

The Sandy Hook
Foundation



June 2021

The Sand Paper *A Newsletter from The Sandy Hook Foundation*

Dear Friends of
Sandy Hook,

Summer is here!
Where do you want
to go today?
Sandy Hook!

Your donation to
The Sandy Hook
Foundation
supports our
mission to protect
and preserve Sandy
Hook's natural and
cultural resources.



As you read about Sandy Hook happenings this summer we hope you will give generously to support our Summer 2021 Appeal. Here's to a great summer!

The Staff and Board of Trustees of the Sandy Hook Foundation

Please Support the Summer
Appeal



National Trails Day at Sandy Hook

All Summer Long ...

Mondays – Birding on the Deck

Visit a ranger on top of the Sandy Hook Observation Deck at Lot M beginning June 7 – August 30. A scope will be set up from 9am – 11am to view and learn how to identify osprey, egrets, and songbirds. No reservation required.

Wednesdays – Fort Hancock History Tours

Meet on the grounds of the Fort Hancock Post Museum, Building 28 beginning June 16 – August 25. Take a ranger-led stroll around Fort Hancock with stops at the Fort Hancock Museum, Sandy Hook Lighthouse, Mortar Battery, Battery Potter, Rodman Gun, and Officer's Row. Reservations required by calling (732) 872-5970

Saturdays – Yoga on the Beach

Gather at Beach Area E, Center Beach Chute from 8 am – 9 am beginning June 5 – August 28 for this free program funded by the Sandy Hook Foundation. The class will be a peaceful yet traditional Vinyasa yoga practice on the beach. Open to everyone and all levels, the focus will be on flowing through basic poses and maintaining poses with proper alignment. Bring a large beach blanket and wear light, comfortable workout attire and be sure to have water. No reservation required.

Get fit and lean and enjoy the outdoors! Join a park ranger and bike the Multi-Use Path from Lot B to Fort Hancock and back, followed up by a beach cleanup across from Lot B on Plum Island. Bring your bicycle, helmet and water. 10 MILES

A NPS Program

Saturday, June 5, 10am – 12pm

Parking Lot B

Reservations Required: 732-872-5970

Fort Hancock Bike Tour

Join a ranger-led, guided bike tour of Fort Hancock highlighting everything in your path from batteries to beaches. Bring you bicycle, helmet, and water. 3 MILES

A NPS Program

Sunday, June 20, 10am – 12pm

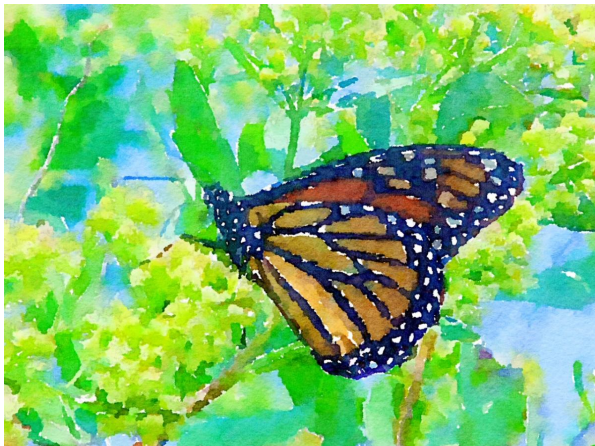
Theater Parking Lot (across from the Chapel)

Reservations Required: 732-872-5970

Bicycles for Rent

Bicycles are now available for rent on Sandy Hook, by SAHO Bike Rentals. An everyday operation from 9 am – 5 pm located on the grounds outside the Post Theater, call 732-737-4387 or visit sandyhookbeachrentals.com to confirm weather-dependent rental details.

With summer also comes the addition of food trucks at lots B, C, D, E, G, and I. Please see the [2021 FOOD VENDORS MAP](#) for detailed information. Also don't forget McFly's permanent food operation in Fort Hancock across from the lighthouse!



Butterflies, Bees and Pollinators, Oh My! Celebrate Pollinator Week

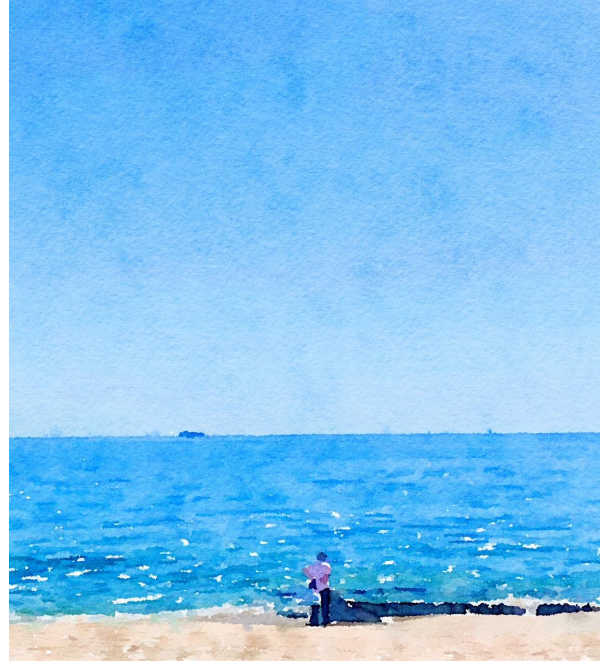
Bees and other pollinators are declining in number. Pollinators (butterflies, bees and birds) are necessary for the health of our food crops, and more. Join a park ranger for a hike to learn more about local pollinator life that is found on Sandy Hook during the summer months. Perfect for families. Don't forget to wear good sand-walking shoes and bug repellent. 1 MILE

A NPS Program

Thursday, June 24, 10am – 12pm

North Beach Beach Center, Parking Lot I

Reservations Required: 732-872-5970



World Oceans Day: Our Oceans, Our Future

Tuesday, June 8 is World Oceans Day. People all over our blue planet will celebrate and honor the ocean which connects us all.

On June 8, celebrate your love for the ocean while at Sandy Hook and pick up any trash you see on the beach so it doesn't end up in the ocean. At the end of your stay on 6/8, call (732) 872-5970 and NPS will pick up your bags of trash. Thank you!

Your Business ... at the Beach

The Sandy Hook Foundation is partnering with the National Park Service to host corporate beach cleanups for interested companies.



Gather together with colleagues and forward your community engagement goals, while providing a much needed service in our National Park. This fee-based program fosters team building and pollution awareness during your day at Sandy Hook. This day of service will include a ranger-led introduction and information session, materials and supplies, and snacks or a boxed lunch depending on engagement level.

Why participate in a corporate or group cleanup?

Aside from the environmental, good health, and team building benefits associated with outdoor volunteerism, did you know ...

A National Park in Your Community Benefits Your Business!

National Park Service visitor spending supports jobs and business activity in local economies. Over 300 million visitors travel to National Park Service sites across the US

Meet Tracy Coney Hall Seasonal Park Ranger

Tracy Coney Hall is the type of ranger any National Park would be happy to employ. For 25 years Tracy worked as a middle school teacher first in Atlanta and then in New Jersey. During her teaching career Tracy also received an invitation to participate in the Master Teacher training program which she did for three years, before returning to the classroom to finish out her public school career teaching fifth grade. Although Tracy retired in June 2018, her love of learning didn't stop there.



Each summer, Tracy sought opportunities that would enhance her classroom teaching. Trips to the Amazon rainforest for two weeks, a month spent with the Forest Service exploring the Okefenokee Swamp, and an architectural dig in New Mexico with Earth Watch were impactful experiences. These led to an ambitious trip to Utah with 45 teenagers from Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, where they visited National Parks such as Yellowstone, Grand Teton, and Great Falls, went white water rafting and spent time with rangers tracking wolves who had been recently reintroduced to Yellowstone.

During the trip, the ranger suggested the NPS **Teacher Ranger Teacher** program and upon return to New Jersey Tracy applied for a job at Grand Teton. They called her back and said, "Did you know you've got a National Park right there in New Jersey?" Having never been to Sandy Hook, that's where Tracy visited next. As soon as she hit the bridge coming over to the Hook, Tracy knew this was where she wanted to be, and she soon became a Seasonal Ranger at Sandy Hook. Her work has allowed her to witness many students and families seeing the beach for the first time. Tracy has been able to share career options with students who didn't know being a park ranger or working for the National Park Service were choices that they, too, could make.

Tracy works in interpretation and education, and it's her responsibility to introduce the public to Sandy Hook's resources, encouraging visitors to take ownership and become stewards of the park. Meanwhile, during her tenure at Sandy Hook, Tracy has also uncovered unknown stories of the past, the most intriguing being the story of Cornelius Titus, who was a slave on a Quaker-owned plantation in Colts Neck. At that time, in 1775, John Murray, the Earl of Dunmore and Virginia's royal governor, issued a proclamation that offered freedom to slaves who would leave patriotic owners and join the British army in Virginia. Despite not being able to read or write, Cornelius ran away and made it to Virginia, joined Lord Dunmore and the 300 black men who had signed up with Dunmore's "Royal Ethiopian Regiment." While the regiment grew to only 800 men, his proclamation inspired thousands of enslaved people to seek freedom

every year.

Total Sandy Hook visitor spending in our community in 2019 was \$162 million dollars! These funds were funneled to retail stores, recreation outfitters, hotels, restaurants, grocery stores, gas stations, and transportation businesses. Indirect benefits reach even further.

Over 2.4 million people visited Sandy Hook in 2020 alone.

National Parks benefit you and your business – they are a vital part of our nation's, and New Jersey's economies.

Please email info@sandyhookfoundationnj.org or call (732) 291-7733 to learn more. To make a corporate contribution to The Sandy Hook Foundation's Summer Appeal please [click here](#).



DID YOU KNOW?
June 11 is the Sandy Hook Lighthouse's Birthday!

The Sandy Hook Lighthouse,

located about one and a half miles inland from the tip of **Sandy Hook**, is the oldest working **lighthouse** in the United States. It was designed and built on June 11, 1764 by **Isaac Conro**. At that time, it stood only 500 feet from the tip of Sandy Hook; however, today, due to growth caused by littoral drift, it is almost one and a half miles inland from the tip. It was listed as a **National Historic Landmark** in 1964 and added to the **National Register of Historic Places** on October 15, 1966, for its significance in commerce and transportation.

The Sandy Hook Foundation will be sure to keep you informed about building re-openings on Sandy Hook!

The Sandy Hook Foundation is the Official Friends Group of the National Park Service at Sandy Hook, a designated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We rely on your support and every donation is meaningful. Please, consider your contribution today.



The Sandy Hook Foundation has achieved the Platinum Seal of Transparency from Guidestar, the highest level of transparency. Guidestar's mission is to revolutionize philanthropy by providing information that advances transparency, enables users to make better decisions, and encourages charitable giving. Please consider your support of SHF today!

behind British lines throughout the Revolutionary War. To learn more about his escapades and the man labeled as Renegade, Runaway Slave, Traitor, Guerilla Leader, Black Loyalist, and African American Freedom Fighter, visit [this NPS site](#). In the meantime, keep an eye out for Tracy's next dream, which will be a book or documentary on the subject!

Please Donate
Today



June 20 is Fathers Day!

Shop [AmazonSmile](#) and choose The Sandy Hook Foundation as your charity of choice as you prepare the dad in your life for the perfect summer at the beach, while supporting The Sandy Hook Foundation!



Not an Amazon Shopper? How About a Unique Piece of Nostalgia Instead

For nearly 20 years, The Sandy Hook Foundation's summer beach concert series was an iconic summertime Jersey Shore activity. This is your chance to own a little piece of Sandy Hook history and nostalgia. Limited stock. 50% off. \$5 shipping, \$1 to ship each additional. First one ships for \$5. Each additional shirt \$1 to ship.

Click to Purchase a T-shirt



*The Storm on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, over Officer's Row.
Photo courtesy of Stanley Kosinski*

Contact Us!

The Sandy Hook Foundation
84 Mercer Road
Lighthouse Keepers' Quarters
Fort Hancock, NJ 07732
732-291-7733
www.sandyhooknj.org
info@sandyhooknj.org

