

2009 Exhibits & Events

The DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge features the following events, in addition to the weekend wildlife films.

January 1 - 31

Judith Crouch Feather Art Exhibit

Each art piece contains wild turkey feathers forming a seamless canvas for her subjects of wolves, eagles, buffalo and bears

February 13 – 15

Great Backyard Bird Count

Discover a variety of birds through the windows of the visitor center. For more information: <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc>

April 1 – May 30

Derrald Farnsworth-Livingston Exhibit

Using nature and scenic landscapes as his photography pieces, Derrald enlists his technological background through the use of digital imaging, to create his masterpieces.

May 9

International Migratory Bird Day

Discover and learn about birds and migration at Boyer Chute NWR, Ft. Calhoun, NE.
Contact Information: boyerchute@fws.gov or <http://www.birdday.org>

May 22 – September 4, Fridays

Wilson Island Campground Programs

Join us Friday evening at 8pm for a 45-minute ranger program at the Wilson Island picnic shelter.

June 6 – August 1

Jeff Murray Photography Exhibit

Area artist showcases local wildlife and fauna, attempting to preserve nature's beauty through his photographic lens.

June 6

DeSoto RefugeFest

Outdoor family: carp fishing contest, boat tours, canoe & kayak rides, fishing & archery clinics & food concessions

June 27th

Bike to Boyer

Bike through scenic Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge and raise community awareness about recreational opportunities there! Event is sponsored by the Friends of Boyer Chute & DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. For more information: <http://www.friendsofboyerdesoto.org>

July 1 - 31

Outdoor Writers of America Photography Exhibit

An exhibit featuring black and white and color photographs by some of the nation's premier outdoor photographers. Co-sponsored by Nikon Sport Optics.

August 16 – September 27

Pam Cates Art Exhibit

Painting outdoors in the 'plein air' tradition; Pam's artwork encompasses varied subjects as Iowa's Loess Hills, nature, travel, antiques and gardening

September 26

National Public Lands Day

Join us to collect prairie seeds and participate in the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance public lands. For more information: <http://www.npld.com/>

October 10 – November 20

Russ Deurksen Art Exhibit

A display of his finest works from a lifelong dream of being a full time wildlife artist.

October 11 - 17

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Join us to connect with nature through a variety of activities, i.e. Bird watching, Nature Photography Workshop, refuge tours, etc.

November 21 - 22

Art of the Wild Show & Sale

This annual event features artwork, photography, carvings, and more from on-site local artists. Come out and enjoy the day at DeSoto Refuge.

November 23 – December 31st

Charlene Potter's 'Doors to My Soul'

The relationship between humans and our natural world touches our very souls. Art exhibit depicting the human and natural world connection experience.

Visitor Center Hours:

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily, except federal holidays.

Refuge Hours:

½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

For more information:

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge
1434 316th Lane
Missouri Valley, IA 51555
(712) 642-4121
www.fws.gov/midwest/desoto
Email: desoto@fws.gov

In the Month of SEPTEMBER

- Monarch Butterflies begin migrating in large numbers



- Beavers add sticks and mud to lodge; insulating for winter

- White-tailed bucks rub velvet off antlers; look for Arubs@ on trees

- Listen to the incredible chorus of night insects



In the Month of OCTOBER

- Fawns have lost their spots
- Chimney swifts begin migrating
- Juncos arrive from Canada
- Bullfrogs begin hibernation
- Watch for goldfinches eating sunflower seeds



Weekend Wildlife Films

September/October

Films shown at 12:00, 1:30 & 2:45 p.m.

September 5 & 6 – **Trumpeter Swans Return** – From hatching cygnets to the first migratory flight in fall. Learn about efforts to reintroduce this swan, which was once nearly extinct in the lower 48 states, to its former range. 20 minutes

September 12 & 13 – **Blossoms on the Prairie** – Learn about Nebraska's prairie flowers. 26 minutes

September 19 & 20 – **Monarch: A Butterfly Beyond Border's** – Central Mexico; where millions of Monarchs cluster high in the trees. Learn about life cycle, mating, habitats and migration. 45 minutes

September 26 & 27 – **Canada Goose Story** – The Canada Goose - The wetlands of North America, breeding grounds for one of the largest, most intelligent and adaptable birds on earth. 30 minutes

October 3 & 4 – **Wetlands of Nebraska** – Explore the values wetlands provide and the role they play. 30 minutes

October 10 & 11 – **Loess Hills: Ours to Care For** - Approximately 640,000 acres of land in western Iowa make up the Loess Hills. Nowhere else but China can Loess soil be found. 20 minutes

October 17 & 18 – **Tallgrass Prairie: An American Original** – Journey into this exciting world of color, energy & life; experience the treasures that make it special. 40 minutes

October 24 & 25 – **Seasons of the Prairie** – How life in the prairie changes with each year and how prairie dogs, bison, pronghorn antelope, burrowing owls, coyote, grasses, flowers, fire and insects adapt to the ever changing seasons. 20 minutes

Oct 31 & Nov 1 – **Cuddly Critters** – Fast paced, colorful video for children about rabbits and beaver. 30 minutes

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Exhibit & Event Schedule 2009