

Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Fall 2010 Public Programs

September 15, 2010

Saturday, September 25, 2010

National Public Lands Day

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Planting

Come celebrate National Public Lands Day by helping plant native trees and grasses along the restored Fairbanks Channel. Planting native species is an important part of the restoration process as native plants compete with exotic species, stabilize disturbed soils, and provide habitat for wildlife. The work is dirty and fairly strenuous, as planting requires repetitive bending and kneeling. Snacks and water will be provided. Planting ends at noon, and participants are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some games (with prizes) in the afternoon! Enjoy a day of fun, sun, and stewardship — and bring a friend!

Saturday, October 9, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Let's Explore Wild Birds

Calling all kids! Come enjoy a day of feathery fun! See real bird nests and eggs, hear from a local ornithologist, and find out everything you need to know to become a bird expert yourself. Borrow our binoculars and field guides and join us on a bird search around the Point of Rocks boardwalk. After your picnic lunch, we'll play some games, and you can even get your photo taken with Puddles the Blue Goose — the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service mascot. Participants **must register** by calling **775-372-5435** or sending an email to **alyson_mack@fws.gov**. The registration deadline is October 4, 2010. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, October 23, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Planting

Help refuge staff plant native trees and grasses along the restored Fairbanks Channel. Planting native species is an important part of the restoration process as native plants compete with exotic species, stabilize disturbed soils, and provide habitat for wildlife. The work is dirty and fairly strenuous, as planting requires repetitive bending and kneeling. Snacks and water will be provided. Planting ends at noon, and participants are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some games (with prizes) in the afternoon! Enjoy a day of fun, sun, and stewardship — and bring a friend!

Saturday, October 30, 2010

Make a Difference Day

Time: TBA Ash Meadows NWR

Point of Rocks Grand Opening

This event celebrates the completion of an interpretive boardwalk designed to showcase the habitat restoration and recovery process at the Point of Rocks. New interpretive displays highlight the many endemic species found at Ash Meadows, including naucorids, spring-loving centaury, and pupfish, as well as the rich cultural history of the area. Face painting, giveaways, presentations and more will make this an event to remember. Please call **775-372-5435** or email **cyndi_souza@fws.gov** to RSVP.

Saturday, November 6, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Cattail Cutting

Help cut back overgrown cattails and reeds in the stream waters of King's Pool. Removing cattails is an important part of the restoration process as they slow stream flow and promote the population of exotic crayfish. These crayfish, among other exotic species, eat the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and compete with them for habitat. All participants should be comfortable swimming in water up to five feet deep. It is recommended participants wear shoes and clothes that can get wet and dirty, and bring a change of clothes. The cutting project will end at noon, but volunteers are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some fun games (with prizes) in the afternoon.

Saturday, November 13, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Let's Explore — Quest for the Bighorn

Ready for an adventure? Join the staff of Ash Meadows NWR and Death Valley National Park on a backcountry expedition from Point of Rocks to Devils Hole — straight through bighorn territory! Participants will find out what they need to know to hike safely in the backcountry, make their own field journal to take along, and try out their navigational and animal-tracking skills along the way. Staff members are hoping to find the elusive Desert Bighorn Sheep, but who know what other surprises await! Participants must be 13 years of age and up to register. The registration deadline is November 8, 2010. Call **775-372-5435** or send an email to **alyson_mack@fws.gov** to register.

Saturday, December 4, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Stewardship Saturday Volunteer Cattail Cutting

Help improve pupfish habitat - and get wet feet doing it. Cut back overgrown cattails and reeds in the waters of Crystal Spring and its outflow. Removing cattails is an important part of the restoration process as they slow stream flow and promote the population of exotic crayfish. These crayfish, among other exotic species, eat the endangered Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and compete with them for habitat. All participants should be comfortable swimming in water up to five feet deep. It is recommended participants wear shoes and clothes that can get wet and dirty, and bring a change of clothes. The cutting project will end at noon, but volunteers are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy some fun games (with prizes) in the afternoon.

Saturday, December 11, 2010

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Ash Meadows NWR

Let's Explore — Time Travelers

Travel back in time to the days before Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge existed and meet some of the people who were living here. Sit in the Longstreet Cabin and listen to the stories of the infamous Jack Longstreet, taste an edible wild plant, try your hand at an old game of chance, find the medicinal plants growing in the desert, look at old photographs from days past, and imagine what it was like to live out in the desert before air conditioning and Nintendo DS. To register send an email to alyson_mack@fws.gov or call **775-372-5435**. The registration deadline is December 6, 2010.

For volunteer events, please register online at www.getoutdoorsnevada.org.

For more information on events, or to register for the educational 'Let's Explore' programs, contact Alyson_Mack@fws.gov or call **775-372-5435**.

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