



John Boyd Thacher State Park

May 2024 Programs

I Love My Park Day

Saturday, May 4th, 9:00-11:30am

Meet at the Pear Orchard Pavillion

I Love My Park Day is an annual event that brings together thousands of volunteers to enhance and celebrate New York's amazing parkland. Join your friends, family and neighbors and sign up today to volunteer at your favorite state park or site.

Registration required. Register here: www.ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day

Drop-in Wildflower Scavenger Hunt

Sunday, May 5th, 9:00-3:00pm

Meet at the Nature Center

Celebrate National Wildflower Week by stopping by the Nature Center between 9am and 3pm to pick up a scavenger hunt. Bring the completed scavenger hunt back to the Nature Center for a prize! Note: trails are often muddy in the spring; dress for the weather. **No registration required.**

Wildflower Walk

Saturday, May 11th, 10:00am-11:00am

Meet at the Nature Center

Enjoy a walk around the Nature Center to discover what's in bloom! There will be a 1 hour break between this walk and the Watercolor Wildflowers program; participants attending both programs are invited to bring their own lunch.

Registration required. Call 518-872-0800.

Watercolor Wildflowers

Saturday, May 11th, 12:00-2:00pm

Meet at the Nature Center

Practice watercolor techniques as you paint wildflowers with professional artist Diane Steele. \$20 per person, cash payable at the time of the program. Meet at the Nature Center. All skill levels. Ages 18+.

Registration required. Call 518-872-0800.



Native Plant Sale

Saturday, May 18th, 10:00am-3:00 pm

Meet at the Thacher Overlook

SATURDAY ONLY. Native perennials, shrubs, and trees with beautiful flowers are for sale! Native plants can fill difficult areas and bring gorgeous color throughout the year. Knowledgeable staff will be on hand to assist and answer questions.

No registration required.



Centennial Challenge

We've come up with a list of 100 activities to give you a chance to get outdoors and discover our state parks, to learn more about our New York State history at our historic sites, and to give back to preserve all our properties for the next generation. You can participate in the Centennial Challenge either as an individual or as part of a group or team! **Learn more at www.parks.ny.gov/100/challenge/**

Nature Bus

This free bus service brings you to popular outdoor locations where you can enjoy free programming on most weekends. Take a guided walk, try out bird identification, or simply get to know nature... there's so much to do!

Nature Bus 2024 service to Thacher begins in Albany on Saturday, June 1st.

<https://www.mohawkhudson.org/nature-bus>



Scan here to sign up for our mailing list.





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June 2024 Programs

Birds of Prey Accessible Program

Saturday, June 1st, 12:00-4:00pm

Stop by the Visitor Center where wildlife rehabilitator Kelly Martin will introduce you to live hawks, owls, and falcons. Binoculars will be available for visitors to borrow.

No registration required.

Painting Outside the Lines Accessible Program

Sunday, June 2nd, 1:00pm-3:00pm

Meet at the Nature Center

Explore unique approaches in the use of mats to extend and enhance your paintings. A 5 x 7" painting will be completed in this two hour workshop with professional artist Diane Steele. \$20 per person, cash payable at the time of the program.

All skill levels. Ages 18+.

Registration required. Call 518-872-0800.

New Moon Hike

Saturday, June 8th, 8:45pm-10:45pm

Meet at the Old Stage Road Trailhead

Take a hike on the High Point Trail to learn about the importance of darkness for amphibians, birds, and other animals! We'll travel two miles round-trip over moderate terrain on one of the darkest nights of the year. Ages 13+. Headlamp or flashlight recommended.

Registration required. Call 518-872-0800.

Make Your Own Fossil Accessible Program

Saturday, June 15th 12:00pm-4:00pm

Meet at the Visitor Center

Drop by this table to learn how Thacher Park's fossils formed over 420 million years ago and make your own to take home! All ages.

No registration required.

 Thacher State Park

 @ThacherNatureCenter

Drop-in Summer Scavenger Hunt

Sunday, June 23rd

Meet at the Thacher Nature Center

Celebrate the first Sunday of summer by stopping by the Nature Center between 9am and 3pm to pick up a scavenger hunt. Bring the completed scavenger hunt back to the Nature Center for a prize!

No registration required.

Time-Traveling 1 Lecture: 60 million years of history, John Boyd Thacher State Park

Saturday, June 22, 2024, 10:00am-11:00am

The rocks of Thacher Park record a long history of shallow seas, extinct marine life, volcanism and mountain building in New England, and much more. Explore this history between 450 to 390 million years ago with Dr. Chuck Ver Straeten, of the New York State Museum. This talk is followed on Sunday by a hike to see that long and deep history, long before the dinosaurs.

Registration required. Call 518-872-0800.

Time-Traveling 2: A walk through 60 million years, Thacher State Park

Sunday, June 23, 2024, 10:00am-1:00pm

Join Dr. Chuck Ver Straeten of the New York State Museum on this time-traveling hike extending from the Indian Ladder Trail to the highest point in the park. It will build on the previous day's talk, visiting some less known parts of the park, on and off trail. The hike will be fairly strenuous, rising from 1000 to 1750 feet, and last about 3 hours.

Registration required. Call 518-872-0800.

Pollinator Discovery Walk

Saturday, June 29th 10:00am-11:00am

Bees, butterflies, beetles, and birds! Join us for a walk in the Nature Center meadows as we discover incredible relationships between animals and plants that support our ecosystems and sustain our food systems.

Registration Required. Call 518-872-0800.