

JULY & AUGUST PROGRAMS



Come explore with us! Connect with nature and other nature lovers. Programs are always free, but registration may be required. Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

1. Thursday July 6

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

2. Saturday July 8

Raptor Discovery: 1:30pm – 3pm

Join the Tailwinds team to meet amazing owls and raptors up close. Come to the visitor center to learn about their habitat, behaviors, and adaptations!

Drop in any time – register for updates at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

3. Wednesday July 12

Stories in the Garden: 11am – noon

Join our local children’s librarian for story time in the visitor center pollinator garden. Feel free to bring a chair, blanket, and snacks!

Drop in any time – no registration required

4. Thursday July 13

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

5. Friday July 14

Behind the Scenes Bus Tour – Great Bay NWR: 9:30am – 11am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind-the-scenes bus tour of Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about the history, ecology, and watch for wildlife.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

6. Friday July 14

Intro to Archery: 10am – 11:30am

Learn the basics of archery! Join our refuge rangers for guided instruction, and then enjoy time to practice your shot. All ages welcome, equipment provided.

Drop in any time – register for updates at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

7. Saturday July 15

Behind the Scenes Bus Tour: 9:30am – 11am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind-the-scenes bus tour of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about the history, ecology, and watch for wildlife.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

8. Sunday July 16

Behind the Scenes Bus Tour: 9:30am – 11am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind-the-scenes bus tour of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about the history, ecology, and watch for wildlife.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

9. Monday July 17

Great Bay Bike Tour: 9:30am – 11am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind-the-scenes bike tour of Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about the history, ecology, and mission of the refuge.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

10. Thursday July 20

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

11. Friday July 21

Discover Stage Island: 10am – 11:30am

Walk the Stage Island Trail with a refuge ranger to learn about the unique geology, history, and ecology of southern end of Plum Island.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

12. Saturday July 22

Behind the Scenes Bus Tour: 9:30am – 11am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind-the-scenes bus tour of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about the history, ecology, and watch for wildlife.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

13. Saturday July 22

Butterflies & Bugs Family Open House: 10am – 3pm

Along with Joppa Flats Education Center, stop by the refuge visitor center and pollinator gardens to learn about crawly critters through crafts and activities.

Drop in any time – no registration required

14. Wednesday July 26

Stories in the Garden: 11am – noon

Join our local children's librarian for story time in the visitor center pollinator garden. Feel free to bring a chair, blanket, and snacks!

Drop in any time – no registration required

15. Wednesday July 26

Early Plum Island Aviation Talk: 2:30pm – 3:30pm

Shortly after the Wright Brothers' first flight, Plum Island became the site of New England's first flying field. Learn more with local historian Ted Russell.

Register for updates at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

16. Thursday July 27

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

17. Thursday August 3

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

18. Friday August 4

Intro to Archery: 10am – 11:30am

Learn the basics of archery! Join our refuge rangers for guided instruction, and then enjoy time to practice your shot. All ages welcome, equipment provided.

Drop in any time – register for updates at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

19. Saturday August 5

Visual Tour & History Talk: 1pm – 2pm

Join Author Dyke Hendrickson on a visual trip along the Merrimack River. Learn about the history, significance, and vulnerability of Plum Island.

Register for updates at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

20. Monday August 7 – Friday August 11

Nature Kids Drop Off Program – Session 1: 10am – noon daily

Get curious about the world around us! Youth ages 7 – 11 are invited to join our drop off nature program with new themes each day. Must attend all week.

Registration required: e-mail ella_weber@fws.gov or call 978-572-5617

21. Monday August 7

Great Bay Bike Tour: 9:30am – 11am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind-the-scenes bike tour of Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about the history, ecology, and mission of the refuge.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

22. Monday August 7

Salt Marsh Boat Tour: 3pm – 4:45pm

Join volunteer refuge naturalists for a unique tour of the salt marsh creeks and habitats. Learn about the importance of the salt marsh to wildlife and humans.

This is a ticketed tour via Yankee Clipper Harbor Tours – contact for info

Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

23. Tuesday August 8

Tree Swallow Migration Madness: 7pm – 8:30pm

Join a refuge biologist as we seek out swarms of migrating tree swallows (sometimes in the tens of thousands) eating insects and roosting for the night.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

24. Wednesday August 9

Stories in the Garden: 11am – noon

Join our local children's librarian for story time in the visitor center pollinator garden. Feel free to bring a chair, blanket, and snacks!

Drop in any time – no registration required

25. Wednesday August 9 (rain date Wednesday August 16)

Wapack Blueberry Hike: 10:30am – 12:30pm

Join us at Wapack National Wildlife Refuge on a 3 mile out-and-back hike to take in the view and pick wild blueberries during the height of the season!

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

26. Thursday August 10

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

27. Saturday August 12

Hellcat Birding Tour: 8am – 10am

Join a ranger to walk Hellcat Trail. Learn about the bird species at Parker River and perhaps spot some along the way. Binoculars provided upon request.

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

28. Monday August 14 – Friday August 18

Nature Kids Drop Off Program – Session 2: 10am – noon daily

Get curious about the world around us! Youth ages 7 – 11 are invited to join our drop off nature program with new themes each day. Must attend all week.

Registration required: e-mail ella_weber@fws.gov or call 978-572-5617

Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

29. Wednesday August 16

Salt Marsh Boat Tour: 11am – 12:45pm

Join volunteer refuge naturalists for a unique tour of the salt marsh creeks and habitats. Learn about the importance of the salt marsh to wildlife and humans.

This is a ticketed tour via Yankee Clipper Harbor Tours – contact for info

30. Thursday August 17

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

31. Tuesday August 22 (rain date Thursday August 24)

Night Sky Program: 8:30pm – 10pm

Admire the beauty and mystery of the night sky with the North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club. Join us after hours to view Saturn, nebula, and more!

Registration required at: bit.ly/parkerriversignup

32. Wednesday August 23

Stories in the Garden: 11am – noon

Join our local children's librarian for story time in the visitor center pollinator garden. Feel free to bring a chair, blanket, and snacks!

Drop in any time – no registration required

33. Thursday August 24

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required

34. Saturday August 26

Becoming an Outdoors Woman – Woodswoman Course: 9am – 3pm

Join partners from Mass Wildlife and Artemis to learn skills including trip prep, maps and navigation, reading the woods, field ID, and outdoor first aid.

Registration required: massfishhunt.events.licensing.app/em/events/4269

Questions? E-mail ella_weber@fws.gov or call 978-572-5617

Visit us at fws.gov/refuge/parker-river. Sign up at bit.ly/parkerriversignup.

35. Wednesday August 29

Salt Marsh Boat Tour: 9am – 10:45pm

Join volunteer refuge naturalists for a unique tour of the salt marsh creeks and habitats. Learn about the importance of the salt marsh to wildlife and humans.

This is a ticketed tour via Yankee Clipper Harbor Tours – contact for info

36. Thursday August 31

Traveling Touch Tanks: 11am – 1pm

Get up close and personal with the critters who call the beach and tide pools home. Join Joppa Flats educators at Lot 1 to learn about these special species.

Drop in any time – no registration required