

**United States Department of the Interior  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Chesapeake Marshlands NWR Complex  
BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
2145 Key Wallace Drive  
Cambridge, MD 21613  
TEL: 410-228-2677  
(FAX: 410-228-3261)**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**INFORMATION: Melissa Tucker  
410-228-2677**

### **Wildlife Walk**

Come enjoy wildlife while getting some exercise!

Cambridge, MD- Enjoy the serenity of Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge while getting in some exercise! On Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m. Blackwater NWR will hold a free wildlife walk, walking part of the Wildlife Drive (approximately 2 miles). This walk will be guided by refuge intern Melissa Tucker, and will last approximately an hour and a half. From Cambridge, MD take Route 16 south, make a left onto Egypt Road, then a right onto Key Wallace Dr. Next make a left into our temporary Wildlife Drive entrance at the headquarters building. Go past the headquarters building to Wildlife Drive and make the left to the Woods Trail parking lot on the left. We will meet in front of the kiosk at the Woods Trail.

Along the paved walk, we will hope to see many species of wildlife such as the endangered Delmarva Fox Squirrel, Sika Deer, White-Tailed Deer, and different species of frogs, lizards, turtles and other reptiles, as well as many varieties of birds including ducks, song birds, the Bald Eagle and other birds of prey.

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1933 under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Originally approximately 8,200 acres were purchased to provide a migratory bird refuge. Today the refuge has grown to more than 27,000 acres and is home to many different species of wildlife and plants. Over 700 acres of fields and impoundments are planted in crops for our migratory birds. About one third of the refuge is of forested habitat containing many Loblolly Pines which make excellent habitats for Nesting Bald Eagles and the Delmarva Fox Squirrel, which was declared endangered in 1967. Blackwater has the highest count of Bald Eagles north of Florida and east of the Mississippi River, housing over 25 nests and over 100 Bald Eagles.

If you have any questions call Melissa Tucker at 410-228-2677 or visit the Blackwater website at [www.fws.gov/blackwater/](http://www.fws.gov/blackwater/).

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).*