

Calendar of Events – 2015



Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex

February

Winter Birds

McNary National Wildlife Refuge

February 14

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon



Discover McNary's abundance of ducks, swans, geese and other birds. Enjoy a live bird program by Blue Mountain Wildlife, wildlife photography presentations, waterfowl tours and Sketchout, an art activity for all ages. The Friends of Mid-Columbia River Wildlife Refuges is hosting the event.

March

Othello Sandhill Crane Festival

Columbia National Wildlife Refuge

March 27-29

Experience the beauty and wonder of the natural world, highlighted by the return of Sandhill cranes to the Channeled Scablands. This three-day community event features a variety of activities, from wildlife tours and lectures on the area's natural and cultural heritage to an art contest and children's activities. An admission fee is charged. For more information, visit www.othellosandhillcranefestival.org.



April/May

Wildflower Tours

Hanford Reach National Monument

April 22 & 24, May 1 & 2

Discover the rainbow of wildflowers in bloom on the Hanford Reach National Monument. The three-hour guided tours will explore the monument via our bus. Tour space is limited, and spaces will be given out through an online lottery system. There is a small lottery fee. For more information, visit www.fws.gov/hanfordreach/wildflowers/.

CANCELLED



May

International Migratory Bird Day

Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge

May 9

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Celebrate the migration of birds and their return to the Yakima Valley. Observe mist-netting and banding throughout the morning, take a hay ride, and see live raptors up close! For more information about International Migratory Bird Day, visit www.birdday.org.



August

Bats Among Us

Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge

August 15

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Watch bats as they emerge at dusk. Learn about these wonderfully diverse and beneficial creatures. Find out how we study bats, and see bats as you've never seen them before!



September

Astronomy Night

Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge

September 5

7:30 p.m.

Discover the night sky with a local astronomy expert. On a clear night, we can see the Milky Way, several planets, man-made satellites and sometimes meteors. There will be a telescope available for you to look through, but feel free to bring your own telescope or binoculars.



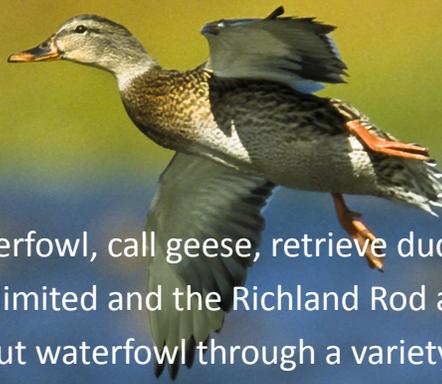
Duck Day

McNary National Wildlife Refuge

September 12

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Learn how to band ducks, identify waterfowl, call geese, retrieve ducks with a dog, and much more. Members from Ducks Unlimited and the Richland Rod and Gun Club will be on hand to teach youth of all ages about waterfowl through a variety of outdoor activities. Join us for our most popular annual event!



National Public Lands Day—Shrub-Steppe Garden Restoration

McNary National Wildlife Refuge

September 26

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Come get dirty sprucing up McNary's shrub-steppe garden! The Friends of Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuges is hosting this event. National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands. For national information, check online at www.publiclandsday.org.

October

Screech at the REACH—National Wildlife Refuge Week

Hanford Reach Interpretive Center

October 23

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Learn about bats, owls, spiders, ravens, toads, wolves and other scary Halloween critters. Live animals and owl pellet dissection! The Reach will charge its admission fee; to get \$2 off, bring a canned food item for Second Harvest.



All events are free, unless specified otherwise, and open to the public.

For more information:

Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex

www.fws.gov/mcriver/ or (509) 546-8300

Friends of Mid-Columbia River Wildlife Refuges
friendsofmcrwr.org or on their Facebook page

