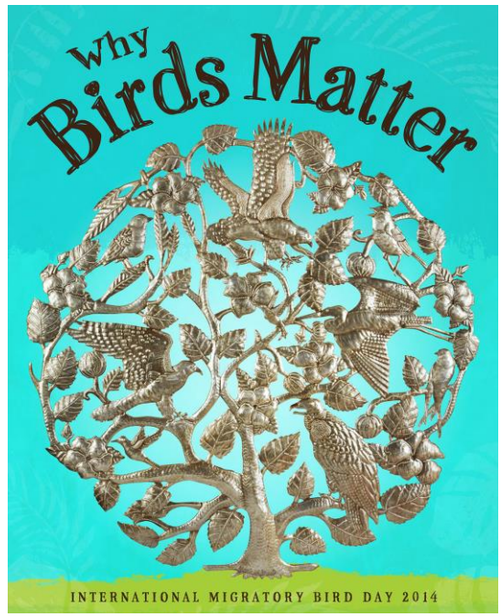
Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
W28488 Refuge Rd.
Trempealeau, WI 54661

Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge

Bird Festival



Saturday
May 10, 2014
8 AM to 3 PM

This year we celebrate…

Why Birds Matter

Not everyone is aware of the diversity of birds around the world, the amazing migrations some take, and the phenomenal range of behaviors, plumages, and songs they exhibit. International Migratory Bird Day 2014 shares the many ways in which birds matter to the earth, to ecosystems, and of course, to us.

Some bird species provide practical solutions to problems, such as the need for insect and rodent control. Others disperse seeds, helping to revegetate disturbed areas. Others are pollinators, ensuring that we are graced with flowering plants, trees, and shrubs. Beyond the utilitarian, birds are inspirations for the arts.

Paintings, poetry, and of course the IMBD 2014 hammered steel drum art all express the intangible joy birds provide us every day. Join us in raising awareness of birds and why they matter through International Migratory Bird Day.

Our festival will feature a variety of activities that will give you the birding fever! One way to help bird conservation is to JOIN US to celebrate!

Saturday
May 10, 2014
8 AM to 3 PM

At Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, we work closely with a variety of partners to ensure refuge management strategies accomplish and promote sound conservation practices for all wildlife species.
We rely a great deal on the power of our partnerships such as refuge volunteers, Friends of Trempealeau Refuge, other federal, state and local agencies to reach our goals.
Thank you to all entities that work closely with this refuge, those that love this refuge and make it a place where wildlife and people come together.

You Can Be A Partner Just By Doing These Simple Things for Birds:

- Plant native plants
- Avoid using pesticides in your yard.
- Use leashes for both cats and dogs when enjoying the outdoors.
- Volunteer for a bird conservation project.
- Take some young folks birding!

To find more information about Bird Conservation, please visit
http://www.birdday.org/birdday/themes/2014-role-of-birds

For refuge information or more festival details, contact Jennifer Lilla @ Jennifer_lilla@fws.gov or call, 608-539-2311, x. 6

Friday Night – May 9

5:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Elmaro Vineyard

You Are Invited!

The Friends of Trempealeau Refuge would like to invite you to unwind for a night at Elmaro Vineyard for an incredible presentation of bird photography and wine tasting.

Presentation by: Alan Stankevitz, Photographer, www.IwishIcouldfly.com

Alan Stankevitz (wildlife/bird photographer) will share with us his award-winning photography of birds along the refuge and his stunning time-lapse videography, including night time-lapse of the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge.

Presentation will start at 6:30 pm.

As part of International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) celebration and in conjunction with Elmaro Vineyards, and Environment for America's (sponsor of IMBD), a special "Bird Day Red" wine is being bottled at this local winery in Trempealeau, Wisconsin.

Commemorative bottles will be available the night of the special presentation. A conservation message will be printed on the label to encourage, support of bird conservation!

Bird Responsibly!

Elmaro Vineyards is located at
N14756 Delaney Rd,
Trempealeau, WI 54661 (608) 534-6456

Saturday , May 10th
Special Hikes and More!

(All hikes meet at the big tent, except the canoe tour)

"Early Bird" Gets The Worm! Bird hike with Dan Jackson!
7:00 AM *Duration: 1.5 hours*
Take an early morning walk with experienced birders to see who's flitting around so early in the morning*!*

Birding Is For Everyone - Bird Hikes
10:00 AM *Duration: 1 hour*
Birding is for everyone. Available to all ages, this hour-long hike is leisurely and designed for the novice birder. Binoculars will be available.

Canoeing for Wildlife!
1:00 PM *Duration: 1.5 hours.*
Take a canoe tour in search of birds on refuge pools – canoes and lifejackets provided or participants may also bring their own. An adult must accompany children. *Meet at the refuge boat ramp.*
Pre-registration required - call 608/539-2311 ext. 6.

Prairie Wildflower Walk
2:30 PM *Duration: 1 hour*
Take a walk in the prairie with refuge volunteers to see what is blooming!

More Fun Bird Stuff!

Calling all Junior Birders! 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
All young birders between the ages of 4-12, join us for this program and earn a Junior Birders Patch! Ranger led activities will include; how to spot a bird and identify it, how to keep a journal, and what simple conservation efforts young birders can do to help birds not only today but in the future!

Coulee Wildlife Rehab Center 9:00 AM
Join us at the activities tent to learn from our friends at Coulee Wildlife Rehab Center and how wild animals are helped when injured or become sick. Some live animals will be on site to learn from! *Meet at the festival activities tent. Programs will be ongoing.*

Bird Banding Demonstrations 9 AM to 2 PM
Watch how wild birds are banded and recorded for research purposes. Participants will get a band for joining in!
**Programs are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.*

Festival Activities

All activities listed below are at the Big Tent across from the Refuge Office

What's Your Wingspan?
Come learn about birds and their amazing wings! Glide, flap, soar, and hover…there are many ways birds fly and it is all about the wings! You will be AMAZED!

CSI - Critter Scooping Investigators!
Ever wonder about all the little creepy, crawly, squiggly critters living in the water? Be an aquatic critter investigator! A small pool will be set up with water from the Refuge pools. Come by and get a close up look at all the cool critters that make a healthy wetland!

Let's Go Outside
Adventure backpacks will be available for check out all day long. Backpacks have binoculars, bird books, and other activities that make discovering the world of nature more fun!

Art in the Refuge
Let your creative side shine at this fun activity station. Color, design, and create a birding memory. Everyone can join in and be an artist for the day!

Eat Like A Bird! Tasty snacks will be on hand from our Friends Group while supplies last.

Displays on Parade…
Several exciting displays will be available for viewing at the Big Tent. Enjoy the Friends photo contest winners, Jr. Duck Stamp artwork, and migration projects from Trempealeau Elementary 3rd Grade will be here for the festival!

Books For Everyone!
Stop in at our Friends bookstore located inside the Refuge office to browse a wonderful line up of nature related books! Birds, bugs, frogs and more, you will find the perfect gift for yourself or someone special!

Event Partners
Thanks to everyone who made this special day possible!

- Friends of Trempealeau Refuge
- Refuge Volunteers
- Upper Miss Refuge
- U.S. Geological Survey - La Crosse Office
- UMESC-Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center
- International Migratory Bird Day
- Elmaro Vineyards