



**For Immediate Release:** 10/26/15

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**WOOD REMOVAL PERMITS NOW AVAILABLE AT SELECT LONG ISLAND STATE PARKS**

(Babylon, NY, October 26, 2015) The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation announced that wood is available to the public at various state parks on Long Island. A wood permit must be obtained from the park office before any wood is removed from the facility. The permit allows the removal of wood from downed and/or fallen trees that park staff would have had to remove. Some of the wood available is already cut; some may need cutting according to specific needs. The wood is ideal for firewood usage.

Wood removal is allowed with a permit, and a deposit when required, at the following locations:

<u>PARK</u>	<u>DAYS/HOURS</u>	<u>DEPOSIT</u>	<u>SPECIAL CONDITIONS</u>
Gov. A.E. Smith/ Sunken Meadow (631) 269-4333	Monday-Friday* 8:30AM - 4:00PM	No Deposit	Small pick-up/ commercial plates allowed
Heckscher (631) 581-2100	7 days/week* 8:00AM - 3:00PM Excluding Memorial Day Through Labor Day	\$10 Deposit (exact change only)	Small pick-up/ commercial plates allowed
Hempstead Lake (516) 766-1029	7 days/week* 8:00AM - 4:00PM	No Deposit	Small pick-up/ commercial plates allowed
Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park (516) 922-8600	Monday-Friday* 9:00AM - 3:00PM	No Deposit	Small pick-up/ commercial plates allowed
Valley Stream (516) 825-4128	Monday-Friday* 8:30AM - 3:30PM	No Deposit	No commercial vehicles allowed

**\*Please call in advance for specific times/dates permits are available.**

Please be advised that this permit is for wood removal only, and dumping of any material on state land is strictly prohibited. This policy is in place to prevent the spread of wood-boring beetles and invasive plant species. Park staff will strictly enforce that no woodchips, logs, soil, or any organic matter will be brought into any state park participating with the wood removal program.

A regulation is in effect by the Department of Environmental Conservation that limits the transportation of untreated firewood to less than 50 miles from its source. Quarantines exist which further restrict firewood transportation. For further information on the rules and regulations, please contact the DEC at 1-866-640-0652 or visit their website [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov).

For further information please call the park office or the Long Island State Park Headquarters - Permit Department at (631) 321-3515.

For more information about our New York State Parks, please visit our website [www.nysparks.com](http://www.nysparks.com).

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees 180 state parks and 35 historic sites, which are visited by 62 million people annually. A recent study found that New York State Parks generates \$1.9 billion in economic activity annually and supports 20,000 jobs. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518-474-0456 or visit [www.nysparks.com](http://www.nysparks.com), connect on [Facebook](#), or follow on [Twitter](#).