

WILD NEWS

Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge

Nature Program Calendar

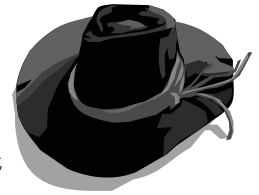
October - December 2009



REFUGE ROUNDUP 2009

Journey to the Old West
Saturday, October 17
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Refuge Roundup is back in expanded form for a third consecutive year, and, once again, everyone is welcome to step back in time onto the prairie at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge for an even bigger and better celebration of National Wildlife Refuge Week and our Western heritage.



“Refuge Roundup has something for everyone this year,” noted Visitor Services Manager Sherry James of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge. “Whether you want to learn archery, enjoy musical and dance performances or see live animals and historical re-enactments, you’ll find it here at the Refuge.”

Refuge Roundup is **free** and will take place from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday, October 17. All the favorite events are back, along with brand-new acts, activities and boot-stomping musical performances.

Visitors can stop by to enjoy performances throughout the day by Rudy Grant and the Branded Band, Calico and Boots Square Dance Exhibition Team, Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley, and the Chimaltonalli Aztec Dancers. Also featured will be an exhibition by Jose Torres and his Dancing Horses and live cavalry drills by the Buffalo Soldiers of the American West. In addition, cowboys from An Open Range Experience will give lessons on roping and wrangling, and the South Platte Valley Historical Society will help visitors master archery.



Western crafts and games for children of all ages will be offered all day and visitors can participate in most activities at Refuge Roundup 2009 on a drop-in basis, without making reservations.

Other groups featured at the event include Plains Conservation Center, Wildly Beautiful (formerly known as PredaTour), Colorado Historical Society, Colorado Hawking Club and National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository.

**Reservations required for bison tours and hayrides.
Call the Refuge today at 303-289-0930!**



NOVEMBER

WILD TREKS PROGRAM

Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Saturdays and Sundays

Refuge Hours:

7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Visitor Center Hours:

7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Nature Programs

October - December 2009

*Reservations are required for these **FREE** popular programs.*

*Call **303-289-0930** to register.*

Space is limited. Please dress for the weather. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Assistance dogs are welcome.

Refuge staff reserves the right to cancel or reschedule programs due to unforeseen circumstances.

Magnificent Mullies

Saturday Nov 14

Tuesday Nov 24

1:00 - 3:00 pm

The Refuge's mule deer bucks have once again grown massive antlers that are sure to impress all the does. Join us to learn some interesting facts and take a tour to look for these mighty bucks!

Friends of a Feather

Tuesday Nov 17

8:00 - 10:00 am

Join a local birder for an early morning birding expedition during the peak of waterfowl viewing season. Don't forget your binoculars, and keep your eyes on the sky and water!

WILD RIDES

Wednesdays, Saturdays
and Sundays

10:00 am – 12:00 pm



Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Refuge on this two-hour guided wildlife viewing tour.

Reservations are required.

Call for more information
303-289-0930

OCTOBER

Bike the Refuge

Tuesday Oct 13

1:00 - 3:00 pm



Join us for a unique opportunity to explore the Refuge on two wheels. Keep your eyes open for skittish white-tailed deer as you roll around the lakes, prairies and woodlands.

Refuge Roundup 2009

Saturday Oct 17

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Please see the front page for full celebration details.

Waterfowl ID

Wednesday Oct 21

8:00 - 10:00 am

It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's a green-winged teal! Learn how to spot and identify signs of the colorful waterfowl that visit the Refuge's lakes each fall.

Halloween Hike

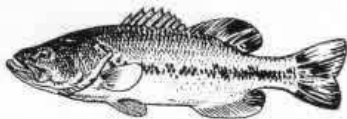
Saturday Oct 31

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Come dressed in your Halloween best, and join the costume parade around Lake Mary. Along the way discover the scary, the icky, and the yucky animals that live here.



FISHING NEWS



Anglers - there is still
time to catch

"The Big One!"

The Refuge public fishing
season will end on
Saturday,
October 17, 2009.

Refuge Favorites

Autumn Hayride

Saturday Oct 10

Sunday Nov 1

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Take a step back in time and enjoy the fall colors, plentiful wildlife and crisp air on a family-style hayride. Remember your warm blankets and cameras!



Fall Photo Tour

Saturday Oct 24

Sunday Nov 8

9:00 am - noon

Calling all photographers! Come out for some stunning shots of the golden fall foliage and wildlife spending their autumn here.

Home on the Range

Saturday Nov 7

Saturday Dec 12

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Bring your family to see North America's largest land mammal right in Denver! Get a firsthand look at these majestic giants.

Big Buck Photo Tour

Saturday Nov 21

6:30 - 11:00 am

Join professional photographer, Dave Showalter, for this special photo tour in search of showy bucks in rut. Start the program just before sunrise with a continental breakfast sponsored by the Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges. Telephoto lens recommended.

Holiday Tour

Wednesday Nov 25

Saturday Nov 28

Sunday Nov 29

9:30 am - noon

Looking for something to do with visiting friends and relatives? Bring them out for a free, guided tour of the Refuge! Remember your binoculars to help spot deer, coyotes, raptors and bison, and warm up with a cup of cider or hot chocolate afterwards. Kids can make a craft to bring home too!



DECEMBER

White Flags

Saturday Dec 5

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Learn some fascinating facts about the graceful white-tailed deer's skittish behavior while searching the Refuge for these sleek and slender mammals.

Frosty Photo Tour

Sunday Dec 6

Wednesday Dec 30

9:00 am - noon

Jack Frost is nipping your nose so now is the time for the perfect shot of amazing winter wildlife and majestic landscapes this time of year.

Birding Basics

Wednesday Dec 16

8:00 - 10:00 am

Want to bird with the best? Join a Refuge birder and learn the do's and don'ts of birding. Don't miss this opportunity to get the insiders' tips on better birding! Binoculars are recommended.

Eagles on Holiday

Saturday Dec 19

Sunday Dec 20

1:00 - 3:00 pm

We're not the only ones who spend their holidays in warmer climates; numerous Bald Eagles are visiting us from the cold north! Don't miss this chance to see America's national icon in this winter wonderland!

Holiday Tour

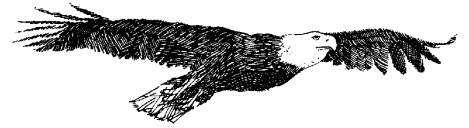
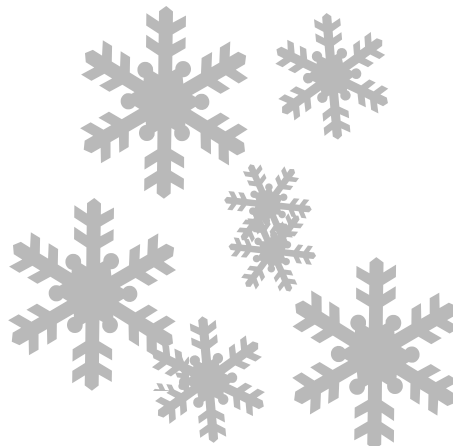
Wednesday Dec 23

Saturday Dec 26

Sunday Dec 27

9:30 am - noon

Got relatives to entertain this holiday season? Bring them on down to the Refuge for a relaxing search of whitetail and mule deer, red-tailed hawks, Bald Eagles and American bison! Warm up with hot chocolate and cider, and make a craft to take home!



TUESDAY TOTS

Offered the first Tuesday of each month from 10:00 - 11:00 am, this one-hour program is for the young naturalist 2 to 5 years old. Parent or guardian must accompany all children. Please call 303-289-0930 for reservations!

Spook-tacular Bats

October 6

Do all bats really sleep upside down? How do bats see in the dark? Do they really get stuck in your hair? Learn the myths and truths about these fantastic flying mammals, and make a craft to take home.

Oh Deer!

November 3

Learn fun facts about the deer that live on the Refuge and the unique ways they've adapted for survival. Head out for a search to find these furry mammals and create a doe-eyed craft.



Eagles in the Sky

December 1

Join a Refuge Ranger to learn all about our national bird, the Bald Eagle. Enjoy a read-along about a young eaglet, fly with the eagles and make an eagle family photo album of your very own.

► The Refuge will be closed to visitors on Wednesday, November 11, and will close at noon on Wednesday, November 25, for holiday observances.

Join us for the Annual Bluestem Banquet

On October 3, 2009, the Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges (FFRWR) will host their annual Bluestem Banquet at 6:00 pm. Please join us at Werth Manor located at 8301 Rosemary Street, Commerce City for a fun filled evening that includes a silent auction and a speaker you won't want to miss.

The silent auction is the major fund raiser event of the year. Proceeds from the auction help FFRWR support Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge programs and projects. In addition, it's a great way to find a variety of unique gifts for others and yourself—you never know what you might find!

The speaker, Dr. George Stroberg, DVM, is on the FFRWR Board and will present the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race - "The Last Great Race". As Trail Veterinarian over the past seven years, Dr. Stroberg has taken many pictures along the 1,049 mile course and will present them in an enjoyable and informative power point presentation. He has given many talks to organizations, appeared on local television, and given interviews to local newspapers. Dr. Stroberg is very passionate about the incredible athletic dogs, which constantly amaze him as he takes care of them during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Enjoy an elegant dinner, a worthwhile fund raiser, and share Dr. Stroberg's enthusiasm while viewing photos of an incredible event that journeys through places you may never have an opportunity to see for yourself. For more information, or to reserve your seat, contact Judy Tunis at 303-919-3069 or t.tunis@comcast.net by Friday, September 25, 2009. We hope to see YOU!

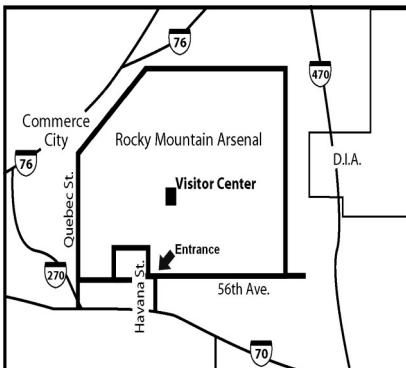


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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge
Commerce City, CO 80022-1748

DIRECTIONS TO THE REFUGE:

Enter the Refuge at 56th Avenue and Havana Street. Proceed 1.5 miles to the Visitor Center to check-in.



Visit our website at www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal or call 303-289-0930

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