



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Two Ponds *National Wildlife Refuge*

Welcome

Welcome to Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Located in a suburb of Denver, Colorado, Two Ponds NWR provides a natural oasis for native wildlife, plants, and people.

The purpose of this 72-acre Refuge is to restore and preserve native prairie ecosystems, protect habitat for migratory and resident wildlife, and provide wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities for people.

This Refuge is one of over 565 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, conserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

About the Refuge

Historically, the habitats found here were typical of the area - shortgrass and mixed-grass prairie. These native habitats changed as livestock grazing, plowing of prairie sod for crops, and other land development increased. As the city of Denver and surrounding suburbs grew, a group of local citizens wanting to protect habitat for wildlife led to the establishment of Two Ponds NWR in 1992.

Exploring the Refuge

We invite you to walk the trails that meander through prairie meadows, wetlands, and riparian woodlands. The east side of the Refuge (Environmental Education Area) is open from May to September, Tuesdays through Saturdays, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. To protect wildlife, this area is closed October – April. The west side of the Refuge (Prairie Management Area) is open year-round, 7 days a week, from dawn to dusk, except during Federal holidays.

As you enjoy the sights and sounds of the Refuge, help protect the wildlife and habitat by:

- Staying on designated trails and roads.
- Observing signs and regulations.
- Leaving your pets at home; pets are prohibited. Assistance dogs are welcome; they must be under leash control at all times.
- Observing wildlife from a distance to minimize disturbance. Do not stand under perched birds or bird nests, as it is stressful to the animals.

Trails

There are approximately 3 miles of trails open for hiking, nature observation, and wildlife photography. Trail surfaces are crushed gravel or dirt and moderately easy with little elevation gain.

- Loop 1 Trail (0.3 mile)
Environmental Education Area
- Loop 2 Trail (0.3 mile)
Environmental Education Area
- Prairie Trail (2.4 miles)
Prairie Management Area

Wildlife to Watch for Along the Way

As the seasons change, so does the landscape and its animal inhabitants. You might encounter some of the resident wildlife, including mule deer, coyotes, red-winged blackbirds, turtles, great blue herons, red-tailed hawks, muskrat, black-tailed rabbit, and magpies. In spring or fall, look for migratory songbirds, waterfowl, and hawks.

The best wildlife viewing times are around sunrise and sunset. Bring your binoculars or a camera with a zoom lens for close-up viewing.

Accessibility Information

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from people with hearing and speech disabilities. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the staff at 303 / 729 2269, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuge

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For State Relay Service
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>













For Refuge Information
1 800 / 344 WILD

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Two Ponds

National Wildlife Refuge

-  Refuge boundary
-  Visitor road
-  Hiking trails
-  Lake / wetland
-  Cattail marsh
-  Environmental education area
-  Prairie management area
-  Linked symbols designate accessible features
-  Information kiosk
-  Restrooms
-  Wildlife viewing areas/overlooks
-  Parking

