Brookhaven Town Announces West Meadow Beach Summer Sunset Lecture Series
posted on 7/29/2009 8:24:33 AM

STONY BROOK, NY - Brookhaven Town Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld will sponsor "The First Annual Sunset Seminars - West Meadow Wanderings" program, at West Meadow Beach in Stony Brook Thursday evenings from August 6-September 3, beginning at 6:30 pm. Each lecture will last approximately two hours, and will begin at the covered pavilion. The events are free, but due to limited seating, reservations are required. Please call Eileen at (631) 751-7863 to make reservations.

"West Meadow Beach is a local environmental treasure and a protective sanctuary for many fascinating, and often rare, plants and animals. This series encourages residents to visit, and learn about the species and natural communities found at one of the Town's most beautiful and biologically diverse parks.," said Supervisor Mark Lesko.

"We invite you to participate in these interesting and informative tours, presented by a variety of experts in their field, being offered on Thursday evenings from August 6th through September 3rd. These free tours are a wonderful opportunity for you and your family to learn about the history, culture, geology, biology and ecology of the West Meadow ecosystem," said Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld. "We encourage you and your family to take full advantage of this new and exciting series of educational "wanderings", while enjoying the spectacular sunsets at West Meadow Beach."

AUGUST 6 - How a Salt Marsh Works
Professor Jeffrey Levinton, Ecology & Evolution, SUNY Stony Brook
Salt marshes are delicate systems. Learn how they develop and what determines the distribution of plant species; observe some of the fascinating animals that fly, crawl, and burrow on the flats; and find out what problems the marsh faces at West Meadow. Prepare to get your shoes wet.

AUGUST 13 - The Geological Origins and Creation of West Meadow Beach
Assemblyman Steve Englebright
Travel back in time and learn about the fascinating beginnings of Long Island and West Meadow Beach during this hands-on walk led by New York State Assemblyman and Geologist, Steve Englebright.

AUGUST 20 - Life's a Beach
Herb Mones, President, West Meadow Conservancy
Beach environments constantly change due to a variety of forces. Explore the cultural and social dynamics of our local coastline through the history of the West Meadow peninsula. This walk will help participants appreciate the importance of an active and educated citizenry in protecting and preserving our natural resources.

AUGUST 27 - Nature Photography
Wolfgang Wander
West Meadow Beach is a local treasure and a protective sanctuary for many beautiful plants and animals. Wander around with Wolfgang, a gifted photographer, as he shares tips for photographing nature. Bring your camera.

SEPTEMBER 3 - Diamondback Terrapins: New York's Native "Sea Turtle"
Matthew Draud, Chair, Biology Dept. C.W. Post LIU
West Meadow Creek is prime habitat for diamondback terrapins, and females come ashore each summer to lay their eggs in the swale of the beach. Learn all about these beautiful estuarine turtles while searching for nests and hatchlings.