How do you know it's spring? Is it the daffodils blooming, longer days, or warmer weather that has you breaking out your short sleeves and sandals?

Maybe it's the fact that some signature pleasures are back, from outdoor farmers markets to Bicycle Sundays and Open Days garden tours. Historic sites like the Stony Point Battlefield and the Science Barge are shaking off the long winter to offer spring programs. The Lower Hudson Valley has outdoor gardens, parks and landmark properties where lush landscapes, historical lessons and arts and cultural activities abound. Here are a few annual pleasures that are finally open for the season.

OLD FAVORITES

Science Barge

Opening for the season on April 9, this family-friendly destination, a sustainable urban farm that serves as a floating education center offers environmental programs, workshops, and field trips for groups including schools and camps. The barge, which is docked on the Hudson River even boasts a greenhouse growing a variety of fresh produce. Stop by at noon on opening day for a fun-filled afternoon featuring crafts, live music, kites, stilt-walking, puppets, energy bikes and interactive science activities. A $5 donation is suggested. 99 Dock St., Yonkers. 914-375-2151, groundworkhv.org.