

News Release

Department of the Interior / U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Cameron Prairie NWR
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For Immediate Release
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Family Fishing Festival June 11, 2016 Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the Friends of the Southwest Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Complex and Wetlands are working with numerous partners and volunteers to host a free Family Fishing Festival on Saturday, June 11th, 2016, from 8:00 am to Noon at Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge. This event coincides with the Louisiana free fishing weekend, so licenses will not be required; however, all other fishing regulations will apply.

Participants will have an opportunity to fish for bass and/or catfish from three ponds covering 6.5 acres which are only open to fishing during this event. There will also be casting, fish printing, knot tying, fish identification and cleaning, coloring for kids, and fly tying activities and demonstrations throughout the morning. The first 200 registered guests will receive gift bags and golf towels with the event logo. Coke, water, Gatorade, and light snack packs will be provided by sponsors.

There will be approximately 100 loaner fishing poles available for check out. Bait worms will be available while supplies last. Participants may also bring supplies such as fishing gear, bait, lawn chairs, coolers with ice for fish, sunscreen, water, and bug repellent. Registration will begin at Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge, Saturday morning at 8:00 am.

Parking will be available in the Cameron Prairie Visitor Center parking lot, located on Highway 27, eleven miles south of Holmwood. The Festival area is located west of the parking area and can be accessed by walking. Wagons and carts are welcome to assist with transporting personal and fishing gear from the parking lot to the festival area. Parking attendants and signs will guide participants to registration and the fishing area.

For more information about participating in this event, becoming an event sponsor, or volunteering on your National Wildlife Refuges, please call Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge at 337-598-2216.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System that encompasses more than 560 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands, and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. The agency also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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