



Mingo National Wildlife Refuge

Swamp Saturdays at Mingo NWR

January 30, 2016 - Raptors of Mingo (9 a.m. & 1 p.m.)

Discover the diversity of raptor species and learn about what makes them such efficient hunters. This two and a half hour program will be offered once in the morning and once in the afternoon starting at the Mingo Visitor Center. It will consist of an indoor presentation and then participants can join a ranger to observe raptor species out on the refuge. Some binoculars will be available for loan. Dress for the weather.



February 20, 2016 - Bluebird Houses (10 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

While it still may feel like winter, Spring is just around the corner. With Spring comes bird nesting season so join a refuge ranger at the Mingo Visitor Center to build bluebird houses in preparation for springtime. A brief program will be given about bluebirds and then participating kids can help build a bluebird house. All supplies will be provided by the refuge.

March 12, 2016 - Monopoly Marsh Paddle Ride (12 p.m.—4 p.m.)



Join a refuge ranger for a guided paddle ride into Monopoly Marsh. Monopoly Marsh opens to public use starting March 1st so be one of the first to explore the marsh in the spring. Pre-registration is required by calling 573-222-3589. Participants will meet at the Visitor Center. Canoes, paddles and life jackets will be provided to pre-registered participants. Dress for the weather.

March 19, 26, & April 9, 2016 - Wildflower and Bird Hikes (10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.)

Spring is an exciting time at Mingo Refuge. Each day new plants emerge and new birds return to the refuge after migrating south during the winter months. Join a refuge ranger to observe this change through a series of hikes looking at the wildflowers and birds on the refuge. Participants will meet at the Mingo Visitor Center.

March 19, 26, & April 9, 2016 - Cell Phone Photography on Mingo (1- 3 p.m.)

Join a refuge ranger in this series of weekend programs that focuses on the basics of cell phone photography. Participants will learn tricks for using their cell phone for nature photography and will then get a chance to go out on the refuge with a ranger to test their photography skills. Pictures taken can then be shared on a kiosk in the Mingo Visitor Center for other visitors to see.



April 16, 2016 - Spring Spruce Up (9 a.m.—12 p.m.)

In recognition of Earth Day, Mingo Refuge will be hosting a Spring Cleanup. Interested volunteers will meet at the Mingo Visitor Center and will head out in groups to pick up trash along refuge roadways and trails. Pre-registration is appreciated at 573-222-3589. Volunteers should plan on wearing long pants, shirts and bringing work gloves. Hot dogs will be served for lunch following the volunteer work.



April 16, 2016 - Snake Exploration (1 p.m. - 3 p.m.)

Spring is when snakes reemerge from their hibernation and start heading back into the swamps of Mingo. Join a refuge ranger to discover the tremendous diversity of snakes that can be found at Mingo National Wildlife Refuge. Participants will go on a hike along refuge roads to try and spot and observe snakes at a safe distance.

April 30, 2016 - Marsh Bird Exploration Paddle Ride(8 a.m. & 1 p.m.)



In recognition of International Migratory Bird Day, refuge staff will be offering a guided paddle ride into Monopoly Marsh to observe marsh birds. Pre-registration is required by calling 573-222-3589. Participants will meet at the Visitor Center. Canoes, paddles and life jackets will be provided to pre-registered participants. The paddle ride will be offered in the morning and afternoon and lasts about 4 hours.

May 14, 2016 - Pilot Knob Hike (10 a.m. & 1 p.m.)

Get a rare chance to discover one of Mingo's Satellite Refuges by taking a spring hike at Pilot Knob National Wildlife Refuge. This 90 acre refuge located at the top of Pilot Knob Mountain is typically closed to the public to protect the endangered Indiana bat. Pilot Knob Refuge is located in Arcadia Valley. Pre-registration is required at 573-222-3589. The hike lasts around 2 hours and is strenuous. Wear good hiking boots and bring water.

June 4, 2016 - Family Fishing Day (9 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

Discover the wonders of fishing with Mingo staff members and volunteers. Come out with your family to enjoy a morning of fishing. Poles will be available for loan throughout the event and worms will be provided for bait. Specific location for fishing day will be determined closer to the date.



July 16, 2016 - Snakes of Mingo (10 a.m.—11 a.m.)

Join a refuge ranger in learning about the snakes that can be found at Mingo National Wildlife Refuge. Learn how to identify venomous vs non-venomous snakes and why all snakes are important. Participants will even get the opportunity to see and touch live snakes if they desire. The program will take place at the Mingo Visitor Center.

All programs are free to the public with a valid entrance pass. Programs may be subject to change or cancellation based on weather and refuge conditions. All programs will begin at the Mingo Visitor Center located 1 mile north of Puxico on State Hwy 51.

<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/mingo/>

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