



Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge

Program Descriptions

Unless otherwise stated, programs begin at the visitor center.

*Programs marked with an asterisk require reservations. Call 419-898-0014 to save your spot!

SELF-GUIDED AUTO TOUR

Enjoy the refuge from the comfort of your car! The 7 mile route departs from the visitor center parking lot. Gates open at 8:00 am and close at 4:00 pm.

BLUE GOOSE BUS TOUR

Join a ranger for a behind the scenes look at habitat hotspots in the area. Destinations vary!

EAGLE TOUR

Enjoy the eagles of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge on this back roads bus tour.

CEDAR POINT BUS TOUR

Enjoy spring migration while exploring Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge!

NATURE TOTS

Children ages 3-5 are invited to bring their favorite adult for nature crafts, stories, and outdoor fun!

SWAMPERS

Children ages 6-10 are invited to join a refuge ranger for a swampin' good time! Topics vary each month.

BIRDS AND BRANCHES

Fly into the visitor center for this guided hike. Bring binoculars if you have them!

OWL PROWL

Experience the refuge at night! Explore the world of owls and learn about their amazing adaptations on this guided hike through the forest.

WOODCOCK WANDER

Join a ranger for an evening of arial acrobatics as you search to see the American Woodcock perform its ritualistic dance.

ADOPT A BEACH

Human nature protecting mother nature! Join us in celebrating Earth Day as we remove litter from the beaches along beautiful Lake Erie!

HIKE THE DIKES

"Hike the Dikes" is a cooperative program with Magee Marsh Wildlife Area and Black Swamp Bird Observatory. Attend three hikes and earn a hiking stick! *Meet at the Magee Marsh Sportsman's Migratory Bird Center.*

MONTHLY BIRD SURVEYS

Join a refuge volunteer and become a citizen scientist the first Sunday of each month at 8:00 am. Bring your binoculars and dress for the weather. *Meet at the trailhead parking area.*

GETTING STARTED IN BIRDING: Everything You Need To Know

Sponsored by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and presented by Jessie Barry and Chris Wood. Binoculars, field guides, online resources and more! Indoor presentation followed by a hike on the refuge!

ICELAND: Land of Birds, Fire, and Ice

Join Randy Patrick, Marian University, to learn about birding and bird photography in Iceland.

CLIMATE CHANGE: How Birds React

Join Randy Patrick, Marian University, to learn about current research that may explain how birds deal with climate change.

BIKE THE DIKES

Bring your bike and join renowned birder Paul Baicich to explore the trail system in search of birds. Helmets encouraged.

THOSE AMAZING OWLS

Learn about owls at this fun and interactive program that demonstrates what makes owls unique. This program is fun for all ages and includes an owl pellet dissection activity.

ACCESS MATTERS: "Why Birders Should Care"

If you want to see birds, access matters! Join Paul Baicich and explore public and private access issues and solutions in the hopes of making birding more accessible for all.

VULTURE VOMIT

Sponsored by Ohio Ornithological Society, and Presented by Bill Thompson III.

FAMILY BIRD HIKE

Sponsored by Ohio Ornithological Society, join Bill Thompson III for this family bird hike. Bring binoculars if you have them!

FAMILY BIRD WALK

Join us for a family bird walk, sponsored by Birds and Blooms Magazine. Bring binoculars if you have them!



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Calendar of Events

March—May, 2013

*Programs marked with an asterisk require reservations. Call 419-898-0014 to save your spot!

Saturday, March 2

10:30-11:30am- Nature Tots*
1:00-2:30pm- Swampers*

Sunday, March 3

1pm- Hike the Dikes

Saturday, March 16

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour

Sunday, March 17

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour

Saturday, April 6

10:30-11:30am- Nature Tots*
1:00-2:30pm- Swampers*

Sunday, April 7

8:00am- Monthly Bird Survey

Friday, April 12

7:30-9:00pm- Woodcock Wander

Saturday, April 13

9am- Hike the Dikes

Saturday, April 20

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
9:00-11:00am- Adopt A Beach*

Sunday, April 21

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Thursday, April 25

8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Friday, April 26

8-10pm- Owl Prowl

Saturday, April 27

10am-12pm- Eagle Tour*
1-3pm- Eagle Tour*

Sunday, April 28

8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*

Friday, May 3

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches

Saturday, May 4

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
9am- Hike the Dikes
10:30-11:30am- Nature Tots*
1-2:30pm- Swampers*
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches

Sunday, May 5

8am- Monthly Bird Survey
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches
2-4pm- Family Bird Walk

Monday, May 6

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches

Tuesday, May 7

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches

Wednesday, May 8

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches

Thursday, May 9

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-11am- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches

Friday, May 10

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches
8-10pm- Owl Prowl

Saturday, May 11

7-11am- Cedar Point Bus Tour*
8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
8-9:30am- Family Bird Hike
9-10:30am- Birds and Branches
10am-12pm- Bike the Dikes
10am- Vulture Vomit
1pm- Those Amazing Owls
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches
3pm- Iceland: Land of Birds, Fire, and Ice

Sunday, May 12

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour
9-10:30am- Birds and Branches
10am- Getting Started in Birding
1-4pm- Blue Goose Bus Tour*
1pm- Climate Change: How Birds React
1:30-3:00pm- Birds and Branches
3pm- Access Matters: Why Birders Should Care

Wednesday, May 15

9-10:30am- Birds and Branches

Saturday, May 18

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour

Sunday, May 19

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour

Monday, May 27

8am-4pm- Self Guided Auto Tour



Members Only Events:

Sunday, May 5
7-11am- Darby Marsh Bus Tour*

Sunday, May 12
7-11am- Darby Marsh Bus Tour*

Membership information is available at the visitor center information desk.