



## Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge

340 Smith Road, Shirley, NY 11967

(631) 286-0485

[www.fws.gov/refuge/wertheim](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/wertheim)



## Programs and Events Winter 2015-16

### Saturday, December 19 – (1:00-2:30pm) **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.

### Saturday, January 9 – (10:00-11:30am) **Cub Scout Adventure: Into the Woods**

Find out which bird “flyways” are closest to your home. Learn about the food web connecting native species on the refuge. This program incorporates lessons and activities that fulfill the requirements for the Webelos “Into the Wild” Elective Adventure. Part of the program may take place outside, weather permitting. Will be held rain or shine. **Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2150. Limited to 15 scouts.**

### Friday, January 15 – (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. Learn about the astronomy research happening at Brookhaven National Laboratory and examine the night sky. Wear walking shoes or boots; the hike will be approximately 2 miles total. Please bring a flashlight.

**Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2150. Limited to 20 participants. Ages 12 and older.**

### Saturday, January 16 – (10:00am-2:00pm) **Winter Crafts**

Looking for something to do on a cold winter day? Stop by anytime from 10am to 2pm to make a variety of winter themed crafts. Make an owl, decorate a card, get creative with pine cones, go crazy with stamps! We supply the materials and do the clean-up, you enjoy the creativity. Great activity for families and kids.

### Saturday, February 6 – (1:00-2:30pm) **Birds of Prey**

Join us with Quogue Wildlife Refuge to meet live birds of prey. Learn the personal history of each New York native raptor and why it now lives at Quogue Wildlife Refuge. Find out what makes these animals fierce hunters and how they make a life here on Long Island. Fantastic program for families and kids of all ages.

**Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2131. Limited to 30 participants.**

Saturday, February 13 – (10:00 – 11:00am) **The Long Journey Home: Nicholl's Eaglet**

National Park Ranger MaryLaura Lamont tells the incredible story about a bald eagle's life on Long Island. After an absence of 75 years, two bald eagles have returned to the William Floyd Estate and successfully fledged one chick during the 2015 nesting season. The program is a feature of their courting, nest building, and adventures raising their chick.

Wednesday, February 17 – (10:00-11:30am) **Animals in Winter: Adaptation for Survival**

Animals have many different survival strategies to help them get through the cold winter months. Learn about their overwintering strategies and how you can help! Discover the importance of National Wildlife Refuges on Long Island. Great event for families and kids.

Friday, February 19 – (10:00-11:30am) **Making Tracks: Footprints in the Snow**

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.

Saturday, February 27 – (10:00-11:30am) **Snow Shoeing**

Break out your snow shoes and join us for a refreshing walk around the refuge. Take in the scenery around the Carmans River and learn about the refuge wildlife in winter. Bring your own snow shoes and water bottle; total hike will be approximately two miles. Event will be held rain or shine, contingent on snow cover.

**Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2131. Limited to 20 participants.**

Saturday, March 5 – (10-11:30am) **STAR Foundation: Native Wildlife**

Meet the wild animals of Long Island with STAR Foundation. STAR Foundation is dedicated to the welfare of domestic and wild animals. Learn about the work they do and the animals they have helped, while getting to meet a live woodchuck, box turtles, and native owls. Great for families and kids of all ages.

**Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2131. Limited to 30 participants.**

Friday, March 11 – (7:00-9:00pm) **Owl Prowl**

Discover the mysterious world of the refuge after dark! This short hike through the woods will explore the native owl species on Long Island and the adaptations that help them communicate and survive. Wear walking shoes or boots; the hike will be approximately 2 miles total. Please bring a flashlight.

**Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2131. Limited to 20 participants. Ages 12 and older.**

Friday, March 18 – (10:00-11:30am) **Native and Invasive Species**

Learn about the upland and aquatic native species here on Long Island and how they are threatened by invasive species. Discover the different types of invasive control Fish and Wildlife Service biologists use to manage and protect native habitat. Learn what you can do to support the natural ecosystems on Long Island.

Saturday, April 2 – (1:00-3:00pm) **South Fork Nature Center: Vernal Pools**

A vernal pool is a temporary pond, a very special place in the forest. Rain and snow fill the pond with water, but a warm summer can make it dry up. Many of the animals that live in a vernal pool are not found anywhere else. All of the creatures that live there must adapt to this wet and dry cycle. Meet some of these special animals like salamanders, turtles, frogs and toads in a presentation by an educator from the South Fork Natural History Museum. **Reservations Required: please call 631-286-0485 ext. 2131. Limited to 20 participants.**

**All programs will take place at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge and are FREE OF CHARGE. The refuge headquarters is located at 340 Smith Road, Shirley, NY 11967. Call (631) 286-0485 ext. 2150 for additional information.**