



# Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge

## 2016 Program Schedule

*Tamarac provides many opportunities for visitors to experience a natural world where plants, wildlife, and serenity can be found everywhere. Come out and enjoy the refuge. Go for a hike, take in a special presentation or movie, or just go explore! There is something for everyone at Tamarac.*

**Blackbird Wildlife Drive:** In search of wildlife? Take a drive on this five mile interpretive route following the edges of lakes, marshes and meadows. Pick up a brochure at the information kiosk located at the start of the Drive on Hwy 26.

**Old Indian Hiking Trail:** Follow in the footsteps of the Ojibwe people and experience the beauty of the maple basswood forest on this 2.4 mile loop trail.

**North Country Trail:** Hike a portion of this 4600 mile National Scenic Trail as it traverses the refuge through a variety of habitats. Access on 400th Ave., Blackbird Wildlife Drive or Pine Lake Parking Area on Cty Hwy 29.

**Wildlife Excursions:** Explore the refuge with a knowledgeable guide! Tours will be offered every Thursday June-August at 10:00 am. Search for wildlife and learn about the cultural and natural history of Tamarac Refuge. Meet at the Visitor Center.

**Wild Wednesdays:** 10:00 am June -August. Explore the world of nature with your child during this hour long adventure geared for 3-7 yr olds. Meet at Discovery Center.

**Weekend Movies and Presentations:** Wildlife films, special programs and activities will be offered every weekend May 15 through October 9.

**Visitor Center Hours** are Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:00 pm and summer weekends 10:00 am- 5:00 pm (May 15 -October 16).



For volunteer information, visit the Friends of Tamarac website at [www.tamaracfriends.org](http://www.tamaracfriends.org) or check out Tamarac's Facebook page!

For refuge information, contact the staff at 218-847-2641 or visit [www.fws.gov/refuge/tamarac](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/tamarac).



# Movies and Activities



**Sunday May 22, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Extraordinary Birds**

Stunning nature photography takes flight to capture the wondrous behavior of birds. Follow a falcon in a hunt for prey, a tiny hummingbird who commutes 5000 miles and an owl who makes its living in a barnyard. Celebrate birds during this Festival of Birds weekend. 50 min.



**Sunday May 29, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Animal Homes, Episode 2: Location, Location, Location**

Finding a good base of operations is key to successfully raising a family. One must find the correct stream or tree, the correct building materials, neighbors and sometimes tenants. In the wild, every home is a unique DIY project, every head of household is a designer and engineer. Look into the homes of beavers, tortoises and wood rats. 50 min.



**Saturday June 4, 10:00 am-1:00 pm**

**Wildflower Photography Excursion**

Discover tricks to take better wildflower photographs and enjoy an array of spectacular Tamarac wildflowers in this three hour excursion. Meet at the Discovery Center for an overview of photography tips. We will carpool to select locations to see woodland and prairie bloomers. With some luck and good timing we may catch the elusive Showy Orchid orchid in bloom. Bring your camera, walking shoes, repellent and a snack or lunch.



**Sunday June 5, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Born Wild**

Across the animal kingdom, some of the most essential lessons and the most extreme challenges occur in the first moments of life. It is in these very trials that the most extraordinary glimpses of life in the wild come to light. 50 min.



**Saturday June 11, 8:30 am -1:00 pm**

**Birding Workshop & Excursion**

Join Expert Birding Guide Judd "Bird Man" Brink for some bird identification lessons and then head out into the field to develop those skills. You'll identify at least 20 species. Binoculars and field guides are available to borrow. Bring a sack lunch and water for this morning birding adventure. Meet at the Discovery Center.



**Sunday June 12, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Disney Nature: Bears**

Showcasing a year in the life of a bear family, their journey begins as winter ends. Emerging from hibernation, a mother and cubs face the bitter cold and an exciting but very risky outside world. Astonishing footage captures the fast-moving action and suspense of an endearing family learning to live life to its fullest in the wilds of Alaska. 78 min.



**Sunday June 19, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Disney Nature - Wings of Life**

Celebrate Pollinator Week! Narrated by Meryl Streep, this intimate and unprecedented look at butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, bats and flowers is a celebration of life. One-third of the world's food supply depends on these incredible creatures. 80 min.



**Sunday June 26, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Pollen Nation**

Follow the journey of a commercial bee keeper from the honey harvest on the high plains to the warm winter feeding grounds of California. Learn why honeybees and numerous species of native bees are in serious decline and how it's affecting our dinner table and that of wildlife. 25 min.



**Sunday July 3, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: American Eagle**

Take an unprecedented look at a year in the life of North America's most recognized aerial predator. From the pristine wilderness of Alaska to the Upper Mississippi River Valley, go behind the scenes and into the nest to discover the eagle's struggle to survive. 55 min.



**Sunday July 10, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Leave it to Beavers**

Once valued for their fur or hunted as pests, beavers are seen in a whole new light. This film reveals the ways in which beavers transform and revive landscapes. These rodents are being recruited to accomplish everything from re-establishing water sources in bone-dry deserts to supporting whole communities of wildlife drawn to the aquatic ecosystems they provide. 55 min.

**Sunday July 17, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Moose – Life of a Twig Eater**

There is a growing problem in North America affecting moose, the largest species of the deer family. Whether they make their home in the Canadian Rockies or in Minnesota, moose populations are declining at a rapid rate. One reason is that many of the newborn calves are not surviving their first year. In order to find out why, one intrepid cameraman spends a year documenting the life of a moose calf and its mother to understand what it takes to survive. 50 min.



**Sunday July 24, 12:00-5:00**

**Dragonfly Workshop presented by the Minnesota Dragonfly Society**

Discover the World of Dragonflies! This FREE workshop is a hands-on way to get introduced to the identification of dragonflies and damselflies. Come prepared for the weather, rain or shine! Also bring rubber boots or wading shoes, a lunch, water bottle and whatever else you will need for the day. Nets and field guides will be available for loan. Other supplies provided. This workshop will be conducted indoors and outdoors. Meet at the Discovery Center. **Register by calling 218-844-1768.**



**Sunday July 31, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: North America- Learn Young or Die**

In the upper reaches of this vast continent, survival is a daily battle. From avalanche dodging grizzlies to head bashing big horn sheep, from diving bears to cunning coyotes, we witness the extremes and wonders of North America's mountains and forests. 50 min. Stay to discover more about Tamarac's wildlife survival secrets. 50 min.



**Sunday August 7, 2:00 pm**

**Animal Homes Episode 3: Cities**

Animals congregate in huge colonies partly out of necessity and partly for the security that numbers provide. But, colonies are also useful for predators. For others, communal living provides perfect multi-generational caregiving options or the opportunity to build enormous cities. Learn how Icelandic puffins, social spiders in Ecuador and leaf cutting ants in Costa Rica take advantage of city living. 50 min.



**Sunday August 14, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: North America- Nowhere to Hide**

A world of extreme storms and unpredictable blizzards, this land tests all those who set foot on it. From bunker building prairie dogs to the fastest land animals on the continent, the fight to survive shapes all who dare call this place home. 50 min.



**Sunday August 21, 2:00**

**Movie: Yellowstone, In the Valley of the Wolves**

The Druids are the most celebrated wolf pack in North America. For almost a decade, they have held the Lamar Valley in Northern Yellowstone. The valley is prime winter grazing for thousands of elk and thus the most coveted wolf country in the entire park. Emmy Award winning filmmaker Bob Landis has chronicled the adventures of the Druids since their very beginnings and in this, his third film on wolves, the Druids find themselves in trouble for the first time. 50 min.



**Sunday August 28, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: The Incredible Journey of Butterflies**

Every year 100 million monarchs set off on a journey across North America, flying 2000 miles to reach their remote destination: a tiny area high in the mountains of Mexico. How do they achieve this? Shot in stunning detail, this film reveals the monarch as a scientific marvel caught in an inspiring struggle for survival. 50 min.



**MORE** 



**Sunday September 4, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Beavers: The Biggest Dam Movie You Ever Saw!**

Take an intimate swim with beavers and experience the rich aquatic habitat of one of nature's greatest engineers. 38 min.



**Sunday September 11, 2:00 pm**

**Movie- Great Migrations: Born to Move**

From the tiniest butterflies to the largest wildebeest, life itself hinges on these travelers' ability to get up and go. *Born to Move* spans the globe, revealing four of the most remarkable animal movements: Sperm whales travelling over a million miles in a lifetime; monarch butterflies taking four generations to cross a continent; and wildebeest, every year rising above the gaping jaws of ravenous crocodiles. 55 min.



**Friday September 16**

**North Country Trail Association Annual Celebration**

Various guided hikes will be scheduled throughout the day on sections of the North Country Trail. A schedule of the day's events will be available at the Tamarac Visitor Center and will be posted online.



**Saturday September 17**

**Fall Photo Safari 2:00-4:30 pm**

Experience autumn on the refuge through the lens of your camera. Visit some unique areas to capture the changing color. Bring a snack, water and your creativity! Led by refuge volunteer guides and members of the Detroit Lakes Photography Club. Meet at the Discovery Center.



**Sunday September 18, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: The Himalayas**

Escape to the Himalayas! Born during the ice ages, they form the highest mountain range in the world, and reach across Asia for two thousand miles. Their great beauty may appear cold and forbidding, but the Himalayas are actually rich with a surprising array of plants and animals. Snow leopards, wolves, bears, remarkable monkeys, foxes, spiders, snakes, giant bees, and high-flying birds live here. These are mountains that will take your breath away! 50 min



**Sunday September 25, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: The Original Duckumentary**

Ducks waddle, glide, dive, and dabble, and their feathers shimmer with dazzling hues. Take to the skies with a flock of green-winged teal. Watch wood ducks raise a family. Learn why goldeneyes head north in the winter. 50 min.



**Saturday October 1, 10:00- 3:00 pm**

**Annual Fall Festival**

Spend a beautiful day on the refuge and celebrate the Trumpeter Swan and other waterfowl. Learn what conservation efforts are being made and how you can make a difference. Children's activity trail, annual photo contest exhibit, guided tours and more! Lunch will be available for sale by the Friends of Tamarac.



**Sunday October 2, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: The Private Life of Deer**

Peek into the complex society of these smart adaptable creatures with impressive skills, senses and family lives. 50 min.



**Sunday October 9, 2:00 pm**

**Movie: Birds of the Gods**

Escape to the New Guinean Rainforest, home to birds of unimaginable color and beauty. When Europeans first saw the plumes of these creatures in the sixteenth century, they believed they must be from heaven and called them Birds of Paradise. To find them in New Guinea is one of the toughest assignments, and to witness their extraordinary mating displays is even tougher. 50 min.

### **National Wildlife Refuge Week October 10-16.**

Visit the Detroit Lakes Washington Square Mall to see all the photo contest entries on display. Cast your vote for People's Choice! You'll also be able to purchase a chance on the beautiful wildlife quilt that the Friends of Tamarac are offering as a raffle fundraiser. Photo Contest Awards presentation on Sunday October 16 at 2:00 pm at the mall.