to 45.

The price is \$150 per person. For questions or reservations, please send an email to hundinner@friendsofconnetquot.org.

Connetquot River State Park Preserve

January

1st Day Hike Family Program

Monday **January 1st** **1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Join us as we kick off the New Year with a hike to explore the preserve. Discover the changes in the forest during the winter and search for signs of wildlife.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Birdy Birdy Children's Program

Saturday **January 6th** **10:00 ~ 11:30 am**

Celebrate National Bird Day with us! Ever wonder what birds do in the winter? Learn all about our local birds and some winter visitors during a hike in the park.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Bunces North Family Program

Sunday **January 14th** **1:30 ~ 3:30 pm**

Travel along a scenic portion of the Connetquot River and learn about the local and natural history of the very center of the park. Start at the Fish Hatchery and pass by historic sites like Bunces Bridge and Shanty Line. From a shallow creek to flowing stream, see how the "Great River" gets its name.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

The Fearless Life of John K. Hackett

By Chris Kretz
*Hosted by the Friends of
Connetquot*
Adult Program

Saturday **January 20th (1/6)** **1:30 ~ 2:30 pm**

Join Chris Kretz for an interesting presentation that will examine John K. Hackett's life, his adventures, and his unique circle of friends - lawyers, politicians, artists, newspaper editors and sportsmen alike. Chris Kretz is an academic librarian and co-author of Oakdale from Arcadia Press. He also co-hosts the Long Island History Project podcast, sponsored by the Long Island Radio and Television Historical Society. **FREE EVENT!**

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072 or RSVP at www.friendsofconnetquot.org

Bird & Breakfast Adult Program

Saturday **January 13th (12/30)** **8:00 – 11:00 am**

Enjoy a continental breakfast (courtesy of the Friends of Connetquot and the Great South Bay Audubon Society) and a presentation introducing the local and migratory birds seen in our area. Afterward, take a walk through the preserve led by experienced birders from the Great South Bay Audubon Society. Binoculars and identification books will be available for loan.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Deer Detectives Children's Program

Saturday **January 27th** **2:30 – 4:00 pm**

Where have all the deer gone? Expand your deer knowledge indoors as we explore the ways of the white-tailed deer. Outdoors we will become deer detectives and search for the clues that the deer have left behind.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Meet the Animals Children's Program

Sunday **January 28th** **1:30 – 3:00 pm**

Meet some amazing animals face to face that live on Long Island! Learn what creatures could be living in your backyard and the best way to share your space with local wildlife.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Connetquot River State Park Preserve

February

Moonlight Stroll Family Program

Friday

February 2nd

7:30 ~ 9:30 pm

Enjoy a leisurely walk along the meandering moonlit trails of the preserve. This is an excellent chance to get outside and enjoy the crisp winter air while exploring what creatures are around this time of night!

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Landscape Painting

Adult Program



Sunday

February 11th

1:30 – 3:30 pm

Connetquot has always had a rich and vibrant natural history. Capture some of that vibrancy with a guided painting lesson! Learn how to translate some of our natural wildlife and scenery from life to canvas.

There will be an additional fee of \$2.00 per person for materials.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Winter Celebration Family Event

Saturday

February 17th

10:00 – 11:30 am

Celebrate winter break with us and discover the many wonders of winter! Walk through stations with hands on activities and science experiments. Each station will have a unique winter-themed activity and staff members of the Environmental Team will be available to guide you. Stop by anytime during this FREE special event.

Tracks and Traces Family Program

Thursday

February 22nd

10:00 am - 11:30 am

Exploring the forest can be exciting during the winter. Learn how to 'read the signs' animals leave behind, then take a hike as we search for tracks and traces that might even lead us to the animals!

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Snow Day! Children's Program

Friday

February 23rd

10:00 - 11:30 am

Celebrate the snowy season! Did you know snowflakes come in 35 different shapes? Join us to explore more fun snowflake facts through activities and crafts.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Weather Wizards Family Program



Saturday

February 24th

10:00 – 11:30 am

Have you ever wondered how a cloud forms or why a tornado starts? Uncover weather secrets with activities and demonstrations.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Alien Invaders Family Program

Sunday

February 25th

1:30 – 3:00 pm

Not all invaders are from out of this world. Some are more local than you think! Join us to learn about these fascinating creatures, how they traveled to Long Island and made it their home.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Connetquot River State Park Preserve

March

Wildlife Detectives
Children Program

Saturday **March 3rd** **1:30 - 3:00 pm**

Celebrate World Wildlife Day in the forest of the Preserve! During a walk outside, we will uncover what animals are living in the forest by searching for clues they have left behind. Do you have what it takes to be Wildlife Detective?

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Trout Unlimited Fishing Clinic
Family Program

Saturday **March 3rd** **9:00 am ~ 12:00 pm**

Learn to fly fish with Trout Unlimited! Please call Connetquot River State Park Preserve booth for more information and reservations.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1005

Astronomy- Explore the Solar System
Family Program

Friday **March 9th** **7:00 ~ 9:00 pm**

Come discover the fascinating planets that share our sky. With fun hands-on activities we will gain an understanding of how big the solar system is.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Mad Scientist
Family Program

Saturday **March 10th** **10:00 – 11:30 am**

Step into the science lab! During this hands on program, you will participate in fun and exciting experiments. Do you have what it takes to be a Mad Scientist?

This program is appropriate for children ages 7 and up.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

NYS Parks 101
Adult Program

Sunday **March 11th** **1:30 – 3:00 pm**

How well do you know Long Island State Parks? From one named “place by a sharp rock” to “walking dunes”, old estates, and army barracks, we will highlight the parks’ special features and facts. Then you can plan your visits through the year!

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Evergreen Baskets
Adult Program

Saturday **March 17th** **10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Discover fascinating facts about evergreens you never knew before. We will then show you how to create your very own evergreen basket to take home with you.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Sunken Meadow State Park

Tiny Tots: "Nature Discoveries"

Explore the natural world around us. These programs will connect children and their parents with nature through short walks, animal visitors, and crafts. Children ages 3 - 5.

Held on Tuesdays: 10:30 - 11:30 am and 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

January 10 th	(12/27)	It's Time for Snow
January 24 th	(1/10)	Seal Time!
February 7 th	(1/24)	Happy Valentine's Day
February 21 st	(2/7)	Animal Counting
March 7 th	(2/21)	4 Leaf Clover
March 21 st	(3/14)	ABC's

January

1st Day Hike Family Program	Monday	January 1st	1:00 - 2:30 pm
Join us as we kick off the New Year with a hike to explore the preserve. Discover the changes in the forest during the winter and search for signs of wildlife.			

Tracks and Traces Family Program	Saturday	January 6th	10:00 am - 11:30 am
Exploring the forest can be exciting during the winter. Learn how to 'read the signs' animals leave behind, then take a hike as we search for tracks and traces that might even lead us to the animals!			

Scrap the Winter Blues Away Family Program	Saturday	January 20th	10:00 - 11:30 am
Bring your family photos and prepare to make a personalized scrapbook creation, perfect for Valentine's Day!			Reservations are required: (516) 780 – 3295

Sunken Meadow State Park

February

Maple Sugaring Family Program

Saturday **February 3rd** **10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

From seed to syrup, discover the importance of our maple trees! This hands on program will teach you how to identify maple tree, tap it and make syrup! Program is mostly indoors, with short outdoor demonstrations.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Winter Woodland Walk

Family Program

Sunday **February 11th** **1:30 ~ 3:00 pm**

Join us for a winter walk in the forest of Sunken Meadow State Park! Along the way, we will search for signs of wildlife and look for winter visitors.

Reservations are required: (516) 780 – 3295

Bayberry Candle

Family Program

Sunday **February 25th** **1:30 ~ 3:00 pm**

Enjoy the beautiful aroma of bayberry in your own home! Explore what life was like when there were only candles to light up the darkness and create a candle made from real bayberries.

There will be an additional fee of \$2.00 per person for materials.

Reservations are required: (516) 780 – 3295

March

Moonlight Stroll Family Program

Friday **March 2nd** **7:00 ~ 9:00 pm**

Enjoy a leisurely walk along the meandering moonlit trails of the park. This is an excellent chance to get outside and enjoy the crisp winter air while exploring what creatures are around this time of night!

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

Owl Pellet Dissection Family Program

Saturday **March 31st** **10:00 - 11:30 am**

Owls are unique among the bird world. Learn about this amazing raptor and, using dissection tools, we will explore the diet of this nocturnal hunter. Children 7 and up.

Reservations are required: (516) 780 – 3295

Jones Beach Nature Center

Tiny Tots: "Nature Discoveries"

Explore the natural world around us. These programs will connect children and their parents with nature through short walks, animal visitors, and crafts. Children ages 3 -5.

Held on Tuesdays: 10:30 - 11:30 am and 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

January 9 th	(12/26)	Snowflakes
January 23 rd	(1/9)	Spikes & Shields
February 6 th	(1/23)	Heart 2 Heart
February 20 th	(2/6)	Counting Critters
March 6 th	(2/20)	Going Green
March 20 th	(3/6)	Animal ABC's



Winter Seal Walks at Jones Beach



Our winter visitors are here! Come join us for a short talk about seals and then bundle up as we walk along the shoreline to see these amazing mammals.

Monday	January 1 st	1:30 – 3:00pm
Saturday	January 13 th	10:00 – 11:30am
Sunday	January 21 st	1:30 – 3:00pm
Saturday	January 27 th	10:00 – 11:30am
Sunday	February 4 th	1:30 – 3:00pm
Saturday	February 10 th	10:00 – 11:30am
Sunday	February 18 th	1:30 – 3:00pm
Saturday	February 24 th	10:00 – 11:30am
Sunday	March 4 th	1:30 – 3:00pm
Saturday	March 10 th	10:00 – 11:30am
Sunday	March 18 th	1:30 – 3:00pm

Reservations are required. Please call: (516) 780-3295

Jones Beach Nature Center

Spring's Almost Here !



Join us to help protect
the endangered piping plover!

Piping Plover Volunteer Day

Saturday, March 24th
9:00 am

Please register yourself or your group, or for more information,
please call the Nature Center @

516-780-3295