The Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge is the largest intact remnant of a vast habitat that once covered more than one million acres of southeastern Virginia and northeastern North Carolina. Formal protection of this resource began in 1973, when the Union Camp Corporation (a local forest products company) donated 49,097 acres to The Nature Conservancy. The Nature Conservancy conveyed the donated land to the federal government, which, combined with additionally purchased land, was used to establish the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in 1974. The refuge currently encompasses over 112,000 acres of this environmentally and biologically important area. Special designations for the refuge include both the Virginia and Globally Important Bird Area designations, and the National Parks Services National Natural Landmark and Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site designations.

Over two hundred species of birds have been identified on the Refuge; 96 of these species have been reported as nesting on or near the refuge. Two southern species, the Swainson's Warbler and Wayne's Warbler (a subspecies of the Black-throated Green Warbler), are more common in the Great Dismal Swamp than in other coastal locations. Other birds of interest are the Wood Duck, Barred Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, and Prothonotary Warbler. Winter brings massive movements of Blackbirds and American Robins into the swamp.

At least 47 species of mammals can be found in the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, representing most mammals found in Virginia. Visitors often see the white tailed deer. Other large and medium sized mammals present, but seen less often, include black bear, bobcat, river otter, mink, beaver, grey fox, red fox, raccoon, and ground hog. Smaller resident mals include grey squirrel, southern flying squirrel, four species of shrew, six species of mice, one species of rat, two species of mole, two species of vole, and the southern bog lemming. Near sunset you can possibly see one of the ten species of bats documented as residents of the Great Dismal Swamp.

GREAT DISMAL SWAMP

Birding Festival

April 23-25, 2015

Free & Open to the Public

757.986.3705

www.fws.gov/refuge/Great_Dismal_Swamp

Suffolk VIRGINIA It's a good time to be in Suffolk

Great Dismal Swamp Coalition

CHESAPEAKE VIRGINIA

GREAT DISMAL SWAMP *Birding Festival* 2015

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Jericho Ditch*
7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Washington Ditch*
7-10:30am	Bird Banding Station *Jericho Ditch*
10:45am-12:45pm	Bus Tour to Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
3:45-5pm	Late Day Bird Walk *Headquarters*

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Jericho Ditch*
7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Washington Ditch*
7-10:30am	Bird Banding Station *Jericho Ditch*
8:30-10:30am	Nature Photography Workshop & Guided Walk *Headquarters*
9-11:30am	Motorized Boat Tours on Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
9am-12pm	Canoe Birding *Dismal Swamp Canal Trail (N)*
10:45am-12:45pm	Bus Tour to Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
1-3:30pm	Motorized Boat Tours on Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
3:45-5pm	Late Day Bird Walk *Headquarters*
7:30-9pm	Owl Prowl *Jericho Ditch*

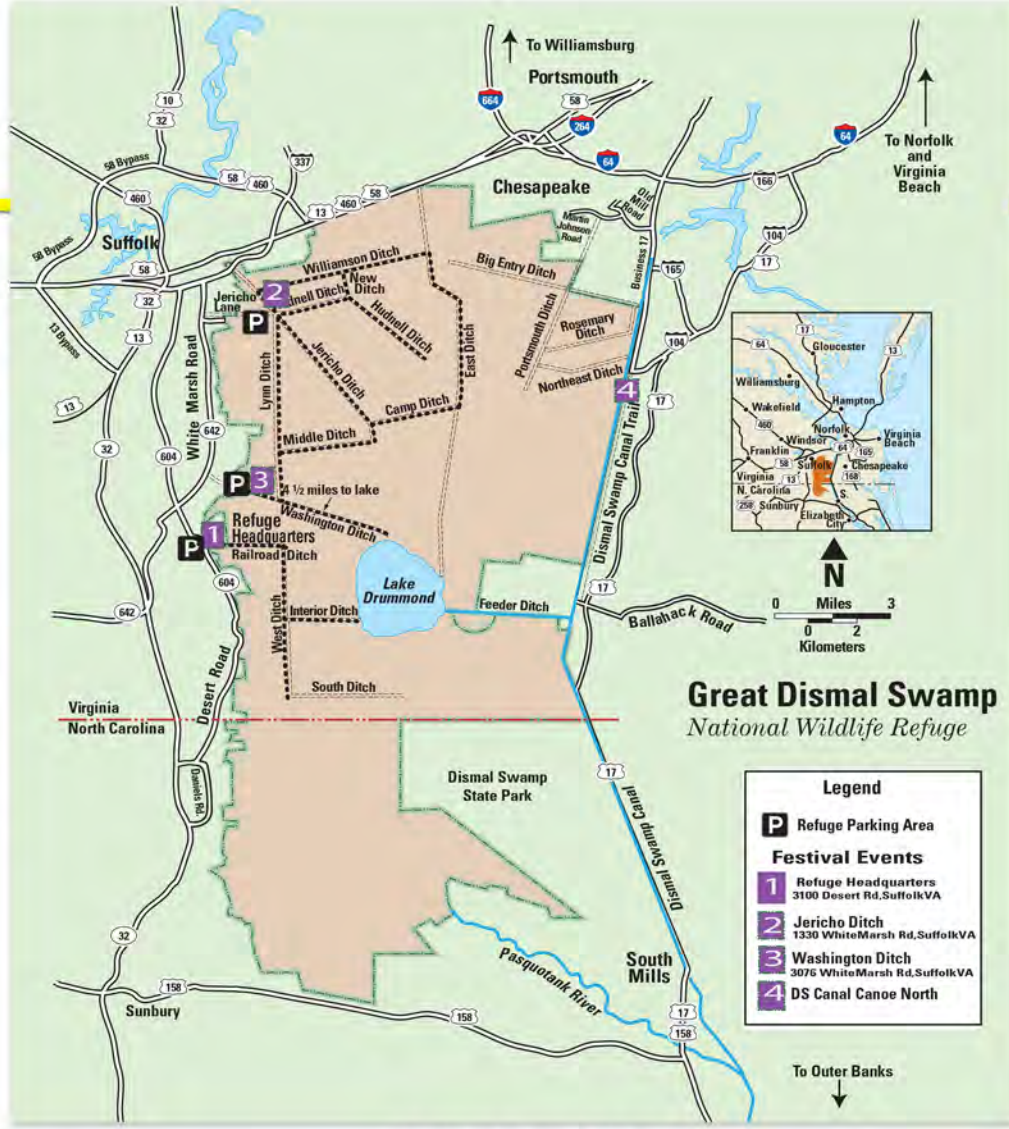
"HEADQUARTER HAPPENINGS"

"BIRDS OF THE DISMAL SWAMP FESTIVAL"
Art Exhibit
Thursday–Saturday
9am-4pm

GREAT DISMAL SWAMP COALITION SOUVENIR TENT
Friday & Saturday
10am-2pm

HOT DOGS, DRINKS & SNACKS
Friday & Saturday
11am-2pm

NATURE EXHIBITS & FAMILY ACTIVITIES
Saturday
10am-2pm



SATURDAY, APRIL 25

7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Jericho Ditch*
7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Washington Ditch*
7-9:30am	Guided Bird Walk (Adults) *Dismal Swamp Canal Trail (N)*
7-10:30am	Bird Banding Station *Jericho Ditch*
9-11:30am	Motorized Boat Tours on Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
9am-12pm	Canoe Birding *Dismal Swamp Canal Trail (N)*
10am-12pm	Nature Photography Workshop & Guided Walk *Headquarters*

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 (CONTINUED)

10:30am-12:30pm	Bus Tour to Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
1-3:30pm	Motorized Boat Tours on Lake Drummond *Headquarters*
1:30-3:30pm	Bus Tour to Lake Drummond *Departs from Headquarters*
1:30-3:30pm	Bus Tour to Lake Drummond *Departs from Headquarters*
2:15-3:30pm	Get N2 Birds - Birding Basics Workshop *Headquarters*
3:45-5pm	Late Day Bird Walk *Headquarters*