



Calendar of Events – 2014

Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex

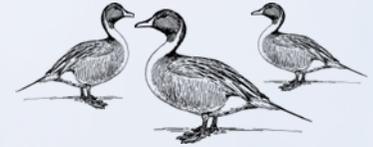
March

Winter Birds

McNary National Wildlife Refuge

March 1

9:00 a.m. - 12 noon



Discover McNary's abundance of ducks, swans, geese and other migrating birds. There will be a bird mist netting demonstration, owl pellet dissection and a live bird program by Blue Mountain Wildlife. The Friends of Mid-Columbia River Wildlife Refuges is hosting the event and will be having their annual meeting immediately after from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. All are invited!



Othello Sandhill Crane Festival

Columbia National Wildlife Refuge

March 28 - 30

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 25 & 27, May 8 & 10.

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

www.fws.gov/hanfordreach/lottery/.





May

International Migratory Bird Day

Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge

May 10

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

Celebrate the migration of birds and their return to the Yakima Valley. Come identify, count and observe bird species throughout the morning, take a hay ride, watch bird banding, 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 16

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! *



Astronomy Night

Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge

August 30

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. *



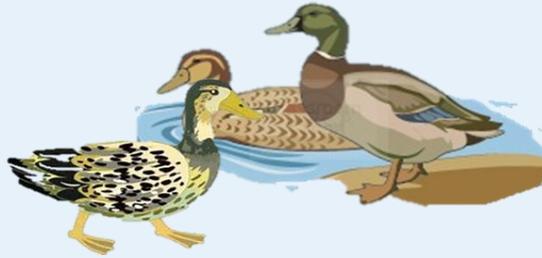
September

Kid's Duck Conservation Day

McNary National Wildlife Refuge

September 13

8:00 a.m. - 12 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

TBD

September 27

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



National Public Lands Day

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands. Join the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal partners to get dirty and make a difference on your public lands. Check online at www.publiclandsday.org for information.

October

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge

October 4

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

In honor of National Wildlife Refuge Week—a time to reflect and celebrate our nation's extensive wildlife heritage—Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge is hosting an open house. The celebration will include refuge tours, presentations and children's activities.

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

(509) 546-8300

Friends of Mid-Columbia River Wildlife Refuges

friendsofmcrwr.org or on their Facebook page.

