

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
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<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee>

News Release



For Immediate Release
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Supervisory Refuge Ranger

Okefenokee NWR Announces FALL/WINTER Hours of Operation

Folkston, GA... Beginning on November 1, 2018 the Main Entrance (Suwannee Canal Recreation Area) to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is open from ½ hour before sunrise to 5:30 p.m., every day. The Swamp Island Drive gate closes at 4:00 p.m., and all guests must be off the drive by 5:00 p.m. All boaters (canoes, kayaks, and boats with small motors) must be off the water trails by 4:00 p.m. Once we set our clocks back an hour this coming weekend, these hours will align closely with daylight hours.

In November, the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center will be open daily from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Beginning December 1, the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center will be closed on Sunday and Monday.

The Suwannee Canal Recreation Area is the Main Entrance to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge and is the access point for the Suwannee Canal (day-use and overnight boating trails), the Swamp Island Drive, Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center, and the concession operation, Okefenokee Adventures. Additional visitor areas include the Chesser Island Boardwalk and Chesser Island Homestead.

Additionally, the refuge would like to encourage families to get outdoors and enjoy the refuge this holiday season. Visitors can enjoy a variety of activities such as participating in guided boat tours with Okefenokee Adventures, fishing, hiking, and more. Individuals may also visit the refuge website at www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee for more information or contact the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center at 912-496-7836.

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The Main Entrance (Suwannee Canal Recreation Area) 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. Entrance fees are \$5 per vehicle/\$1 per bicycle for a daily pass (good for 7 days). Annual passes are also available. 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/refuge/okefenokee for hours of operation, upcoming events, and entrance fee information.

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