

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge
2591 Whitehall Neck Road
Smyrna, DE 19977
302-653-9345
www.fws.gov/refuge/bombay_hook



Calendar of Events – 2017

The Wildlife Drive is open daily from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

The Visitor Center is open during the week from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Visitor Center is open on weekends until Mid-December.

Wednesday, November 8, 2017 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Refuge Introduction Tour “Climb aboard” the refuge’s 12-passenger bus for a 2-hour guided tour of the refuge. Look for wildlife, walk a short trail, and learn how the various habitats on the refuge are managed to provide the food, water, and cover needed by the many species of wildlife that live on or pass through the refuge. Bring your binoculars, or borrow a pair at the Visitor Center. **Call to register, 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, November 10-12, 2017 ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset FREE ENTRANCE FEE Honoring veterans, the National Wildlife Refuge System is providing free entrance to Bombay Hook National Wildlife and all the refuges throughout the U.S. This is a good time of year to see hawks, eagles, ducks, and geese. Take time out to remember our veterans and to enjoy nature.

Saturday, November 11, 2017 10:00 am to 12:30 pm Beginning Bird Watching – Duck, Duck, Goose. What are all those ducks and geese around the Refuge? Come and learn how to tell one duck from another at this beginning birders’ class. We’ll start with a presentation at 10:00 am and then practice our identification skills on the wildlife drive.

Sunday, November 12, 2017 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Refuge Introduction Tour “Climb aboard” the refuge’s 12-passenger bus for a 2-hour guided tour of the refuge. Look for wildlife, walk a short trail, and learn how the various habitats on the refuge are managed to provide the food, water, and cover needed by the many species of wildlife that live on or pass through the refuge. Bring your binoculars, or borrow a pair at the Visitor Center. **Call to register, 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Comprehensive Conservation Plan(CCP) - Public Open House The planning team is hosting an Open House meeting to provide opportunities for people to comment on what they see as the issues, concerns, and challenges for the refuge over the next 15 years, as well as learn about the Comprehensive Conservation Plan process. With your involvement, we will develop a CCP that will ensure that the refuge remains a special place for wildlife and people. Stop in anytime between 1:00 and 5:00 pm.



Saturday, November 18, 2017 9:30 am to 11:30 am Jr. Rangers Explore the Bluebird Trail and Learn How to clean the boxes. New and returning children (7-11 years old) are invited to attend. The program will cover the plight of the Eastern Bluebird and how conservation activities can benefit the species. The group will walk a 1-1/2 mile section of the refuge, exploring the Bluebird nest boxes and the different kinds of wildlife that use them. **Space is limited, call to register on 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Saturday, November 18, 2017 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Impoundment Tour of the Refuge Join Terry Willis and Eileen McLellan for a bus tour of the refuge impoundments and salt marsh. We hope to see and identify shorebirds, waterfowl, and wading birds along with eagles and other passing raptors. Viewing scopes will be provided. Tour will take approximately 2+ hours depending on conditions. **Space is limited, call to register, 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Tuesday, November 21, 2017 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Toddlers/preschoolers (1 year old to 5 years old) and their guardian are free. Bombay Hook will be free for toddlers and their guardian on the 3rd Tuesday of November. Children from 1 to 5 years old are developing cognitive skills and being in nature can expose them to sights and sounds that might go unnoticed in their everyday setting. Take your child on the wildlife drive, walk a trail, climb a tower, read them a nature book, and look at wildlife exhibits in the visitor center. You are never too young to explore and learn. This is a free self-study for families. You can come anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 22, 2017 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Refuge Introduction Tour “Climb aboard” the refuge’s 12-passenger bus for a 2-hour guided tour of the refuge. Look for wildlife, walk a short trail, and learn how the various habitats on the refuge are managed to provide the food, water, and cover needed by the many species of wildlife that live on or pass through the refuge. Bring your binoculars, or borrow a pair at the Visitor Center. **Call to register, 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Friday, November 24, 2017 10:00 am to 12:30 pm Your First Visit To Bombay Hook Tour – Learn a little about the refuge’s history, why it is here, how it is managed for wildlife, and bird migration at the refuge. We will walk a trail and identify birds. **Space is limited, call to register or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Friday, November 24, 2017 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm Bird Identification Station Get a close look at the different bird species in the impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the wildlife drive with scopes and binoculars to help you identify waterfowl, passing raptors, and whatever else flies by. Look for the blue Bird ID Station sign along the auto tour route.

Sunday, November 26, 2017 11:00 am – 12:30 pm Tour of the Refuge - Join volunteer, Ray Cullom, for a tour of the Refuge. Find out how the Refuge is managed for wildlife, visit different habitats, and walk a trail. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Sunday, November 26, 2017 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Tour of the Refuge - Join volunteer, Ray Cullom, for a tour of the Refuge. Find out how the Refuge is managed for wildlife, visit different habitats, and walk a trail. Meet at the Visitor Center.



Saturday, December 2, 2017 9:30 am to 11:30 am Jr. Rangers learn Why and How the Trees and Plants stay Green in Winter New and returning children (7-11 years old) are invited to attend. Mistletoe, holly, cedar and pine...what is their significance for wildlife? Come learn why they stay green in the winter along with some fun Holiday facts. You will create a Holiday decoration to take home! **Call to register, 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Refuge Introduction Tour “Climb aboard” the refuge’s 12-passenger bus for a 2-hour guided tour of the refuge. Look for wildlife, walk a short trail, and learn how the various habitats on the refuge are managed to provide the food, water, and cover needed by the many species of wildlife that live on or pass through the refuge. Bring your binoculars, or borrow a pair at the Visitor Center. **Call to register, 302-653-9345 or email: tina_watson@fws.gov.**

Sunday, December 17, 2017 7:00 am 79th Bombay Hook Christmas Bird Count We will meet at the Visitor Center at 7:00 am. Everyone is welcome. We will have several experts taking out groups throughout the day, birding until dusk. Bring boots and binoculars. **Contact Andy Ednie if you have questions: ednieap@verizon.net.**

Deer Hunt Dates – Partial Closures affecting the Wildlife Drive

Back Section Closed – Bear Swamp, Finis Pool, and road to Allee House

November 4, 10, 11, and 15, 2017 all day for Shotgun

December 11 and 14, 2017 all day for Shotgun

January 19, 2018, all day for Shotgun

Front Section Closed – Raymond and Shearness – Enter Refuge on Rt. 9 at Dutch Neck Road

November 13 and 17, 2017 all day for Shotgun

December 13, 2017 all day for Shotgun