

News Release



DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge
1434 316th Lane
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Wildlife Refuge Week at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge October 9th to October 15th 2022.

In celebration of the unparalleled lands and waters of the National Wildlife Refuge System, join us at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge for our events throughout the week. All of the over 560 National Wildlife Refuges have something to offer visitors throughout the country with many hosting different events for the American public throughout the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Sunday October 9th 2022

In recognition of National Wildlife Refuge week, Sunday, October 9th will be a fee free day for visitors. For this Sunday, the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center will also be open from 12:00 pm to 4:30pm. At this time the Bertrand Steamboat and the wildlife exhibits will be open for visitors to observe.

Programs for Sunday October 9th 2022:

Presentation on the Federal Duck Stamp Program: 1 - 2pm. -In this program our refuge rangers will be presenting the history and significance of the Federal Duck Stamp Program. Learn more about how your duck stamp dollars are at work and why this program is important to the National Wildlife Refuge System and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

First of State Duck Stamp Promotion Viewing: 2-4 pm. -Within the Visitor Center witness the opening ceremony of the First of State Duck Stamp Exhibit generously donated to DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. This beautiful artwork collection shows the historical first duck stamp sold by each of the 50 states of America. The Friends of Boyer Chute and DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge will supply complimentary cookies and drinks to enjoy while viewing the artwork display.

Programs for Thursday October 13th, 2022

Refuge Volunteering: 5:30 -8 pm - The refuge is looking to get new volunteers and friends group members that are interested in working the DeSoto Visitor Center front desk and running/operating the Bookstore. The program will take place at the DeSoto Visitor Center at 5:30 pm. Pizza supper will be provided courtesy of the Friends of Boyer Chute and DeSoto. If interested, contact Park Ranger Peter Rea to sign up at 712-388-4803.

Program for Saturday October 15th, 2022

Wetlands Walks: 9 am, 11 am, and 1 pm - Join a refuge ranger for a guided hike around refuge wetlands to learn about how the refuge manages wetlands and the benefits they provide to migratory birds and other wildlife. The hike is roughly a mile in length on gravel trail.

Junior Duck Stamp Artwork: 9 am - 4pm - Learn about the Junior Duck Stamp program. Art supplies will be available for k-12 students to participate in this nationwide art contest. The Iowa Junior Duck Stamp State Coordinator will be present to provide entry forms and answer questions regarding the program.

Bertrand Steamboat Program: 3 pm - Join the Bertrand Museum Specialist for a program discovering the Bertrand Steamboat and the fascinating artifacts that were uncovered.

DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is located north of Omaha, Nebraska on U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and Blair, Nebraska. For more information contact 712/388-4800 or email the refuge at desoto@fws.gov. Check our websites, www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/ or www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer_chute/, for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.