

# Patuxent Research Refuge Public Programs May 2014



## REGISTRATION

All programs are **FREE**, however, donations to **The Friends of Patuxent** are greatly appreciated! Note: These public programs are designed for individuals/families. Programs DO require advance reservations and may be subject to changes or cancellation due to weather or low participation. Field guides and binoculars are recommended for most programs. Please call **301-497-5887** to make your reservation. Please notify the refuge of any special needs so that you may be accommodated. Visit: [patuxent.fws.gov](http://patuxent.fws.gov)

## Programs Held at the North Tract

The North Tract is located on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 32.

### Bird Walk

*Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:15-10:15am, All Ages*

Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Registration is required.

### Herp Hike

*Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-2:30pm, All Ages*

Join a refuge naturalist on this guided search for reptiles & amphibians. Registration is required.

### Night Hike

*Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:45-9:15pm, Ages 10+*

Explore the refuge at night while looking and listening for owls. Registration is required.

### Wildflower Walk

*Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:00am – 12:00pm, All Ages*

Search for wildflowers on the refuge and discover why these late spring blooms are so important in the refuge ecosystem. Registration is required.

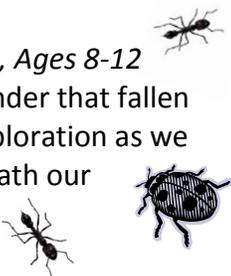
## Programs Held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center

The Visitor Center is located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

### Life Under Logs

*Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 3:30pm, Ages 8-12*

Ever wonder what's going on under that fallen tree? Join us on a woodland exploration as we uncover the hidden world beneath our feet. Registration is required.

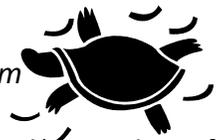


### Nature Tots: Totally Turtles!

*Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 – 11:30am*

*& 1:00 – 2:00pm, Ages 3-4*

'Tis the season for turtles! Discover the wonders of turtles in this hands-on, interactive program. Registration is required.



### Photography Workshop

*Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am – 4:15 pm, Ages 13+*

Expand your capabilities with your film or digital camera. Learn about equipment, f-stop, shutter speed, metering, composition & more. Registration & fee required by April 29<sup>th</sup> to Friends of Patuxent. Workshop fee \$60 and \$50 for Friends members.

### Bird Walk

*Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 – 10:30am, Ages 16+*

*Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 – 10:30am, Ages 16+*

Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Registration is required.

### Based on Books: Monthly Nature Series: Frogs and Toads!

*Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:30-11:30 am, Ages 4-5*

Each program in this series begins with a beautifully illustrated children's story about wildlife. Discover more about nature with puppets, props, and activities. Registration is required.

### Bird Walk

*Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:00-10:00am, Ages 8+*

Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Registration is required.

## May is the Magnificent Whooping Crane Month at the National Wildlife Visitor Center!

Throughout the month the Friends of Patuxent "Adopt A Whooper Committee" will be hosting a variety of activities in honor of the magnificent Whooping Crane! Visitors will be able to compare heights to that of a full-grown Whooping Crane, learn how cranes grow from an egg to an adult through photos, view fascinating videos about cranes, and much more! All programs and activities are FREE; donations to the Adopt A Whooper Program are greatly appreciated and tax deductible! Please note some activities require advanced registration by calling the program registration line at 301-497-5887.

### Story Time: A Whooping Crane Named Cinnamon

*Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1:00 pm, Ages 6+*

*Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am, Ages 6+*

Join author Ms. Mary Beth Mattison as she relates the adventures of Cinnamon in her story: *A Whooping Crane Named Cinnamon*.  
No registration required.

### Tiny Tots: Nature and Music: Wonderful Whooping Cranes

*Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 – 12:15 pm, Ages 1 ½ - 3 ½*

*Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 – 11:15 am, Ages 1 ½ - 3 ½*

Come learn all about Whooping Cranes through songs and rhyming. Parental participation and registration is required.

### Puppet Show: Little Whooper's Excellent Adventure

*Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am & 11:30 am, All Ages*

Follow the journey of a young Whooping Crane and see how Patuxent Research Refuge is giving a helping hand to this magnificent bird! Runs approximately 20 minutes. No registration required.

### Whooping Crane Tours

*Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 2:30pm, Ages 14+*

*Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 2:30pm, Ages 14+*

*Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 2:30pm, Ages 14+*

Enjoy a guided tour to the Whooping Crane Observatory at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center to observe a pair of graceful, endangered whooping cranes. Arrive early, as tour will leave on time. Space is very limited. Registration is required.

### Whooping Crane Migration Game

*Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am – 12 pm, Ages 7 – 10*

Discover the experiences Whooping Cranes face during their long migrations in this interactive game. Registration is required.

## ***Whooping Crane Presentations***

### ***Flight from Extinction: Restoring Whooping Cranes to North America***

*Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 pm*

Dr. John French, Research Manager at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, will discuss basic biology of the continent's tallest bird, population distribution and restoration efforts, and highlight research that underlies restoration programs nationwide. No registration required.

### ***Reintroduction of Whooping Cranes to Eastern North America: An Operation Migration Pilot's Perspective***

*Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 pm*

Join Brooke Pennypacker, pilot for Operation Migration, as he recounts his experiences guiding youth Whooping Cranes on their first migration from Wisconsin to Florida. No registration required.

### ***Life of a Volunteer Surrogate Whooping Crane Dad***

*Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1:30 pm*

Join Ken Lavish, volunteer Crane Technician, as he shares his experiences raising Whooping Crane chicks for release into the wild. No registration required.

