

A photograph of three blue herons standing in a shallow, grassy wetland. The herons are green and blue with long necks and beaks. They are surrounded by tall grasses and their reflections are visible in the water.

**Please join  
us for some  
foraging!**

## **Brunch With the Birds**

Sponsored by Friends of Stone Lakes NWR

**Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge**

**Sunday, November 20, 2022 from 11:00am to 1:00pm**

Blue Heron Trails

1624 Hood Franklin Road, Elk Grove, CA

**Join us at the Amphitheater for brunch and good company of all species. Rain or shine.**

- Meet the people from both the Friends and Staff of Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
  - Learn about the Refuge and its wild inhabitants
  - Take a Nature Walk with the Refuge Manager
- Have a guided tour of Blue Heron Trails and our newest attraction, Little Green Heron Playscape

**We hope you will be part of the flock!**

For more info, go to [www.friendsofstonelakes.org](http://www.friendsofstonelakes.org)

## Know YOUR Refuge!

Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge is an important part of the Pacific Flyway. Every year it is home to an increasing number of various species of resident and migrating wildlife.

The Refuge encompasses many different types of habitat; lakes, marshes, ponds, grasslands, riparian forests, sloughs, vernal pools and privately owned farms.

Many different species of waterfowl go to and from the Refuge at different times of year and have different habitat requirements. The Refuge staff must orchestrate and fine tune each area of the Refuge to suit the wildlife that lives there.

Shore birds come in summer and like shallow marshes with mudflats. Ducks and geese come in the Fall and like deeper water for swimming and foraging. Sandhill Cranes come in the fall and need grasslands, harvested crop fields and shallow ponds for foraging and roosting at night. Egrets and herons roost in the trees of the riparian forests along the waterways and hunt along the shores. Endangered Fairy Shrimp live in vernal pools. Refuge staff works hard to manage all these habitats through changing seasons and weather conditions so the wildlife thrives each year.

The Refuge is a wonderful resource for education and wildlife viewing. With the help of Friends of Stone Lakes NWR, the Refuge hosts many classes of elementary school children for educational programs and the USFWS Nature Bowl each year. In addition, there is a mile long, accessible walk at Blue Heron Trails with information kiosks along the way to explain what you are seeing. Little Green Heron Playscape is designed to be a natural play area for young children. It also has a native pollinator garden for attracting native birds and insects. These are open to the public free every day of the year from dawn until dusk.

During different seasons, you can experience areas of the Refuge that are normally closed to the public through guided walks or paddle tours. To get information about these tours and other activities, go to:

[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Stone\\_Lakes/visit/visitor\\_activities.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Stone_Lakes/visit/visitor_activities.html)

We are all very fortunate to have such a wonderful resource in our backyard. Come and be surrounded by the sights and sounds of Nature! You'll be glad you did.