

News Release

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2016

Contact:

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Monarch Madness March 19 and 20 at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge

Missouri Valley, Iowa – March is here and it is time for Monarch Madness at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. Head out to the refuge on Saturday and Sunday, March 19 and 20 for a day of events dedicated to the Monarch butterfly.

Milkweed seed and planting information will be given away during the event. The milkweed plant is essential for the Monarch butterfly growth and development and female monarch only lay their eggs on milkweed plants. Plant some milkweed in your yard for the butterflies to enjoy.

A special presentation on the Monarch butterfly will take place at 1:30 pm each day. Learn about the about this butterfly that migrates over 3,000 miles, who's population is in trouble and how refuges like DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge work to protect them.

Family activities will take place between 10:30 – 3:00 Saturday and 12:00-3:30 on Sunday. Enjoy some craft activities, create a Monarch life cycle or test your skills in the Monarch migration game.

An entrance permit is required for all vehicles on days other than fee free days. The regular daily entrance fee for private vehicles is \$3.00. Permits may be obtained at the pay stations near the entrances or at the Visitor Center. The charge for commercial vans and buses is \$20, or \$30 if 21 or more people are aboard. Annual permits, including the \$15 DeSoto Refuge Pass, can be obtained at the visitor center.

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges are located north of Omaha, Nebraska along on U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and along U.S. Highway 75 near Ft. Calhoun, Nebraska. For more information contact 712/388-4800 or email the refuge at desoto@fws.gov. Check our websites, www.fws.gov/midwest/desoto/ or www.fws.gov/midwest/boyerchute/, for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges.

