

# Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge

## 2026 Walks and Talks

### Schedule

**Monday, February 23-** 10:00am - CRITTERS OF THE COAST - Meet at Chan West Pine Beach Trailhead

**Wednesday, February 25-** 8:00am - BIRD WALK - Meet at Jeff Friend Trailhead

**Saturday, February 28-** 8:00am - BIRD WALK - Meet at Chan West Pine Beach Trailhead

**Monday, March 2-** 11:00am-noon - I SPY - Meet at the Chan West Pine Beach Observation Tower (NO RESERVATION REQUIRED)

**Wednesday, March 4-** 10:00-11:00am - GULF TO THE DUNES - Meet at the Mobile Street Parking Lot

**Thursday, March 5-** 10:00am- Noon - CREATURES OF LITTLE LAGOON - Meet at the Jeff Friend Trailhead

**Friday, March 6-** 10:00am- Noon - CREATURES OF LITTLE LAGOON - Meet at the Jeff Friend Trailhead

**Monday, March 9-** 10:00-11:30am - THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIVE PLANTS - Meet at the Jeff Friend Trailhead

**Monday, March 9-** 2:00-3:00pm - I SPY - Meet at the Chan West Pine Beach Observation Tower (NO RESERVATION REQUIRED)

**Wednesday, March 11-** 10:00am - CRITTERS OF THE COAST - Meet at the Chan West Pine Beach Trailhead

**Monday, March 16-** 11:00am-noon - I SPY - Meet at the Chan West Pine Beach Observation Tower (NO RESERVATION REQUIRED)

**Wednesday, March 18-** 10:00am - CRITTERS OF THE COAST - Meet at the Chan West Pine Beach Trailhead

**Thursday, March 19-** 10:00-11:00am - GULF TO THE DUNES - Meet at the Mobile Street Parking Lot

**Saturday, March 21-** 10:00-11:30am - THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIVE PLANTS - Meet at the Jeff Friend Trailhead

**Monday, March 23-** 2:00-3:00pm - ASK A NATURALIST - Meet at the Mobile Street beach Boardwalk (NO RESERVATION REQUIRED)

**Tuesday, March 24-** 10:00 - SEA TURTLES VISITING ALABAMA BEACHES - Meet at the Mobile Street Parking Lot

Reservations are required unless noted and space is mostly limited to 12 people per walk. Call 251-540-7720 to sign up for a walk or talk. Leave a message with your name, number, and the size of your party. We will call back to confirm your reservation Monday through Friday and can provide directions if needed.

The walks last 1-2 hours and meet at the designated location. Please provide at least 24 hours' notice for cancellations. Note that there are no restrooms on the trails, except for Chan West Pine Beach Trail, which has a pit toilet about 1 mile from the start.

Note: Some of the walks will be occurring while the office is closed. We suggest supportive footwear, water, hats, sunscreen, and bug spray.

**\*\*In case of rain, walks will be cancelled or postponed.\*\***

Additional information about the refuge can be found on our website [www.fws.gov/bonsecour](http://www.fws.gov/bonsecour) or on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/BonSecourNWR](https://www.facebook.com/BonSecourNWR).

## Walks and Talks Descriptions

### **ASK A NATURALIST**

Join us at the Mobile Street beach Boardwalk and ask one of our naturalists any questions you may have about the wonders of the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge. NO RESERVATION REQUIRED

### **BIRD WALK**

Beginner and experienced bird watchers of all ages are welcome to come out and enjoy the beauty of birds and nature itself. Bird walks that start at the Chan West Pine Beach Trailhead will end short of a mile at the Observation Tower, and bird walks that start at the Jeff Friend Trailhead will be a 1-mile loop. Bring binoculars if you have them but we will have a few extra to share.

### **CREATURES OF LITTLE LAGOON**

Let's see what organisms we can discover in Little Lagoon's water by pulling a seine net. Refuge volunteers will demonstrate and then give you an opportunity to pull the net too! Participants who wish to pull the net should come prepared to get waist deep in water. Wear old clothes and closed-toe shoes that can get wet. Need to stay dry? No problem, come and observe the organisms we catch. Meet at Jeff Friend Trailhead, then we will walk 0.5 miles to the seining site. Bring towels, sunglasses and water.

### **CRITTERS OF THE COAST**

Learn all about wild animals that call this area home. This walk will focus on 4-legged wildlife that use this coastal barrier habitat as their hunting grounds. The Critters of the Coast will start at the Chan West Pine Beach Trailhead and end at the west end of Little Lagoon (one mile one way).

### **GULF TO THE DUNES AND BEYOND**

Although the Gulf of America is a major player, there is more to a marine ecosystem than salt water! Join us to learn about the varying interconnected marine environments and their unique inhabitants. We will begin at the Mobile Street Parking Lot and walk less than a mile to the Gulf and backtrack over the boardwalk to discuss the dunes and their important role in the marine ecosystem. We will keep an eye out for birds if you would like to bring binoculars.

### **I SPY**

Meet one of our naturalists at the Chan West Pine Beach Observation Tower to see what birds, insects, reptiles, and flora we can see. Bring binoculars if you have them but we will have a few extra to share. NO RESERVATION REQUIRED

### **SURVIVING IN A HAZARDOUS ENVIRONMENT:**

#### **THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIVE PLANTS TO THE NATIVE AMERICANS AND EARLY SETTLERS**

Take a journey back to when native tribes and early colonizers needed to rely on the land around them to supply the medication and food they needed to live in this coastal habitat! This 1-mile walk starts at the Jeff Friend Trailhead and will last about 90 minutes. If you would like to bring binoculars, we will also keep an eye out for birds.

### **SEA TURTLES VISITING ALABAMA BEACHES**

Spend an hour at the beach learning about the different sea turtles that visit our Alabama coastline. See examples of a turtle crawl, a turtle nest, and what we do here to protect them. We will meet at the Mobile Street Parking Lot and walk a short distance to the beach on a sandy trail for the talk and demonstration.