

Patuxent Research Refuge

Public Programs

May 2016



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.

Please call **301-497-5887** to make your reservation.

Please notify the refuge of any special needs so that you may be accommodated.

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.

Wildlife Loop Adventure Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, May 14th, 9:00am-1:00pm, All Ages

Using clues and locations, families and groups can drive the North Tract's Wildlife Loop and nearby trails to hunt for sculptured stones, mystery objects, plants and animals while learning about the history of North Tract and other recreational opportunities. A camera or cell phone that takes pictures is recommended. Arrive anytime between 9am and 1pm and plan for 1-2 hours! Registration is required along with approximate arrival time.

Bird Walk

Saturday, May 21st, 8:15-10:15am, All Ages

Search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars are recommended. Registration is required.

Herp Search

Saturday, May 21st, 1:00-2:30pm, All Ages

Join a refuge naturalist on this guided search for reptiles and amphibians. Wear good walking shoes and bring water, and remember to dress for the weather. Registration is required.

Night Hike

Saturday, May 21st, 8:00-9:30pm, Ages 5+

Discover the nighttime world of the refuge as you look and listen for nocturnal animals on this guided walk. 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.

Bird Walk

Wednesdays, May 4th and May 18th, 8:00-10:00am, Ages 14+

Sundays, May 8th and May 22nd, 8:00-10:00am, Ages 8+

Search for spring migrants in various refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars are recommended. Registration is required.

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Programs Held at the National Wildlife Visitor Center Cont...

Nature Hike

Saturday, May 7th, 9:00-10:30am, Ages 5+

Join us for a leisurely walk along Cash Lake Trail (approx. 2 miles) to look and listen for the sights and sounds of spring on the refuge. Binoculars recommended. Registration is required.

Beavers: Makers of the Marsh

Wednesday, May 11th, 1:00-2:30pm, Ages 5-7

Discover the clever techniques these cool and resourceful animals use to live in the wild in this hands-on program. Registration is required.

Adventure Photo Scavenger Hunt

Sunday, May 22nd, 10:00am-2:00pm, All Ages

Drop-in program: no registration required.

Using clues and locations, families can explore a 1 mile section of the trail while searching for various items and information! Don't forget your camera or cell phone to document your finds with pictures!

Migratory Bird Day and Endangered Species Day

Magnificent Whooping Crane Month

At the National Wildlife Visitor Center

Sponsored by the Friends of Patuxent Adopt a Whooper Committee

Free activities and events throughout the month of May! See schedule at

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1blnnrD4KraQ5hQGyYb_oJqaRd5PDLejiagITumc62RA/edit?usp=sharing.

Whooping Crane Observatory Tours

Sundays in May! May 1st, May 8th, May 15th, May 22nd, and May 29th, 1:00-2:30pm, Ages 14+

Take a guided tour to the Whooping Crane Observatory at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center to observe a pair of graceful and endangered adult whooping cranes. Find out more about the Whooping Crane population recovery program. Arrive early, as tour will leave on time. Space is very limited. Registration is required.

Family Fun: Birds! Birds! Birds!

Friday, May 20th and Saturday, May 21st, 10:00am to 2:00pm, Ages 3 and up

Drop-in program: no registration required. Come any time and leave when you wish.

Discover birding at Patuxent through indoor and outdoor (weather permitting) games, binocular basics and crafts for all ages. Join us for family bird walks at 11:30am and 1:30pm, bring binoculars if you have them! No Registration required.

Endangered Species Day Celebration

Friday, May 20th, 11:00am to 2:00pm, All Ages

Drop-in program: no registration required.

Come see a display of endangered species up close and personal with Park Ranger, Jeff Bolden. Join us for an 11am slide presentation by Refuge Manager Brad Knudsen on how the National Wildlife Refuge System helps endangered species survive.

Magnificent Whooping Crane Month Special Speakers!

Listen to various Whooping Crane experts discuss their experiences and challenges while assisting with recovery efforts for one of North America's most endangered birds! *No registration required.*

- Saturday, May 21st, 11:00am, Dr. Glenn Olsen, Veterinarian, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.
- Saturday, May 21st, 1:00pm, Dr. Sarah Converse, Research Ecologist in the Endangered Species Research Group, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.