



Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge

2018 Program Schedule

Tamarac provides many opportunities for visitors to experience a natural world where plants, wildlife, and serenity can be found everywhere. Come out and enjoy the refuge. Go for a hike, take in a special presentation or movie, or just go explore! There is something for everyone at Tamarac.

Blackbird Wildlife Drive: In search of wildlife? Take a drive on this five mile interpretive route following the edges of lakes, marshes and meadows. Pick up a brochure at the information kiosk located at the start of the Drive on Hwy 26.

Old Indian Hiking Trail: Follow in the footsteps of the Ojibwe people and experience the beauty of the maple basswood forest on this 2.4 mile loop trail.

North Country Trail: Hike a portion of this 4600 mile National Scenic Trail as it traverses the refuge through a variety of habitats. Access on 400th Ave., Blackbird Wildlife Drive or Pine Lake Parking Area on Cty Hwy 29.

Wildlife Excursions: Explore the refuge with a knowledgeable guide! Tours will be offered every Thursday June-August at 10:00 am. Search for wildlife and learn about the cultural and natural history of Tamarac Refuge. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Wild Wednesdays: 10:00 am June -August. Explore the world of nature with your child during this hour long adventure geared for 3-6 yr olds. Meet at Discovery Center.

Weekend Movies and Presentations: Wildlife films, special programs and activities will be offered every weekend May 19 through October 7.

Visitor Center Hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:00 pm and summer weekends 10:00 am- 5:00 pm (May 19 -October 14).



For volunteer information, visit the Friends of Tamarac website at www.tamaracfriends.org or check out Tamarac's Facebook page!

For refuge information, contact the staff at 218-847-2641 or visit www.fws.gov/refuge/tamarac.





Sunday May 27, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Leave it to Beavers*

Once valued for their fur or hunted as pests, beavers are seen in a whole new light. This film reveals the ways in which beavers transform and revive landscapes. These rodents are being recruited to accomplish everything from re-establishing water sources in bone-dry deserts to supporting whole communities of wildlife drawn to the aquatic ecosystems they provide. 55 min



Saturday June 2, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Wildflower Photography Excursion

Discover tricks to take better wildflower photographs and enjoy an array of spectacular Tamarac wildflowers in this three hour excursion. Meet at the Discovery Center for an overview of photography tips. We will carpool to select locations to see woodland and prairie bloomers. Bring your camera, walking shoes, repellent and a snack or lunch.



Sunday June 3, 2:00 pm

Movie: *North America- Born to Be Wild*

Take an extraordinary journey through North America and meet the incredible array of exotic wildlife that lives in our backyard. Through epic cinematography and compelling storytelling, we experience their struggle for survival in this land of extremes. Wildlife include grizzly bear, wolf, gray whale, cougar. 50 min.



Saturday June 9, 8:00 am

Let's Go Birding! Get up with the birds! Join local birders Steve Midthune and Nancy Henke for some bird identification lessons and then head out into the field to develop those skills. You'll identify at least 20 species.

Binoculars and field guides are available to borrow. Bring a sack lunch and water for this 4 hour morning birding adventure. Meet at the Discovery Center. **For more information call 218-844-1756.**



Sunday June 10, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Wolverine- Chasing the Phantom*

This film will take you into the secretive world of the largest and least known member of the weasel family to reveal who this dynamic little devil truly is. Hard-wired to endure an environment of scarcity, the wolverine is one of the most efficient and resourceful carnivores on Earth. 55 min



Sunday June 17, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Sex, Lies and Butterflies*

Butterflies have been flying around our planet for over 50 million years, and today around 20,000 different species inhabit the globe. From egg to caterpillar to chrysalis to the winged insect, we follow their life stages, highlighting their survival techniques and the new science that is unlocking the secrets of their world and changing our view of these fantastic and yet fragile creatures. 60 min.



Sunday June 24, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Forest of the Lynx*

Take a journey abroad to Kalkalpen National Park in Austria, abandoned for a quarter of a century. What appears to be devastation is the process of regeneration. After 150 years of absence, the lynx's illusive presence is a testimony to nature's power of revival. 60 min,



Sunday July 1, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Fox Tales*

The resilient Red foxes are able to change their behavior to successfully make a home in new environments at a rate that astounds even the scientists who have spent a lifetime studying them. Fox Tales reveals new research into everything from their first hours of life to their first steps into uncharted territory, to offer a visually rich and fascinating look into the secret life of Red foxes. 60 min.



Sunday July 8, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Disney Nature - Wings of Life*

Celebrate Pollinators! Narrated by Meryl Streep, this intimate and unprecedented look at butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, bats and flowers is a celebration of life. One-third of the world's food supply depends on these incredible creatures. 80 min.



Sunday July 15, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Charlie and the Curious Otters*

Charlie James has filmed otters for the last 25 years. They are playful, adaptable, and champion swimmers. Through the eyes of 3 orphaned otters, a set of groundbreaking experiments and some incredible wild encounters, Charlie reveals their survival secrets.



Friday July 20, 9:00 am –3:30 pm

Phenology Observation Training (Master Naturalist Advanced Training)

Phenology is the study of life cycle changes in plants and animals. Come join a team of dedicated “citizen scientists” and help with a statewide effort to study the phenological changes in Northern Minnesota’s landscape. Climate change can be observed outside your back door as the forests, prairies and wildlife go through yearly seasonal variations. You will learn about phenology, help determine key species to observe, promote the development of a phenology program for schools and contribute to a national website that is tracking these changes (Nature’s Notebook). Find out how much fun phenology can be! Brought to you by the UMN Extension. Cost is 50.00 for Master Naturalist, 60.00 non- Master Naturalist. Lunch and snacks provided. Register online:

<http://www.minnesotamasternaturalist.org>



Sunday July 22, 12:00-2:00 pm

Bee Responsible- A Pollinator Adventure

From bees to butterflies to moths and beetles, pollinating insects are very critical to the ecosystem. Join insect enthusiast and photographer David Israel and discover the world they live in and the work they accomplish for wildlife and people. Then get in the dirt with James Kawlewski and learn how you can create a backyard “wildscape” full of plants that pollinators love. Meet at the Discovery Center. How many pollinators will you spy? Bring your camera, insect spray, water and a snack for this 2 hour activity. Then stay for the movie!

2:00 pm Movie: *Pollen Nation*

Follow the journey of a commercial bee keeper from the honey harvest on the high plains to the warm winter feeding grounds of California. Learn why honeybees and numerous species of native bees are in serious decline and how it’s affecting our dinner table and that of wildlife. 25 min.

Sunday July 29, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Miniature Miracles*

What happens if you’re the little guy in a big bad world? This film tells the epic survival stories of the world’s smallest animals. To make a living, these tiny heroes have evolved extraordinary skills and achieved mind-boggling feats. From nature’s greatest artist to the tiny creatures that provide us with so much of the air we breathe, we discover what it takes to be a miniature miracle. 60 min.



Sunday August 5, 12:00-5:00 pm

Dragonfly Workshop presented by the Minnesota Dragonfly Society

Discover the World of Dragonflies! This FREE workshop is a hands-on way to get introduced to the identification of dragonflies and damselflies. Come prepared for the weather, rain or shine! Also bring rubber boots or wading shoes, a lunch, water bottle and whatever else you will need for the day. Nets and field guides will be available for loan. Other supplies provided. This workshop will be conducted indoors and outdoors. Meet at the Discovery Center. **Register by calling 218-844-1756.**

2:00 pm Movie: *Fortress of the Bears* Travel to Admiralty Island in Alaska where the largest concentration of brown bears exist in the world. Sustained by a salmon streams and protected by their environment, some 1800 bears are part of a unique circle of life. Discover what happens when the weather changes and the salmon fail to arrive. Follow the struggle of one mother and her three cubs. 60 min.



Saturday August 11, 12:00-5:00 pm

Fun Fungi and Mushroom Workshop

John Lamprecht, president of the MN Mycological Society will guide you on a mushroom identification journey! This workshop is designed to help you develop the skills and confidence to begin collecting, identifying and safely eating wild edible mushrooms. The first part of the class will be indoors and then we will go on a “foray” in the woods. Bring a snack, water, camera, notebook, bug spray. Field guides will be provided.



Sunday August 12, 2:00 pm

Movie: *First Flight, A Mother Hummingbird’s Story*

This award winning enchanting documentary follows the dedicated efforts of a tiny black-chinned hummingbird to lay incubate, hatch two tiny eggs and raise the fledgling chicks. 45 min



Sunday August 19, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Beavers, the Biggest Dam Movie You Ever Saw!*

Take an intimate swim with beavers and experience the rich aquatic habitat of one of nature’s greatest engineers. 38 min.



Sunday August 26, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Disney Nature: Bears*

Showcasing a year in the life of a bear family, their journey begins as winter ends. Emerging from hibernation, a mother and cubs face the bitter cold and an exciting but very risky outside world. Astonishing footage captures the fast-moving action and suspense of an endearing family learning to live life to its fullest in the wilds of Alaska. 78 min.



Sunday September 2, 2:00 pm

Movie: *The Civilian Conservation Corps*

Roosevelt's civilian conservation corps put more than three million young men in the nation's parks, forests, and farms. This film interweaves rich archival imagery with the personal accounts of CCC veterans to tell the story of the boldest New Deal experiments. 60 min.



Sunday September 9, 2:00 pm

Kayak Tour

Experience the beauty of an early autumn day on Blackbird Lake. Join a refuge ranger and volunteer to explore nature during this time of change. Meet at the boat access for this leisurely 1.5 hour cruise. Bring your own kayak or canoe. Life jackets are required.



2:00 pm Movie: *Mino-Bimadiziwin: The Good Life*

The Good Life is an engaging portrait of a community on the White Earth Reservation where the peoples' lives revolve around the annual harvest of wild rice. Many wonderful and intimate moments show the hardships and rewards experienced by those who continue to live off the land. 57 min.



Sunday September 16, 2:00 pm

Movie: *American Experience, Ansel Adams*

Perhaps none has had a more profound impact on how Americans grasp the majesty of their continent, or done more to transform how people think and feel about the meaning of the natural world. This film is an intimate portrait of a great artist and ardent environmentalist. 100 min.



Sunday September 23, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Wild Ways*

Four lane highways are a necessity to our society, but they can be a death trap for millions of animals that try to cross them. From Yellowstone to the Yukon, to Southern Africa's elephant highways, explore how newly established wildlife corridors may offer a glimmer of hope to endangered species. 55 min.



Sunday September 30, 2:00 pm

Movie: *Planet Earth –Seasonal Forests*

Investigate temperate regions and find some of the most elusive creatures and well-adapted plant life on earth. From the giant sequoia to the Siberian forests, *Forests* bring to life a seemingly familiar world that remains largely unexplored. 55 min



Saturday September 22

Fall Photo Safari 2:00-4:30 pm

Experience autumn on the refuge through the lens of your camera. Visit some unique areas to capture the changing color. Bring a snack, water and your creativity! Led by refuge volunteer guides and members of the Detroit Lakes Photography Club. Meet at the Discovery Center.

Saturday September 29, 10:00-3:00

Annual Fall Festival

Join us for a day to celebrate wildlife conservation. Guided tours, children's activity trail, photo contest exhibit and more! Lunch will be available for sale by the Friends of Tamarac.

Monday October 8-October 14

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Visit the Detroit Lakes Washington Square Mall to see all the photo contest entries on display. Cast your vote for People's Choice! You'll also be able to purchase a chance on the beautiful wildlife quilt that the Friends of Tamarac are offering as a raffle fundraiser. Photo Contest Awards presentation on Sunday October 14 at 2:00 pm at the mall.