



Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge 340 Smith Road Shirley, NY 11967 (631) 286-0485  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/wertheim](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/wertheim)

## 2015 Important Dates and Free Programs (September - December)

### Saturday, September 26 - (10:00-11:30am) **Owls**

Discover our Long Island owl species and how to identify them in your own backyard! Learn about these incredible nocturnal raptors while making an owl craft to take home. *Great for families.*

### Saturday, October 3 - (10:00-11:30am) **Scout Day: Naturalist Badge**

How is a national wildlife refuge like a highway rest stop? Find out which "flyways" are closest to your home and what bird species migrate through Long Island. Take a short hike and discover which birds are currently found on the refuge. Note: this program will fulfill the requirements for the Webelos Naturalist activity badge.

### Saturday, October 17 - (10:00-11:30am) **Halloween Craft Party**

Get into the Halloween spirit with a variety of crafts featuring recycled materials. Create a bat, owl or greeting card for this fall holiday! *Great for families.*

### Saturday, October 24 - (5:00 - 8:00 pm) **Wine and Cheese Fundraising Event**

\$25/person advance tickets or \$35/person at the door. Hosted by the Friends of Wertheim, members and non-members, are cordially invited to attend our annual benefit event. Proceeds are used for educational and environmental programs at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge. These programs are so important in helping to keep our local refuge a vital and active part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Visit the Friends website ([www.FriendsofWertheim.org](http://www.FriendsofWertheim.org)) to reserve tickets using pay pal, or send a check payable to: Friends of Wertheim, PO Box 376, Brookhaven, NY 11719. No tickets will be mailed; reservations will be held at the door.

### Saturday, November 7 - (7:00-9:00PM) **Night Hike**

Discover the mysterious world of the refuge after dark! This short hike through the woods will explore a variety of nighttime creatures and the adaptations that help them communicate and survive.

### Sunday, November 8 - (2:00-4:00PM) **Annual Friends of Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge Meeting**

This year's annual meeting will showcase what the Friends Group has accomplished this year and what we hope to accomplish in 2016. Guest speaker Joseph Napolitano from the Suffolk Community College biology department will speak about the monarch butterfly and what we can do to help the dwindling population of monarchs. Refreshments will be served.

**Saturday, November 14 - (1:00 - 2:00pm) **Help Save Sea Turtles!****

The Riverhead Foundation for Marine Research and Preservation is offering a free sea turtle program for individuals willing to patrol our beaches in search of sea turtles in distress. Cold stunning is a condition similar to hypothermia that is brought on when these cold-blooded sea turtles are in water temperatures below 50°F. Sea turtles inhabit New York waters during the summer and fall before heading south to safe, warmer waters. Since cold stunning is a condition that slows the movements of afflicted sea turtles, it causes the animals to get washed ashore on New York beaches. This condition, if left unnoticed, can become fatal. This is why the Riverhead Foundation needs your help. The sooner these animals are found and reported to the Riverhead Foundation, the higher their chance for survival! Other dates and locations are also available. Call for more information and to register for this educational opportunity: (631) 369-9840.

**Saturday, December 12 - (10:00-11:30am) **C.S.I. Wildlife****

Learn about our resident mammals through their bones! An educator from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will help participants identify muscle attachments, eye placement, skull size and other characteristics based on observations of the teeth and shape of the skull. Great for families.

**Saturday, December 19 - (10:00-11:30am) **Winter Birds****

The winter months can be a challenging time for our feathered friends on Long Island! Take a bird hike and see which bird species spend the colder months here at the refuge. Following the hike, make a bird feeder out of recycled materials to take home.

**Monday, December 28 - (10:00-11:30am) **Fish Printing****

Before cameras, fishermen used the ancient art of Gyotaku (fish printing) to record large or unusual specimens by making ink block reproductions of their catch. Now you too can develop beautiful, scientifically accurate prints, while we provide the fish! Choose from a variety of fish models and take your print home as a keepsake.

**Wednesday, December 30- (10:00-11:30am) **Making Tracks****

Learn the basics of identifying the tracks left by our refuge wildlife. Using your new found knowledge, you will help tell us "What's the Tracking Story?" Create your own tracks to bring home. For families with children aged seven and up.

All programs will take place at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge unless otherwise noted. The refuge headquarters is located at 340 Smith Road, Shirley, NY 11967. Call (631) 286-0485 x2131 for additional information.