

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge

Cambridge, MD

19th Annual

Eagle Festival

Saturday

March 14, 2020

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Celebrating
Birds of Prey!**

Live Bird Programs
Eagle Prowls Refuge Tours
Exhibitors Kids' Activities
Food Vendor on Site



Photo by Barbara Gilbert

For more information:
Call 410/228-2677 or go to
www.fws.gov/refuge/Blackwater

2020 Eagle Festival Tentative Schedule

Time	Activity/Program	Description
Tours (Visitor Center Parking Lot)		
8:00 – 9:30 am	Birding with a guide (approx. 1.5 hrs.)	Observe resident and migratory birds, including eagles, geese, ducks, herons and songbirds with guide Terry Allen. Bring binoculars. Park at Education Building.
10:00 & 11:30 am 1:00 & 2:30 pm	Eagle Prowl (approx. 1 hr. 15 min.)	Join our experienced volunteers and staff in a search for bald eagles on the refuge. Seating is limited. Registration begins at 9:30 am for all prowls. Once tickets are gone seats will be filled on a stand by basis. Tickets go fast so plan accordingly.
10:00 & 11:30 am 1:00 & 2:30 pm	Wildlife Drive Bus Tour (approx. 1 hr. 15 min.)	Join refuge biologists on a tour of the wildlife drive. Learn how the refuge manages habitat for wildlife from the comforts of a commercial bus. Registration begins at 9:30 am for all tours. Once tickets are gone seats will be filled on a stand by basis. Tickets go fast so plan accordingly.
Live Bird Programs (in the Big Tent)		
10:00 am	Raptor Identification and Adaptation	Meet native birds of prey with naturalist Liz Smith and learn about their very successful hunting adaptations that make them masters of the sky!
11:00 am	Raptors Rule!	Mike Callahan of Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center will present an interactive live birds of prey program with fun information about the exciting lives of bald eagles and other native raptors of Maryland!
12:00 pm	Bald Eagles, A National Success Story	Maryland Park Service “Scales and Tales” Rangers share information about our national symbol, the bald eagle. See this majestic bird up close and hear its amazing story!
1:00 pm	Raptors Rule!	A second chance to see Mike Callahan of Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center present an interactive live birds of prey program with fun information about the exciting lives of bald eagles and other native raptors of Maryland!
2:00 pm	The Peregrine Falcon	Join falconer Andrew Bullen and his raptors, and learn about the natural history of the peregrine falcon and how falconry techniques were successfully used in the recovery of the peregrine population in the United States!
3:00 pm	How To Attract Birds to Your Backyard	Rhonda Matterson from Wild Birds Unlimited will share advice and techniques to properly attract and feed a variety of birds in your backyard!
Exhibits/Demonstrations/Presentations (Visitor Center)		
9:30 – 10:30 am	Multi-Purpose Room	Nature Photography: Tips and tricks for better wildlife photography with Joe Soares. This program will cover both equipment and techniques.
11:30 am and 2:30 pm	West Side of Visitor Center	Nutria Detector Dog Demonstrations: See how trained nutria detector dogs have helped to eliminate nutria populations from the Eastern Shore.
All day	Throughout the Visitor Center	View live birds of prey with exhibitors from the Salisbury Zoo, Nanjemoy Creek Education Center, and Raptor’s Eye. Exhibits from the Friends of Blackwater, Pickering Creek Audubon Center, Dorchester 4-H, and USDA Nutria Project, Maryland DNR Master Naturalists, and decoy carving with Warren Saunders. 10 am – 3 pm Kids’ face painting 11 am – 3 pm Live reptiles from Maryland Park Service’s “Scales and Tales”
Kids’ Stuff (Activity Tents) – All Day While Supplies Last		
Nest Box Tent	Build a Bird Box	Construct a wren nest box to take home. All materials supplied.
Visitor Center	Monarch Migration Game	Learn about the challenges faced by monarchs during their annual migration in this fun active game. (Start in the west wing of Visitor Center)
Kids Activity Tent	Owl Pellet Exploration	Learn about owls and the foods they like to eat while dissecting an owl pellet.
	Kids’ Make-and-Take	Make a wildlife magnet and a bagel bird feeder. (CAUTION: PEANUTS)
Range Tent	Archery	Kids can try their hand at archery at the indoor “Hoverball” range.
	BB Gun Range	A fun and safe shooting range staffed by the National Wild Turkey Federation.
All Day	Food	Purchase vittles from Boy Scout Troop 532. Visitor Center parking lot.