



Join Us for Free, Fun, Programs! *Parker River National Wildlife Refuge* January, 2015

REGISTRATION & CAPACITY:

All refuge programs are FREE, but space may be limited. Preregistration is required for all programs, unless otherwise indicated. Please call (978) 465-5753. **Please Note:** If a program requires preregistration, your registration is not confirmed unless and until you receive a phone call or voice mail message from a member of the refuge staff.

Programs conducted in the auditorium are limited to 75 attendees. Seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Admission of additional attendees will stop when capacity has been reached.

Please note that outdoor programs may be cancelled if there is inclement weather and/or insufficient registration. Visit us on the web for more information:

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker_river/ or call Refuge Headquarters. The refuge visitor center is located at 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA.

NEW! Refuge Family Cinema – FREE Movies for Kids and Families

- Sunday, January 4th @ 1:30 pm: *Finding Nemo*
- Sunday, January 18th @ 1:30 pm: *The Lion King*

Spend a cold winter afternoon watching a great **FREE** film on the big screen in the comfort of the visitor center auditorium. These are great, entertaining family films with environmental themes. The Friends of Parker NWR will even provide popcorn and bottled water (for a suggested donation). **No preregistration for these programs. Auditorium seating is limited to the first 75 people who show up!**

Behind the Scenes Refuge Tour

Held on the following days: Saturday, Jan. 3rd @ 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 4th @ 1:00 pm; Wednesday, Jan. 7th @ 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 11 @ 1:00 pm; Saturday, Jan. 17th @ 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 18th @ 1:00 pm; Wednesday, Jan. 21st @ 9:30 am; Saturday, Jan. 24th @ 9:30 am; Sunday, Jan. 25th @ 1:00 pm; Saturday, Jan. 31st @ 9:30 am

Join a refuge ranger for a behind the scenes tour of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Tour will be conducted via refuge van, with several brief “drive by” stops along the way. The tour will present an “up close and personal” look at the refuge through the multiple lenses of the cultural history of Plum Island and the Great Marsh, native wildlife and their habitats, and the role of refuge management in the conservation of these precious natural resources. Participants may be driven along areas on the refuge otherwise closed to the public. This guided two hour program is most appropriate for older teens and adults. Binoculars and/or a camera are recommended, but not required. Meet the ranger in the lobby of the Refuge visitor center 15 minutes prior to the program start time. Each session is limited to 14 participants; no more than 4 individuals per sign-up. Again, this is a vehicle – based tour, with limited stops on the Refuge. **Advance registration is required for this program, as enrollment is limited. Be advised that individual tours may be subject to cancellation. *Please note: Those who call and leave messages after hours, your registration is not confirmed until you receive a confirmation call from a Refuge staff member. Please call (978) 465-5753 to register for this program.**

The Photographic Society of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

Next Meeting: Saturday, January 10th @ 1:30 pm

The Photographic Society welcomes anyone who has an interest in nature, wildlife, and/or photography – whether you are a total novice or earn a living by taking pictures! The club meets every month, generally on the second Saturday afternoon. Club activities include special presentations, slide shows (of members' work), intra-club mentoring and training, photo shoots, on-line photo sharing, and involvement in the refuge's various photography-related programs, events, and outreach activities. Venue capacity is limited to 75 attendees (first-come, first-served). Admission to this program is free and **preregistration is NOT required**.

Making Tracks: Learning to Read Wildlife Clues

Saturday, January 17th, 1:30 – 3:00 pm

If you have ever seen tracks in the snow, sand, or soil and were curious about what made them, then this is the program for you! Refuge staff will lead you through the basics of identifying common animals through the clues that they leave behind. A brief introduction to animal tracks and other sign in the visitor center classroom will be followed by a trip to the refuge where we will look for tracks and attempt to determine their owner's identity. This is a program for beginners, so parents are encouraged to bring their children 10 and older. Please dress appropriately for cold and damp weather. Meet in the lobby of the visitor center ten minutes prior to the program start time. **Preregistration IS required as the program is limited to 10 people.**

Snowy Owls to Saw-whet Owls

Saturday, January 31st @ 1:30 pm

Since 1981, Norman Smith has spent countless days and nights, in every imaginable weather condition, observing, capturing, banding and color marking Snowy Owls at Logan International Airport. Data has been collected on roosting, hunting and behavior while on their wintering grounds. Most recently satellite transmitters have been attached to owls to learn more about their movements. Find out what has been learned to date, what questions remain and how this project developed to include research on Saw-whet Owls. Program will take place in the refuge's visitor center auditorium. **Preregistration is NOT required for this program. Auditorium seating is limited to the first 75 people who show up!**

These Visitor Center Exhibits Change Monthly:

Artist of the Month Gallery: Each month a different photographer or artist displays their nature and/or wildlife-related fine art in the refuge visitor center auditorium. Patricia Lane Evans is August's Artist of the Month. She is an avid nature photographer and active member of the Photographic Society of Parker River NWR.

Photographic Society Slide Show: Just inside the visitor center's front door is a large video monitor that displays the latest nature and wildlife-themed slide show that was produced by members of the refuge's very own photo club. A new slide show, set to music, and focusing on a unique theme, is produced each month.