

# Public Programs/Events – 2015

## Horicon National Wildlife Refuge (Horicon Marsh)



- February 21** [Winter Wonderland](#) – (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.) Visit the rustic environmental education barn and enjoy crafts, displays, and hot chocolate after snowshoeing, skiing, or hiking on the refuge. Some snowshoes are available for loan. N10755 South Point Rd.(Off Cty Z & H)
- March 16** [Majority of Refuge Closes](#) to visitor access for bird migration/nesting seasons. Public use areas (auto tour/trails, Bud Cook Hiking Area, Main Dike Road, fishing accesses, Hwy 49 Viewing Area) remain open year-round for approved recreational activities.
- April 24-27** [Old Marsh Road Open for Hiking/Bicycling](#) – Hike or bicycle Old Marsh Road Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon., in celebration of Earth Day.
- April 25** [Earth Day Celebration!](#) – Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).  
[Live Critters with Dave Stokes!](#) – (1:00-2:00) Enjoy the antics of Entertainer and Naturalist Dave Stokes and get hands on with live reptiles and amphibians.  
[Kids Crafts: Recycled Musical Instruments](#) – (2:30-3:30) Make a musical instrument out of recycled materials and join in a sing-a-long with local singers Terri and Alan Fuller in honor of Earth Day. Materials provided.
- May 1-30** [Wisconsin Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest Exhibit](#) – On display at the Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z). See youth artwork from the 2015 contest.  
<http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/>
- SPECIAL EXHIBIT!**
- May 8-11** [Horicon Marsh Bird Festival](#) – Marsh-wide event. Guided birding hikes, bus and boat tours, kid's activities, bird banding demos, live birds of prey, and special exhibits. Sponsored by Horicon Marsh Bird Club. For more information, visit: <http://www.horiconmarshbirdclub.com/>  
*Horicon Refuge Visitor Center Open Saturday, May 9 from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 10 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for this event.*
- May 9** [Wetland Water Bugs](#) – (11:00-12:00) For young explorers of all ages. Scoop water bugs from the marsh and learn about their adaptations for survival. Meet at Egret Trail floating boardwalk off auto tour off Hwy 49.
- May 9** [Avian Art](#) – (3:00-4:00) Local art instructor Gerri Buteyn will share her signature style of painting birds as well as overall tips for improving your artwork. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).
- May 9** [Wisconsin Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest Reception](#) – (4:15-5:00) Awards reception for WI K-12<sup>th</sup> grade winners. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).
- May 16** [Wildflowers for Wildlife](#) – (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) Native plant sale, pollinator presentation at 10:00 a.m., displays, native landscape tours and more. Visit <http://www.horiconnwrfriends.org/> for more info and plant presale order form. Sponsored by Friends of Horicon NWR and Friends of Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).
- June** [Old Marsh Road Open for Hiking/Bicycling](#) – Old Marsh Road open June – August seven days a week.

June 6-7

[Hiking, Bicycling, Fishing Weekend at Horicon Marsh](#) – Marsh-wide.

- [Wisconsin Free Fishing Days](#) – June 6-7. Designated areas. No license required.
- [Tour de Marsh](#) – June 6. Marsh-wide event. Explore the marsh by bicycle or vehicle at your leisure. Rest stops with information at various locations.
- [Family Bicycle Tours](#) – Pedal portions of the refuge with a guide. Meet at Main Parking lot of refuge auto tour (Hwy 49). Two one-hour tours offered: 9:00-10:00 and 10:15-11:15.

July, August

[Old Marsh Road Open for Hiking/Bicycling](#) –

Old Marsh Road open June – August seven days a week.

September 26

[National Public Lands Day – Seed Collection](#) – (10:00–11:30)

Celebrate *National Public Lands Day* by helping to collect native prairie seed. Long pants and sturdy shoes are recommended. Meet at the Egret Trail boardwalk parking lot off of the refuge auto tour (Hwy 49).

September 26

[Phoneography](#) – (12:00 – 12:45) Professional photographer Dave Edwards will discuss some simple ways you can easily create one-of-a-kind smart phone images your friends and family will envy. Program will cover “apps” as well as include recommendations for long term storage of your photos. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).

October 10

[National Wildlife Refuge Week Celebration](#) –

- [Refuge 5K Run /Walk](#) – (9:00–11:30) For pre-registration information: <http://www.fonddulacrunningclub.com/>
- [Horicon Marsh Friend's Family Road Rally](#) (ongoing) – Pick up rally packet from the Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z) and complete at your leisure.

October 24

[Birding Old Marsh Road](#) – (9:00–10:30) Guided hike to view birds in an area of the refuge that is only open seasonally. Meet at the Egret Trail boardwalk parking lot off of the refuge auto tour off Hwy 49. Total miles: 1.5 - easy walking.

November 14

[Winter Open House](#) – (10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) Stop in and visit with the Friends of Horicon NWR and enjoy musical performances by popular children's artists Ken Lonquist and Dave Adler at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.; nature crafts; and holiday discounts at the Coot's Corner Gift Shop. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).

November  
21-29 &  
December  
24 – Jan 1

[Auto Tour Closed for Deer Gun Seasons](#) – Closed to vehicles.

Visitors are still welcome to use the area for hiking and other permissible activities but are required to wear blaze orange.

Dec 1

[Entire Refuge Opens](#) for wildlife observation and nature photography via hiking, snowshoeing and cross country skiing through March 15.



Horicon Refuge



**\*Programs and activities are FREE.  
Sponsored by the Friends of Horicon NWR.\***

For more information contact:  
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Visitor Center – NEW HOURS!

Jan–Mar & Dec:

Monday–Friday 9 a.m.– 4 p.m. + 1 Sat/month

2015: Feb 21, Mar 21, & Dec 5

Apr–Nov:

Monday–Saturday 9 a.m.– 4 p.m. (+ Sun. in Oct.)

2015: Open July 4, Labor and Columbus Days

(\*Closed all other federal holidays\*)

