

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

**To Nature
With Love**
Family Program

Saturday February 10th 10:00 – 11:30 am

Discover the winter birds that visit our feeders and why. Children and their families will have fun making their own feeder to take home. We will also make a few pinecone feeders to hang here in the preserve while on a short walk.
Reservations are required: (631) 265 - 1054

**Winter Wonderland
On the South Side**
Adult Program

Sunday February 11th 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Enjoy a walk into the winter woodlands of the south side to discover how nature changes during the winter months. Cross your fingers and hope for a touch of snow to brighten up our walk.
Reservations are required: (631) 265 - 1054

**Fearsome Jaws
Of Dinosaurs**
Family Program

Friday February 23rd 10:00 – 11:30 am

Discover how fearsome and large these awesome creatures were! Explore how fossils are formed through hands on activities and make a fun craft for home.
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054

Tracks & Traces
Children’s Program

Saturday February 24th 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Children will become nature detectives as they unravel the clues left behind by the park’s wildlife. Make your own ‘tracks and traces’ book filled with your favorite animals tracks to take home with you. We will take a short walk outside if weather permits.
Reservations are required: (631) 265 – 1054

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

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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

Maple Sugaring Adult Program

Sunday January 14th 12:30 ~ 2:15 pm
Saturday January 27th 10:30 am ~ 12:15 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 unique American craft. Very short-walk.
Not recommended for children.
Reservations are required: (631) 423 - 1770

February

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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

February 10th

Friends of Connetquot

6:00 pm

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 huntndinner@friendsofconnetquot.org.

Connetquot River State Park Preserve

January

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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

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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.

Reservations are required: (631) 581 -1072

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!

Reservations are required: (516) 780 – 3295

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