

News Release

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge; Phone: (978) 465-5753

Refuge to Offer Free Online Programs in January and February

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge will be offering three FREE online programs for the general public during the months of January and February. The specific details for each program are provided below:

Film Screening: *The Biggest Little Farm*

Thursday, January 21, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

The Biggest Little Farm chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 200 acres of barren farmland and a dream to harvest in harmony with nature. Through dogged perseverance and embracing the opportunity provided by nature's conflicts, the Chesters unlock and uncover a biodiverse design for living that exists far beyond their farm, its seasons, and our wildest imagination. Featuring breathtaking cinematography, captivating animals, and an urgent message to heed Mother Nature's call, *The Biggest Little Farm* provides us all a vital blueprint for better living and a healthier planet. To register for this film screening, send an email to parkerriver@fws.gov and write "biggest little farm" on the subject line. Please remember to include your name in the note.

Online Lecture – *The Real Eastern Coyote*

Tuesday, February 9, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Myths surround the coyote and cloud our understanding of it. Learn the true story of the eastern coyote – how and when it arrived in New England, how it lives among us but is rarely seen and how it contributes to keep our forests and fields healthy. Learn why it is a creature of our own making – an animal different than the western coyote in genetics and behavior but with the same superior resilience and adaptability. It is smart, beneficial and by its presence, gives “wild” back to our wild lands. Viewers will have an opportunity to pose questions to the presenter. The presenter, Chris Schadler, M.S., Conservation Biology, is a wild canid ecologist who has been involved in wolf and coyote research for more than 30 years. She is also the NH/VT representative for Project Coyote. To register for this program, send an email to parkerriver@fws.gov and write “coyote program” on the subject line. Be sure to include your name in the body of the email. (This program is being offered in conjunction with the Merrimack River Eagle Festival.)

Online Lecture: *Nature and Wildlife Photography in Winter – Tips, Tricks & Techniques*

Sunday, February 14, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Winter presents both challenges and opportunities for the nature and wildlife photographer. This timely program will provide an overview of time-tested tools, tips, and techniques for creating

more successful images at a time of year when many have stowed their cameras away until the arrival of warmer weather. Presenter Matt Poole, who serves as the visitor services manager at Parker River NWR, is a passionate outdoor photographer and experienced instructor. To register for this program, send an email to parkerriver@fws.gov and write "winter photography" on the subject line. Be sure to include your name in the body of the email. (This program is being offered in conjunction with the Merrimack River Eagle Festival.)

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