

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
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Folkston, GA 31537
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<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee>

News Release



For Immediate Release

Date: September 4, 2015

Contact: Susan Heisey, 912-496-7366, ex 233
Supervisory Refuge Ranger

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Announces Fall Activities

Folkston, GA..... Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge will be offering an array of activities and special events for families to enjoy throughout the months of September, October, and November. A variety of programs will be offered to provide visitors with fun and educational opportunities most Saturdays. Programs are family friendly and free. Unless otherwise noted, all programs will meet in the Visitor Center. Although programs are free, a \$5 refuge entrance fee is required or other entrance pass. In addition to programs listed, more programs may become available; contact the Visitor Center to inquire about current programming options. For all programs, please dress for the weather. Programs may be cancelled or rescheduled due to inclement weather and are subject to staff availability.

September

Saturday, September 19

Owl Prowl, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

Saturday, September 26

National Public Lands Day, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Join Okefenokee NWR as we celebrate National Public Lands Day by conducting a cleanup of the historic Chesser Island Homestead. Free hot dogs and refreshments for all participants. Bring gloves and wear closed toes shoes. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Gracie Gooch at the Visitor Center at 912-496-7836 to sign up.

Owl Prowl, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

October

Saturday, October 10

Owl Prowl, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

Saturday, October 17

'Oke' Archery Days, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Join a certified archery instructor to learn how to properly and safely shoot a bow and arrow. Free and family friendly, archery programs are available to participants of all ages, even adults. No prior experience required, and all equipment is provided. Programs will incorporate activities on the different types of archery, archery games, 3D targets, and bowhunting. Participants are welcome to attend one program or many. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register.

Owl Prowl, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

Saturday, October 24

Owl Prowl, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

Saturday, October 31

'Oke' Archery Days, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Join a certified archery instructor to learn how to properly and safely shoot a bow and arrow. Free and family friendly, archery programs are available to participants of all ages, even adults. No prior experience required, and all equipment is provided. Programs will incorporate activities on the different types of archery, archery games, 3D targets, and bowhunting. Participants are welcome to attend one program or many. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register.

Owl Prowl, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

November

Saturday, November 7 and Sunday, November 8

Nature Photography Workshop with John Reed

Join award winning nature photographer, John Reed for workshops on nature and wildlife photography. Workshops will include classroom lessons and field shooting. Participants can attend one or both days. Times will be determined. Registration and fee are required. Space is limited. Contact the Visitor Center for more information or to register.

Saturday, November 14

'Oke' Archery Days, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Join a certified archery instructor to learn how to properly and safely shoot a bow and arrow. Free and family friendly, archery programs are available to participants of all ages, even adults. No prior experience required, and all equipment is provided. Programs will incorporate activities on the different types of archery, archery games, 3D targets, and bowhunting. Participants are welcome to attend one program or many. Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register.

Owl Prowl, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Join a ranger for a stroll down Chesser Island Boardwalk at sunset. Climb the Owls Roost Tower and experience an Okefenokee evening. Look, listen, and learn of nocturnal creatures of the swamp.

Registration required, limited space available. Contact the Visitor Center to register. Meet at the Visitor Center picnic area.

Saturday, November 21**Pioneer Day, 10:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

Visit the Chesser Island Homestead to discover how people once lived in Southeast Georgia. Learn how settlers made soap, brooms, butter, quilts, baskets, and other everyday items. Watch a traditional sugar cane boil, and sample the sweet cane juice. Fun for the whole family. Contact the Visitor Center for more information.

For registration of programs or for more information, contact the Richard S. Bolt Visitor Center at 912-496-7836 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., daily. All activities will take place at the East Entrance of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, eleven miles southwest of Folkston, GA along Georgia State Highway 121/23.

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The Suwannee Canal Recreation Area (East Entrance) to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge is the primary entrance managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is located 11 miles southwest of Folkston, GA off Hwy 121/23. The refuge is open daily and offers a variety of opportunities for the visiting public. Call 912-496-7836 or visit the refuge website at www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee for hours of operation, upcoming events, and entrance fee information.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to our events for all participants. Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate in our events should contact Susan Heisey at (912) 496-7366 ext. 233 or Susan_Heisey@fws.gov. In order to allow sufficient time to process requests, please contact us for assistance at least five business days before the event.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook pages at www.facebook.com/okefenokeewildliferefuge or www.facebook.com/usfwssoutheast, follow our tweets at www.twitter.com/usfwssoutheast, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwssoutheast>.