2018

Parks Resource Guide

Bronx Community Board No. 8
Parks & Recreation Committee

5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100 • Bronx, NY 10471-2194
Telephone: 718-884-3959 • Fax: 718-796-2763
Email: bx08@cb.nyc.gov • Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8
GENERAL INFORMATION

Bronx Community Board No. 8 (CB8) compiled the information contained in this Parks Resource Guide from a variety of sources as a convenient way for our residents to learn about our parks, outdoor recreation and groups that support these resources. While we strive to make the information accurate, we cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the content. Keep in mind that providers, services, hours of operation, regulations, phone numbers and other details will change over time. Listings in this Guide do not signify endorsements.

Help us keep the Guide accurate and up to date by letting the Board Office know of any needed corrections, updates, or local groups that may be of interest. We plan to update the Parks Resource Guide on an occasional basis, and the most up-to-date version will be available to view, download and print from our website.

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First Edition
April 2018

This Resource Guide is published by Bronx Community Board No. 8. It is the culmination of a project of the Parks and Recreation Committee of the Community Board. For more information about Bronx Community Board No. 8, please contact us at our website www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8 or telephone 718-884-3959.

The first edition printing of this Resource Guide was made possible by funding from the City of New York and Council Member Fernando Cabrera
Dear Neighbor:

We are pleased to bring you this Parks Resource Guide for residents of Fieldston, Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights, Marble Hill, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil, and Van Cortlandt Village, the neighborhoods that are within the district of Bronx Community Board No. 8.

Bronx Community Board No. 8 serves to improve the quality of life in our community district. The Community Board is a vital liaison and advocate for the community in dealing with New York City government, elected officials, municipal service delivery, land use and zoning issues, community and business development, the City budget and many other matters relating to the community’s health, safety and welfare. The Board and its committees meet regularly.

Bronx Community Board No. 8 (CB8) is home to many parks, user groups, and organizations. The CB8 Parks Resource Guide brings together information and resources that will help residents of Community Board 8 enjoy and support their local parks.

The Parks and Recreation Committee reviews capital projects in our community parks, as well as other parks matters that affect community residents. We advocate on behalf of our parks with respect to budget requests. We represent the community’s interests with regard to parks issues and act as a liaison between parks users and the Parks & Recreation Department. The Parks and Recreation Committee prepared this Guide, with special thanks for the work of Robert Fanuzzi and Christina Taylor.

We believe that our neighborhood is a great place to live and we hope that this Guide assists our neighbors in locating and appreciating nearby green space and outdoor activities.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Ginty
Chair, Bronx Community Board No. 8

Bob Bender
Chair, Parks and Recreation Committee
CB8 PARKS INFORMATION

**Bailey Playground**  
Size: 3.533 acres  
Bailey Ave., W. 234th St. to W. 238th Street  
Facilities: Basketball Courts, Bathrooms, Handball Courts, Playground with Spray Shower  
Cooney Grauer baseball field is across W. 234th Street. It is leased to Kingsbridge Little League. Bailey Playground is wheelchair accessible

**Brust Park - Upper & Lower Sections**  
Size: 1.79 acres  
Upper: Greystone Avenue and Manhattan College Parkway  
Lower: Manhattan College Parkway and Waldo Avenue  
Facilities: Tot Lot Playground  
Today, Brust Park is often used by Manhattan College students seeking refuge from their studies in the shade of the more than 15 types of trees found in the park

**Crescent Park**  
Size: .44 acres  
Albany Crescent, West 233rd Street, overlooks Major Deegan Expressway

**Ewen Park**  
Size: 7.84 acres  
Johnson Ave., W. 232nd Street, Riverdale Avenue  
Facilities: Basketball Court, Tot Lot, Dog Run and Large Wooded Area  
Ewen Park is a hillside with two staircases that are often used to walk between Johnson Avenue and Riverdale Avenue. It is used for sledding in the winter. The basketball court and tot lot were newly renovated or installed in 2016

**Fort Four Park/Washington’s Walk/Strong Street Playground**  
Size: 4.64 acres  
Reservoir Avenue from Sedgwick Avenue to Strong Street  
Facilities: Fort Four Park – basketball courts, spray shower, playground, benches  
Washington’s Walk – benches, trees; Strong Street Playground – tot lot; Fort Four Park and Strong Street Playground are wheelchair accessible

**Fort Independence Park**  
Size: 3.02 acres  
Sedgwick Ave, Stevenson Place  
Facilities: Basketball Courts, Bathrooms, Handball Courts, Playground with Spray Shower, Dog Runs  
The park was recently renovated. It is adjacent to Jerome Park Reservoir. The playground is wheelchair accessible
Hackett Park

W. 254th Street, Riverdale Avenue, Henry Hudson Parkway

Facilities: Dog Run

This hilly park features winding, lighted paths that traverse lush vegetation. The park’s trees species include honey locust, sweet gum, red maple, oak, and hickory. The center of the park features both a dog run and plaque in honor of the property’s namesake.

Henry Hudson Park- Upper and Lower Sections

Entrance for both sections is at Kappock Street and Independence Avenue

Facilities: Baseball fields, Basketball Courts, Bathrooms, Dog Friendly Areas, Handball Courts and Playground with Spray Shower

Named for explorer and navigator Henry Hudson, the park’s prominent monument pays tribute to the man who dropped anchor in New York Harbor in 1609. Other remaining relics of the past consist of trees that predate the park’s acquisition, namely a copper beech and large hackberry trees. Dozens of additional, slightly younger, tree varieties are dispersed throughout the park, including sweetgum, red oak, white pine, and maples. Henry Hudson Park Upper Section is wheelchair accessible.

MacLaughlin Playground

Greystone Avenue, W. 238th Street

Facilities: Playground with Spray Shower

Marble Hill Playground

Marble Hill Avenue between W. 228th and W. 230th Streets

Facilities: Basketball Courts, Bathroom, and Playground with Spray Showers. Marble Hill Playground is wheelchair accessible

Phyllis Post Goodman Park

Kappock Street and Henry Hudson Parkway East

Facilities: benches, shade trees

Raoul Wallenberg Forest

Palisade Avenue, Douglas Ave., W. 235th and W. 236th Street

Facilities: Dog-friendly area and home of one of NYC’s Great Trees
Riverdale Park

Size: 114.29 acres

Hudson River, W. 254th Street, Palisade Avenue, W. 232nd Street

Facilities: Dog Friendly Areas

Riverdale Park is known as a haven for birds. Twenty-seven species, including the screech owl (Otus asio), have been confirmed as breeding in the park. Riverdale contains about 50 forested acres, including mature oak-hickory forest, a forest that occurs on well-drained sites, often on ridge tops, upper slopes, or south and west facing slopes. The soils are usually loams (mixtures of clay, sand, silt and organic matter). The rest of Riverdale is successional forest. The park includes an annex along the Hudson River waterfront that can be accessed from the southbound platform of the Riverdale Metro-North station. The annex contains benches for viewing the river and the Palisades in New Jersey

Riverdale Playground

Size: 2.58 acres

W. 236th and 237th Streets, Independence Avenue & Hudson Manor Terrace

Facilities: Baseball Fields, Basketball Courts, Handball Courts and Playground

Seton Park

Size: 11.689 acres

W. 232nd Street, Independence Avenue, W. 235th Street, Palisade Avenue

Facilities: Baseball and Softball Fields, Basketball Courts, Bathrooms, Dog Run, Playground, Soccer Fields and Tennis Courts

Sheridan Triangle

Size: 0.06 acres

Moshulu Avenue, Broadway

Spuyten Duyvil Playground

Size: 1.51 acres

W 236th Street and Douglas Avenue

Facilities: Basketball Courts, Playground with Spray Showers. Spuyten Duyvil Playground is wheelchair accessible

Spuyten Duyvil Shorefront Park

Size: 6.6 acres

Palisade Avenue, Johnson Avenue, Edsall Avenue

The landscaping is attractive to local wildlife that now frequents the park. Many varieties of birds either breed by the pond or in the surrounding woods, or stop here on their regular migration paths. Snowy and Yellow Egrets, Green and Black-crowned Night-Herons, Ring-necked Pheasants, Mallards, Spotted and Solitary Sandpipers, and Mallards all have been spotted in and around the Park

Tibbetts Tail

Size: 0.088 acres

Bailey Avenue, Major Deegan Expressway, South of W. 238th Street

At present, access is possible only through Bailey Playground
Van Cortlandt Park

NYC - Westchester County Line, Van Cortlandt Park S. between Broadway & Jerome Avenue

Facilities: Baseball/Softball Fields: 18, Basketball Courts: 7, Boccie Courts: 2, Cricket Pitches: 13, Cross Country Course (3K or 5K), Football/Soccer Fields: 7, Gaelic Football Field: 1, Golf Courses: 2- Van Cortlandt Golf Course (18 hole) and Mosholu Golf Course (9 hole with Driving Range), Handball/Paddleball Courts: 17, Playgrounds: 4- Southwest Corner, Classic, Sachkerah and Woodlawn Playgrounds, Riverdale Equestrian Center, Running Tracks: 440 yard track at Stadium. Circumference of Parade Ground is 1.5 miles, Tennis Courts: 18, Van Cortlandt House Museum and Van Cortlandt Nature Center

Van Cortlandt Park, more than a thousand acres atop the ridges and valleys of the northwest Bronx, is New York City’s third largest park. Playing fields and playgrounds are scattered about the park’s edges, surrounding a richly forested heartland fed by Tibbets Brook. The park is home to the country’s first public golf course, the oldest house in the Bronx, and the borough’s largest freshwater lake. From the quiet green shade of its oak forests to the crisp white mantle of cricket players atop the Parade Ground, the park boasts a past rich in culture, well-versed in history, and blessed with the intrinsic beauty of nature

Concessions within Van Cortlandt Park

Moshulu Golf Course
www.moshoulugolfcourse.com

Van Cortlandt House Museum
www.vchm.org

Riverdale Stables
www.riverdalestables.com

Van Cortlandt Golf Course
www.golfnyc.com/vancortlandt_home

Van Cortlandt’s Tail

Broadway & Van Cortlandt Park South

Vinmont Veteran Playground

Riverdale and Mosholu Avenues

Facilities: Baseball Fields, Bathrooms and Playground with Spray Shower

Vinmont Veteran Park serves as a memorial to honor local veterans who served their country in past wars. Vinmont Veteran Playground is wheelchair accessible

Wave Hill

W. 248th Street, Independence Avenue, W. 252nd Street, Palisade Avenue

Wave Hill is a public garden and cultural center in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades. Its mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts. Check website, www.wavehill.org, for admission fee, fee-free times, hours and event schedule. Wave Hill is currently closed on Mondays
Bronx Headquarters:
Ranaqua, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Bronx, NY 10462
718-430-1800

NYC Parks Website
The NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) website offers a full menu of activities, information. www.nycgovparks.org

Permit Information

Special Events Permits
To hold an event with 20 or more people in a NYC park, you must file a Special Event Permit. Special Events Permit Info: https://nyceventpermits.nyc.gov/Parks/

Tennis Court Permits
A permit is needed to use an outdoor tennis court from the first Saturday of April to the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Permit Info: www.nycgovparks.org/things-to-do/tennis

Athletic Field Permits
In order to reserve a NYC Parks athletic field or court, organized leagues or individuals must request a permit. Field or Court Permit Info: www.nycgovparks.org/permits/field-and-court/request

Special Department of Parks and Recreation Programs

Urban Park Rangers
The Urban Park Rangers connect New Yorkers to the natural world through environmental education, outdoor recreation, wildlife management and active conservation
Website: www.nycgovparks.org/programs/rangers
The Rangers operate the Van Cortlandt Nature Center- Phone: 718-548-0912

Partnerships for Parks
Partnerships for Parks is the public-private program that supports and champions a growing network of leaders caring and advocating for neighborhood parks and green spaces. They equip people, organizations and government with the skills and tools they need to transform these spaces into dynamic community assets.
Website: www.cityparksfoundation.org/partnerships-for-parks/
CB 8 Outreach Coordinator: Linda (Leenda) Bonilla, Phone: 718-430-1861
Email: linda.bonilla@parks.nyc.gov
City Parks Foundation
City Parks Foundation (CPF) is the only independent, nonprofit organization whose mission is to offer programs in public parks throughout the five boroughs of New York City. CPF is dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community development, and education programs for all New Yorkers.
Website: www.cityparksfoundation.org
CityParks Tennis for Kids: www.cityparksfoundation.org/sports/tennis
Senior Fitness Program: www.cityparksfoundation.org/sports/seniors-fitness

Green Thumb
GreenThumb provides programming and material support to over 500 community gardens in New York City. Workshops, which are the access point for supplies, are held every month of the year, covering gardening basics to more advanced farming and community organizing topics.
Website: www.greenthumbnyc.org

Swim Programs
During the summer, NYC Parks offers a variety of free swim programs, ranging from learn to swim lessons to recreational swimming to training for swim team competitions. Free swim programs are held at Outdoor pools including Van Cortlandt Park’s pool within CB8.
Website: www.nycgovparks.org/programs/aquatics

Capital Projects Tracker
This website provides information on the status of capital projects in New York City parks.
www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-project-tracker

Street Tree Map
This website provides information about street trees, including tree pruning schedules.
https://tree-map.nycgovparks.org
USER GROUPS

**Arts Students League of NY**  
Website: www.theartstudentsleague.org

**Fort Independence Park Neighborhood Association**  
Contact: Margaret Groarke  
Website: www.fipna.org

**Jerome Park Friends and Neighbors**  
Contact: Debra Travis  
Email: JeromeParkFans@gmail.com

**Friends of Ewen Park**  
Contacts: Keri Crayne, Adam Thornbrough  
Emails: Ewenpark@yahoo.com, adam.thornbrough@parks.nyc.gov

**Friends of Tibbetts Tail**  
Contact: Alicia Grullon  
Email: friendsoftibbettstail@gmail.com

**Friends of Washington’s Walk**  
Contact: Elizabeth Thompson, Kingsbridge Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association  
Email: khnia@aol.com  
Phone: 718-618-7550

**Friends of Van Cortlandt Park**  
Contact: Christina Taylor, Executive Director  
Website: www.vancortlandt.org  
Email: info@vancortlandt.org  
Phone: (718) 601-1460

**Memorial Grove Restoration Group (Van Cortlandt Park)**  
Contact: Herb Barrett  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/MemorialGrove

**Nature Group of Van Cortlandt Park**  
Contact: Catherine Minty  
Email: thenaturegroupvcp@gmail.com

**Stewards of Henry Hudson Park**  
Contacts: Dan Reynolds/ Mark Mason  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/henryhudsonparkstewards  
Email: dp.reynolds@verizon.net
Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy  
Contact: Margot Perron, President  
Website: www.vcpark.org  
Email: info@vcpark.org  
Phone: 718-430-1890

Van Cortlandt Track Club  
Contact: Rick Bloomer  
Website: http://vctc.org/  
Email: vctconline@gmail.com

Want to get involved?

Watch the video of Bronx Community Board No. 8 Parks and Recreation Committee Forum on How to Start and Sustain a “Friends of” Parks Group as recorded by BronxNet on November 29, 2017:  
www.bronxnet.org/watch/videos/4423
BRONX PARKS ADVOCACY

Bike NY  
Contact: Rich Conroy, Director of Education  
Website: www.bike.nyc  Phone: 212-870-2080

Bronx Council for Environmental Quality (BCEQ)  
Website: www.bceq.org

NYC Audubon  
Website: www.nycaudubon.org  Email: info@nycaudubon.org  Phone: (212) 691-7483

New Yorkers for Parks  
Website: www.ny4p.org  Email: ny4p@ny4p.org  Phone: 212-838-9410

Save the Putnam Trail (Van Cortlandt Park)  
Contact: Suzanne Corber  Facebook: www.facebook.com/saveputnamtrailnow

Share the Putnam Trail (Van Cortlandt Park)  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/PutnamTrail

Transportation Alternatives  
Website: www.transalt.org  Email: info@transalt.org  Phone: 212-629-8080

LEAGUES
A list of some of the leagues that play in CB8 parks:

- Bronx Stars Softball  www.bronxstars.com
- Chabad of Riverdale  www.chabadbronx.org
- Commonwealth Cricket  www.newyorkcricket.com
- Gotham Tennis Academy  www.gothamtennis.com
- Hebrew Institute of Riverdale  www.thebayit.org
- Kids in the Game  www.kidsinthegame.com
- Kingsbridge Little League  www.kingsbridgelittleleague.org
- Moshulu Montefiore Community Center  www.mmcc.org
- North Riverdale Little League  www.northriverdalelittleleague.com
- Public Schools Athletic League (PSAL)  www.psal.org
- Riverdale Jewish Center  www.rjconline.org
- Riverdale Soccer Club  www.riverdalesoccerclub.org
- South Riverdale Little League  www.eteamz.com/southriverdale
- Titans Baseball Club  www.facebook.com/titansbc