

# **Friends of Sterling Forest** Schedule of Events **April 2019**



THE FRIENDS OF STERLING FOREST (F.S.F.) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established to protect and preserve the great legacy of natural resources and historical treasures within Sterling Forest State Park. Our events are open to the public and free of charge; donations, however, are gratefully accepted to assist us in fulfilling our mission.

## All events will originate at the Lautenberg Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

#### Midweek Hike: Forge

Thursday, April 4 Did you know the Great Chain that was placed across the Hudson River to prevent the British from sailing upriver during the American Revolution was manufactured at Sterling Forest? Join Doc Bayne for an approximately 4 mile moderately paced hike to the site of the forge where links of the chain that saved the American colonies were made. Please wear hiking boots or sturdy shoes, as you will be walking over rough terrain.

#### Lecture: Saving Open Space: A History Of Land Preservation And Conservation In Orange County Sunday, April 7 1:00 PM

Join Warwick Historian, Professor Richard Hull, as he chronicles and analyzes the 20<sup>th</sup> century origins, emergence and evolving strategies in the quest for saving open space. He will examine the individuals and groups that have led the struggle; their motivation and objectives, their work in mobilizing public support, their allies and opponents, the type of land and resources that they have secured and protected, and the issue of stewardship. As the 21<sup>st</sup> century progresses, what are the future challenges and threats to be anticipated and where do we go from here?

#### **Clean-up at Commuter Parking Lot**

Saturday, April 13 Help keep our park clean! Meet Dennis Trotter and members of the F.S.F. at the Commuter Parking Lot located at the intersection of Rt. 17 and 17A and help remove the litter. Please bring work gloves. Trash bags will be provided. All participants will be awarded a Friends of Sterling Forest patch!

#### Field Trip to Sterling Hill Mine

The Sterling Hill Mine, now known as the Sterling Hill Mine Tour & Museum of Fluorescence, is a former iron and zinc mine in Ogdensburg, Sussex County, New Jersey. It was the last working underground mine in New Jersey when it closed in 1986 and became a museum in 1989. Join the F.S.F. on a fun scientific adventure in the underground mine tour. Along the way you will visit two museums, go inside the mine itself and see mining equipment, a drilling and blasting demonstration, and the world famous fluorescent "Rainbow Tunnel". We will meet at the Mine, located at 30 Plant St, Ogdensburg, NJ 07439. Their website is https://www.sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/

This tour can accommodate 30 people and the cost is \$10.00 per person, which will be paid on arrival. Registration is mandatory for this event. Please call the Park at 845-351-5907 to sign up. This will be firstcome, first serve, so please be sure to make the commitment to show up.

#### Lecture: Constitution Island

Join Ronnie Clark Coffey, teacher, researcher, author, and former Executive Director of the Constitution Island Association as she shares her knowledge of Constitution Island. The Island is located on the east side of the Hudson River directly opposite the U.S. Military Academy Reservation. Ronnie will talk about the Island's Revolutionary War history and the legacy of the Warner sisters.

## The trails can be steep and rocky, so please wear sturdy hiking shoes. Our hikes will include stops along the way to interpret natural and historic features.

Registration is required for all programs in order to let you know of any changes. For more information or to register, call 845-351-5907.

## 11:00AM

8:00 AM

11:00 AM

Sunday, April 28

1:00 PM

Sunday, April 14