

Public Programs/Events – 2018

Horicon National Wildlife Refuge (Horicon Marsh)



- February 10 **Winter Wonderland** – (10:00-2:00) 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).
- February 17, 24 **Snowshoeing at the Education Barn** – (10:00-2:00) Visit the environmental education barn for snowshoeing or hiking and hot chocolate. Snowshoes will be available for loan. N10755 South Point Rd.
- 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 20–23 **Old Marsh Road Open for Earth Day Weekend** – Hike or bicycle Old Marsh Road Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon., and enjoy wildlife observation and photography.
- April 21 **Earth Day Celebration!** – Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z). (10:00–3:00)
- Frogs, Turtles and More with Dave Stokes! – (11:00-12:00) & (1:00-2:00)
 - Sense of Wonder Trail and Nature Play Area – Animals pelts/tracks/water bug scooping
 - Nature Crafts, Make a Recycled Musical Instrument /Sing-a-long
- May 1–31 **Wisconsin Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest Exhibit** – On display at the Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z). See youth artwork from the 2018 contest. <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/>
- SPECIAL EXHIBIT!**
- May 11–14 **Horicon Marsh Bird Festival** – Marsh-wide event. Guided birding hikes, bus and boat tours, kid's activities, bird banding demos, and special exhibits. Sponsored by Horicon Marsh Bird Club. * New for 2018 - Old Marsh Road Bus Tour. For more information, visit: <http://www.horiconmarshbirdclub.com/> *Horicon Refuge Visitor Center Open Saturday, May 12 from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Sunday, May 14 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for event.
- May 12 **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 12 **Wisconsin Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest Reception** – (4:15-5:00) Awards reception for WI K-12th grade winners. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).
- May 19 **Wildflowers for Wildlife** – (9:00-1:00) Native plant sale and displays at the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center (Hwy 28). Joint event sponsored by Friends of Horicon NWR, Friends of Horicon Marsh Education Center and Taylor Creek Nurseries.
- Jun, Jul, Aug **Old Marsh Road Open for Public Access** – Hike or bicycle Old Marsh and enjoy wildlife observation and photography seven days a week.

June 2-3

Hiking, Bicycling, Fishing Weekend -

- **Sense of Wonder Discovery Trail Hike** – June 2. 1:00-2:00 pm. Visitor Center
- **Family Bicycle Tours** – June 2. Pedal portions of the refuge with a guide. Two one-hour tours offered: 9:00-10:00 & 10:30-11:30. Meet at Main Parking lot of refuge auto tour (Hwy 49)
- **Wisconsin Free Fishing Days** – June 2-3. Designated areas. No license required.

September 22

National Public Lands Day – Seed Collection – (10:00-11:00)

Help collect native prairie seeds. Long pants and sturdy shoes are recommended. Meet at the Egret Trail boardwalk parking lot off of the refuge auto tour (Hwy 49).

October 6

Family Bicycle Tours – Pedal portions of the refuge with a guide. Two one-hour tours offered: 10:00-11:00 and 1:00-2:00. Meet at Main Parking lot of refuge auto tour (Hwy 49).

October 13

Refuge 5K Run/Walk for Wildlife – (9:00-11:30) For pre-registration information: <http://www.fonddulacrunningclub.com/>

October 27

Birding Old Marsh Road – (9:00-10:30) Guided hike to view birds in an area of the refuge that is only open seasonally. ½ mile - easy walking. Meet at the Egret Trail boardwalk parking lot off of the refuge auto tour off Hwy 49.

November 3

Autumn Open House – (10:00 -3:00) Musical performances by children's artists Ken Lonquist and Dave Adler at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.; nature crafts; and family activities. Horicon Refuge Visitor Center (Cty Rd Z).

November
17-25 &
December
6-9

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.



For more information:
920-387-2658 x124 or erin_railsback@fws.gov

Visitor Center Hours

Regular hours: Monday-Friday 9-4

Apr-Nov: (peak season)

Monday-Saturday 9-4 (+ Sundays during Oct.)

2018: Open July 4, Labor and Columbus Days
(*Closed all other federal holidays)

*Programs and activities are FREE.

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/horicon/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HoriconNWR>

