

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
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News Release



For Immediate Release

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Supervisory Refuge Ranger

Okefenokee NWR Announces “Oke Archery Days”

Folkston, GA...Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge will be offering archery throughout the summer months through a series of programs called “Oke Archery Days.” Thanks to a generous donation by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife Resources Division, the refuge has acquired a complete archery range including 12 bows, arrows, and targets, among other equipment. “The archery equipment will be a great asset to the refuge and will enhance the programs we are able to offer”, says Refuge Ranger Sarah Wyatt. “It will be a family-friendly way to introduce kids and adults to the sport of archery.”

The programs will be geared towards children 5-15 years old, but will welcome all ages, even adults! All archery programs are free with all equipment provided for use during the program. No prior experience is necessary, so the programs are well suited for beginners. Instructors will show participants how to properly use a bow and arrow and will provide opportunities for the participants to demonstrate their marksmanship ability throughout the session. **Pre-registration is required**, and a parent/guardian must be present with their child for the duration of the 1.5 hour program. Limited space is available. Participants are welcome to attend one program or multiple programs to continue practicing their shooting skills. Dates are as follows:

June, 20th & 21st, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
July 26th, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
August 1st & 2nd, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Participants will meet at the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center located within the east entrance to the refuge, 11 miles southwest of Folkston, Georgia. Programs are subject to cancellation in the event of inclement weather. Although the program is free, a \$5 refuge entrance fee (or comparable refuge-specific or America the Beautiful Pass) still applies. For more information, or to register, contact the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center at 912- 496-7836, open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

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The Suwannee Canal Recreation Area (East Entrance) to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is the primary entrance managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is located 11 miles southwest of Folkston, GA off Hwy 121/23. The refuge is open daily and offers a variety of opportunities for the visiting public. Call 912-496-7836 or visit the refuge website at www.fws.gov/okefenokee for hours of operation, upcoming events, and entrance fee information.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to our events for all participants. Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate in our events should contact Susan Heisey at (912) 496-7366 ext. 233 or Susan_Heisey@fws.gov. In order to allow sufficient time to process requests, please contact us for assistance at least five business days before the event.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook pages at www.facebook.com/okefenokeewildliferefuge or www.facebook.com/usfwssoutheast