

YOU CAN HELP!

The CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has a terrific website devoted to the SLF. There are photographs showing the various stages of their infestation and of the 'sooty

mold' as well as additional material from other states that are already dealing with this insect. And most importantly, there is information on what you need to do if you think you have found the SLE, see: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Forestry/Forest-Protection/Spotted-Lanternfly>. The public is urged to report potential sightings of this invasive pest to ReportSLF@ct.gov. Submission of a photograph with any report is encouraged.

Join Us for I-Park's 20th Anniversary Season!

I-Park is pleased to share that, after our 2020 hiatus, we will be re-opening our international artists-in-residence program in June 2021. Founded in 2001 by Ralph Crispino, Jr. and Joanne Paradis, I-Park offers artists time and space to create art in an intimate, collegial, retreat-type setting. The residencies are fully-funded: food, lodging, studio space and attentive staff support.

In lieu of nurturing artists in 2020, we created our first Open Trails Initiative, a series of 12 experimental events where the public was invited to experience our unique system of art/nature trails. During 2020, we hosted over 800 guests, most of whom had never previously been to I-Park. We will take the lessons learned and integrate elements into future community engagement efforts.

One 2020 offspring is Open Trails: Family Birding Edition, which will serve families with children ages 8 to 10. Taking place on two Saturday mornings in April or May (dates TBD), each will feature: an introductory talk from Alison Guinness, birder extraordinaire; time to bird in your family "pod"; and culminating in a hands-on Build-Your-Own-Birdfeeder (materials provided.) These free events will be offered thanks to the generous support of the Rockfall Foundation.



A young visitor enjoying the wood sculpture. Photo courtesy I-Park.

For the 2021 season, in addition to our traditional 4-week multi-disciplinary residencies, culminating in a free Open Studios event, we will be hosting our eighth Site-Responsive Art Residency & Biennale, featuring at least 9 new, provocative artworks set in the landscape. The Biennale will open on September 18, with a series of subsequent self-guided viewings through the remainder of 2021 and into 2022.



If you'd like to learn more or are interested in volunteering or supporting the non-profit I-Park Foundation, please email info@i-park.org or call 860-873-2468. To stay in the loop about all future happenings, join our e-mail list at: i-park.org.

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