

## The Niagara Parks Commission 2010 Events Highlights

### January

#### ***Project Tree Cycle: Sunday, January 10 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.***

Throw out your Christmas tree and give back to the environment. Come to the Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture for the annual Project Tree Cycle event. Bring your own bag and shovel to collect FREE wood chips recycled from discarded Christmas trees. Christmas trees will be collected on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> through the Regional Waste Program and Niagara Parks Commission staff will mulch the trees on Sunday, January 10.

Location: Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture, 2565 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls. \*Wood chip mulch will be available in the north end of the parking lot.

### February

#### ***'Bug-a-licious' 5th Annual Insect Food Festival:***

#### ***February 13 – 15 with tastings from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.***

Wondering what to do over Family Day weekend? Join us for the 5th annual Bug-a-licious Insect Food Festival. A fun experience you will be sure to talk about. This annual event challenges us to consider insects as an optional nutrition source, a practice common to cultures from around the world. "Bug-a-licious" features a cooking competition between Chef Jeff Stewart and a special surprise guest chefs. Come enjoy the friendly cooking competition and cast your vote for the most delicious insect dish.

Paid Admission to the Butterfly Conservatory will include insect menu samplings: \$11.75 for Adults 13+, \$6.95 for Children 6 - 12 years and Children 5 and under are admitted FREE (prices in Cdn plus tax). Free Parking on-site. Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with last visitors admitted at 5:30 p.m. Located at the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory, on the grounds of the Botanical Gardens, 2405 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls. (905) 356-8119. [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com)

### March

#### ***"Explore Your World" an exhibit highlighting the incredible biodiversity of our Planet.***

#### ***March 13 to 21, 2010***

Come explore the amazing diversity of the plant and animal kingdom this March Break at the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory. Meet new 'friends,' learn about their special habitats, and what you can do to help protect them!

Admission to the Butterfly Conservatory: \$11.75 for Adults 13+, \$6.95 for Children 6 - 12 years and Children 5 and under are admitted FREE (prices in Cdn plus tax). Free Parking on-site. Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with last visitors admitted at 5:30 p.m. Located at the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory, on the grounds of the Botanical Gardens, 2405 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls. (905) 356-8119. [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com)

**April*****Annual Easter Display at the Niagara Parks Floral Showhouse: April***

The Easter show features a cross display of lilies surrounded by colourful and fragrant spring flowers such as daffodils, tulips, hyacinths and azaleas. The warm and serene setting is bursting with gorgeous blooms, orchids and exotic tropical plants as well as beautiful songbirds to get you in the mood for spring. Call 905-354-1721 for dates and times. 2405 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls.

**May*****Annual Hydrangea Display at the Floral Showhouse: May***

Come to the Floral Showhouse to view these gigantic spheres of spring colour. Annual features include hanging baskets – some over five feet wide, overflowing with colourful Hydrangeas. In addition, forced Foxglove and Delphinium will complete the spectacular display of blues, pinks and white. Call 905-354-1721 for dates and times. 2405 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls.

***McFarland House Mother's Day: May 9***

Bring your mum out for a tour and a cup of tea at McFarland House in honour of Mother's Day. 15927 Niagara Parkway, Niagara-on-the-Lake (905) 468-3322

***Pizza Pizza Falls Fireworks & Coca Cola Concert Series***

Canada's longest running fireworks series will light up the skies every Friday, Sunday and holiday at 10 p.m. beginning May 21. Additional fireworks shows have been added for every Wednesday in July and August, and every Friday from September 10 to October 8. The Coca Cola Concert Series takes place at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Sundays in May and June, and on Saturdays and Sundays in July and August, as well as on holidays. It's the perfect family outing!

***PLEASE NOTE – ALL DATES ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE***

**2010 Season Coca Cola Concert Lineup:**

TBD

**June*****Annual Spring BBQ: June 6, 4-8 p.m.***

Join the fun at Queenston Heights Restaurant Patio, high atop the Niagara Escarpment, at the foot of Brock's Monument. Enjoy wine tastings, product samples from Molson, an unbeatable BBQ selection and LIVE entertainment. Cost is \$30 Adults; \$15 Children. Space is limited. Call (905) 262-4274 for reservations. Queenston Heights Restaurant, 14184 Niagara Parkway, Queenston, ON. For more information, please visit [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com)

***Ride For The Cure: June 12 -13***

This two day cycle challenge will depart Toronto on June 12 and end at the mighty Niagara Falls on June 14. The event supports the efforts at Princess Margaret Hospital to find a cure for Cancer. Visit [www.ridefortheure.com](http://www.ridefortheure.com) to register or to find more details.

***Friday Night Ghost Tours at Old Fort Erie: Fridays June 18 through to Labour Day***

A popular tradition – hear the eerie stories of the ghosts of Canada's bloodiest battlefield. 350

Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie. For reservations call (905) 871-0540. For more information, please visit [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com)

***Fenian Raids: June 12 – 13, 2009***

Canadian Militia and the Irish Republican Army do battle each day at 1:30 p.m. to mark the largest Fenian Raid of 1866. Regular admission to the Fort applies. 350 Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie (905) 871-0540.

***Laura Secord in Real Time - June 19***

Experience the dramatic events performed theatrically that led Laura Secord to leave her family and home to enter a dangerous No Man's Land to warn the defenders of Canada. 29 Queenston Street, Queenston (905) 262-4851.

***McFarland House Summer Performance & Art Shows - June 24***

Contact McFarland House for more information on the entertaining lineup of shows by local artists and theatrical performers. 15927 Niagara Parkway, Niagara-on-the-Lake (905) 468-3322.

***RCMP Officer Meet and Greet: beginning June 25 – September 6 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.***

Canada is known for many things but nothing is more notable than the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Come to Table Rock Centre, located at the brink of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls during the summer on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to meet a RCMP officer for photos and to answer questions. Don't forget to bring your camera!

**July**

***Friendship Festival: July 5***

The Friendship Festival features spectacular concerts, entertainment, crafters and more in celebration of over 200 years of friendship between Canada and the US. Visit [www.friendshipfestival.com](http://www.friendshipfestival.com) for details. 25 Niagara Parkway, Fort Erie.

***Friends at the Fort: July 1 - 4***

During the two national holidays of Canada and the United States, the old fort is home to both the Canadian troops who garrisoned the post as well as their former American adversaries. 350 Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie (905) 871-0540.

***Chippawa Battlefield Ceremony: July 5***

This ceremony commemorates the Battle of Chippawa, fought on July 5th 1814, the opening engagement of the Niagara campaign of 1814, the longest and bloodiest military operation of the War of 1812.

***Sunday Afternoon Concert Series: July 4- September 5 from 2-4 p.m.***

The Sunday Afternoon Concert Series in Queenston Heights Park will feature the sounds of big bands, symphony orchestras, dixie and more. Nothing speaks more of summer than an enjoyable Sunday afternoon concert in the Park. 14184 Niagara Parkway, Queenston, ON.

**2010 Queenston Heights Concert Lineup:**

***TBD***



**HOLD youDiscover Summer Concert Series: July 8 – August 29 Wednesdays & Fridays at 8pm**

The search for the next big rock star comes to Niagara Falls. Every Wednesday and Friday at 8 p.m. the hottest new superstars from across Canada and New York State compete for a shot at making the big time. Audience members can be a part of the action in picking the next big superstar by watching the bands and casting their vote. Each night ends with a fireworks display over the Falls at 10 p.m. Concerts are FREE! Visit [www.youdiscover.ca](http://www.youdiscover.ca) for more information.

**McFarland House Summer Performance & Art Shows - July 29**

Contact McFarland House for more information on the entertaining lineup of shows by local artists and theatrical performers. 15927 Niagara Parkway, Niagara-on-the-Lake (905) 468-3322.

**August****'Simcoe Days' at Mackenzie Printery & Newspaper Museum: July 31 – August 2**

The Civic Holiday is known as Simcoe Day in some parts of Ontario. Stop by the Mackenzie Printery on "Simcoe Day" and learn how the nation's oldest printing press helped John Graves Simcoe shape the province of Upper Canada. 1 Queenston Street, Queenston (905) 262-5676.

**'The Siege of Fort Erie', 1814: August 14 & 15**

Witness the battles of 1814 that turned Old Fort Erie into Canada's bloodiest battlefield. On-going events throughout the weekend and Canada's largest Battle of 1812 re-enactment. Special evening lantern tours through the fort after the Battle re-enactment. 350 Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie. For information call (905) 871-0540 or visit [www.oldforterie.com](http://www.oldforterie.com)

**McFarland House Summer Performance & Art Shows - August 26**

Contact McFarland House for more information on the entertaining lineup of shows by local artists and theatrical performers. 15927 Niagara Parkway, Niagara-on-the-Lake (905) 468-3322

**End of Summer BBQ: August 29 from 4-9 p.m.**

Join the fun at Queenston Heights Restaurant Patio, high atop the Niagara Escarpment, at the foot of Brock's Monument. Enjoy wine tastings, product samples from Molson, an unbeatable BBQ selection and LIVE entertainment. Cost is \$30 Adults; \$15 Children. Space is limited. Call (905) 262-4274 for reservations. Queenston Heights Restaurant, 14184 Niagara Parkway, Queenston.

**September****Annual Reiger Begonia display at the Floral Showhouse: September**

This fall show consists of a mix of fall colours including orange, yellow, pink and white. The Reigers varieties produced have a double bloom and are approximately 1.5 inches in diameter. The Reigers will be combined with a fabulous display of coleus, tropical foliage plants and a mix of bright fall colours. Call 905-354-1721 for dates and times. 7145 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls.

**Murder in the Old Fort: September 3 & 4**

Experience a murder most foul in the creepy interior of the old stone fort. 350 Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie. For more information call (905) 871-0540.

## October

### ***Doors Open Niagara: October 16 & 17***

The Laura Secord Homestead and Mackenzie Printery & Newspaper Museum both participate in this much anticipated Bi-National Doors Open Niagara weekend. For more information, please visit [www.doorsopenniagara.com](http://www.doorsopenniagara.com). Free admission!

### ***All Hallow's Eve at Old Fort Erie: October 22 , 23, 29 & 30***

Venture out to Old Fort Erie to experience the traditions of Hallowe'en, brought to life through the Ghosts of the Old Fort. Please call (905) 871-0540 for reservations. 350 Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie.

### ***Niagara Falls International Marathon & Niagara Parks Schools Marathon Challenge: October 22 - 24***

The Niagara Falls International Marathon is the only marathon in the world that starts in one country and finishes in another. This marathon boasts a full marathon, half marathon, half marathon walk, a 5 km marathon along with the Niagara Parks Schools Marathon Challenge. This fast paced course is set along the scenic Niagara Parkway. Visit [www.niagarafallsmarathon.com](http://www.niagarafallsmarathon.com) for details or to register.

## November

### ***5th Annual Niagara Parks Apprentice Cooks & Chefs Showcase Dinner: November 4 - 5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.***

Support Niagara Parks' growing Apprentice Cooks program and enjoy a six-course meal featuring local Niagara wine pairings. Held at award-winning Queenston Heights Restaurant. 14184 Niagara Parkway, Queenston, ON. Call 905-262-4274 for reservations.

### ***28th Annual Winter Festival of Lights: November 6, 2009 –January 31, 2010***

Visit the Winter Festival of Lights, Canada's foremost illumination festival at its most famous address - Niagara Falls - as we capture the magic of the holiday season. A wintertime visit to Niagara Falls during the Winter Festival of Lights has become a family tradition for over 1 million local residents and visitors from around the world. We invite you to rediscover the many events and attractions Niagara Falls and the Winter Festival of Lights have to offer. Visit [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com) for updates.

### ***Annual Chrysanthemum Display at the Floral Showhouse: November***

The diversity of the Chrysanthemum's colour and form can be truly appreciated during a visit to this show, which features shades of pinks, yellows and bronzes. The displays are a combination of traditional bush varieties, cascading varieties in baskets, pillars and pyramids. Equally impressive are the single stem exhibition types, some with individual bloom diameters of over 8" across. The majority of these varieties is grown for exhibition purposes only and is traditionally not available in the commercial market. Call 905-354-1721 for dates and times. 2405 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls.

**December*****Annual Christmas Display at the Floral Showhouse: December***

Discover traditional red, white and pink Poinsettias as well as many unusual varieties and forms. Cyclamen, Azaleas, Christmas Cactus and Paperwhite Narcissus add to this spectacular Festival of Winter Colours. As final touches, the Floral Showhouse is adorned with lights, garland, ribbon and many other Christmas surprises. The free flying tropical birds throughout all the display houses add to the Christmas merriment. Come and experience the sights, scents and sounds of Christmas at the Niagara Parks Floral Showhouse. Call 905-354-1721 for dates and times. 2405 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls.

***A McFarland Christmas: December 3 - 5***

The Garden Club of Niagara transforms McFarland House for the holiday season, with costumed heritage staff ready to welcome those looking to enjoy the festive feel and charm of a Victorian Christmas. McFarland House is a part of the Rotary Holiday House Tour and hosts its own Christmas Open House. 15927 Niagara Parkway, Niagara-on-the-Lake (905) 468-3322

***New Year's Eve Niagara Falls in Queen Victoria Park: December 31***

Celebrate Canada's largest FREE New Year's Eve Extravaganza. The party begins at 8:00 p.m. This free concert draws approximately 30,000 people each year, with two spectacular fireworks displays that will take place at 9:00 p.m. and midnight. Live television coverage will run from 11:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. on CHCH and CanWest Global affiliate stations. As always, the presence of security and policing will be on-site to ensure people's safety throughout the night. Visit [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com) for the upcoming announcement of this year's exciting musical entertainment.

***Please visit [www.niagaraparks.com](http://www.niagaraparks.com) or e-mail [events@niagaraparks.com](mailto:events@niagaraparks.com) for more information.***

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