



NEWS RELEASE

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Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Hosts Public Forums on Environmental Education & Hunting

Trenton, Michigan- A series of public meetings will take place beginning on Thursday, April 23rd to discuss future wildlife-dependent recreational uses at the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. Compatible hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation are the priority general public uses of the Refuge System.

The first meeting will be held on April 23rd at 7 P.M. at the Westfield Center located at 2700 Westfield Road in Trenton, MI. Future environmental education programs on the refuge will be discussed. In the Service, environmental education is defined as a process of building knowledge in students. It involves the integration of environmental concepts and concerns into structured educational activities. Environmental education should be curriculum-based and can provide interdisciplinary opportunities, linking the natural world with subject areas such as math, science, social studies, and language arts. The refuge will put forth its plans for environmental education and seek input from the public on future programs.

The second meeting on Thursday, April 30th will focus on potential hunting opportunities at the refuge. It will be held at the Westfield Center in Trenton, MI at 7 P.M. Hunting is both a wildlife-dependent recreational use and an important wildlife management tool. The Service recognizes hunting as a healthy, traditional outdoor pastime, deeply rooted in the American heritage. Hunting can instill a unique understanding and appreciation of wildlife, their behavior, and their habitat needs. The public will learn how the refuge plans on providing opportunities for hunting and is encouraged to provide feedback.

The public meetings are necessary to receive input on the future of visitor services to be provided at the refuge. A Visitor Services Plan (VSP) is currently being drafted to meet the goals and objectives of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

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