

News Release

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge; Phone: (978)-465-5753

Refuge to Once Again Issue Limited Number of Berry Picking Permits

Beach plum and cranberry picking has a long history on Plum Island. And, it's an activity that continues today at Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. For anyone interested in picking cranberry and/or beach plums on the refuge this year, a lottery will soon be conducted to determine who receives the fifty berry picking permits that have been allocated for this year. The permits are free. To apply to the permit lottery, simply send an email to parkerriver@fws.gov and write "Berry Picking Permit Lottery" on the subject line. The body of the email should include your name, phone number, and, if applicable, an email address. For those lacking access to email, please type or neatly print the same personal contact information on a card and mail or drop it off at refuge headquarters (please also write "Berry Picking Permit Lottery" on the card or envelope). Located at 6 Plum Island Turnpike in Newburyport, MA, 01950, headquarters is open 8:30 am – 4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. A bin for dropped-off lottery applications will be located on a table, just inside of the front door. **Permit lottery applications will be accepted from July 10th thru 4:00 pm on July 31st.** Permit selectees will be notified by August 10th and will be provided with additional details at that time.

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