

Patuxent Research Refuge

Public Programs

October 2016



REGISTRATION

All programs are FREE, however, **ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!** Call **301-497-5887** to make your reservation. Donations to The Friends of Patuxent are greatly appreciated and assist with program needs! These public programs are designed for individuals and families. Programs may be subject to changes or cancellation due to weather or low participation.

Please notify the refuge of any special needs so that you may be accommodated. To view program listings online visit:
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent/visit/PublicPrograms.html>.

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.

Whooping Crane Observatory Tour

Sunday, Oct. 2nd, 1:00-2:30 pm, 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 the tour will leave on time. Space is very limited.

Tiny Tots: Nature and Music

Sunday, Oct. 2nd, 10:30am-11:15am and Monday, Oct. 3rd, 10:30am-11:15am, Ages 16-42 mos.

Learn about the wildlife at the refuge through fun and interactive songs and rhyming. *Parental participation is required.*

The Big Sit!

Saturday, Oct. 8th, 9:00am-2:00pm

The idea is simple – we'll identify a 17 foot diameter circle near the National Wildlife Visitor Center, set up chairs and binoculars, and identify as many birds as we can. No experience needed and no registration necessary!

For more information visit about this international event visit:

<http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/bwdsite/connect/bigsit/about-the-big-sit.php>

Bird Walk

Wednesday, Oct. 12th, 8:00-10:00am, Ages 16+

Sunday, Oct. 16th, 8:00-10:00am, Ages 8+

Wednesday, Oct. 26th, 8:00-10:00am, Ages 16+

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

More on back>>>

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

Learn to Fish

Saturday, Oct. 22nd, 8:30-10:30am, Ages 15 and under

Learn how to cast a rod, identify types of fish and enjoy the experience of fishing in this hands on program for children. All fishing equipment will be provided and registered participants will meet at the Visitor Center. Space is limited, participants may select one date.

Family Fun: Creepy Critters

Friday October 28th, 10:00am to 1:00pm and Saturday October 29th, 10:00am to 1:00pm, Ages 3 to adult
Drop-in program: no registration required. Come any time and leave when you wish.

Bats, owls and spiders are everywhere at Halloween, but are they really creepy? Come to the Refuge and find out! Learn about these fun and fascinating animals through hands-on activities and crafts. No registration required.

Special: Raptors Reign

Saturday, Oct. 29th, 1:00-3:00pm, All Ages

Join special guest and licensed falconer, Rodney Stotts, as he shares the power of nature through discussions and up close encounters with birds of prey.

No registration necessary.



Water Water Everywhere!

Monday, Oct. 31st, 1:00pm-2:30pm, Ages 5-7

Learn about one of the most important resources that EVERYONE needs in order to survive. Discover why water is important for animals and their habitats, as well as for humans!

Patuxent's Annual Wildlife Festival

National Wildlife Visitor Center

Saturday, October 15th, 2016

10:00am - 3:00pm

No Registration Necessary

Discover groundbreaking research conducted at Patuxent! Activities include live animal displays, children's crafts, tram tours, research exhibits, and behind-the-scenes tours of the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center to see endangered whooping cranes and much more! Refreshments are available for purchase.

Tours are limited: tickets are available on a first come first serve basis on the day of the event.

Programs Held at the North Tract

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

Riding Bicycles to Experience the North Tract

Sunday, October 2nd, 1:00-3:00pm, Ages 10+

Enjoy a pleasant family-oriented bicycle outing on the North Tract and experience the beauty of this natural area on two wheels. Discover local wildlife, plants and historical sites. Learn the importance of reducing your footprint and leaving no trace on this 5-mile guided bicycle ride. Bring your own bike, water bottle and helmet. Weather dependent.