

Patuxent Research Refuge



Winter Programs, 2023

January

NORTH TRACT PROGRAMS

230 Bald Eagle Drive
Laurel, MD 20724

Intro to Photography

Sun., Jan. 22nd, 1:30- 2:30 pm

Ages 11+, registration required

How do you step away from the auto feature of your camera and really start making art? In this class we will learn about f-stop and other camera features that will help us get the pictures we really want.

SOUTH TRACT PROGRAMS

10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708

Winter Bird Walk

Sat., Jan. 14, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

All ages, no registration required

Join Ken Cohen for a walk to discover the birds that call Patuxent "home" for the winter. We hope to observe Ring-necked Ducks, White-throated Sparrows, Hermit Thrush, and many other species. Meet inside the Visitor Center at 9 am. This walk will progress snow or shine!! If we cannot walk outside, we will explore the many birds inside the Visitor Center. Bring your binoculars and dress warmly!

Welcoming Creatures to Your Back Yard

Sat. Jan. 21st, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

All ages, registration required

Learn how to provide basic habitat for common native creatures in your yard. What foods are best in winter? In this class we will look at on-line resources available to help you plan to attract and see more wildlife.

Meet an American Kestrel

Sat., Jan. 21st, 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm

All ages, no registration

Come meet an American Kestrel. In this informal show-and-tell time, see what makes the American kestrel an expert at hunting in meadows.

Family Fun -- Winter Wildlife

Fri., Jan. 27th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sat., Jan. 28th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

All ages, registration required

We may spend cold weather snuggled up inside, but most of the animals at Patuxent continue going about their business as usual. Winter is a great time to look for wildlife, or for signs that they are around. Even when we don't see the animals themselves, we can tell "who" has been there - and maybe what they were doing - from the footprints and other things they leave behind. Come learn about local winter wildlife through hands-on activities, games and crafts for all ages. This is a drop-in program: come when you wish and leave when you're ready.

Winter Wonderland

Sat., Jan. 28th, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Ages 4-7, registration required

How do animals survive the cold weather in winter? Join Ranger Diana to find out in this interactive kids' program.

BSA Personal Fitness Merit Badge

Join us to work on the Personal Fitness merit badge. Registration for this merit badge is only on-line. Scouts must have a current BSA physical. We will complete requirements 1, 6, & 7, plus we will work on requirements 2-5 in class. Requirements 8 & 9 will be homework. Sign up for only one class date.

Dates: Dec 18, Jan 15, Feb 12

Registration is only on-line.

<https://bit.ly/3h9lzJS>

Get to Know Our Friends' Group

The Friends of Patuxent Research Refuge, Incorporated, is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization, and was formed in 1992 to support the mission and programs of the Patuxent Research Refuge and the Eastern Ecological Science Center in Laurel, Maryland. Friends of Patuxent raises funds for educational programs, exhibits, and research. The focus of the research includes contaminants, migratory birds and studies of endangered species.



FriendsOfPatuxent.org

REGISTRATION

Programs are **free**. Some programs require advance registration by calling **301-497-5887**. Programs are subject to changes or cancellation due to weather or low participation. Please notify the refuge of any special needs so that you may be accommodated. Join our email list by contacting timothy_parker@fus.gov.

February

NORTH TRACT PROGRAMS

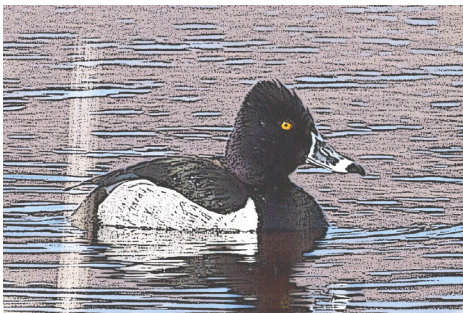
230 Bald Eagle Drive
Laurel, MD 20724

Skulls Identification

Sun., Feb. 12th, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Ages 5+, registration required

Did you know that animal skulls tell a story? Learn to examine the teeth, eye placement, and shape of a skull to make an educated guess as to how the animal lived its life.



SOUTH TRACT PROGRAMS

10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708

Meet an American Kestrel

Sat., Feb. 11st, 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm

All ages, no registration

Come meet an American Kestrel. In this show and tell time, see what makes the American kestrel an expert at hunting in meadows.

Family Fun -- Winter Wildlife

Fri., Feb. 17th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sat., Feb. 18th, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

All ages, no registration

We may spend cold weather snuggled up inside, but most of the animals at Patuxent continue going about their business as usual. Winter is a great time to look for wildlife, or for signs that they are around. Even when we don't see the animals themselves, we can tell "who" has been there - and maybe what they were doing

- from the footprints and other things they leave behind. Come learn about local winter wildlife through hands-on activities, games and crafts for all ages. This is a drop-in program: come when you wish and leave when you're ready.

Welcoming Creatures to Your Back Yard

Sat., Feb. 18th, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

All ages, registration required

Learn how to provide basic habitat for common native creatures in your yard. What foods are best in winter? In this class we will look at on-line resources available to help you plan to attract and see more wildlife.

Nesting Already?

Sat., Feb. 25th, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Ages 4-7, registration required

Some birds nest much earlier than others. Join Ranger Diana to find out why in this interactive kids' program.

REGISTRATION

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KIDS DISCOVERY CENTER

Come and explore our Kids' Discovery Center! Parents and children work as a team to create crafts, solve puzzles, play games, count, sort, and learn about the wonders of nature, all within a kid-friendly environment! New monthly themes with fun-filled, hands-on activities will challenge and excite all! Activities are age-appropriate for children ages 3 -8.

Call our front desk at **301-497-5760** to reserve a 35-minute time slot for you and your child. NOTE: Parents are required to work with their child at each of the parent-led activities.

Upcoming Themes:

January + February: "MARYLAND'S VISITORS"- Many animals call Maryland "home," but who uses Maryland as a "way-station" while heading south for the winter? Learn about some of Patuxent's visitors as you complete fun activities and beautiful crafts!