

Blackwater NWR 2026 Tentative Eagle Festival Schedule

Time	Activity/Program	Description
8:00 – 9:30 am	Birding With a Guide (approx. 1.5 hrs.)	EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!! Observe resident and migratory birds, including eagles, geese, ducks, herons, and songbirds with expert guide Terry Allen. Bring binoculars. Park at the Education Building on Wildlife Drive.
Tours (Visitor Center Parking Lot)		
10:00 & 11:30 am 1:00 & 2:30 pm	Eagle Prowl (approx. 1 hr. 15 min.)	Join our experienced volunteers and staff as we search for bald eagles on the refuge. Seating is limited. Registration begins at 9:30 am for all prowls. Limit 4 tickets per person. Once tickets are gone, seats will be filled on a stand-by basis. Tickets go fast so plan accordingly.
10:00 & 11:30 am 1:00 & 2:30 pm	Wildlife Drive Van Tour (approx. 1 hr. 15 min.)	Join refuge staff on a tour of the wildlife drive as we search for bald eagles and share how the refuge manages habitat for wildlife. Registration begins at 9:30 am for all tours. Limit 4 tickets per person. Once tickets are gone, seats will be filled on a stand-by basis. Tickets go fast so plan accordingly.
Programs (in the Program Tent)		
9:30 am	OWL Do They Do That?	LECTURE – Owls are mysterious creatures of the night... or are they? Join Jim Wilson as he explains some of these owl mysteries, focusing on three of the most common owls of the Eastern Shore.
11:00 am	Raptors Rule!	LIVE BIRDS - Mike Callahan of Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center will present an interactive live birds of prey program with fun information about the exciting lives of bald eagles and other native raptors of Maryland!
12:30 pm	Rodney's Raptors	LIVE BIRDS - Rodney Stotts is a Master Falconer from southeast Washington D.C. and is one of the nation's few Black falconers. Learn about falconry and the healing power of nature through this interactive and educational program.
2:30 pm	Raptors Rule!	LIVE BIRDS - A second chance to see Mike Callahan of Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center present a live birds of prey program with fun information about the exciting lives of bald eagles and other native raptors of Maryland!
Exhibits/Demonstrations/Presentations (Visitor Center)		
All day	Throughout the Visitor Center	View live birds of prey with exhibitors from the Salisbury Zoo and Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center. Decoy carving demonstrations by Warren Saunders. Maryland Scales and Tales Live Reptile Display and Egg Crushing Demonstration. Exhibits from the Friends of Blackwater and the MD Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest. 10 am – 3 pm Kids' face painting
Kids' Stuff (Activity Tents) – All Day While Supplies Last		
Nest Box Tent	Build a Bird Box	Construct a wren nest box to take home. All materials supplied.
Kids Activity Tent	Owl Pellet Exploration	Learn about the foods owls eat by dissecting an owl pellet.
	Kids' Make-and-Take	Make a wildlife button and a bird mask!
Range Tent	Archery	Kids can try their hand at archery at the indoor "Hoverball" range.
	BB Gun Range	A fun and safe shooting range staffed by the National Wild Turkey Federation.
All Day	Wildlife Drive	Free of Charge!
	Food	Purchase vittles from Boy Scout Troop 532. Visitor Center parking lot.
	StoryWalk®	Families can enjoy a "StoryWalk®" along the Woods Trail.