



Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges
Summer 2023 Interpretive Program Schedule

Programs begin June 13 and continue through August 11.

Program	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Turtle Talk Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center	2-3 pm		2-3 pm	
Bird Walk Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center				8-9:30 am
Preschool Program (R) Coastal North Carolina National Wildlife Refuges Gateway Visitor Center, Manteo				10:00- 11:00am
Bear Necessities (R) Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Creef Cut Wildlife Trail Parking Lot	5 pm			
Red Wolf Program Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Creef Cut Wildlife Trail Parking Lot				6 pm
Canoe Tour (\$) (R) Alligator River or Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges; call for details			9-11 am	
Open-air Tram Tour (\$) (R) Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Creef Cut Wildlife Trail Parking Lot		9-11 am		
Van Tour (\$) (R) Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Creef Cut Wildlife Trail Parking Lot			8 - 10 am	

R = Reservation required – Call 252-216-9464 for tours requiring reservations. Registration and cancellation options close at 2:00 pm the day before the trip.

\$ = Fee charged. For fee tours, if you must cancel, please do so before 2 pm the day before trip or you will be charged for the tour.

Locations

The **Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center** is located on NC Highway 12, approximately 4 miles south of Oregon Inlet and 9 miles north of Rodanthe.

The **Coastal North Carolina National Wildlife Refuges Gateway Visitor Center** is located at 100 Conservation Way in Manteo, NC.

The **Creef Cut Wildlife Trail Parking Lot** is located on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge at Milltail Road and Hwy 64 W, approximately 6 miles west of Manns Harbor.

Pea Island Bird Walks are held year-round except during the Wings Over Water Wildlife Festival in October and December.

Program Descriptions

Call 252-216-9464 for tours requiring reservations.

Turtle Talk

FREE. What are the differences between sea and land turtles? Why are sea turtles endangered? Learn about sea turtle conservation and how you can be part of the solution to save these gentle giants.

Pea Island Bird Walk

FREE. Pea Island is for the birds – actually! Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge has close to 400 species of birds that live here or pass through. Whether you're a beginner or an expert, you'll enjoy this casual stroll beside North Pond. Field guides, binoculars, sunscreen, and insect repellent are recommended. Some field guides and binoculars will be available for loan. Pea Island Bird Walks are held year-round except during the Wings Over Water Wildlife Festival in October and December.

Preschool Program

FREE. Reservation required. We offer a special treat each week especially designed for preschoolers – but all are welcome. Each week, we read a book about wildlife or habitat, have an activity related to the topic, and then explore our Nature Trail out the back door (weather permitting).

Bear Necessities

FREE. Reservation required. Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge is home to one of the largest populations of black bears in eastern North Carolina and the eastern United States. Learn more about what makes the refuge such a good home for our largest mammal. After a 30-minute presentation, you are free to explore the refuge in your vehicle to look for bears and other wildlife. Maps will be provided by your presenter.

Red Wolf Tour

FREE. Join refuge staff for a guided program on the endangered red wolf! Tours will begin at the Creef Cut parking lot with an introduction to the history and biology of the red wolf. From there, participants will return to their vehicles and follow staff along the wildlife drive where red wolf sightings have been reported. These tours do not guarantee that participants will see a wild red wolf, but they do serve as an opportunity to showcase the vast territory of the only known wild red wolf population. Programs will not be offered in inclement weather.

Canoe Tour

\$35 per person; \$20 for children 12 and under. Reservation required. Tour alternates between Alligator River and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuges each week—call for details. At Alligator River, paddle shady blackwater canals into the heart of the refuge and learn about the history of the area while looking for birds, turtles, and alligators. At Pea Island, escape the hectic beach and explore the quiet marshes, islands, and creeks of Pamlico Sound. Children must be accompanied by an adult. We provide canoes, paddles, life jackets and two leaders. Secure footwear is required. Hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, and drinking water are recommended. May be cancelled due to high winds or inclement weather.

Open-air Tram Tour

\$10 per adult. Children 12 and under free with one or more paying adults. Reservation required; tram seating is limited. Join us for a trip around the refuge and learn about the wild lands and wildlife. Bring your binoculars and camera! Drinking water and insect repellent are also recommended. The program will occur except with lightning, heavy wind or rain, or impassable road conditions. Dress for the weather!

Van Tour

\$30 per person; \$20 for children 12 and under. Reservation required; 6 people maximum. Ages 6 and up. The Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge van tour is customized each time to look for the wildlife that interests participants the most. Refuge volunteers will drive the van around the refuge, stopping any time we see wildlife or sights of interest. The refuge isn't a zoo, so specific animals aren't guaranteed, but with thousands of animals living on the refuge, you never know what you'll see. We'll watch out for all these and more: black bears, river otters, turkeys, bald eagles, great blue herons, alligators, turtles, and endangered red wolves.

Alligator River NWR: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/alligator-river>

Pea Island NWR: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/pea-island>