

West Meadow Beach

Spring Environmental Programs



April - June 2013*

SPONSORED BY TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN - Conducted by Eileen Gerle, Environmental Educator

Spring Beach Cleanup - Saturday, April 27, 9:00 am



In honor of Earth Day and the upcoming beach season, why not come down to West Meadow and help clean up debris deposited by winter storms. This is a great community service activity, and scouts can satisfy badge requirements. **Latex gloves supplied. Work gloves, closed shoes recommended.**

International Migratory Bird Day

Saturday, May 12th 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

West Meadow Beach is a stopover destination for many species of migratory birds. We'll celebrate the incredible journeys of our fine-feathered friends during this fun-filled, educational, family event. This year's theme is ***Life Cycle of Migratory Birds: Conservation Across the Americas.***

Bird Walks ~ Crafts & Games ~ Displays ~ Live Bird Demonstration



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Become a Junior Beach Ranger Ages 9-12

This yearlong program meets monthly so participants can discover West Meadow Beach in all seasons. Rangers keep a nature diary, hike, explore, solve nature mysteries, identify the plants and animals of West Meadow's varied habitats, and help with species monitoring programs. Rangers earn a patch at the completion of each season.

DATES: April 13 - 10:00 am or 1:00 pm, May 4 -10:00 am ONLY, June 22 - 8:00 pm (PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST ATTEND)

Egg Hunt - April 6 Ages 3-5 9:00 – 10:00 am or 11:00 am – 12:00 noon

Your child will learn about camouflage while hunting for eggs on the beach. Parents must accompany children.



Growing Up **WILD**

April 20 – Wild About Wildlife Ages 3 & 4 1:00 – 2:00 pm

We'll explore the concept of wild versus tame animals, discuss why it's best to "keep the wild in wildlife," and go on a wild animal walk to look for wildlife that lives at West Meadow Beach. Parents must accompany children.

April 20 – No Bones About It Ages 5 - 7 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Many of the animals that live in the sea are invertebrates – animals without a backbone. We'll explore the beach to see what kind of invertebrates live at West Meadow. Parents must accompany children.

May 25 – Backbone Bonanza Ages 5 - 7 12 noon – 1:00 pm

West Meadow Beach is also home to many vertebrate animals – those animals with a backbone. We'll discuss the different groups of vertebrates and take a hike to look for signs of vertebrate animals at the beach. Parents must accompany children.



FAMILY PROGRAMS

Horseshoe Crab Walks

Did you know that horseshoe crabs really aren't crabs, despite their name? Learn all about these fascinating "ancient mariners" that spawn at West Meadow each spring, and take a walk down the beach to look for pairs coming ashore to nest. **DATES: May 25, June 8, June 21, July 6 6:30 – 8:00 pm**



Full Moon Hikes

Enjoy a rare opportunity to hike down Trustees Road at night. Participants will learn about nocturnal animals that live at West Meadow Beach by searching for clues and solving riddles. If the skies are clear we will discuss moon lore and use a spotting scope to look at the basic Lunar features such as mares and craters.



April 26, 8:00 – 9:30 pm May 24, 8:00 – 9:30 pm June 20, 8:00 – 9:30 pm

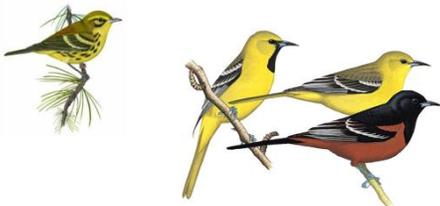
Astronomy Night – May 10th, 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Come down to West Meadow Beach to view the night sky by telescope. You'll learn how to pick out the Spring Constellations, plus get good views of Saturn and Jupiter. With Gary Vorwald, Science Chair - Paul J. Gelinis JHS, and David Cohn, Director - Educational Projects Network. Weather permitting - rain/cloudy skies cancel.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Birding Walks

These walks will highlight spring migrants as well as the year-round avian residents of West Meadow Beach. We'll be on the lookout for warblers, orioles, plovers and other shorebirds, herons, egrets, and Ospreys. Walks last approximately 2 hours.



April 20	9:30 am
May 11	7:00 am
May 25	8:00 am
June 8	7:00 am
June 29	8:00 am



Seasonal Nature Walks

Learn about the flora and fauna of West Meadow Beach. These hikes will highlight animals that are seasonal visitors, in addition to the yearlong residents of the peninsula, and focus on the plant communities that make up beach habitats. Binoculars suggested, comfortable shoes, hat, a must. Walks last approximately 2 hours.



April 27	2:00 pm
May 25	2:00 pm
June 15	2:00 pm



Meet at Covered Pavilion next to Playground

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

E-mail your reservation to egerle@brookhaven.org

**Programs will not be conducted in inclement weather. Dates and times are subject to change.*



Edward P. Romaine, Supervisor

Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld, Council District 1 Jane Bonner, Council District 2 Kathleen Walsh, Council District 3
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