

STUYVESANT COVE PARK

A green oasis on Manhattan's East Side



Stuyvesant Cove Park provides our community with much needed greenery on an otherwise unwelcoming stretch of East River waterfront. Our award-winning design offers passive recreational facilities set in naturalistic plantings composed of New York native species. Our park is popular with a wide variety of locals, from joggers to picnickers, fishermen, dog walkers, kids, and seekers of river views and open sky.



Sustainability is a founding principle at Stuyvesant Cove Park, and we are dedicated to providing a model of park maintenance that has minimal environmental impact. We accomplish this through our exclusive use of northeast native plants and organic maintenance practices. We compost our park waste, use Integrated Pest Management to control pests, and use soy based, non-toxic graffiti remover, to name a few of our best practices. Additionally, in a post Hurricane Sandy world, we have placed new emphasis on plantings that are likely to be resilient to the effects of climate change.



Native plants define our park. With over 100 different species of New York natives, we aim to provide habitat for wildlife and promote public awareness of the beauty and benefits of our local flora. In a world where human landscapes are increasingly encroaching on natural landscapes, we believe it's important to integrate nature into our yards and parks to help lessen the impacts of habitat destruction.

Stuyvesant Cove Park is also an oasis for urban wildlife. As an organically maintained and all native species park, creating a welcoming habitat for native birds and insects is

a central part of our mission. This is reflected in our use of plants that feed and house birds and insects year round. Viburnums, Mulberries, and Wild Cherries produce berries that sustain birds from spring until fall, while Liatris, Goldenrod, and Switchgrass provide seeds through the winter. Insects are essential to healthy ecosystems, and so we also grow plants that support a variety of insects. Our three species of milkweed are hosts for the Monarch Butterfly caterpillar; flowers from earliest spring until late fall provide pollen and nectar to bees; and our four species of oak, which are the backbone of eastern hardwood ecosystems, can support hundreds of species of insects. In addition, our section of the East River is home to estuary life as well. Set back from strong tidal currents, the cove provides shelter for many kinds of water birds and the occasional Harbor Seal.



Stuyvesant Cove Park is owned by NYCEDC and managed by Solar One, a sustainability education and advocacy non-profit. In addition to taking care of the park, Solar One has a K-12 education program, a workforce training lab, and alternative energy advocacy programs. The park also hosts events on site, ranging from family days to outdoor movies.

To learn more about Solar One's programs or check upcoming events, visit www.solar1.org.

VOLUNTEER

At Stuyvesant Cove Park

Stuyvesant Cove Park's small staff relies on volunteer help to get things done. We work with dedicated locals, schools, and corporate groups on a range of gardening projects in the park. These projects are fun, educational, and something different for most New Yorkers, whose lives often don't include much hands-on experience with nature. Our projects involve getting down and dirty with plants and soil, such as planting, pruning, mulching, weeding, watering, and many other activities. In the process, our knowledgeable staff teach volunteers new skills and about the ecological principles behind our sustainable maintenance program. Previous gardening experience is not necessary, though we do ask volunteers to **wear closed toe shoes and weather appropriate clothes that can get dirty**. If you or your group would like get out of the office/classroom/routine to volunteer (and we hope you do!) there are a number of options available.



Schedule a volunteer event for your group

Volunteer events are an excellent way for your group to get to know each other outside the office/school and to build team spirit. Our experienced staff is great at leading volunteer events and a good time is had by all. We can accommodate groups of up to 25 people and can schedule for any weekday between the hours of 9am and 5pm, from April through October. Depending on your availability and goals, we can schedule one-time or ongoing events. We provide all tools and gloves but accept donations for plants or other specialty material.



Join one of our scheduled volunteer events

Regular volunteer events are held throughout the season on Saturday mornings, and are followed by free pizza lunches generously provided by The Stuyvesant Cove Park Association. These events are open to the public and we especially encourage local park users to take part. If interested, long time volunteers can take on more responsibility and stewardship by assignment of individual beds.

We also host volunteer events coordinated by partner organizations such as Riverkeeper and New York Cares. To attend these events, contact these organizations directly.

2015 Scheduled Park Volunteer Days

Saturday April 25th, 10am - 1pm

Saturday May 30th, 10am - 1pm

Saturday June 27th, 10am - 1pm

Saturday September 26th, 10am - 1pm

Saturday October 31st, 10am - 1pm

What to Bring

Closed-toe shoes and comfortable clothes that can get dirty

A water bottle

A sun hat

Contact us

To find out more or to schedule an event, contact our Park Manager at park@solar1.org or 646-576-5668.

Questions are welcome and we hope you won't hesitate to get in touch. You can also go to our website at www.solar1.org/stuyvesant-cove-park/ to learn more about our unique park and its history.

