



Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge

340 Smith Road, Shirley, NY 11967

(631) 286-0485

www.fws.gov/refuge/wertheim



Programs and Events October to January 2016

Saturday, October 1 (2:00 – 3:30PM) **Birds of a Feather Flock Together**

Come learn about the most complex body-covering in the animal kingdom -- feathers! Find out what they're made of, how they grow, and how they work. Take home your very own feather craft. Best for children in grades 1-5. Families welcome.

Saturday, October 8 (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. Learn about how cold stunning affects sea turtles that inhabit New York waters and what you can do to help. Call for more information and to register for this educational opportunity: (631) 369-9840.

Wednesday, October 12 (1:00 – 3:30PM) **National Wildlife Refuge Fest**

Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week with this FREE family event, featuring variety of fall-themed crafts and programs including Pokemon Go. It's eco-friendly, nature-based fun for the whole family!

Saturday, October 22 (5:00 – 8:00PM) **Wine and Cheese Fundraising Event**

\$30/person advance tickets or \$40/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. Reservations can be made by sending 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 12 (10:00 - 11:00AM) **Bats! Bats! Bats!**

Learn about the bat research currently underway this summer at our Long Island National Wildlife Refuges. The program will include details on the two major world groups of bats, including types of bats found in New York. We will also talk about white nose bat syndrome and how we can prevent the spread of it.

Sunday, November 13 (2:00 – 4:00PM) **Annual Friends of Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge Meeting**

This year's annual meeting will focus on what the Friends Group has accomplished this year and what we hope to accomplish in 2017. Refreshments will be served. Our guest speaker will be National Park Service Ranger MaryLaura Lamont, who will speak about the William Floyd estate and family.

Friday, November 18 (7:00 - 9:00PM) **Autumn Night Hike**

Discover the mysterious world of the refuge under the light of the beaver moon! 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.

Friday, November 25 (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.**

Saturday, December 10 (9:00AM – 11:30AM) **Late Autumn Birdwalk**

Walk the refuge trails with National Park Service Ranger MaryLaura Lamont and discover a wonderful array of resident and wintering bird species. The great variety of habitats found onsite brings different species so you can observe woodland birds as well as waterfowl. Bring binoculars if you have them and prepare to walk around two miles.

Saturday, January 7 (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, January 14 (10:00 – 11:00AM) **The Long Journey Home: Nichol’s Eaglet**

National Park Service 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 three chicks during the 2016 nesting season. The program is a feature of their courting, nest building, and adventures raising their chicks.

On your next visit to the Wertheim Refuge please stop at our visitor’s center and inquire about the following activities:

Junior Refuge Manager (recommended ages 7-12)

We will lend you a backpack containing everything you’ll need to start your journey. Included is a Junior Refuge Manager Discovery Journal. Binocular Basics, Animal Behavior and Reading Tree Rings are a few examples of what you’ll discover on your trip around the refuge. Come back to the Visitors Center with your completed journal and you will receive a certificate and badge.

Virtual GeoCache (recommended age 10-16)

Secrets of the hidden forest a geocaching adventure. Check out a backpack containing a GPS. A booklet will lead you through a series of discoveries. You will use the coordinates on the GPS to discover the secrets of the forest. Fill out the booklet and when you return to the visitor’s center, you’ll receive a compass. Looking forward to seeing you soon. Have Fun!

Unless otherwise stated, 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 for additional information.